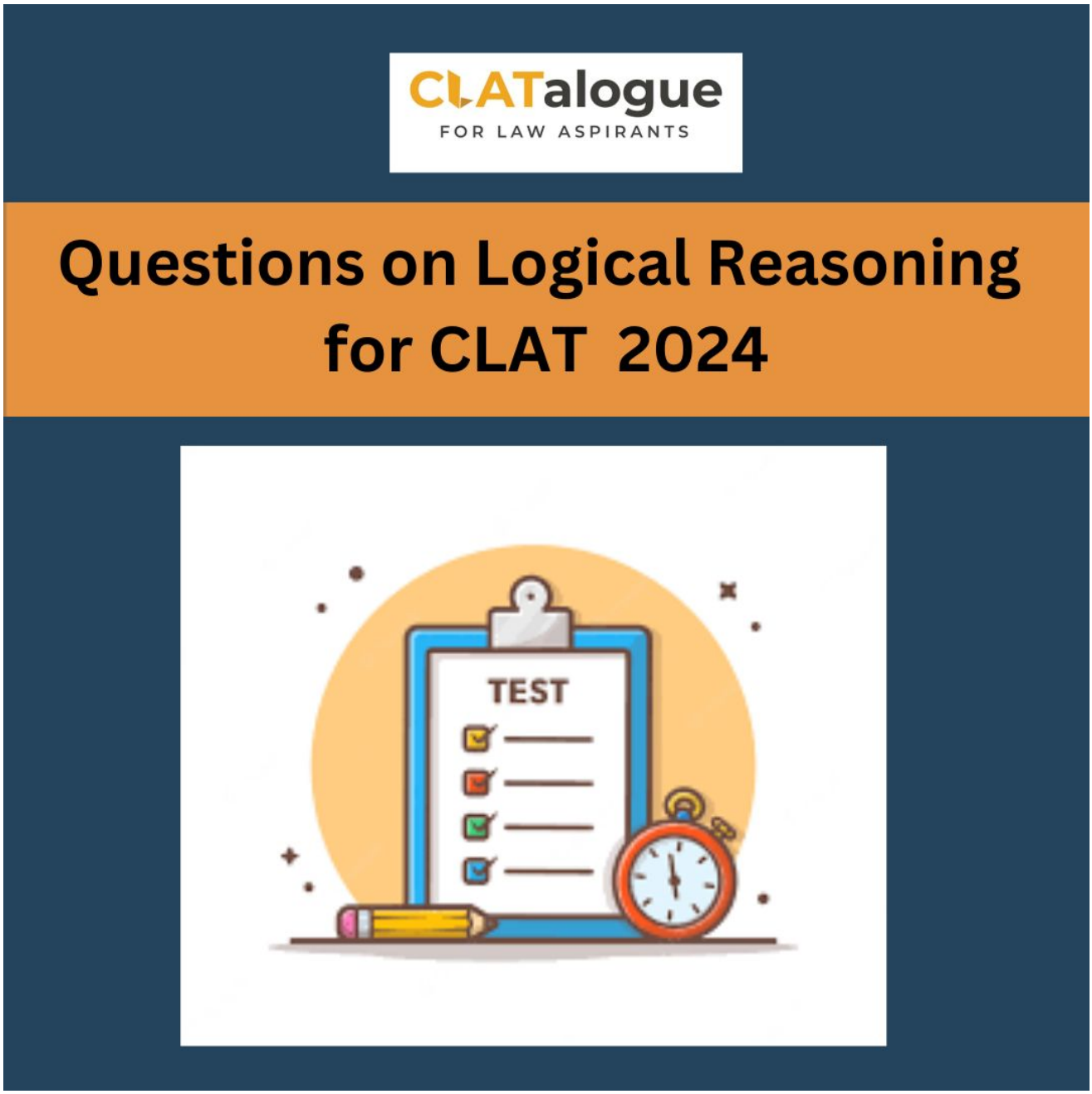
BLOGS

Practice Questions on Logical Reasoning for CLAT UG 2024

Virendra Ashiya · 13 Nov 2023

CLAT 2024 is a few weeks away. In order to boost your preparation and improve your score, practice these important Questions on Logical Reasoning for CLAT 2024 today!

QUESTIONS ON LOGICAL REASONING FOR CLAT 2024



PASSAGE

Writer Thomas Hardy fits neatly into the general scheme of the literature of the second half of the nineteenth century, for he was about midway between writers Matthew Arnold and Walt Whitman. He believed in the efficacy of the knowledge given to one by an understanding of science; but he felt that new points of view should be impregnated with the ancient lore of the past.

He believed that old wine should be kept in new bottles. He refused to follow the writers who called themselves realists into the morass of words that they accumulated in their attempts to

portray life and character as they thought they were.

Likewise, he refused to give himself to pure impressionism. He endeavored to preserve a balance between objective reality and his interpretation of it. He was in the old sense of the word a literary artist.

Hardy, of course, read the events of human life in the light of his conception of the Immanent Will. He believed that the skein of circumstance, woven blindly and flung forth indifferently, caught up in its web all human beings from the emperor in his palace to the unconscious lout lying drunk in the ditch.

But Hardy was not satisfied to hold this view conjecturally. He scanned the pages of philosophy, of science, and of history to be certain that he read life aright. From them he evolved a view of life which has been called scientific determinism. It seemed to him that men moved as automata, each within his own sphere. Unseen forces played upon them; unseen powers directed them.

These forces, the physical manifestation of the metaphysical Immanent Will, were three in number, to which all others were subordinated. They were the power of heredity, the shaping power of education, and the influence of environment. From them there was no escape, for every choice seemingly made by the individual, Hardy thought, was dictated by so many thousand unseen circumstances so interwoven that it was almost impossible to realize the extent to which one was enmeshed in them.

For evidence to substantiate this conclusion he could point to the past and to the present. The Greeks, for example, believed that the three Fates directed every action, no matter how minute, of mortals, and Immortals- of the peasant plodding in the field, and of Zeus waving his machinations on the cloud-kissed brow of Olympus.

The Christian era had introduced into the intellectual world the contrary idea of Free Will; but the world had split on that interpretation of life during the Reformation, when John Calvin gave to the world from the dark caverns of his mind the gloomy doctrine of Predestination.

In the nineteenth century, the western world was probably equally divided between the theory of Free Will maintained by the Roman Catholic Church and a few protestant denominations, and the theory of Predestination held by all churches stemming from Calvinism.

Unexpectedly, aid from an unsought source came to those who maintained that human actions were predetermined, for the evolutionary theory, expounded by Darwin and Huxley, and the

psychology which grew from it, gave weight to the idea that Predeterminism fitted better with facts than the theory of Free Will.

Once an anthropomorphic God was out of the picture and His place taken by an evolving Consciousness, or whatever the mind of man chose to substitute, it was almost necessary to believe in a theory of life similar to that held by Hardy.

QUESTIONS

1. Which of the following arguments would strengthen the author's claim about the relationship between predestination and evolutionary theory?

a. Evolutionary theory predicts change over time, not daily decision-making.
b. Calvinists believed in God and championed Predestination simultaneously.
c. Evolutionary theory is scientific, while Predestination often involves divine forces.
d. All human decisions are determined by the brain which is a byproduct of biological evolution.

Answer: (D) The last argument gives more specific support to the passages general claim that evolutionary theory and "the psychology that grew from it" support the ideas that human actions are predetermined by natural forces.

2. Which of the following endeavors would BEST exemplify the sense of impressionism alluded to in paragraph 1?

a. A sculpture of a young woman crying as she clutches the figure of a small baby in her arms.
b. A novel describing the day-to-day shopping habits of a middle-class housewife.
c. A poem detailing the dangerous and unsanitary working conditions of industrial society.
d. A painting of teenagers suspended in space to portray their social disconnection.

Answer: (D) Option 4 is the only artistic endeavor that does not aim to objectively capture life as it actually appears. Rather, it is an interpretation of the emotional experience of being a teenager.

3. Based on the philosophical beliefs of Thomas Hardy described in the passage, what can be inferred about the beliefs of writers Matthew Arnold and Walt Whitman?

a. One believed in hedonism while the other believed in asceticism.
b. One valued ancient tradition while the other valued modern progress.
c. One preferred new bottles and the other preferred old wine.

d. One believed in fate and the other believed in free will.

Answer: (B) This is a “Foundations of Comprehension” question which is asking you to recognize an accurate paraphrase or summary of the central theme or of particular statements in the passage, or to interpret word choices made by the author.

4. A central thesis in the passage is that Hardy:

a. Was persuaded by science that only heredity guided our choices.
b. Embraced the cross-pollination of scientific, philosophical, and artistic views of human life.
c. Favored Catholicism over Calvinism because it offered a more complete explanation of the divine.
d. Preferred an anthropomorphic God over an evolving Consciousness.

Answer: (B) Hardy is said to have “evolved a view of life which has been called scientific determinism” and preferred old ideas modernized with science. Thus, contrary to option 4, any preference would likely favor the scientific version of an evolved consciousness.

5. According to the passage, which two viewpoints contradicted each other regarding the existence of Free-Will?

a. Catholicism and Calvinism
b. Calvinism and Evolutionary Theory
c. Evolutionary Theory and Psychology
d. Ancient Greek philosophy and science

Answer: (A) That Calvinist view is described as one half of the “split on that interpretation of life” during the Reformation, with the contrasting half being the “theory of Free Will maintained by the Catholic Church”.

For more Questions on Logical Reasoning for CLAT, click here!