

**INSTITUTE OF ADMINISTRATIVE SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY OF THE PUNJAB**

**PhD in Administrative Sciences
Sample Questions for GRE-based and Subject Admission Test**

Note: Please note that the following questions are indicative of the type of questions that will be asked under each section. The total number of questions under each section will vary.

Section 1: Quantitative Reasoning

1. A car got 33 miles per gallon using gasoline that cost \$2.95 per gallon. Approximately what was the cost, in dollars, of the gasoline used in driving the car 350 miles?

(A) \$10
(B) \$20
(C) \$30
(D) \$40
(E) \$50

2. a and b are integers. $a^2 = b^3$

<u>Quantity A</u>	<u>Quantity B</u>
a	B

- (A) Quantity A is greater.
- (B) Quantity B is greater.
- (C) The two quantities are equal.
- (D) The relationship cannot be determined from the information given.

Section 2: Verbal Reasoning

Questions 1 to 4 are based on this passage

Frederick Douglass was unquestionably the most famous African American of the nineteenth century; indeed, when he died in 1895 he was among the most distinguished public figures in the United States. In his study of Douglass' career as a major figure in the movement to abolish slavery and as a spokesman for Black rights, Waldo Martin has provoked controversy by

contending that Douglass also deserves a prominent place in the intellectual history of the United States because he exemplified so many strands of nineteenth-century thought: romanticism, idealism, individualism, liberal humanism, and an unshakable belief in progress. But this very argument provides ammunition for those who claim that most of Douglass' ideas, being so representative of their time, are now obsolete. Douglass' vision of the future as a melting pot in which all racial and ethnic differences would dissolve into "a composite American nationality" appears from the pluralist perspective of many present-day intellectuals to be not only utopian but even wrongheaded. Yet there is a central aspect of Douglass' thought that seems not in the least bit dated or irrelevant to current concerns. He has no rival in the history of the nineteenth-century United States as an insistent and effective critic of the doctrine of innate racial inequality. He not only attacked racist ideas in his speeches and writings, but he offered his entire career and all his achievements as living proof that racists were wrong in their belief that one race could be inherently superior to another.

While Martin stresses Douglass' antiracist egalitarianism, he does not adequately explain how this aspect of Douglass' thought fits in with his espousal of the liberal Victorian attitudes that many *present-day intellectuals* consider to be naïve and outdated. The fact is that Douglass was attracted to these democratic-capitalist ideals of his time because they could be used to attack slavery and the doctrine of White supremacy. His favorite rhetorical strategy was to expose the hypocrisy of those who, while professing adherence to the ideals of democracy and equality of opportunity, condoned slavery and racial discrimination. It would have been strange indeed if he had not embraced liberal idealism, because it proved its worth for the cause of racial equality during the national crisis that eventually resulted in emancipation and citizenship for African Americans. These points may seem obvious, but had Martin given them more attention, his analysis might have constituted a more convincing rebuttal to those critics who dismiss Douglass' ideology as a relic of the past. If one accepts the proposition that Douglass' deepest commitment was to Black equality and that he used the liberal ideals of his time as weapons in the fight for that cause, then it is hard to fault him for seizing the best weapons at hand.

1. The passage as a whole can best be described as doing which of the following?

- (A) Explaining Douglass' emergence as a major figure in the movement to abolish slavery
- (B) Tracing the origins of Douglass' thought in nineteenth-century romanticism, idealism, and liberal humanism
- (C) Analyzing Douglass' speeches and writings from a modern, pluralist perspective
- (D) Criticizing Martin for failing to stress the contradiction between Douglass' principles and the liberal Victorian attitudes of his day
- (E) Formulating a response to those who consider Douglass' political philosophy to be archaic and irrelevant

2. It can be inferred that the “present-day intellectuals” (Second Para/Bold/Italicized) believe that

- (A) although Douglass used democratic-capitalist ideas to attack slavery and racial inequality, he did not sincerely believe in those ideas
- (B) the view that Douglass was representative of the intellectual trends of his time is obsolete
- (C) Douglass’ opposition to the doctrine of innate racial inequality is irrelevant to current concerns
- (D) Douglass’ commitment to Black equality does not adequately account for his naïve attachment to quaint liberal Victorian political views
- (E) Douglass’ goal of ultimately doing away with all racial and ethnic differences is neither achievable nor desirable

3. According to the passage, Douglass used which of the following as evidence against the doctrine of innate racial inequality?

- (A) His own life story
- (B) His vision of a composite American nationality
- (C) The hypocrisy of self-professed liberal idealists
- (D) The inevitability of the emancipation of African Americans
- (E) The fact that most prominent intellectuals advocated the abolition of slavery

4. Each of the following is mentioned in the passage as an element of Douglass’ ideology EXCEPT

- (A) idealism
- (B) egalitarianism
- (C) capitalism
- (D) pluralism
- (E) humanism

Section 3: Analysis of an issue

While wicked and unruly problems like social inequalities in health and education create an urgent need for policy innovation, politicians are badly positioned to initiate, drive and lead this innovation.

Discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, you should consider ways in which the statement might or might not hold true and explain how these considerations shape your position.

Section 4: Subject Test

Q. Research is a coordinated activity, which requires that all stages of inquiry be aligned with each other right from epistemology, strategy and design to the methods of data collection and analysis. State your agreement or disagreement and elaborate with the help of an example.

Q. Change in organisations is inevitable today, however it is generally viewed that structural change is easier to implement than cultural change. Discuss the above with reference to the recent governance and administrative reforms introduced in public sector organisations with examples.