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English Sample Paper for CLAT 2025

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PASSAGE

Philosophers and scholars have long debated the nature of justice and its role in society. One of the most influential works on this subject is John Rawls' 'A Theory of Justice,' which introduced the concept of 'justice as fairness.' Rawls argued that a just society is one where institutions are structured according to principles chosen by individuals in an original position of equality, behind a 'veil of ignorance.' This hypothetical veil ensures that no one is advantaged or disadvantaged by the natural lottery of birth, as all personal biases and social circumstances are unknown. Rawls proposed two principles of justice: the first ensures equal basic liberties for all citizens, while the second, known as the difference principle, permits social and economic inequalities only if they benefit the least advantaged members of society.

Rawls' ideas contrast sharply with those of utilitarian philosophers, who argue that actions and institutions should be judged by their consequences, specifically their ability to maximize overall happiness. Critics of utilitarianism, including Rawls, contend that this approach can justify the sacrifice of individual rights for greater overall utility, potentially leading to unjust outcomes.

In contemporary debates, the relevance of Rawls' principles is evident in discussions about economic inequality, affirmative action, and social welfare policies. While some argue that strict adherence to his principles may be impractical, others believe that they offer a crucial framework for addressing injustices in modern societies.

1. The main idea of the passage is that:

(A) Justice should always be based on utilitarian principles.
(B) John Rawls' concept of 'justice as fairness' provides a compelling framework for structuring a just society.

(C) Philosophers unanimously agree on the nature of justice.

(D) Economic inequalities are inevitable in any society.

2. The 'veil of ignorance' in Rawls' theory is meant to ensure that:

(A) Individuals can predict their future social status.

(B) Personal biases and social circumstances do not influence the choice of principles of justice.

(C) Only the most advantaged members of society determine justice principles.

(D) Natural talents and abilities are fully considered in justice decisions.

3. According to the passage, critics of utilitarianism, like Rawls, argue that it can

(A) Justify the sacrifice of individual rights for greater overall utility.

(B) Overemphasize individual rights at the expense of overall happiness.

(C) Lead to overly rigid and impractical policies.

(D) Ignore the importance of social and economic inequalities.

4. Which of the following best describes the tone of the passage?

(A) Neutral and informative

(B) Satirical and critical

(C) Emotional and persuasive

(D) Pessimistic and foreboding

5. In the context of Rawls' theory, the difference principle allows inequalities only if:

(A) They benefit the most advantaged members of society.

(B) They maximize overall societal wealth.

(C) They benefit the least advantaged members of society.

(D) They are accepted by the majority.

PASSAGE

Literature and fiction have long been a mirror to society, reflecting the complexities of human nature and the world we inhabit. From the ancient epics of Homer and Virgil to the modern masterpieces of James Joyce and Virginia Woolf, literature provides a rich tapestry of narratives that explore themes of love, power, identity, and morality. Fiction, in particular, allows writers to create imagined worlds that can critique, illuminate, or escape reality.

One of the hallmarks of great literature is its ability to transcend time and place, resonating with readers across generations. For instance, the works of William Shakespeare continue to be studied and performed worldwide, celebrated for their profound insights into the human condition. Similarly, novels such as ‘Pride and Prejudice’ by Jane Austen and ‘Moby-Dick’ by Herman Melville remain integral to the literary canon, offering timeless reflections on society and the individual’s place within it.

Contemporary fiction often grapples with issues pertinent to modern life, such as globalization, technological change, and social justice. Authors like Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Haruki Murakami, and Salman Rushdie use their narratives to challenge existing paradigms and provide new perspectives. In doing so, they contribute to the ongoing dialogue about what it means to be human in an ever-evolving world.

Despite the challenges posed by the digital age, where visual media often dominate, literature and fiction retain their essential role in fostering empathy, critical thinking, and cultural understanding. The act of reading immerses individuals in diverse experiences and viewpoints, promoting a deeper appreciation of the shared and divergent aspects of the human experience.

6. The main idea of the passage is that-

(A) Literature and fiction are losing relevance in the digital age.
(B) Great literature transcends time and place, offering insights into the human condition.
(C) Only classical literature is worthy of study and performance.
(D) Fiction is primarily a tool for escapism

7. According to the passage, one of the hallmarks of great literature is its ability to:

(A) Provide detailed historical accounts.
(B) Reflect the specific culture it originates from.
(C) Transcend time and place, resonating with readers across generations.
(D) Simplify complex human emotions.

8. The passage mentions ‘Pride and Prejudice’ and ‘Moby-Dick’ as examples of novels that:

(A) Focus exclusively on romance and adventure.
(B) Offer timeless reflections on society and the individual’s place within it.
(C) Were not well received in their time.

(D) Are considered outdated in contemporary literature studies.

9. Contemporary fiction often deals with issues such as:

(A) Only love and relationships.
(B) Historical events and mythology.
(C) Globalization, technological change, and social justice.
(D) Rural life and nature.

10. The passage suggests that the act of reading:

(A) Is becoming obsolete in the modern world.
(B) Provides a passive form of entertainment.
(C) Immerses individuals in diverse experiences and viewpoints.
(D) Is primarily for academic purposes

PASSAGE

The role of technology in shaping modern society cannot be overstated. From the Industrial Revolution to the Digital Age, technological advancements have fundamentally transformed the way we live, work, and interact. The advent of the internet and mobile technologies has particularly revolutionized communication, breaking down geographical barriers and creating a globally interconnected world. Innovations such as artificial intelligence (AI), big data, and the Internet of Things (IoT) are further pushing the boundaries, offering unprecedented opportunities for efficiency, convenience, and new ways of solving problems.

However, the rapid pace of technological change also presents significant challenges. Privacy concerns, cybersecurity threats, and the ethical implications of AI are pressing issues that require careful consideration and proactive measures. For instance, the widespread collection and analysis of personal data by tech companies raise questions about user consent and data protection. Similarly, the increasing automation of jobs through AI and robotics poses potential risks to employment and economic stability.

Despite these challenges, the benefits of technology in areas such as healthcare, education, and environmental sustainability are undeniable. Telemedicine has made healthcare more accessible, especially in remote areas. Online learning platforms have democratized education, making it available to a broader audience. Smart technologies and renewable energy solutions are playing a

crucial role in addressing climate change and promoting sustainable development.

As we navigate the complexities of technological progress, it is essential to strike a balance between embracing innovation and addressing its societal impacts. Policymakers, technologists, and the public must work together to ensure that technology serves the common good and enhances the quality of life for all.

11. The main idea of the passage is that:

(A) Technological advancements are universally beneficial.
(B) The impact of technology on society is multifaceted, offering both opportunities and challenges.
(C) The internet and mobile technologies have had only positive effects on communication.
(D) AI and automation are the most critical technological advancements

12. According to the passage, one of the significant challenges posed by rapid technological change is:

(A) The decline in educational standards.
(B) Privacy concerns and cybersecurity threats.
(C) Increased geographical barriers.
(D) Decreased interest in healthcare advancements.

13. The widespread collection and analysis of personal data by tech companies raises questions about:

(A) The efficiency of new technologies.
(B) The advancement of renewable energy solutions.
(C) The decline of traditional industries.
(D) User consent and data protection.

14. What role do smart technologies and renewable energy solutions play, as mentioned in the passage?

(A) They complicate efforts to address climate change.
(B) They primarily benefit the tech industry.
(C) They promote environmental sustainability and address climate change.
(D) They have no significant impact on society.

15. The passage suggests that in navigating technological progress, it is essential to:

(A) Fully embrace all new technologies without question.
(B) Prioritize economic growth over social concerns.
(C) Balance innovation with addressing societal impacts.
(D) Avoid the use of AI and automation entirely.

PASSAGE

Modern literature is increasingly characterized by its exploration of diverse perspectives and its willingness to address complex social issues. Authors are no longer confined to the boundaries of their own cultures or experiences; instead, they draw on a wide array of influences and backgrounds to craft narratives that speak to a global audience. This trend is evident in the works of writers like Zadie Smith, Jhumpa Lahiri, and Haruki Murakami, whose stories often cross cultural and geographical boundaries, offering readers insights into different ways of life and thought.

Contemporary literature also reflects a growing concern with themes of identity, belonging, and displacement. In an era of unprecedented migration and globalization, many authors are tackling questions about what it means to belong to a particular place or community. This is particularly prominent in the works of Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, whose novels and short stories explore the intersections of race, gender, and nationality, and how these factors influence personal and collective identity.

Moreover, the rise of digital media has transformed the way literature is consumed and produced. E-books, audiobooks, and online publishing platforms have democratized access to literature, allowing a broader range of voices to be heard. However, this shift also presents challenges, such as the need to maintain the quality and integrity of literary works in an environment where content is constantly being created and shared.

Despite these challenges, the fundamental power of literature to evoke empathy, challenge assumptions, and inspire change remains undiminished. Whether through the lens of fiction or non-fiction, contemporary writers continue to push the boundaries of what literature can achieve, reminding us of its enduring relevance in an ever-changing world.

16. The main idea of the passage is that:

(A) Contemporary literature addresses diverse perspectives and complex social issues.

(B) Modern literature is limited to exploring cultural boundaries.

(C) Literature has lost its relevance in the digital age.

(D) Only classical literature is valuable for its timeless themes.

17. The passage suggests that the fundamental power of literature lies in its ability to:

(A) Provide entertainment without educational value.

(B) Evoke empathy, challenge assumptions, and inspire change.

(C) Stay within traditional literary forms.

(D) Exclude diverse perspectives and focus on a single culture.

18. Replace the phrase "pushing the boundaries of what literature can achieve" with a similar meaning phrase:

(A) Limiting the scope of literary accomplishments

(B) Extending the limits of literary potential

(C) Reducing the impact of literature

(D) Confining literature to traditional forms

19. The word "enduring" in the passage is opposite in meaning to:

(A) Lasting

(B) Stable

(C) Fleeting

(D) Persistent

20. The word "evoke" in the passage is closest in meaning to:

(A) Suppress

(B) Ignore

(C) Elicit

(D) Silence

ANSWERS

1. B
2. B

3. A
4. A
5. C
6. B
7. C
8. B
9. C
10. C
11. B
12. B
13. D
14. C
15. C
16. A
17. B
18. B
19. C
20. C

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