

Text Structure and Purpose

Question 1

The concept of "collective memory," defined as the shared pool of knowledge and information in the minds of a large number of individuals, has been a significant area of study in social science. Some researchers contend that collective memory is simply the aggregation of individual memories. This perspective, often associated with psychological reductionism, posits that macro-level social phenomena can be fully explained by examining micro-level psychological processes. However, other scholars argue that collective memory is an emergent property of social interaction and communication, irreducible to individual cognitive functions. They emphasize the role of social frameworks, cultural artifacts, and institutional practices in shaping and transmitting shared understandings of the past. This latter view highlights the sui generis nature of collective memory, suggesting it is a distinct social phenomenon with its own dynamics and mechanisms.

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

- A** It introduces a concept, presents one perspective on that concept, and then presents a contrasting perspective.
- B** It defines a social science term and then provides historical examples to illustrate its evolution.
- C** It discusses a debate within a field of study and then proposes a new theoretical framework to resolve it.

- D It outlines a research methodology and then critiques the ethical implications of using it.

Question 2

Research by Dr. Emily Kim and Dr. David Lee (2022) investigated the relationship between socioeconomic status (SES) and early childhood cognitive development. Their study involved a longitudinal design, tracking 500 children from diverse backgrounds from birth to age five. Standardized cognitive assessments, such as the *Bayley Scales of Infant Development*, were administered at regular intervals. Parents also provided detailed information about their household income, education levels, and occupation. The researchers hypothesized that children from lower-SES households would exhibit slower cognitive growth trajectories compared to their higher-SES counterparts, potentially mediated by factors such as access to educational resources and parental stress levels. Statistical analyses, including hierarchical linear modeling, were used to analyze the growth curves of cognitive scores over time.

Which choice best describes the function of the underlined sentence in the text as a whole?

- ☐ A It summarizes the key findings of the study on socioeconomic status and cognitive development.
- ☐ B It introduces a potential limitation of the research design used in the study.
- ☐ C It presents the central prediction that the researchers aimed to investigate.
- ☐ D It provides background information on the standardized assessment tools used.

Question 3

Black Sigatoka, caused by the fungus *Pseudocercospora fijiensis* (formerly *Mycosphaerella fijiensis*), is a devastating foliar disease affecting banana crops worldwide. The disease cycle of *P. fijiensis* is complex, involving both sexual and asexual reproduction. Initial infection typically occurs when spores land on susceptible banana leaves, particularly younger ones. Under favorable environmental conditions, such as high humidity and the presence of water, these spores germinate and the fungus penetrates the leaf tissue through stomata. This leads to the development of characteristic symptoms, progressing from reddish-brown flecks to elongated streaks and eventually necrotic lesions with gray centers. Severe infection significantly reduces photosynthetic capacity, leading to premature fruit ripening and substantial yield losses.

Which choice best describes the function of the underlined sentence in the text as a whole?

- A** It details the specific structures within the banana leaf that are most vulnerable to fungal penetration.
- B** It elaborates on the conditions and initial process required for *Pseudocercospora fijiensis* to infect banana leaves.
- C** It explains how the symptoms of Black Sigatoka disease manifest after the fungus has entered the plant tissue.
- D** It contrasts the environmental factors that favor sexual reproduction of the fungus with those that favor asexual reproduction.

Question 4

The naked mole-rat (*Heterocephalus glaber*) is a fascinating subject of biological inquiry due to its suite of highly unusual physiological and behavioral adaptations. These subterranean rodents, native to East Africa, exhibit a unique eusociality among mammals, with a single reproductive queen dominating a colony of non-reproductive workers and soldiers. Beyond their complex social structure, naked mole-rats possess remarkable traits, including an extraordinary longevity for a rodent of their size, significant resistance to cancer, and a unique thermoconforming physiology that allows their body temperature to fluctuate with their environment. Furthermore, studies have revealed their ability to survive in hypoxic conditions that would be lethal to most other mammals, and their skin lacks pain sensitivity to certain chemical stimuli.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

- A** To detail the specific mechanisms behind the naked mole-rat's resistance to cancer and hypoxia.
- B** To provide an overview of the naked mole-rat's remarkable and atypical biological characteristics.
- C** To argue that the naked mole-rat's social structure is the most significant factor in its survival.
- D** To compare the naked mole-rat's physiological adaptations to those of other subterranean mammals.

Question 5

Scholars have long debated the extent to which societies are meritocratic, a concept defined by sociologist Michael Young in 1958 as a system where status and advancement are based on individual ability rather than social origin. Early studies, such as those by Peter Blau and Otis Dudley Duncan in the 1960s, utilized path analysis to demonstrate that parental socioeconomic status significantly influenced offspring attainment, suggesting a departure from a purely meritocratic ideal. More recent research employing advanced statistical models, controlling for a wider range of variables, continues to support this finding, indicating that while merit plays a role, social background persists as a formidable determinant of life outcomes in many contemporary societies.

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

- A** It introduces a sociological concept, explains its historical origins, and then discusses its declining relevance in contemporary research.
- B** It defines a concept, presents historical research challenging its full realization, and then describes how recent studies support this challenge.
- C** It outlines a debate among scholars, provides evidence from a specific study supporting one side, and then offers a potential resolution to the debate.
- D** It presents a social theory, discusses the methodologies used to study it, and then argues for the need for further research in the field.

Question 6

George Washington Carver, a renowned agricultural scientist, significantly impacted farming practices in the South. He observed that consistently planting cotton depleted soil nutrients. To combat this, Carver advocated for crop rotation, encouraging farmers to alternate cotton with crops like peanuts and sweet potatoes, which restored nitrogen to the soil. This not only improved soil health but also led to surplus crops, inspiring Carver to develop numerous uses for peanuts and sweet potatoes, thus creating new markets for these crops.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

- A** To explain George Washington Carver's contribution to Southern agriculture through crop rotation and the development of new uses for crops.
- B** To describe the process of soil depletion caused by planting cotton repeatedly in the same fields.
- C** To argue that peanuts and sweet potatoes were more important crops than cotton in the early 20th-century South.
- D** To list the many uses George Washington Carver developed for peanuts and sweet potatoes.

Question 7

Euglenoids are a diverse group of flagellated eukaryotes, commonly found in freshwater habitats. While traditionally classified as algae due to the presence of chloroplasts and the ability to perform photosynthesis, many euglenoids exhibit characteristics of both plants and animals. They possess a flexible proteinaceous pellicle instead of a rigid cell wall, allowing for movement known as metaboly. Furthermore, in the absence of light, many photosynthetic euglenoids can switch to heterotrophic nutrition, absorbing dissolved organic matter or ingesting prey via phagocytosis. This mixotrophic capability highlights their unique position in the study of eukaryotic evolution and their adaptability to varying environmental conditions.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

- A** To describe the unique characteristics of euglenoids, such as their mixotrophic nutrition and flexible pellicle, that make them significant in the study of eukaryotic evolution.
- B** To argue that euglenoids should be reclassified from algae to a separate kingdom due to their animal-like features and modes of nutrition beyond photosynthesis.
- C** To explain the process of photosynthesis and heterotrophic nutrition as observed in euglenoids and their importance in freshwater ecosystems.
- D** To detail the evolutionary history of euglenoids, tracing their development from ancient flagellates to their current diverse forms.

Question 8

In 2012, researchers Karl Bates and Peter Falkingham published a study on the bite force of *Tyrannosaurus rex*. Using computer modeling, they estimated a maximum bite force of nearly 12,800 pounds, making it the hardest-biting terrestrial animal known at the time. This was two to three times greater than previous estimates. Their research highlighted the unique jaw structure of *T. rex*, which allowed it to generate immense pressure with its teeth, enabling it to not just bite but to pulverize bone. This capability, known as extreme osteophagy, likely gave adult *T. rex* access to nutrient-rich marrow and salts in large dinosaur carcasses that were unavailable to smaller predators.

Which choice best describes the function of the underlined sentence in the text as a whole?

- A** It clarifies a potential misunderstanding about the diet of *Tyrannosaurus rex*.
- B** It introduces a new scientific term that is central to the researchers' findings.
- C** It presents a contrasting view to the findings of Bates and Falkingham.
- D** It explains a key anatomical feature that contributed to the powerful bite described earlier.

Question 9

In her 1999 research and subsequent book, *Teaming* (2012), Amy Edmondson introduced the concept of psychological safety in the workplace. Psychological safety is defined as a shared belief held by members of a team that the team is safe for interpersonal risk-taking. This includes feeling safe to speak up with ideas, questions, concerns, or mistakes without fear of punishment or humiliation. Essentially, it is a climate characterized by interpersonal trust and mutual respect where people are comfortable being themselves and can be vulnerable without negative repercussions. This environment is crucial for fostering team effectiveness, learning, and ultimately, performance.

Which choice best describes the function of the underlined sentence in the text as a whole?

- A** It offers a counterargument to the definition of psychological safety provided in the preceding sentence.
- B** It provides a specific example of interpersonal risk-taking discussed in the previous sentences.
- C** It elaborates on the definition of psychological safety introduced in the previous sentences.
- D** It shifts the focus from defining psychological safety to discussing its historical development.

Question 10

Salvelinus alpinus, commonly known as Arctic charr, is a salmonid fish with a circumpolar distribution, inhabiting arctic and subarctic regions. A study published in 2005 by A. Davíðsdóttir and M. M. Friðriksdóttir investigated the trophic ecology of *S. alpinus* in Lake Ellidavatn, Iceland. The researchers analyzed the stomach contents of nearly a thousand Arctic charr over two years, finding significant seasonal variation in their diet. Chironomid larvae were a major food source from autumn to spring, while cladocerans like *Eurycerus lamellatus* and chironomid pupae were consumed primarily in summer and autumn. This contrasts with the brown trout (*Salmo trutta*) in the same lake, which showed no significant seasonal dietary shifts and primarily consumed sticklebacks. The study concluded that the differing diets indicated resource partitioning between the two species, possibly due to competition for food.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

- A** To present research findings on the dietary habits and resource partitioning of Arctic charr in an Icelandic lake.
- B** To argue that Arctic charr and brown trout in Lake Ellidavatn have significantly different diets throughout the year.
- C** To compare the research methodologies used to study the feeding ecology of two fish species in a specific environment.
- D** To explain the impact of seasonal changes on the availability of prey for fish populations in arctic and subarctic lakes.

Question 11

In *The Elementary Forms of Religious Life* (1912), sociologist Émile Durkheim introduced the concept of collective effervescence. According to Durkheim, this phenomenon occurs during collective gatherings when individuals share a heightened emotional energy and sense of unity. It is a powerful, impersonal force that transcends individual consciousness and fosters a feeling of belonging and assimilation within a group. Durkheim argued that collective effervescence is a fundamental element of religious life, where shared rituals and beliefs intensify this emotional communion, leading to the consecration of ideals and values and reinforcing social bonds. Recent studies, such as one analyzing heart-rate dynamics at a fire-walking ritual, provide some quantitative evidence supporting the idea that collective rituals can produce shared physiological arousal, aligning with aspects of Durkheim's concept, though suggesting the phenomenon may be more nuanced than initially described.

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

- ☐ A It presents a sociological concept, then dismisses its validity based on recent findings.
- ☐ B It introduces a concept from a sociologist, then discusses its significance and how it is supported and nuanced by later research.
- ☐ C It outlines a historical debate within sociology, then presents a resolution to that debate.
- ☐ D It explains a social phenomenon, then argues that it is exclusively linked to religious practices.

Question 12

Cellular differentiation, the process by which a less specialized cell becomes a more specialized cell type, is a fundamental aspect of development in multicellular organisms. This intricate process involves complex signaling pathways and gene regulation that orchestrate the expression of specific proteins, ultimately determining a cell's fate and function. Recent research focusing on the role of epigenetics, changes in gene expression that do not involve alterations to the underlying DNA sequence, has shed new light on the mechanisms driving differentiation. Studies, such as those by Dr. Melissa J. Moore and her colleagues in 2014, have demonstrated how modifications to chromatin structure and DNA methylation patterns can influence which genes are accessible for transcription, thereby guiding a cell towards a particular lineage. Understanding these epigenetic mechanisms is crucial for advancements in regenerative medicine and developmental biology.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

- A** To advocate for increased funding for research into the epigenetic mechanisms of cellular differentiation.
- B** To argue that cellular differentiation is a more complex process than previously understood.
- C** To describe the role of epigenetic mechanisms in the process of cellular differentiation.
- D** To compare and contrast cellular differentiation with other developmental processes in multicellular organisms.

Question 13

Soil carbon sequestration, the process by which atmospheric carbon dioxide is absorbed by soils and stored as soil organic carbon, is a significant component of the global carbon cycle. This process is primarily driven by photosynthesis, where plants assimilate carbon, and the subsequent decomposition of plant and animal matter by soil microbes. While soil has a vast capacity to store carbon, this storage is not always permanent and can be influenced by various factors including land management practices, climate, soil type, and microbial activity. Effective soil carbon sequestration requires careful management to maximize carbon uptake and minimize losses, offering a potential strategy for mitigating climate change and enhancing soil health.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

- A** To explain the process and significance of soil carbon sequestration as a climate change mitigation strategy.
- B** To advocate for specific land management practices that enhance soil carbon sequestration to combat climate change.
- C** To compare the effectiveness of soil carbon sequestration with other methods of carbon capture and storage.
- D** To detail the various types of soil microbes involved in the decomposition of organic matter and their role in carbon storage.

Question 14

Chameleons are well known for their ability to change color, a phenomenon long thought to be solely due to the dispersion or concentration of pigment granules within chromatophores. However, research published in 2015 by Teyssier, Saenko, van der Marel, and Milinkovitch revealed a more complex mechanism in species like the *Panther chameleon* (*Furcifer pardalis*). This study demonstrated that chameleons also utilize a layer of guanine nanocrystals within iridophores below the pigment layer. By actively adjusting the spacing of these nanocrystals, the chameleons can selectively reflect different wavelengths of light, leading to rapid and dramatic color shifts. This structural color mechanism, in conjunction with pigments, allows for the wide array of colors and patterns these reptiles display, serving functions beyond simple camouflage, such as social signaling and thermoregulation.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

- ☐ A To argue that the conventional understanding of chameleon color change based solely on pigment manipulation is entirely incorrect.
- ☐ B To describe the various ways in which chameleons use their color-changing abilities for camouflage, social signaling, and thermoregulation.
- ☐ C To present recent research that provides a more comprehensive explanation for the mechanism behind chameleon color change.
- ☐ D To compare the color-changing abilities of the *Panther chameleon* with other chameleon species.

Question 15

Studies on the psychological effects of social class suggest that an individual's socioeconomic background can influence their decision-making processes and moral judgments. Research indicates that people from lower-class backgrounds may exhibit greater empathy and are more likely to engage in altruistic behaviors compared to those from upper-class backgrounds. Conversely, individuals from upper-class backgrounds have been shown to display more self-focused tendencies and may be less attuned to the emotions of others. These findings suggest that social class is not solely about financial resources but also encompasses cultural differences that shape how people interact with the world and make choices.

Which choice best describes the function of the underlined sentence in the text as a whole?

- A** It offers a potential solution to a problem discussed in the preceding sentence.
- B** It provides a historical context for the psychological studies mentioned earlier.
- C** It introduces a contrasting perspective on the relationship between social class and psychological traits.
- D** It summarizes the main argument presented in the passage.

Question 16

Research conducted by Professor Eleanor A. Maguire and her colleagues at the Wellcome Department of Cognitive Neurology, University College London, investigated the neuroanatomical correlates of spatial navigation expertise. The study, published in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* in 2000, compared the brain structures of experienced London taxi drivers with those of a control group. Utilizing magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), the researchers focused on the hippocampus, a brain region known to be involved in memory and spatial navigation. Their findings revealed a statistically significant difference in the volume of the posterior hippocampus, with taxi drivers exhibiting larger posterior hippocampal volumes compared to control participants. This structural adaptation correlated positively with the amount of time spent as a taxi driver, suggesting that extensive experience with spatial navigation can induce measurable changes in hippocampal size.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

- ☐ A To detail the methodology used in a study of London taxi drivers' brain structures.
- ☐ B To compare the hippocampal volume of taxi drivers and non-taxi drivers.
- ☐ C To argue that spatial navigation skills directly cause increases in posterior hippocampal volume.
- ☐ D To present research indicating a relationship between navigation experience and a specific brain structure.

Question 17

In their 2018 study published in *Nature Human Behaviour*, attributed to researchers including Niclas Rieger, the economic concept of a "winner-take-all market" was investigated concerning its implications for social mobility and inequality. Traditionally, these markets, where a small number of participants gain disproportionately large rewards, are understood through the lens of individual merit and skill acquisition. However, Rieger et al. introduced a crucial variable: the role of luck, specifically the impact of random early-career successes. Their computational model and analysis of empirical data suggested that while skill is a necessary component, initial random advantages are amplified over time, leading to significant disparities in long-term success, thus challenging purely meritocratic interpretations of wealth distribution in such economic structures.

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

- A** It introduces a concept within a specific economic context, presents a conventional understanding of this concept, and then offers an alternative perspective supported by research.
- B** It details a research study's methodology, outlines the data collected, and then discusses the limitations of the study's findings in a broader context.
- C** It describes a social phenomenon, analyzes the historical causes of this phenomenon, and then proposes a potential solution based on current economic theories.
- D** It defines a complex economic term, provides historical examples of this term in practice, and then debates the ethical implications of markets structured in this way.

Question 18

The *Sigiriya frescoes*, located on the *Sigiriya Rock* in Sri Lanka, are ancient paintings dating back to the reign of King Kashyapa in the 5th century CE. These murals are notable for their vibrant colors and intricate details, depicting female figures often interpreted as celestial nymphs or royal consorts. They are considered among the most important examples of ancient Sri Lankan art. However, these precious historical artifacts face significant conservation challenges due to environmental factors and past damage. Various methods have been employed over the years to preserve them, including early chemical conservation efforts and more recent applications of advanced technologies like 3D laser scanning for documentation and monitoring. Despite ongoing efforts, ensuring the long-term survival of the *Sigiriya frescoes* remains a complex undertaking requiring continuous vigilance and the application of scientific expertise.

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

- A** It introduces a historical site, then discusses its cultural significance and the challenges of its preservation.
- B** It presents a historical overview of ancient Sri Lankan art, then focuses on a specific example and its current condition.
- C** It describes an ancient artistic creation, then explains the difficulties in preserving it and the methods used for its conservation.
- D** It details the techniques used to create ancient murals, then argues for the necessity of using modern technology for their restoration.

Question 19

In his seminal work, *Orientalism* (1978), Edward Said meticulously deconstructs the Western academic and cultural depictions of the East, arguing that these portrayals are not objective representations but rather constructed narratives serving to legitimize Western dominance. Said posits that this 'Orientalist' discourse pervades various forms of Western expression, from scholarly texts and literature to political rhetoric, creating a pervasive and often prejudiced understanding of Eastern cultures. This process, he contends, establishes a binary opposition between the familiar 'West' and the exotic, often inferior, 'Orient.' By analyzing a vast array of historical and literary sources, Said illustrates how this systematic misrepresentation has historically justified colonialism and continues to influence contemporary perceptions.

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

- A** It introduces a scholar's major argument regarding the historical and cultural construction of a concept, then elaborates on the pervasive nature and implications of this concept, and finally explains the method and purpose behind the scholar's analysis.
- B** It presents a critique of a long-held academic perspective, then offers alternative viewpoints from other scholars in the field, and concludes by suggesting future avenues of research to resolve the academic debate.
- C** It describes a specific historical phenomenon and its initial causes, then discusses the subsequent evolution and transformation of this phenomenon over time, and finally evaluates the lasting impact of the phenomenon on contemporary society.
- D** It summarizes a debate within a specific academic discipline, then provides examples of primary source materials that are central to this debate, and finally discusses the critical reception and influence of a particular publication on the topic.

Question 20

The following text is from Emily Dickinson's poem *No Romance sold unto*. The poem explores the distinction between the allure of one's own life story and the fictional narratives found in books.

No Romance sold unto | Could so enthrall a Man | As the perusal
of | His Individual One -- | 'Tis Fiction's -- When 'tis small enough |
To Credit -- 'Tisn't true!

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

- A** The speaker asserts the superiority of personal experience over written stories, then offers a paradoxical observation about the nature of fiction.
- B** The speaker criticizes the commercial nature of literature, then suggests that only true stories are worth reading.
- C** The speaker describes a man reading a romance novel, then explains why he is disappointed by the plot's lack of realism.
- D** The speaker argues that all fiction is inherently deceptive, then concludes that people prefer lies to the truth.

Answers

Question 1

Correct Answer: A

The passage starts by introducing the concept of "collective memory." Then, it presents one perspective on this concept, followed by a contrasting perspective. This matches the structure described in (A). (B) is incorrect because the passage does not provide historical examples. (C) is incorrect because the passage presents a debate but does not propose a new framework to resolve it. (D) is incorrect because the passage does not discuss a research methodology or its ethical implications.

Question 2

Correct Answer: C

The underlined sentence states what the researchers thought would happen based on their research question. This is the central prediction or hypothesis of the study. (C) correctly identifies this function. (A) is incorrect because the underlined sentence is a prediction, not a summary of findings. (B) is incorrect because the sentence describes a hypothesis, not a limitation of the study design. (D) is incorrect because the sentence focuses on the researchers' prediction, not the assessment tools.

Question 3

Correct Answer: B

The underlined sentence describes the conditions (high humidity, presence of water) and the initial steps (spore germination, penetration through stomata) for the fungus to infect banana leaves. This matches the description in answer choice (B). Answer choice (A) is too specific, focusing

only on leaf structures. Answer choice (C) discusses symptom manifestation, which happens after the infection process described in the underlined sentence. Answer choice (D) is incorrect because the underlined sentence does not discuss fungal reproduction.

Question 4

Correct Answer: B

The passage talks about how naked mole-rats have many unusual features, like living in colonies with a queen, living a long time, not getting cancer easily, and handling low oxygen. The main point is to show these unique traits.

(A) is wrong because the passage mentions cancer and hypoxia resistance but doesn't explain how they work.

(C) is wrong because while the passage talks about their social structure, it doesn't say it's the most important thing for their survival.

(D) is wrong because the passage focuses only on the naked mole-rat and doesn't compare its traits to other animals that live underground.

Question 5

Correct Answer: B

The passage first defines the concept of meritocracy. Then, it discusses earlier research that questioned how fully societies are meritocratic. Finally, it explains how more recent research continues to support the idea that social background still matters. This matches the structure described in choice (B). Choice (A) is incorrect because the passage doesn't say the concept is declining in relevance. Choice (C) is incorrect because while there is a debate, the passage focuses on research results rather than offering a resolution. Choice (D) is incorrect because the passage doesn't argue for the need for further research.

Question 6

Correct Answer: A

The passage talks about how George Washington Carver helped farmers in the South. It explains his idea of changing crops to make the soil healthy again and how he found new ways to use those crops. Option (A) covers both of these main points. Option (B) is too narrow because it only talks about soil depletion, which is just one part of the passage. Option (C) is incorrect because the passage doesn't say that peanuts and sweet potatoes were more important than cotton. Option (D) is also too narrow because while the passage mentions new uses for the crops, it doesn't list them all; its main focus is broader than just listing uses.

Question 7

Correct Answer: A

The passage talks about euglenoids and points out their special features like being able to eat like plants and animals (mixotrophic nutrition) and having a body covering that can change shape (flexible pellicle). It also says these features make them important for studying how living things have changed over time. This matches choice (A).

Choice (B) is wrong because the passage doesn't say euglenoids should be put in a different group. It just talks about their traits. Choice (C) is too focused on how they eat; the passage covers more than just that. Choice (D) is incorrect because the passage describes current characteristics, not their history over time.

Question 8

Correct Answer: D

The underlined sentence talks about the unique jaw structure and how it allowed *T. rex* to generate immense pressure and pulverize bone. The sentence before it discusses the powerful bite force of *T. rex*. Therefore, the underlined sentence explains the physical reason behind the powerful bite mentioned earlier. (D) aligns with this. (A) is incorrect because the passage does not suggest a misunderstanding about the *T. rex*'s diet. (B) is incorrect because while "extreme osteophagy" is mentioned later, it is not the focus of the underlined sentence. (C) is incorrect as the sentence supports, rather than contrasts with, the findings of Bates and Falkingham.

Question 9

Correct Answer: C

The underlined sentence starts with the word "Essentially", which means it is simplifying or further explaining something that was just mentioned. The previous sentence defines psychological safety. The underlined sentence restates this definition in a different way, elaborating on what a psychologically safe climate entails.

(A) is incorrect because the underlined sentence does not contradict the previous definition; it expands on it.

(B) is incorrect because the underlined sentence describes the general climate of psychological safety, not a specific instance of risk-taking.

(D) is incorrect because the sentence focuses on the nature of psychological safety, not its history.

Question 10

Correct Answer: A

The passage describes a study about Arctic charr in an Icelandic lake, focusing on what they eat and how it changes with the seasons. It also mentions how their diet is different from brown trout in the same lake, suggesting they divide up the food resources. (A) correctly summarizes this

main purpose. (B) is too narrow because the passage does more than just state the differences in diet; it presents the research that found these differences. (C) is incorrect because the passage mentions the research but doesn't compare the methods used. (D) is too broad and focuses on the cause of dietary changes (seasonal availability) rather than the study's findings about the fish diets themselves.

Question 11

Correct Answer: B

The passage starts by introducing Émile Durkheim and his concept of collective effervescence. It then explains what this concept means in the context of his work on religious life. Finally, it mentions recent research that supports and adds detail to Durkheim's idea. This matches the structure described in choice (B). Choice (A) is incorrect because the recent findings do not dismiss the concept's validity, but rather support and nuance it. Choice (C) is incorrect because the passage does not outline a historical debate or its resolution. Choice (D) is incorrect because while Durkheim discussed collective effervescence in the context of religion, the passage does not claim it is exclusively linked to religious practices.

Question 12

Correct Answer: C

The passage talks about how cells become special through a process called differentiation. It explains that this process is controlled by complex signals and genes. The passage then focuses on recent studies, like one from 2014, that show how changes in gene expression without changing the DNA, called epigenetics, help guide cells. This means the main point is to explain how epigenetics works in cell differentiation.

Choice (A) is wrong because the passage doesn't ask for more money for research. Choice (B) is wrong because while the passage mentions the process is intricate, its main purpose is not to argue for its complexity.

Choice (D) is wrong because the passage only talks about cellular differentiation and doesn't compare it to other processes.

Question 13

Correct Answer: A

The passage explains what soil carbon sequestration is and why it is important for climate change. It talks about how plants and microbes help put carbon in the soil. It also mentions that how we manage land and other things can change how much carbon stays there. This matches choice (A) which says the purpose is to explain the process and importance of soil carbon sequestration for climate change.

Choice (B) is wrong because the passage does not tell you which land management practices to use. It just says that they are important.

Choice (C) is wrong because the passage does not compare soil carbon sequestration to other ways of storing carbon.

Choice (D) is wrong because while the passage mentions microbes, it doesn't give details about different types of microbes.

Question 14

Correct Answer: C

The passage talks about a new study that explains how chameleons change color. It says that before, people thought it was only about moving pigments around, but the new study shows it also involves special crystals in their skin. This new information gives a better idea of how they change color.

(A) is wrong because the passage says the new research provides a more comprehensive explanation, not that the old understanding was entirely wrong.

(B) is wrong because while the passage mentions some uses of color

change, its main focus is on the *mechanism* of how they change color, not all the different ways they use it.

(D) is wrong because the passage focuses on the *Panther chameleon* as an example to explain the general mechanism, not to compare its abilities to other species.

Question 15

Correct Answer: C

The first sentence introduces the idea that social class influences decision-making and moral judgment. It then states that lower-class individuals may show more empathy and altruism. The underlined sentence starts with "Conversely," indicating a contrast. It then describes how upper-class individuals exhibit different traits, such as self-focus and less awareness of others' emotions. This directly contrasts with the information given about lower-class individuals. Therefore, the underlined sentence introduces a contrasting perspective. (A) is incorrect because no problem is discussed, let alone a solution. (B) is incorrect because the passage discusses studies, not historical context. (D) is incorrect because the underlined sentence only presents one aspect of the passage's content, not the main argument.

Question 16

Correct Answer: D

The passage describes a study that looked at the brains of taxi drivers. It found that the part of the brain used for finding your way around was bigger in taxi drivers, and the longer they drove taxis, the bigger it was. This shows a link between how much someone practices finding their way and that part of their brain.

Choice (A) is too specific because the passage talks about more than just the methods. Choice (B) is also too specific; while it mentions the comparison, it doesn't capture the full scope of the study's findings and

implications. Choice (C) is too strong; the study suggests a correlation or relationship, not necessarily a direct cause and effect. The correct answer (D) is the most accurate because it broadly describes the research and its main finding about the connection between navigation experience and brain structure.

Question 17

Correct Answer: A

The passage begins by introducing the concept of a "winner-take-all market" in an economic context. It then presents the traditional understanding of this market based on individual merit. Finally, it introduces an alternative perspective, supported by Rieger et al.'s research, which highlights the role of luck. This structure matches choice (A).

Choice (B) is incorrect because the passage does not detail the study's methodology or specifically discuss limitations; it focuses on the findings and their implications. Choice (C) is incorrect because the passage focuses on an economic concept and a research finding, not a historical analysis or a proposed solution. Choice (D) is incorrect because while it defines an economic term and touches upon implications (related to wealth distribution), it does not provide historical examples or debate ethical implications.

Question 18

Correct Answer: C

The passage begins by describing the *Sigiriya frescoes* as an ancient artistic creation. It then discusses the challenges faced in preserving these frescoes and the methods that have been used for their conservation. Therefore, the structure is a description of an artistic creation followed by an explanation of its preservation issues and methods.

(A) is incorrect because while the passage mentions the historical site, its primary focus is on the frescoes themselves and their preservation, not the site's broader cultural significance.

(B) is incorrect because the passage does not provide a historical overview of ancient Sri Lankan art in general; it focuses specifically on the *Sigiriya frescoes*.

(D) is incorrect because while preservation methods are discussed, the passage does not detail the original techniques used to create the murals or argue for the necessity of modern technology over other methods.

Question 19

Correct Answer: A

The passage starts by introducing Edward Said's main argument in *Orientalism*, which is about how the West depicts the East. Then, it explains how this idea of "Orientalist" thinking is found in many Western works and creates a contrast between the West and the East. Finally, it mentions that Said looked at many historical and literary sources to show how this idea justified colonialism and still affects views today. This matches the structure described in option (A): introducing an argument, explaining its widespread influence, and detailing the analysis method.

Option (B) is incorrect because the passage does not discuss alternative viewpoints from other scholars or suggest future research. Option (C) is incorrect because the passage focuses on a concept and its representation, not a historical phenomenon and its evolution and impact. Option (D) is incorrect because the passage summarizes Said's argument and analysis, but it does not discuss a broader academic debate or the critical reception of his work.

Question 20

Correct Answer: A

The text begins by claiming that no sold romance (book) is as captivating to a person as their own life story ('His Individual One'). This sets up a comparison where personal experience is superior to fiction. Then, the speaker makes a tricky point about fiction: when it is 'small enough' (perhaps realistic or mundane enough) to be believed ('To Credit'), it is no longer 'true' in the sense of being a grand romance, or perhaps because fiction by definition isn't fact.

Choice (A) is the correct answer because it captures this two-part structure: first, the assertion that one's own life is more enthralling than any book, and second, the complex thought about how fiction operates with regard to truth and believability.

Choice (B) is incorrect because the poem isn't criticizing the 'commercial nature' of books merely by saying 'sold unto,' nor does it say only true stories are worth reading; it says personal stories are the most enthralling.

Choice (C) is incorrect because there is no specific narrative of a man reading a novel and being disappointed. The 'Man' is a general figure, not a specific character in a scene.

Choice (D) is incorrect because it is too extreme. The speaker isn't arguing that people 'prefer lies'; rather, the speaker is exploring the definition of fiction versus reality.