

Verbal Ability Answer Key Set 4: Paragraph Organization

# 1. Answer: C.

**Explanation**: This is a *Comparison Contrast* type of question wherein the author relates the ideas to one another by showing how they are similar or different. The first sentence (b) is simply a prelude to the two ideas that the author is comparing/contrasting. The two sentences that follow are the ones being compared with the signal word "However" an indicator that the sentence where it is located (a) contrasts with the previous sentence (c). Apparently, the sentence containing "However" is the last and concluding part of this paragraph.

## 2. Answer: E.

**Explanation**: The sentence that begins with *"Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes"* (b) is the topic sentence as it defines the topic of the entire paragraph. Topic sentences are usually broad while supporting sentences are more specific. In this case, the main topic is the detective fiction Sherlock Holmes and its "countless reinventions" over the years. The next sentence (a) specifies the new and current reinvention of the well-loved classic, making it as a mere supporting sentence. The last one (c) adds more details about the new series so it only functions as a supporting sentence of the previous one.

### 3. Answer: C.

**Explanation**: This is an example of a Paragraph Organization question that uses the *Sequence* of *Events/Chronological* format. In this format, the author lists details/steps in order in which they occur or should be followed. The first thing that you need to do is to identify the topic sentence (c) which contains the main idea and defines the scope of the paragraph. Then, identify the supporting sentences which usually begin with connecting/transition words that provide clues on how they should be arranged. In this paragraph, the transition words used in chronological order *are first, second, next,* and *and finally.* The transition word "next" cannot possibly follow "first" because "second" already exists. Hence, it only makes sense if it comes after "second" and before "and finally" which is obviously the last item in this step-by-step guide.

### 4. Answer: D.

**Explanation**: The sentence containing the name *Lewis Carroll* (c) is obviously the topic sentence not just because it sets the direction of the entire paragraph but also because the rest of sentences only refer to him as either "he" or "his", a clear indication that they only serve as supporting sentences. The topic sentence introduced Lewis Carroll as *"also an avid reader and*"



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*writer of poetry*" which are explored in the two supporting sentences, (a) and (d), respectively. The last sentence (b) merely presents additional details to support the previous sentence which describes Carroll's own works as a poet.

## 5. Answer: D.

**Explanation**: This is a typical example of a Paragraph Organization question wherein the author expresses one main idea or central thought and then follows it with supporting details. The topic sentence (b) is a short statement expressing how ubiquitous unicorns are these days. The author proves this point by mentioning how easy it is to physically encounter unicorns *"in some form or other"* whenever you go outside (d). The next sentence (c) takes it even further by mentioning how unicorns have infiltrated the culture. The concluding sentence (a) can be easily identified using the connecting words *"all the same"* which signifies that despite all the things mentioned previously, people are still aware that unicorns don't exist in real life.

## 6. Answer: A.

**Explanation**: Another type of Paragraph Organization question that you can easily answer by listing the details in order/chronologically. Start by finding the topic sentence which is the first sentence in the paragraph. In most essays, the opening paragraph usually starts with a question (d) to capture readers' attention. From there, you can figure out the exact sequence of the remaining sentences with the help of signal words or clues. In this case, for example, each sentence directly or indirectly mentions a year in chronological order: "2015" (c), "In February 2016 (b), and "Now in its third year" meaning the year after 2016 (a).

### 7. Answer: B.

**Explanation**: From the get-go, it's very easy to spot the topic sentence (c) because it truly captures what the paragraph is all about despite its brevity. The concluding sentence (b) is likewise very easy to identify as it contains the signal words *"these thoughts"* which obviously refer to the previous sentences. As for the supporting sentences, the one that immediately follows the topic sentence repeats the word "object" (a) which suggests correlation. The second supporting sentence (d) simply explains the previous sentence with greater details.

# 8. Answer: D.



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**Explanation**: This is a speech so the one where the speaker greets his audience (b) is obviously the first sentence. The next sentence (a) is when the speaker introduces what he wants to talk about. Both (c) (d) look the same. However, the former repeats the same word (i.e., *"weapons"*) present in the previous sentence so it's more apt to be a supporting sentence than the latter (d) which has the dramatic quality only fit for a concluding sentence.

## 9. Answer: A.

**Explanation:** The speech apparently motivates the Filipino revolutionary soldiers in preparation for their impending clash with Polavieja's army, a fact perfectly summarized in the topic sentence/first sentence (a). The next sentence (b) reminds them what *"that army"* Bonifacio was talking about previously perpetrated that deserves punishment. The last supporting sentence (c) is the "climax" mentioning specific injustices committed by their enemies that inspire them further to fight back.

## 10. Answer: B.

**Explanation**: This is an example of a "*Cause and Effect*" type of question wherein the author explores or explains why something occurred/occurs. The topic sentence defines the scope of the paragraph (f) which is made even clearer by the succeeding sentence (e). There are two theories of the causes of crime discussed in this paragraph: the first one (d) is supported by an example (c) while the second one (b) is explained even further by the last sentence (a).



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