

# **CRITICAL REASONING**

## **(PRACTICE BOOK)**

**ASSORTED PARAGRAPH QUESTIONS TAKEN  
FROM VARIOUS SOURCES FOR PRACTICE**



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1. In 1990, the number of new students admitted to Ph.D. programs each year averaged 1,250 students per university, while the total number of Ph.D. students enrolled averaged 7,500 students per university. By 2000, the number of new students admitted to Ph.D. programs each year had fallen to an average of 900 students per university, while the total number of Ph.D. students enrolled averaged 8,100 students per university.  
Which of the following conclusions is most strongly supported by the statements above?
  - (a) The total number of students enrolled in Ph.D. programs increased from 1990 to 2000.
  - (b) The average length of time a student remained enrolled in a Ph.D. program increased between 1990 and 2000.
  - (c) The percentage of applicants accepted by Ph.D. programs declined from 1990 to 2000.
  - (d) The number of universities remained constant from 1990 to 2000.
  - (e) The demand for Ph.D. degrees declined from 1990 to 2000.
2. Between 1986 and 1991, the restaurant industry saw an average table occupancy rate (i.e., percent of the time that a table was occupied) of 74 percent, while the number of meals eaten out by Americans stayed constant, at an average of 212 meals out per month per 1000 people. Between 1991 and 1996, however, the average table occupancy rose to 81 percent, while the number of meals eaten out by Americans declined to 195 meals out per month per 1000 people.  
If the statements above are true, which of the following conclusions can be most properly drawn?
  - (a) The average amount of time spent per meal by Americans eating out increased between 1991 and 1996.
  - (b) The proportion of very lengthy meals to somewhat lengthy meals was greater in 1996 than in 1986.
  - (c) The average number of Americans dining out per month tends to decline whenever table occupancy rates increase.
  - (d) The number of meals served between 1986 and 1991 was fewer than the number of meals served between 1991 and 1996.
  - (e) The more tables a restaurant has, the higher its occupancy rate is likely to be
3. Any successful business leader has deep personal resources. All people with deep personal resources have undergone trials in their lives. The experience of trials is more prevalent among those who were not born to great wealth and privilege.
  - (a) The statements above support which of the following propositions?  
Those who currently lack deep personal resources can never become successful business leaders.
  - (b) It is more likely for a person not born to wealth and privilege to become a successful business leader than for one who is born to wealth and privilege.
  - (c) The number of business leaders who were born to wealth is smaller than the number of business leaders who were not born to wealth.
  - (d) Those who are born to privilege are more likely to be successful than those who were born to wealth.
  - (e) An absence of trials in a person's life indicates that that person cannot have deep personal resources.

4. **Malcolm:** I refuse to feel any contrition about failing to report all of my income on my income tax return last year. I have discussed this topic extensively with many friends, family members, and business associates, and it is clear to me that most Americans have bent the truth on their income tax returns at one time or another. **Luka:** It is improper for you to rationalize your actions that way. Regardless of how often it occurs, an illegal deed is still illegal and should be punished. Which of the following statements summarizes Luka's reasoning in response to Malcolm's admission?
- (a) She questions the credibility of the sources whom Malcolm has consulted.
  - (b) She offers evidence that Malcolm's actions were much more severe than he perceived them to be.
  - (c) She demonstrates that Malcolm's rationalizations are based on insufficient evidence.
  - (d) She asserts that the frequency of a crime does not lessen its severity.
  - (e) She introduces the possibility that the moral convictions of different people can differ greatly.
5. Recently, a team of urban archaeologists uncovered a journal kept by an elderly woman who lived in Charleston in the late eighteenth century. In the volume, the woman expressed her fear that she was being haunted by a ghost. She described in exhaustive detail the nature of the hauntings, systematically recording the time and duration of over 100 encounters with the apparition. The archaeologists, impressed by the scientific rigor present in this unprecedented find, concluded that the ghosts must exist. Which one of the following represents the conclusion that can be most reasonably drawn from the information in the passage above?
- (a) The woman who keep the journal most likely suffered from a chronic mental disorder.
  - (b) The woman who keep the journal sincerely believed that she was being haunted by a ghost.
  - (c) A detailed record of times and duration of supposed encounters with an apparition does not provide sufficient evidence to prove the existence of a ghost.
  - (d) The archaeologists had never found a record of hauntings as detailed and careful as the one written by the elderly lady.
  - (e) Since the late 18th century, more sophisticated instruments for tracking the comings and goings of ghosts have been developed.
6. Traditionally, candidates for elected offices have concentrated their efforts on the early stages of the campaign during which, as most people believed, the voters' perceptions of candidates were formed. It is now becoming clear, however, that elections can be decided in the few days preceding the Election Day; public opinion polls taken during recent elections provide evidence of several such races. In those cases, the losing candidates would have been well advised to have forgone early spending and instead saved funds for television advertisements late in their campaigns. Which of the following inferences can be most reasonably drawn from the information in the passage above?
- (a) Television has had an adverse effect on political campaigns, making them less issue-oriented.
  - (b) Politicians of the pre-television era fail to understand the important role television advertising plays in today's political campaigns.
  - (c) Public opinion polls often inaccurately reflect the mood of the electorate in the early stages of a political campaign.

- (d) Polls taken in the days preceding a major election may not accurately predict the outcome of an election.
- (e) Candidates should not try to define the key issues of a race until late in the campaign.
7. A taxi driver earns a flat amount per passenger plus a charge per mile driven. Based on current gas prices, she estimates that approximately 35 percent of the money she earns per mile driven will be spent on gasoline. However, for the past two weeks, the taxi driver has in fact spent about 45 percent of the money she earns per mile on gasoline. Yesterday, while performing routine maintenance on her car, she noticed that her tires were somewhat underinflated, which would negatively affect her car's gas mileage.
- Of the following claims, which is most strongly supported by the passage?
- (a) The taxi driver's gas mileage has steadily gotten worse over the past two weeks.
- (b) Even before discovering the issue with her tires, the taxi driver had reason to believe that on at least some nights her car's gas mileage was worse than anticipated.
- (c) When her car is in perfect maintenance, the taxi driver spends 35 percent of the money she earns per mile on gasoline.
- (d) The taxi driver's gas mileage fluctuated greatly over the past two weeks.
- (e) The increased proportion of earnings spent on gasoline decreased the taxi driver's overall income.
8. Temperatures in the Pacific Northwest have risen steadily since 1981, averaging 2.07 degrees Fahrenheit warmer north of the 46th parallel than in the previous decade. Precipitation and water-table levels, which have historically maintained a measurable relationship to each other (within a scaled range of two to four points), have varied drastically from 1987 to 1991, sometimes deviating as much as six points in fewer than eight months. Reports from Canada indicate a similar median temperature increase, estimated at 2.02 degrees Fahrenheit; research from a 1992 study measures the relational swing in moisture levels at no more than three points.
- Of the following, which conclusion is best supported by the evidence above?
- (a) The higher the temperature of a given area, the more likely it is that the water levels will vary.
- (b) The variation in temperature in the last decade has been less than the fluctuation of moisture.
- (c) When temperatures rise north of the 46th parallel, natural water exchange between land and atmosphere must change in the same proportion.
- (d) Within the last ten years, water table and precipitation levels have varied more in the Pacific Northwest than they have in Canada.
- (e) Canada will have more stability in weather than will the area of the United States above the 46th parallel.
9. A telephone poll conducted over two states asked respondents whether their homes were ever cold during the winter months. 99% of respondents said they were never cold during the winter months. The pollsters published their findings, concluding that 99% of all homes in the United States have adequate heating.
- Which of the following most accurately describes what might be a questionable technique employed by the pollsters in drawing their conclusion?
- (a) The poll wrongly ascribes the underlying causes of the problem.
- (b) The poll assumes conditions in the two states are representative of the entire country.

- (c) The pollsters conducted the poll by telephone, thus relying on the veracity of the subjects they spoke to.
- (d) The pollsters did not go to the houses in person, thus precluding the actual measurement of temperatures in the subjects' homes.
- (e) The pollsters never defined the term "cold" in terms of a specific temperature.
10. A new disease called Probibeleosus has emerged in Oceania. Though non-fatal, Probibeleosus leads to disfigurement, reduced mobility and chronic pain. Medical researchers have thus far discovered two variants of the disease which they have labelled Probibeleosus-A (P-A) and Probibeleosus-B (P-B). Sex partners and siblings of those with P-A are four times as likely as the general population to have P-A. Sex partners of those with P-B are no more likely than the general population to have P-B, but siblings of those with P-B are over eight times more likely to have the disease than the average person.
- Which of the following statements is best supported by the above information?
- (a) Of those with P-A their parents would be no more likely than average to have the condition.
- (b) Somewhere between one-in-eight and one-in-four people in Oceania have either P-A or P-B.
- (c) The sex partners of those who do not have P-A are less likely than average to have P-A.
- (d) Those who have never had sex are less likely to have P-B than P-A.
- (e) Vulnerability to P-B is more likely hereditary than is vulnerability to P-A.
11. Through "pay-per-click" advertising, also known as PPC, an Internet advertisement appears in designated sections of a results page when a person enters certain keywords into a search engine. While many Web users ignore such results, given that those listings look different from the non-sponsored results listed in the main body of the page, people who do see PPC ads will be pre-qualified sales prospects, given that such ads are specific to the keywords entered by the person seeing them. PPC offers advertisers control over their budgets, since only ads for the highest bidders on specific keywords appear at the top of a search results page.
- Which of the following conclusions is most supported by the statements above?
- (a) Most Web users do not consider paid search engine results legitimate.
- (b) The visibility of some kinds of Internet advertising is inversely proportional to the revenue spent on such advertising.
- (c) Companies that do not offer products or services online will not derive a significant benefit from PPC advertising.
- (d) Print and broadcast advertising is not as effective for online businesses as is PPC advertising.
- (e) PPC advertisers may be forced to choose between spending more than they intended or missing potential sales opportunities.
12. A study showed that only ten percent of American dog owners enrol their dogs in formal obedience training classes. More than twenty percent of these dog owners, the study also showed, participate in dog shows. Thus, it is obvious that people who train their dogs are more likely to participate in dog shows than are people who do not train their dogs.
- The conclusion above is correct provided which of the following statements is also true?
- (a) It is impossible for a dog to compete in a dog show if the dog has not completed at least one formal obedience training class.

- (b) The proportion of dog owners who enrol their dogs in formal obedience training classes is representative of the proportion who train their dogs outside such classes.
- (c) Dog owners who participate in dog shows only train their dogs by enrolling them in formal obedience training lessons.
- (d) Participation in dog shows is a reliable indicator of how much attention a dog owner pays to his dog.
- (e) Only purebred dogs can participate in dog shows, so many owners who enroll their dogs in formal obedience training classes are excluded from this activity.

13. Corncob Industries has instituted an employee shuttle program to provide a free transportation option to its workers who would otherwise need to commute via public transit or automobile. To help subsidize the program, the company cut its cafeteria budget, and now requires employees who choose to eat company-provided meals to pay normal fees for its previously complementary foods and beverages. Meanwhile, no additional benefit programs have been created.

From the above statements, it can be reasonably concluded that:

- (a) Corncob employees who use the company shuttle generally don't have more convenient transportation options.
  - (b) Fewer Corncob workers have used the company cafeteria since the shuttle program began.
  - (c) Some workers who still commute to Corncob on their own are unhappy about the shuttle program.
  - (d) More Corncob employees have begun bringing their own meals since the shuttle program began.
  - (e) The shuttle program is not truly free for any Corncob worker, since it affects another employee perquisite.
14. The World Bank has developed a computer program that assesses the authenticity of world currency suspected of being counterfeit. The program contains extensive profiles of the printing techniques and components of currencies of all major nations; such profiles include chemical composition of paper, density of ink, and details in the printing plates that are invisible to the naked eye. Counterfeiters, including the best counterfeiters known from history, cannot hope to reproduce all facets of a particular nation's currency.
- Which of the following can be logically concluded from the passage above?
- (a) The staff resources required to prepare currency for analysis by the program make use of the program prohibitively expensive.
  - (b) Consumer banks will soon purchase the right to use the program on their own computers.
  - (c) The program cannot fail to identify as inauthentic counterfeit currency that has previously escaped detection.
  - (d) The authentication program has taken a number of years to develop.
  - (e) In numerous cases, authentic currency is not recognized as authentic by the program.
15. In 1994, the most common eye-related disease from which Americans suffered was conjunctivitis, and glaucoma was a distant second. Glaucoma is much more common among patients who are more than 50 years old than it is among those who are 50 or younger, but the incidence rate for conjunctivitis is the same for people of all ages. The average age of all Americans is expected to exceed 50 by the year 2010.
- Which of the following conclusions can be most properly drawn about eye-related diseases from the information given?

- (a) Conjunctivitis will remain the most common eye-related disease among Americans in 2010.
- (b) By the year 2010, glaucoma will overtake conjunctivitis as the most common eye-related disease.
- (c) More people will suffer from conjunctivitis in 2010 than did in 1994.
- (d) Most Americans will encounter either conjunctivitis or glaucoma by 2010.
- (e) The average age of Americans suffering from conjunctivitis will increase between 1994 and 2010.

16. Representation of performers by agents is still the predominant way in which theatrical and other performers secure employment, even though agents may take between 10 and 15 percent of a performer's income. Apparently, most performers reason that agents have the resources to find roles to which the performers might not otherwise have access.

Which of the following can be properly concluded from the passage above?

- (a) The work accomplished by a performer's agent is too extensive for the performer to accomplish alone.
- (b) When a performer and a performer's agent work together, the results are far superior to those of a performer working alone.
- (c) The representation of performers by agents is not an entirely new method by which performers secure employment.
- (d) The financial results of the 10 to 15 percent earned from the representation of a performer are enough to provide a living for a performer's agent.
- (e) When a performer and a performer's agent work together, generally the company or person offering the performer employment is the one who will benefit most from the relationship.

17. Interest in a 3,200-acre parcel of barren land in Welsh County has been virtually non-existent because it is not zoned for commercial use. A real estate developer, though, has created a business plan to convert the property into a low-grade airport that, when completed, would drive the value of the surrounding properties lower. Many local residents, therefore, are trying to pool their assets and buy the property outright.

Last week, the Welsh County town council voted to repeal the restriction in the town charter that prohibits all commercial development on parcels of land smaller than 5,000 acres.

**The statements above, if true, best support which of the following conclusions?**

- (a) The people who have property adjacent to the land in question will seek out other real estate developers who might want to use the land for other more aesthetically pleasing uses.
- (b) The Welsh County town council does not always act solely in the financial interest of town's residents.
- (c) Though short-term property values will probably drop, the community will ultimately benefit when young families arrive to take advantage of the bargains.
- (d) If residents can persuade the town council to reconsider its decision, their property values will rise.
- (e) The original zoning laws in Welsh County were enacted because of pressure from the area's wealthiest residents.

18. The transit authority of a certain city announced plans for a daily subway pass, which would cost \$2.50 and afford a passenger unlimited access to the subway over a twenty-four-hour period. A consumer advocate was unimpressed with this



offer because it benefited only tourists and did nothing for the average city commuter, who rides the subway only to and from work each business day.

**If each of the statements above is true, which of the following conclusions can be drawn about the city's subway system?**

- (a) The transit authority's special committee will weigh the merits of the day pass when it reconvenes.
- (b) The average commuter is dissatisfied with the price of the subway and is turning to other methods of transportation.
- (c) Discounting the day pass would put a strain on funds normally reserved for emergency measures.
- (d) The cost of one ride on the subway, regardless of the length of the ride or the time of day, is no more than \$1.25
- (e) A four-day pass at a cost of \$10 would be equally useful to tourists.

19. Health professionals have argued that too much butter in a person's diet can cause the dangerous overdevelopment in the bloodstream of high-density Lipoproteins that can clog arteries and put that person at risk of a heart attack. In South Korea, however, where per-capita butter consumption is almost non-existent. The incidence of heart attacks is no less than that in countries where butter is commonly served at every meal.

Which of the following statements represents the most reliable conclusion that can be drawn from the information above?

- (a) Most people, if told of the potential risk of butter consumption, would willingly switch to margarine or some other butter substitute.
- (b) Despite arguments to the contrary, butter does not have a deleterious effect on the human heart.
- (c) Koreans avoid butter because they dislike the taste, not because of the health risk.
- (d) Butter consumption is probably not the only factor that can be linked to the incidence of heart attacks.
- (e) Other dairy products such as cheese and yogurt pose an equal threat to cardiovascular fitness.

20. Light plastic materials, such as bottles for freezing and containers for microwave cooking, have been shown by research to release carcinogenic toxins into the liquids and foods stored therein, thus posing a health risk problem for humans. Stainless steel is a better material health-wise for preserving food by freezing while only ceramics are healthy for heating foods and liquids in a microwave. The statements above, if true, best support which of the following assertions?
- (a) We need to research plastics further to come up with an overarching rule regarding the viability of using plastics in freezing and cooking by microwave.
  - (b) Plastic containers of any type should not be used to freeze liquids or to heat food in the microwave.
  - (c) No significant positive health effects on human food consumption would result from banning plastics.
  - (d) In very cold conditions, stainless steel releases less carcinogens than do light plastics.
  - (e) Stainless steel is healthier for humans than plastics are.
21. Country L used to import wheat from Country S because Country S's price per bale was the cheapest available. When Country S raised its price by 25 percent, however, Country L decided to transfer its business to Country D, which now boasted the best deal available. Which of the following, if true, would be best supported by the assertions above?
- (a) The cost to harvest a bale of wheat in Country S increased by 25 percent.
  - (b) If Country S were to lower its price below Country D's price, then Country L would resume its import relationship with Country S.
  - (c) If Country L could somehow reduce the cost of producing domestic wheat by 25 percent, it wouldn't need to rely on any wheat imports.
  - (d) Country S and Country D do not import or export any wheat from each other.
  - (e) If Country D were to increase its price per bale of wheat by 25 percent, then a bale of wheat from Country S would once again be less expensive.
22. When released into the atmosphere, the refrigerant Freon damages the Earth's ozone layer. A new kind of refrigerant does not have this effect. The manufacturer claims that replacing Freon with the new refrigerant in both new and existing refrigerators will prevent any further Freon damage to the ozone layer apart from that being done by the Freon already in the atmosphere. Which of the following must be true if the manufacturer's prediction is to prove accurate?
- (a) Freon can be replaced with the new refrigerant without releasing any Freon into the atmosphere.
  - (b) The damage already done to the ozone layer is not of environmentally significant proportions.
  - (c) The atmosphere can reverse the damage to the ozone layer caused by the past use of Freon.
  - (d) The new refrigerant can counteract the damaging effects of Freon on the Earth's atmosphere.
  - (e) The new refrigerant causes no environmental damage of any kind when it is released into the atmosphere.
23. Dormitories range from two to six stories in height. If a dormitory room is above the second floor, it has a fire escape. If the statements above are true, which of the following must also be true?

- (a) Second-floor dormitory rooms do not have fire escapes.
  - (b) Third-floor dormitory rooms do not have fire escapes.
  - (c) Only dormitory rooms above the second floor have fire escapes.
  - (d) Fourth-floor dormitory rooms have fire escapes.
  - (e) Some two-story dormitories do not have fire escapes.
24. Forty-five percent of all blood donated in the United States is type O. Type O blood is essential for emergencies where there is no time for determining the blood type of victims because type O blood can be used for everyone. Type O blood is unique in that it is compatible with blood of all types: any recipient, regardless of blood type, can be given it. But precisely because of this special usefulness, type O blood is chronically in short supply.
- If the statements in the passage above are true, which of the following must also be true?
- (a) The special usefulness of type O blood lies in the fact that it matches the blood type of most people.
  - (b) Supplies of type O blood are continuously so low that type O blood is unavailable for emergencies, where its usefulness would be greatest.
  - (c) Forty-five percent of the total population of the United States has type O blood, which makes type O the most common blood type.
  - (d) Any decision to give blood of any type other than O needs to be based on knowledge of the recipient's blood type.
  - (e) Type O blood is the only blood that cannot be typed as fast as needed in emergencies.
25. A package is never accepted for delivery by the delivery service unless it is within the established size limits. All packages accepted for delivery by the delivery service have a return address.
- If the statements above are true, which of the following must also be true?
- (a) The delivery service charges more for heavier packages than for lighter packages.
  - (b) The delivery service will always accept for delivery a package that is within the established size limits.
  - (c) If a package is within the established size limits and has a return address, it will be accepted for delivery by the delivery service no matter how heavy the package is.
  - (d) A package that is not within the established size limits but has a return address is never accepted for delivery by the delivery service.
  - (e) The delivery service does not charge for packages that must be returned to the sender.
26. Whenever the sun is shining and the windchill factor is below zero, Susan wears her parka. Whenever it is raining and the windchill factor is above zero, Susan wears her raincoat. Sometimes it rains when the sun is shining.
- If the above statements are true, which of the following must also be true?
- (a) If it is not raining and Susan is wearing her parka, the sun is shining.
  - (b) If the windchill factor is below zero and Susan is not wearing her parka, the sun is not shining.
  - (c) If the windchill factor is below zero and it is not raining, Susan is wearing her parka.
  - (d) If the windchill factor is below zero and it is raining, Susan is wearing her raincoat.
  - (e) If it rains while the sun is shining and the windchill factor is zero, Susan wears her parka

27. While most scholarship on women's employment in the United States recognizes that the Second World War (1939—1945) dramatically changed the role of women in the workforce, these studies also acknowledge that few women remained in manufacturing jobs once men returned from the war. But in agriculture, unlike other industries where women were viewed as temporary workers, women's employment did not end with the war. Instead, the expansion of agriculture and a steady decrease in the number of male farm workers combined to cause the industry to hire more women in the post-war years. Consequently, the 1950s saw a growing number of women engaged in farm labor, even though rhetoric in the popular media called for the return of women to domestic life.

Which of the following statements about women's employment in the United States during and after the Second World War is most clearly supported by the passage?

- (a) Most women who joined the workforce during the Second World War wanted to return to domestic life when the war ended.
  - (b) The great majority of women who joined the workforce during the Second World War were employed in manufacturing jobs.
  - (c) The end of the Second World War was followed by a large-scale transfer of women workers from manufacturing to agriculture.
  - (d) The increase in women's employment that accompanied the Second World War was longer lasting in agriculture than it was in manufacturing.
  - (e) The popular media were more forceful in calling for women to join the workforce during the Second World War than in calling for women to return to domestic life after the war.
28. Country A recently broke off diplomatic relations with Country B when it was reported that Country B had been running a covert intelligence operation within the borders of Country A. While a spokesperson for Country B admitted the charge, the spokesperson said that it was common knowledge that all countries do this, and that Country A was no exception.
- Which of the following inferences can be drawn from the argument above?
- (a) Country B should apologize and dismantle its intelligence operation in Country A.
  - (b) The spokesperson for Country B claims that Country A engages in intelligence gathering too.
  - (c) Because all countries engage in this practice, Country A's outrage was disingenuous.
  - (d) Relations between Country A and Country B will be strained for some time.
  - (e) Country B would be just as outraged if it was reported that Country A was running a covert intelligence operation with Country B's borders.

29. Saturn's giant moon Titan is the only planetary satellite with a significant atmosphere and the only body in the solar system other than Earth that has a thick atmosphere dominated by molecular nitrogen. For a long time, the big question about Titan's atmosphere was how it could be so thick, given that Jupiter's moons Ganymede and Callisto, which are the same size as Titan, have none. The conditions for acquiring and retaining a thick nitrogen atmosphere are now readily understood. The low temperature of the proto-saturnian nebula enabled Titan to acquire the moderately volatile compounds methane and ammonia (later converted to nitrogen) in addition to water. The higher temperatures of Jupiter's moons, which were closer to the Sun, prevented them from acquiring such an atmosphere.

According to the passage, Titan differs atmospherically from Ganymede and Callisto because of a difference in

- (a) rate of heat loss

- (b) proximity to the Sun
  - (c) availability of methane and ammonia
  - (d) distance from its planet
  - (e) size
30. The level of unemployment in Country X is lower than that in Country Y. The size of the population in both countries is the same, as is also the age distribution. Which of the following is most likely to be true on the basis of the statements above?
- (a) There are more unemployed people in Country Y than there are in Country X.
  - (b) There are more unemployed people in Country X than there are in Country Y.
  - (c) There are as many unemployed people in Country Y as there are in Country X.
  - (d) The percentage of the population that are employed in Country X is the same as that in Country Y.
  - (e) The percentage of the population that are employed in Country X is lower than that in Country Y.
31. Company X experienced a sharp decrease in profitability last year. The CEO believes that the best way to increase profitability is to fire 20 employees. The CFO, on the other hand, believes that no employees should be fired, but that all employees should take a salary cut. Which of the following, if true, would contribute most to the CFO's claim?
- (a) There are currently 35 employees in Company X.
  - (b) Firing 20 employees will lower the company's expenses by more than 30 percent.
  - (c) The average salary in Company X is significantly lower than that of its competitors.
  - (d) The workload in Company X has been gradually increasing over the past few years.
  - (e) If salaries are lowered, employee morale and, consequently, productivity will suffer.
32. Distance learning offers a potentially lucrative option for learning institutions. Money that would otherwise be spent on classroom space, parking facilities, climate control, and other particulars associated with providing a location-specific service can be diverted to marketing and quality control two crucial factors that can drive new business. Which of the following can be correctly inferred from the statements above?
- (a) The costs associated with offering distance learning are lower than those of other instruction methods.
  - (b) Online classes are more convenient for both instructors and students than are classes held at specific geographic locations.
  - (c) Distance learning does not require climate control or parking facilities.
  - (d) Most types of instruction can be effectively conducted in an online setting.
  - (e) Computers and internet access are uniformly available to people in the developed world.
33. Pharmaceutical companies typically charge slightly inflated prices for drugs that have a large customer base and are heavily prescribed by doctors, in order to balance the losses such companies experience from producing "orphan" drugs—drugs that are used by so few patients that they can never be profitable. New federal regulations require pharmaceutical companies to limit the price they charge for any drug to cost plus a predetermined percentage profit. If the statements above are true, which of the following must also be true?

- (a) New pharmaceutical technology has made advances possible; the drugs produced by such technology, however, are too expensive for all but the wealthiest patients.
- (b) If pharmaceutical companies do not find another source of income to balance the losses they experience in producing orphan drugs, such companies will no longer be able to produce those drugs without compromising overall profits.
- (c) Some patients already request generic pharmaceuticals, when they are available, because they are typically less expensive than name-brand pharmaceuticals.
- (d) If pharmaceutical companies reduce the costs of producing most drugs, they will be able to earn more profits despite the new law, and thus will be able to balance the losses they experience from the production of orphan drugs.
- (e) Even though charitable organizations that fund research into the rare diseases treated by orphan drugs provide some donations to offset the costs of the drugs, such donations are declining.

34. In 1994, the most common eye-related disease from which Americans suffered was conjunctivitis, and glaucoma was a distant second.

Glaucoma is much more common among patients who are more than 50 years old than it is among those who are 50 or younger, but the incidence rate for conjunctivitis is the same for people of all ages.

The average age of all Americans is expected to exceed 50 by the year 2010.

Which of the following conclusions can be most properly drawn about eye-related diseases from the information given?

- (a) Conjunctivitis will remain the most common eye-related disease among Americans in 2010.
- (b) By the year 2010, glaucoma will overtake conjunctivitis as the most common eye-related disease.
- (c) More people will suffer from conjunctivitis in 2010 than did in 1994.
- (d) Most Americans will encounter either conjunctivitis or glaucoma by 2010.
- (e) The average age of Americans suffering from conjunctivitis will increase between 1994 and 2010.

35. According to mutual fund sales experts, a successful year for a stock fund should result not only in increased investor dollars flowing into the fund, but also in increased investor dollars flowing into other mutual stock funds offered by the same company. However, while last year the Grafton Mutual Company's "Growth Stock Fund" beat average market returns by a factor of two and recorded substantial new investment, the other stock funds offered by Grafton did not report any increase whatsoever.

Which of the following conclusions can properly be drawn from the statements above?

- (a) When one of the mutual funds offered by a company beats average market returns, the other mutual funds offered by that company will beat average market returns.
- (b) The mutual fund sales experts neglected to consider bond funds in formulating their theory.
- (c) The performance of the Grafton "Growth Stock Fund" was a result of a wave of mergers and acquisitions that year.
- (d) Investors currently dislike all stock mutual funds because of market volatility.
- (e) The success of one mutual fund is not the only factor affecting whether investors will invest in other mutual funds run by the same company.

36. The proposal to install French-manufactured public toilet kiosks on Boston streets has run into several bureaucratic roadblocks. The director of the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities, for instance, has insisted that under city law, each and every unit must be big enough for a wheelchair. But if all the kiosks are that large, the City Arts Commission is unlikely to approve their placement on the streets because they would be too cumbersome and unattractive. Also, the Paris-based company that has operated the patented, self-cleaning, coin-operated toilet kiosks in Paris for years has said that it is unwilling to do the job in Boston if all the toilets have to be made accessible to the handicapped.
- If all of the above statements are true, which one of the following must also be true?
- (a) No public toilet kiosks will be installed on Boston streets.
  - (b) If public toilet kiosks are installed on Boston streets, it will be over the protests of the director of the City Arts Commission.
  - (c) Wheelchair accessibility is the issue most likely to doom the plan to install public toilet kiosks.
  - (d) A compromise must be worked out between the City Arts Commission and the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities.
  - (e) The Paris-based company is unlikely to install the kiosks if the position of the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities remains unchanged.

37. The National Train Company of Country X has decided to offer its employees a classical music appreciation course free of charge in order to increase productivity. The decision was reached after a study was published confirming the positive effects of classical music on the human psyche: facilitating improved stress management and inducing a feeling of tranquillity. Which of the following, if true, most seriously strengthens the National Train Company's conclusion?
- (a) A newspaper article appearing in the science section states that classical music is more conducive to sleep than Pop, Rock and Roll and Rhythm & Blues.
  - (b) The cost of the classical music appreciation course, per student, comes to 10% of the average monthly salary paid in the National Train Company.
  - (c) A survey handed to students in 10 separate music appreciation courses shows that music appreciation courses affect the musical tastes of only 20% of participants.
  - (d) Classical music appreciation courses are preferred by employees of large companies over Pop or House music appreciation courses.
  - (e) Classical music has been shown to have a positive effect on the digestive system, thus lowering the average days of sick leave among those who listen to it.
38. All-included tour package brochure: Tourists joining us on our "all-included" package to the Caribbean are making a wise choice. People who take the so-called "inexpensive" cruises offered by some companies are constantly encouraged to buy "extras" in the form of alcoholic beverages, special day-trips and even the use of the midnight buffet. These unsuspecting tourists often pay an above-average price for such "inexpensive" cruises. Which of the following, if true, most strengthens the position presented in the all-included tour package brochure?
- (a) Tourists who choose to hire a yacht, and head for the Caribbean independent of any company, ultimately pay less than those who go on inexpensive cruises organised by tour providers.
  - (b) An accounting calculation made for an "inexpensive" cruising company shows that the average payment per passenger is 5% higher at the end of the cruise when charged individually for a five o'clock buffet and a scuba diving course.
  - (c) A marketing investigation shows that while more costly, tourists electing the "inexpensive" option tend to return to the same company for their next cruise in higher percentages than those who choose the "all-included" package.
  - (d) A market assessment made for one of the large cruising companies shows that the tourist who pays a lower nominal fee, yet pays for many "extras", pays insignificantly more than the tourist who pays a higher rate for an "all-included" package.
  - (e) A survey of customers who took cruises lasting more than two weeks shows that tourists that travelled with friends from home enjoyed themselves more than those that left alone or just as a couple.
39. The naked mole rat is a pest to the farmers of Pellaville. The farmers plan to reduce the rat population by poisoning the stream out of which the mole rats drink. Which of the following, if true, is the best support for the scheme of the farmers?
- (a) The poison that will be used in the stream is not toxic to the farmers' livestock
  - (b) The naked mole rat is not susceptible to most conventional poisons



- (c) The befurred vole, a relative to the naked mole rat, is most effectively controlled with contraception rather than with poison
- (d) The poison to be used is less expensive than other poisons
- (e) The poison will be most effective if administered after the harvest
40. A specific species of African monkey performs an elaborate rain dance after the first rain. The fact that the actual movements which the monkeys of this species perform differ depending on the troop's location in Africa has led zoologists to believe that the dance comprises of specific movements that are a cultural rather than a genetic development.
- Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the conclusion drawn by the zoologists?
- (a) Each separate species of African monkey performs a different dance after the first rain.
- (b) There is a known case of a monkey of the mentioned species raised among monkeys of a different species that would perform a dance different from that performed by his adopting group after the first rain.
- (c) A recent zoological report was published describing ant-luring technique differences between separate groups of the same species of monkey as based on the type of ant prevalent in the monkey's specific habitat.
- (d) An infant monkey raised in captivity would move about slightly after the first rain of the year, but its movements did not resemble those of any of the groups found throughout Africa.
- (e) The dance comprises of movements that are very similar when comparing troops of the same species.
41. In 1988 unemployment in some regions of the United States dropped to the lowest rate in ten years, while the rate in other regions reached an all-time high. In 1978 similar conditions led to large migrations of workers from regions with high unemployment to regions with low unemployment. There was, however, significantly less such migration in 1988.
- Which of the following, if true about 1988, would contribute most to explaining why there was less migration of workers in 1988 ?
- (a) The regions with the lowest unemployment rates had many of the same kinds of industries as those in the regions with high unemployment, but this was not the case in 1978.
- (b) In contrast to 1978, the regions with the lowest unemployment rates had the largest number of new jobs, although substantially fewer of the new jobs required retraining.
- (c) In contrast to 1978, housing costs in the areas with the lowest unemployment rates were substantially higher than housing costs in other parts of the country.
- (d) The unemployment rate in countries outside of the United States was higher than it was ten years before.
- (e) Unemployment benefits in the regions of high unemployment were slightly lower than they were ten years earlier in regions of high unemployment.
42. Nationwide, nearly two percent of all business school graduates will eventually be convicted of violations of the Securities and Exchange Act. Over the last five years, fully eight percent of all employees with MBAs at Schicksal, Barnham & Lampert, a top brokerage firm have been convicted of such violations. This dubious distinction clearly indicates that employees with MBAs at Schicksal, Barnham & Lampert are four times as corrupt as employees with MBAs at other brokerage firms.
- Which one of the following statements, if true, most weakens the argument above?

- (a) The Securities and Exchange Commission is far more likely to investigate brokerage firms than other businesses.
  - (b) Most of the employees of Schicksal, Barnham & Lampert are scrupulously honest and would not intentionally act in such a way as to violate a regulation such as the Securities and Exchange Act.
  - (c) A greater number of the Schicksal, Barnham & Lampert employees with MBAs investigated for possible violations of the Securities and Exchange Act were cleared of all wrong-doing than were their counterparts at other brokerage firms.
  - (d) The level of corruption of individuals on a staff is not directly related to the proportion of these individuals who have been convicted of corrupt behavior.
  - (e) Schicksal, Barnham & Lampert regularly hires from the top eight percent of all business school graduates, who must have competed vigorously to have enjoyed such success.
43. The woman's volleyball team at a local college finished fifth in its division, prompting the college to fire the team's general manager. The manager responded by suing the college, saying that the team's performance put it among the top teams in the country.  
Which of the following statements, if true, would support the claim of the team's manager, and resolve the apparent contradiction?
- (a) The team won all of its "away" games during the season in question
  - (b) Attendance at the volleyball team's games was up 35% from the year before
  - (c) Of the starting team, three team members were unable to play for at least half the season because of injuries
  - (d) There are 80 teams in this particular volleyball team's division
  - (e) The team lost more games this year than it did the year before.
44. GPS, the Global Positioning System (GPS) is a global navigation satellite system and is often used for navigating by car. Traveler's Best Friend (TBF) is a new navigation aids company which believes that not only drivers but also hikers could use GPS for navigating and have therefore decided to develop a GPS device for hikers.  
Which of the following, if true, most seriously strengthens TBF's conclusion?
- (a) Technical problems prevent the entry of old mine fields data into the GPS device program.
  - (b) A survey conducted by TBF shows that 82% of hikers would buy GPS hardware and software if the price is manageable.
  - (c) Due to high developing prices, the price for the end purchaser is estimated at 15,000\$, far more expensive than any other single hiking accessory.
  - (d) A rival company, TBP (traveler's best pal) has tried to develop the device, but were forced to halt the development due to technological limitations.
  - (e) The estimated weight of the GPS system is roughly 40 pounds.
45. X melts at a higher temperature than P melts. Y melts at a lower temperature than P melts, but at a higher temperature than Q melts.  
If the statements above are true, it can be concluded with certainty that S melts at a higher temperature than Y melts if one knows in addition that
- (a) Q and P melt at a higher temperature than S melts
  - (b) X melts at a higher temperature than S melts
  - (c) P melts at a lower temperature than S melts
  - (d) Q melts at the same temperature that S melts
  - (e) S melts at a higher temperature than Q melts

46. Children born blind or deaf and blind begin social smiling on roughly the same schedule as most children, by about three months of age.  
The information above provides evidence to support which of the following hypotheses?
- (a) For babies, the survival advantage of smiling consists in bonding the caregiver to the infant.
  - (b) Babies do not smile when no one else is present.
  - (c) The smiling response depends on an inborn trait determining a certain pattern of development.
  - (d) Smiling between persons basically signals a mutual lack of aggressive intent.
  - (e) When a baby begins smiling, its caregivers begin responding to it as they would to a person in conversation.
47. Industrial solvents, which can damage the liver, kidneys, and nervous system, often drain into public water supplies. Currently, tested water is considered pure if the amount of solvent an individual is exposed to through drinking one-half gallon of water per day-roughly what a typical adult drinks per day-does not pose a significant threat to human health. But many toxicologists claim that the standard set by this method does not adequately protect the public.  
Which of the following, if true, would best support the claim of the toxicologists mentioned above?
- (a) The figure of one-half gallon a day includes water contained in beverages such as soft drinks, which are often bottled at locations distant from where they are consumed.
  - (b) Some industrial solvents have less toxic but more expensive analogues that industry has not adopted for use.
  - (c) Water treatment centers usually filter out bacteria and other organisms before the water is pumped into public supply systems.
  - (d) Industrial polluters are rarely fined or punished, even when they knowingly allow toxic chemicals to enter water supplies.
  - (e) More solvent enters the body through skin absorption, during washing and bathing, than through drinking.
48. As more and more women develop breast cancer, the disease is given more media coverage, which will lead to increased funding for breast cancer research.  
Which of the following, if true, offers the LEAST support to the argument above?
- (a) Although some breast cancer cases may be inherited, the primary cause of the increased number of cases may prove to be environmental.
  - (b) In the past five years, several famous women have been stricken with breast cancer and given numerous interviews on the subject.
  - (c) When a cause receives increased media coverage, philanthropic foundations tend to give that cause added financial support.
  - (d) As long as a disease is unpublicized, it is unlikely to attract either researchers or funding for research.
  - (e) In recent years, breast cancer has stricken more women than has any other type of cancer, or even any other disease.
49. The population of peregrine falcons declined rapidly during the 1950's and 1960's and reached an all-time low in the early 1970's. The decline was attributed by scientists to the widespread use of the pesticide DDT in rural areas.  
Which of the following, if true, gives the strongest support to the scientists' claim?
- (a) DDT was not generally in use in areas devoted to heavy industry.
  - (b) In the time since the use of DDT was banned in 1972, the population of peregrine falcons has been steadily increasing.

- (c) Peregrine falcons, like other birds of prey, abandon eggs that have fallen out of the nest, even if the eggs remain intact.
  - (d) Starlings, house sparrows, and blue jays—birds the peregrine falcon preys on—were not adversely affected by DDT in their habitats.
  - (e) Other birds of prey, such as the osprey, the bald eagle, and the brown pelican, are found in the same areas as is the peregrine falcon.
50. Movies Now, a streaming service, is projected to buy more licenses to stream more movies in the next 5 years than in any previous 5-year window. This is because Movies Now's board of directors has encouraged the pursuit of subscribers who are parents of children under the age of 12 and the current selection of movies to stream in the Movies Now database is targeted at subscribers ages 18–35. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the argument from Movies Now's board of directors that they should pursue subscribers who are parents of children under the age of 12?
- (a) The board monitors the demographic targets of large advertising companies and chooses target audiences for their streaming service based off those trends.
  - (b) A population study conducted by an independent research group has uncovered a large uptick in the number of parents who are raising children under the age of 12.
  - (c) People aged 18–35 generally have less disposable income than other age demographics.
  - (d) The licensing agreement Movies Now has with the largest movie production company is set to expire within the next 5 years.
  - (e) The board of Movies Now is comprised of parents of children under the age of 12.
51. Researchers have discovered a new poison—Bromethalin—that is lethal to all rats; even to those species that have become immune to other poisons, as well as to those rats that eat only the minutest quantities. Tests have demonstrated that rats will not learn to avoid bromethalin and that carcasses of rats killed by bromethalin pose no threat to the well-being of other animals. Which of the following statements, if true, would support the researchers' claim that carcasses of rats killed by bromethalin will not pose a threat to other animals?
- (a) Rats that consume bromethalin die immediately.
  - (b) Animals, prompted by curiosity, often examine carcasses that appear in their territory.
  - (c) Chemicals in the digestive tract of dead rats quickly break bromethalin down into a nontoxic substance.
  - (d) Traces of bromethalin remain in the rat's mouth and saliva after the rat eats the poison.
  - (e) Certain animals are scavengers and feed habitually on refuse and dead flesh.
52. The mayor of City X wishes to increase voter turnout for the next city council election. A recent poll of registered voters in neighboring City Y showed a high level of dissatisfaction with that city's voting facilities. Based on this result, City X's mayor proposed a dramatic update of his city's voting facilities to increase turnout at the next election. Which of the following, if true, most supports the mayor's plan?
- (a) A majority of respondents in City Y's poll had voted in favor of a tax cut in the previous election.
  - (b) City Y's voter turnout rates increased as the result of the publicity the recent poll generated.

- (c) A City X poll of registered voters revealed that their behavior is not strongly influenced by their perception of voting facilities.
- (d) Even the best polling methods have difficulty capturing voter opinions accurately.
- (e) The City Y poll showed that voters who are satisfied with voting facilities are more likely to vote.
53. A recent study suggests that regular exercise improves the health of person's heart and cardiovascular system. Five years ago, people under the age of 60 accounted for 50 percent of the people who had suffered one or more heart attacks. Today, people under the age of 60 account for only 40 percent of the people who have suffered one or more heart attacks. The same study shows that people under the age of 60 exercise more regularly today than they did 5 years ago, while the exercise habits of people aged 60 and over have remained the same. Which one of the following most strengthens the argument?
- (a) Some people over the age of 60 exercise as much or more than do people under the age of 60.
- (b) The proportion of the population aged 60 and over has remained constant over the last five years.
- (c) The use of cholesterol-lowering drugs has reduced the frequency of heart attacks among all age groups.
- (d) People aged 60 and over are generally less capable of strenuous exercise than are people under the age of 60.
- (e) A number of factors, such as nutrition and stress levels, affect the incidence of heart attacks.
54. Infection is the biggest threat to the life of a burn patient. The skin, the body's natural barrier against bacteria, is damaged or gone in the burned areas. The bacteria that are a threat are unpredictable in both variety and number. Moreover, those found affecting anyone patient may change completely from one day to the next. The standard treatment, therefore, is the administration of broad-spectrum antibiotics. Considering only the information given about burn patients in the passage above, which of the following is most likely to enhance the effectiveness of the standard treatment of a burn patient?
- (a) Keeping the patient in an air-conditioned room until recovery is assured
- (b) Keeping the areas affected by burns as dry as possible
- (c) Continuously monitoring the patient's vital signs with electronic equipment
- (d) Feeding the patient a diet extra rich in calories
- (e) Keeping the patient in a maximally sterile environment
55. It has recently been proposed that we adopt an all-volunteer army. This policy was tried on a limited basis several years ago and was a miserable failure. The level of education of the volunteers was unacceptably low, while levels of drug use and crime soared among army personnel. Can we trust our national defense to a volunteer army? The answer is clearly "No." Which of the following statements, if true, most strengthens the author's claim that an all-volunteer army should not be implemented?
- (a) The general level of education has risen since the first time an all-volunteer army was tried.
- (b) The proposal was made by an organization called Citizens for Peace.
- (c) The first attempt to create a volunteer army was carried out according to the same plan now under proposal and under the same conditions as those that exist today.

- (d) A volunteer army would be less expensive than an army that relies on the draft.
- (e) The size of the army needed today is smaller than that needed when a volunteer army was first tried.

56. Many geologists theorize that the trail of volcanic craters and cinder cones along the Snake River plain of southern Idaho was produced as the North American continent slid westward over a stationary "plume," a vertical channel through which molten rock rose intermittently from the Earth's core to burst through its crust.

Which of the following, if true, tends to support the geologists' theory of how the trail was produced?

- (a) The largest craters and cinder cones are on the eastern margin of the trail.
- (b) The most violent volcanic activity apparently occurred at the western margin of the trail.
- (c) The craters and cinder cones are evenly spaced throughout the extent of the trail.
- (d) The newest craters and cinder cones are on the eastern margin of the trail.
- (e) The craters and cinder cones on the western margin of the trail generally took longer to form than did those on the eastern margin

57. **Environmentalist:** Pure bio-diesel is much more economical than impure bio-diesel, which is mixed with petroleum because pure bio-diesel is entirely petroleum-free, and the price of oil is predicted to rise due to the worldwide dwindling of oil reserves.

**Chemist:** I strongly disagree. Pure bio-diesel is an economical disaster compared to impure bio-diesel because due to its vegetable origin, bio-diesel is susceptible to mold.

Which of the following, if true, most strengthens the chemist's objection to the environmentalist's claim?

- (a) Even before the rise in the price of oil, petroleum is more expensive than the vegetables used to manufacture bio-diesel
- (b) Due to political factors, the government has decided to withdraw its subsidies of pure bio-diesel
- (c) Environmentalists are trying to limit petroleum consumption in order to reduce toxic emissions into the earth's atmosphere
- (d) Impure bio-diesel has more chances of creating problems in car engines, a fact which raises the costs associated with it
- (e) Even the slightest concentration of petroleum is toxic enough to kill mold

58. The Wheat Farmers Alliance, a political action committee, attracts 70 percent of its contributors from an advertisement requesting contributions placed only in the September, October, and November issues of the Grange Report, a monthly newsletter for wheat farmers. The president of the Wheat Farmers Alliance, to increase the number of contributors, decides to advertise in each of the monthly issues of the Grange Report. She expects that, as a result of the additional Grange Report advertisements, the number of contributors will be increased to at least double the present number.

Which of the following, if true, would most strongly support the president's expectation?

- (a) The September, October, and November advertisements were noticed by fewer than 33% of those readers of the Grange Report who would be willing to contribute to the Wheat Farmers Alliance.
- (b) Wheat farmers traditionally repay their bank loans in late summer after the winter wheat crop has been harvested and sold.

- (c) The majority of the readers of the Grange Report with a great enough interest in the Wheat Farmers Alliance to contribute have already responded to the advertisements.
- (d) Most of those who contribute to the Wheat Farmers Alliance in the course of a year do so in response to advertisements in the Grange Report.
- (e) The total number of readers of the Grange Report is stable from year to year.

59. Radio talk show host Winfra Opry promotes books on her show. Every show begins with Winfra reading the first chapter of a recently published book on air. Every book that was thus promoted became a national bestseller. In addition, Winfra's show pays royalties to the books' authors.

Which of the following conclusions is most strongly supported by the information above?

- (a) Books that are written by men are less likely to be chosen by Winfra to be promoted on her show.
- (b) Books whose first chapters are very long are less suitable for promotion through Winfra's show.
- (c) If a book is not promoted by Winfra on her show, its chances of becoming a best seller are lower than those of books promoted in Winfra's show.
- (d) The effectiveness of using the services of a public relations office to promote one's book is lower than the effectiveness of promoting a book through Winfra's show.
- (e) A recently published book that gains access to a promotional spot on Winfra's show is likely to become a bestseller.

## Find the Assumption

60. For three years, while constructing a new elementary school, the Middletown school board has been sending large numbers of students from the town of Middletown to both Crestwood and Lynbrook elementary schools in the town of Edgewood. Therefore, when Middletown's new elementary school is completed next year, either Crestwood or Lynbrook will have to be closed and their student populations consolidated.

The argument above presupposes that

- (a) withdrawal of the Middletown students from the Crestwood and Lynbrook schools will leave one or both of these schools seriously underpopulated
  - (b) Middletown's new elementary school will be too small for the projected student population
  - (c) the Middletown students represent only a small fraction of the total student populations at both Crestwood and Lynbrook schools
  - (d) absorption of extra students from Middletown has placed a serious strain on the resources of both Crestwood and Lynbrook schools
  - (e) students will not transfer between the Crestwood and Lynbrook schools in the next twelve months
61. Almost all of the residents of Lonelitown drink cheap bottled mineral water, and not the water supplied by the municipality. Therefore, the municipality should reduce the price paid for water if they are to encourage residents to go back to drinking it. The above conclusion is properly drawn if which of the following is assumed?
- (a) The bottled water is imported from springs overseas.
  - (b) The municipality's water supply is filtered through a sophisticated process.
  - (c) Residents of Lonelitown are not dedicated to the livelihood of their municipality.
  - (d) The price is the factor that most influences the residents' choice of drinking water.
  - (e) Bottled mineral water receives far more public attention through advertising than municipal water does.
62. Power Records, a music chain store, discovered that playing rock music in its stores increases sales of rock albums and that playing classical music leads to an increase in sales of classical music albums. Therefore, in order to increase sales of pop singer Frenchie Pear's new CD, her latest single Dazed and Confused should be constantly played in all Power Records stores. The above argument relies on which of the following assumptions?
- (a) Pop music is similar to rock music.
  - (b) All of Frenchie Pear's previous singles that were played in Power Records stores sold well.
  - (c) The said sales technique also works for specific songs.
  - (d) Frenchie Pear's latest single has received rave reviews.
  - (e) Power Records sells more pop albums than any other music chain store does.
63. Crenkotown, USA has a large population of Korean Americans. Some of them make a living by delivering otherwise hard to find comforts of home to their fellow countrymen and women. In Crenkotown, between 1957 and 1971, commercial delivers of kimchi- a staple Korean food-increased from 12 to 25. However, during the same time period the number of Koreans living in Crenkotown stayed roughly constant. Therefore, it is unlikely that many more Crenkotownies had kimchi delivered in 1971 than in 1957.

The conclusion rests on which of the following assumptions?



- (a) In 1971, most Korean-Americans living in Crenkottown purchased kimchi deliveries from a commercial delivery service
- (b) In 1971, almost all of those who wanted kimchi delivered were within the range of a delivery service
- (c) Not all of the kimchi available for delivery in Crenkottown in 1971 were of the same variety or quality
- (d) None of the commercial operations that started delivering kimchi after 1957 serviced areas in Crenkottown that didn't formerly have delivery service.
- (e) Per capita demand for kimchi among Korean-Americans in Crenkottown was unchanged from 1957 to 1971.

64. A particular phenomenon has been observed in the relationship between age and attire. The more formally a person is dressed, the older the average observer will gauge him or her to be. Thus, the average observer viewing two men, one wearing a business suit and the other wearing casual clothing, will generally estimate the man in the business suit to be five years older than the man wearing casual clothing.

The conclusion of the argument above would be more properly drawn if which of the following were true?

- (a) The age of the man wearing the business suit is greater than that of the man wearing casual clothing.
- (b) The older a man is, the more likely it is that he will wear a business suit.
- (c) The age of the man wearing the business suit is equal to the age of the man wearing casual clothing.
- (d) The average observer's estimates of age are generally more accurate regarding casually dressed people than formally dressed people.
- (e) The average observer's estimates of age are generally more accurate regarding formally dressed people than casually dressed people.

65. Better-Vision-Maker is a liquid that enhances the visual ability of a person with average eyesight by almost 500 times. The drug is intended for use by police, rescue, and medical service professionals. Research shows that a change in visual ability can alter the dynamics of the brain so that the new functionality can be adapted to. More testing into the side-effects of the drug should be performed before it is distributed for use.

The author's conclusion relies on which of the following assumptions?

- (a) The shift in the brain's dynamics caused by transition from one visual state to another may have an unfavorable effect.
- (b) Testing can result in the finding of additional uses for the drug which will then increase its market value.
- (c) To handle the extreme challenges presented to them, police, rescue, and medical services need the use of any practical tool available to them.
- (d) The brain adapts to increased visual ability in a similar way to an increased ability of another of the body's senses.
- (e) Enhancing the eyesight of the professionals mentioned will not actually result in an increase of their performance.

66. The range of companies offering different versions of the same product is immense compared to what it once was. Because of this competition, many companies offer low quality products, preferring to sell more by demanding lower prices. To spend less, consumers buy the cheaper products which last for shorter periods of time, only to be disposed of and replaced by other cheap products. It can be deduced that companies that create products of an inferior quality do not contribute to the strength of the economy.

The argument above is based on which of the following assumptions?

- (a) Managing the waste caused by the repeated disposal of products costs governments dearly.
- (b) There are many factors that can affect the strength of an economy.
- (c) The repeated purchasing of a product by the same consumer does not positively affect an economy.
- (d) Products that are not relatively cheap do not necessarily last for longer than those that are.
- (e) Companies that produce low quality products are not interested in the loyalty of consumers to their specific brand.

67. A fashion designer's fall line for women utilizing new soft fabrics broke all sales records last year. To capitalize on her success, the designer plans to launch a line of clothing for men this year that makes use of the same new soft fabrics.

The designer's plan assumes that

- (a) other designers are not planning to introduce new lines for men utilizing the same soft fabrics
- (b) men will be as interested in the new soft fabrics as women were the year before
- (c) the designer will have time to develop new lines for both men and women
- (d) the line for men will be considered innovative and daring because of its use of fabrics
- (e) women who bought the new line last year will continue to buy it this year

68. Country Casa's lakes have been experiencing a constant deterioration in water quality due to too many visitors. Therefore, Casa has decided that the best way to save its lakes is by charging an extra fee to users of the lakes.

Which of the following is an assumption underlying the conclusion?

- (a) Changing global temperatures has been shown to be mostly responsible for the lakes' deterioration.
- (b) It is clear that charging higher fees will not be enough to stop the destruction of the lakes.
- (c) The level of the lakes in Country Casa has fallen by 20 centimetres per year over the last decade.
- (d) Camping at the lakes has never been prohibited.
- (e) Higher fees would actually deter a significant amount of people from visiting the lakes.

69. Every time a business grants financial credit to an individual, the business assumes risk. In order to evaluate the risk, a business must have correct information about that individual's financial history. It is true that credit bureaus, which compile such information from computerized records, have been accused of invading the consumer's right to privacy. If, however, only limited restrictions are placed on the availability of such information to businesses, those businesses will be able to reduce their overall exposure to risk by giving credit only to people with good credit ratings while at the same time extending larger amounts of credit to more people. This way credit bureaus can, in fact, prevent the foolhardy consumer from becoming seriously overextended.

In the passage above, the author assumes which of the following?

- (a) It is difficult to quantify the risk involved in any single decision to grant credit.
- (b) Without the service provided by credit bureaus, businesses would have no factual basis for making credit decisions.
- (c) The financial data that credit bureaus supply to businesses is generally accurate.

- (d) It is difficult to reduce the complexities of an individual's financial history to a computerized record.
- (e) Consumers, in general, tend to seek more credit than they can safely assume.
70. Last year, support for the social and behavioral sciences represented only about three percent of the government's total budget for research funds in the United States. Thus, the particularly sharp reductions imposed on such programs this year seem dictated not by financial constraints but by social philosophy. Which of the following is an assumption on which the conclusion of the passage above is based?
- (a) The government funds allocated for research in the social and behavioral sciences are not sufficient for the work that needs to be done.
- (b) The social and behavioral sciences are as valuable as the physical and biological sciences.
- (c) The current reductions will stop research in the social and behavioral sciences.
- (d) Government funding is the primary source of research money in the United States.
- (e) Three percent is an insignificant portion of the government's total budget for research funds.
71. A study of attitudes toward new cars showed that cars that were identical in every respect except color received widely differing ratings for quality from potential buyers. Therefore, in future advertisements for cars of high quality, we can expect to see no variety in the color of car featured. Which of the following is an assumption made in the passage above?
- (a) If a car in a preferred color is not available, a buyer is usually willing to accept the car in another color.
- (b) New cars differ significantly from each other with respect to quality.
- (c) There is a single color generally associated with the highest quality rating in the study.
- (d) An advertisement for a particular car should display all of its significant advantages.
- (e) Potential buyers give more weight to color than to price in making a decision about a car.
72. **Jones:** Because he is a superb athlete, Bob is qualified for admission to the Hall of Fame.  
**Smith:** But because Bob has used illegal drugs, he is a poor role model for young people. Therefore, Bob should not be admitted to the Hall of Fame.  
 Smith's conclusion depends on which of the following assumptions?
- (a) Superb athletes usually do not use illegal drugs.
- (b) Bob is interested in being admitted to the Hall of Fame.
- (c) Bob's use of illegal drugs has had a negative effect on his athletic performance.
- (d) Being an adequate role model for young people should be one of the criteria for admission to the Hall of Fame.
- (e) All athletes who are good role models for young people are qualified for admission to the Hall of Fame.
73. In a well-known karaoke club, a professional singer was hired to assist guests who had trouble staying in tune with the songs they were attempting to sing. On the first night, this caused discomfort to many of the guests who upon hearing their voices alongside that of the professional, suddenly lost confidence and felt embarrassed. On the second night, the number of singing guests who felt embarrassed by the professional's assistance was lower. Therefore, the club should

not cease the employment of the professional singer, as in time the guests' discomfort will have diminished completely.

The author's conclusion relies on which of the following assumptions?

- (a) The popularity of a karaoke club does not depend on the standard of vocal capability displayed by the guests.
- (b) Employing a professional singer is not necessarily expensive.
- (c) The suggestion to hire a professional singer was first made by the guests themselves.
- (d) The guests' discomfort is caused by low self-esteem and a habit of comparing themselves with others.
- (e) Most of the guests visiting the club are returning customers.

74. Because they were anxious to balance Wyoming's population of 8000 men and 2000 women, the state's lawmakers extended voting rights to women in Wyoming in 1869.

Which of the following can serve as an assumption on which the lawmakers' decision was directly based?

- (a) Women would vote in ways that would make Wyoming a better place to live.
- (b) Women were superior to men in the ability to make political decisions.
- (c) Women would want to live in a place where they could vote.
- (d) Women who were willing to endure frontier conditions deserved the right to vote.
- (e) Women who voted would be better citizens than those who did not.

75. A new center celebrating all religions is to be built in Dawn City. Since statues depicting human beings are considered blasphemous in certain religions, the architect of the new center avoided including statues of men or women in her plans for the center so that no-one is offended.

Which of the following is an assumption made by the architect of the center in Dawn City?

- (a) All statues may be found objectionable by some people.
- (b) Not only statues of men but also statues of women may be found to be objectionable by some people.
- (c) Statues of human beings are not essential to the worship of any religion.
- (d) The inappropriateness of statues is discussed at length in many scriptures.
- (e) Some religions incorporate statues of animals in their ritual.

76. The slow advancement of the technology used in golf balls is a reflection of the demand which manufacturers aim to meet. Only golfers active in competition tournaments are willing to pay the high price necessary to justify the research and development costs needed to generate an innovative golf ball. Therefore, the technology that manufacturers pursue is limited to that which is deemed permissible for competition go tournaments.

The above conclusion rests upon which of the following assumptions?

- (a) The slow pace of technological advancement is a consequence of golf ball manufacturers not wanting to manufacture different products for different national markets.
- (b) Unless the market for balls for competition golfers expands, the market for golf balls for non-competing golfers will not expand
- (c) Innovative golf balls are more likely to be developed by small, young manufacturing companies than by industry giants.
- (d) There is not a strong demand for non-competition permissible golf balls generated by competition golfers.

- (e) The authorities who determine what is permissible in competition gold tournaments are not necessarily up-to-date on cutting edge technological improvements.
77. Unlike other forms of narrative art, a play, to be successful, must give pleasure to its immediate audience by reflecting the concerns and values of that audience. A novel can achieve success over months or even years, but a play must be a hit or perish. The successful drama of the Restoration period, therefore, is a good index to the typical tastes and attitudes of its time.  
The author of the passage above assumes that
- (a) plays written for Restoration audiences do not appeal to modern audiences
  - (b) plays are superior to novels as a form of narrative art
  - (c) Restoration audiences were representative of the whole population of their time
  - (d) playgoers and novel readers are typically distinct and exclusive groups
  - (e) Restoration drama achieved popular success at the expense of critical success
78. The use of the term "neat" as a general term of approval is an unfortunate development in colloquial English. The original meaning of "neat" is "tidy." Therefore, the use of "neat" as a general term of approval is incorrect and should be discouraged. Which of the following is an assumption that, if accepted, allows the conclusion above to be properly drawn?
- (a) The original meaning of an English word is the only correct meaning to use.
  - (b) The term "neat" has been in the English language for many centuries.
  - (c) The use of "neat" as a general term of approval is a recent innovation in English.
  - (d) Speakers of colloquial English are not obligated to speak correctly.
  - (e) The term "neat" has changed its meaning only once in the history of English.
79. It has been hypothesized that much of the matter in the universe is "dark"; i.e., unseen. Studies have shown that galaxies in many galaxy clusters are moving faster with respect to one another than they would if visible stars constituted all their mass. The studies suggest that the galaxies are moving under the gravitational influence of unseen mass in considerable quantity.  
Which of the following is an assumption underlying the passage above?
- (a) Measurements of the speed of moving galaxies are extremely unreliable.
  - (b) The workings of gravitational forces are not particularly well understood.
  - (c) The aggregate mass of visible stars in the galaxies mentioned above can be estimated with some confidence.
  - (d) The general composition of unseen matter in the universe has been determined.
  - (e) Without exception, the galaxies mentioned above move toward one another.
80. In any negotiations between a party with limited aims and an opposing party with unlimited aims, the party with limited aims is bound to lose. This is so because the scope of a negotiating party's aims determines the energy and the perseverance that will be brought to the negotiations by that party.  
Which of the following is an assumption implicit in the passage above?
- (a) The intensity with which parties conduct negotiations affects the outcome of those negotiations.
  - (b) Negotiations almost always pit against one another parties whose aims differ in scope.
  - (c) The outcome of negotiations cannot be correctly predicted in advance.
  - (d) A negotiator who has exceptionally high aims needs exceptional perseverance in order to avoid losing.
  - (e) Negotiating parties are typically not aware of the scope of each other's aims until the outcome is no longer in doubt.

81. Thanks to rapid advancements in digital technology, businesses now communicate more efficiently than they ever have before. Wireless phone, Internet, and email technology presently allow quicker correspondence between team members, managers, and vendors than was possible even just a few years ago.

The above conclusion depends upon which of the following assumptions?

- (a) Managers and workers know how to use all of the features supported by the latest communications technology.
  - (b) Most businesses plan to upgrade their communications technology in the next six months.
  - (c) The new technology has not contributed to a surplus of unnecessary yet time-consuming correspondence.
  - (d) Team members without access to the latest digital technology are at a significant disadvantage to those who have such access.
  - (e) Wireless Internet coverage has seen sporadic improvement over the past several years.
82. Traditionally, candidates for elected offices have concentrated their efforts on the early stages of the campaign during which, most people believed, the voters' perceptions of candidates were formed. It is now becoming clear, however, that elections can be decided in the few days preceding Election Day; public opinion polls taken during recent elections provide evidence of several such races. In those cases, the losing candidates would have been well advised to have forgone early spending and instead saved funds for television advertisements late in their campaigns.
- The conclusion above assumes that which of the following is true?
- (a) No candidate for elected office can mount a successful campaign without allocating a large portion of campaign funds to television advertising.
  - (b) The losing candidates described would have won their respective campaigns had they not spent as heavily in the early stages of those campaigns.
  - (c) The winning candidates described accrued more funds throughout their campaigns than did the losing candidates.
  - (d) Candidates who spend a large amount of their campaign funds on television advertising are more successful than those who spend the same amount on print advertising.
  - (e) The losing candidates described would not have eliminated their chances of winning by spending less in the early stages of their campaigns.

83. In an effort to retain more highly-qualified teachers in the public school system, many school districts have started a tuition-credit program for teachers. Such programs allow a teacher to increase his qualifications by earning a master's degree at a substantial savings. The school district pays for the teacher's tuition up front, and the teacher agrees to pay back one-half of the total cost over the course of his first five years of employment with the school district after completion of the master's program. The teacher is obligated to reimburse the district fully, however, if he chooses to leave the district before the five-year period has elapsed.

The tuition-credit program described above is based on which one of the following assumptions?

- (a) A legally binding agreement will morally oblige most teachers to fulfill their side of the bargain.
- (b) The deterrent of having to reimburse the district fully will encourage teachers to remain in the employ of the district for at least five years.
- (c) The financial burden taken on by most teachers who finance postgraduate education themselves is less onerous than the negative effect of a five-year teaching commitment.

- (d) Most teachers who take part in the program will have to be persuaded to remain in the employ of the district through financial and other means.
  - (e) The program will discourage teachers from pursuing advanced degrees.
84. Some writing teachers believe that writing is best accomplished by creating a rough draft very quickly, and then editing and re-editing through many drafts. Recently, however, a survey of best-selling authors found that these authors most frequently write very slowly, spending more time on the first draft, and then publish the manuscript with little editing. Authors of books that are not best-sellers write the first draft more quickly, and then rewrite and re-edit. This shows that writing more slowly is the most effective method for producing high-quality manuscripts. Which of the following is an assumption on which the conclusion is based?
- (a) Writing quickly and then rewriting many drafts of a manuscript is not useful in creating certain types of manuscripts.
  - (b) Best-selling authors are able to write either quickly or slowly, and create many or few drafts of a manuscript.
  - (c) At least some writing teachers lead their students to write slow first drafts with little editing.
  - (d) Best-selling authors write slowly and create few drafts in creating the majority of their manuscripts.
  - (e) Best-selling authors create higher quality manuscripts than do authors of books that are not best-sellers.

## Weaken the Argument

85. Using oil-based paints to paint walls or furniture requires the use of turpentine and each coat takes a long time to dry. Water-based paints dry quickly and can be cleaned from the hands or clothing with water alone. It can be concluded that water based paints are always better to use than oil-based paints.  
Which of the following, if true, casts the most doubt on the argument's conclusion?
- (a) Oil-based paints release harmful fumes that are not released by water-based paints.
  - (b) Companies producing oil-based paints outnumber those that produce water paint by 2 to 1.
  - (c) Painting and decorating without professional assistance has become very popular.
  - (d) Walls should always be smooth and clean before fresh paint is applied.
  - (e) The components used in water-based paints cannot withstand high levels of moisture or direct sunlight.
86. **Economist A:** Banks offer only small interest rates for money being stored in savings accounts. It is much better to create an investment portfolio with a financial management company in order to take advantage of money that has been put aside.  
**Economist B:** Investments require speculation. I advise that at the moment, storing money in a bank savings account is the wise thing to do.  
Which of the following, if true, most weakens economist A's advice?
- (a) Maintaining a bank savings account requires the payment of handling fees which can be costly, depending on the bank.
  - (b) Investment portfolios are designed to maximize profits while reducing the risk to a minimum by dividing the investments to cover a variety of markets.
  - (c) A recent economic crisis led to the closing of several banks and to the subsequent loss of a great deal of the customers' savings.
  - (d) Owners of savings accounts in banks are only allowed to withdraw their money on certain dates decided upon when the account was created.
  - (e) A financial statistics report shows that 97% of all investment portfolios created in the last 3 years hold losses on their initial investments.
87. Bert's Refuse has decided to add salvage to its business services and has offered its client, McCloud Metalworking, the following deal: Bert's will deduct the amount it receives for selling McCloud's scrap metal over the next year from the cost of refuse removal for McCloud. McCloud will pay an estimated monthly bill and, at the end of the year, Bert's will adjust the bill to reflect the true profit from its salvage of McCloud's scrap.  
Which of the following, if it occurred, would constitute a disadvantage for McCloud of the plan described above?
- (a) Bert's Refuse makes the same deal with another metalworking firm
  - (b) A steady decrease in the price for salvaged scrap metal over the year that the deal is in effect
  - (c) McCloud receives orders for goods which generate more scrap metal than usual
  - (d) An increase in demand for McCloud's goods
  - (e) Bert's Refuse decides to salvage other materials which McCloud's does not generate as scrap



88. Switching to electric cars will not improve the environment, despite the fact that such cars produce no harmful emissions. The electricity to run them would still need to be generated from power plants, the majority of which burn such fossil fuels as coal, oil and natural gas. Any reduction in fossil fuel demand at gas stations resulting from the replacement of internal combustion engines with electric ones would be reversed by a commensurate demand for more energy from our nation's power plants.

Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the above argument?

- (a) The nation's power grid would need a massive restructuring if it is to generate the energy needed to power vehicles that run on electricity.
  - (b) Electric vehicles are significantly more energy-efficient than their gasoline powered counterparts.
  - (c) Coal is a far less environmentally-friendly way to generate energy than is natural gas.
  - (d) Studies indicate that most drivers would be reluctant to switch from gasoline – powered to electric vehicles.
  - (e) Hybrid vehicles offer a more practical short-term alternative than do vehicles that run solely on electricity.
89. The SparkleFresh soda company recently ran a promotional campaign in grocery stores nationwide. The company set up promotional booths which were clearly marked with the SparkleFresh logo; customers who approached the booths were asked to participate in a "blind" taste test matching SparkleFresh against its most commercially successful competitors. Nearly 75 percent of participating customers chose SparkleFresh. Since customers did not know which soda was SparkleFresh and which ones were the competitors, these results prove that SparkleFresh is indeed the best-tasting soda among those brands tested.
- Which of the following, provided it is true, most weakens the author's conclusion drawn above?
- (a) Participants who did not receive promotional gifts from the SparkleFresh representatives were less excited about the promotion than those who did.
  - (b) The company's most commercially successful competitors publicly dispute the results of the SparkleFresh promotion.
  - (c) Participants who did not choose SparkleFresh felt more strongly about their judgment than did participants who chose the product.
  - (d) Those customers who are most likely to approach a company's promotional booth are those who use and prefer that company's product.
  - (e) The test did not allow participants to compare SparkleFresh to some of its commercially less successful competitors.

90. Some soil scientists have asserted that decaying matter on the forest floor is a far greater source of the acidity in mountain lakes than is the acid rain that falls on these lakes. Therefore, they contend, reducing acid rain will not significantly reduce the acidity levels of mountain lakes.

Which of the following statements, if true, most seriously weakens the argument above?

- (a) It is natural for mountain lakes to have acidity levels higher than those of other lakes.
- (b) The harmful effects of increased acidity levels in lakes have been greatly underestimated.
- (c) Acid rain is found in urban and heavily industrialized regions of the country.
- (d) There is much disagreement among soil scientists about the causes of acid rain.
- (e) While plant life remains, acid rain significantly increases the amount of decaying organic matter in natural environments.

91. The new oval bike gears, which allow a rider to transfer fifty percent more energy to forward motion when compared to traditional bike gears, allows a rider to travel more miles at faster speeds with less fatigue. For this reason, if Speedy delivery replaces all of its traditional bike gears with the new oval gears, its bike messengers will be able to deliver more packages in a day.  
Which one of the following, if true, would most weaken the conclusion drawn above?
- (a) Bike messengers generally prefer traditional bike gears over the new oval bike gears.
  - (b) The area within which Speedy delivery delivers packages is uneven terrain which is difficult for bike riders to traverse.
  - (c) Bike messengers will require costly training to learn how to use the new oval bike gears.
  - (d) The area within which Speedy delivery delivers packages has a bike speed limit which is lower than the peak speed of bikes with traditional gears.
  - (e) Oval gears are much more expensive than traditional gears.
92. **Franjel:** It has been reported that 10% of our adult population is illiterate. This is clearly the outcome of a flawed educational system.  
**Almosk:** Technological progress has provided many solutions to assist people that are illiterate through audio. It is not the educational system, but these alternative forms of communication that have reduced the importance of being literate, allowing people to avoid having to learn how to read and write.  
Which of the following, if true, most weakens Almosk's response to Franjel's explanation?
- (a) A device has been invented that is capable of speedily scanning a printed page and immediately reading it aloud using voice-synthesizing software.
  - (b) The increased number of audio stimuli and high volume levels to which humans of all ages are being subjected has resulted in hearing problems in one third of the population.
  - (c) The educational system has undergone drastic reforms in the last 25 years, including changes in teacher training programs which were proven to be successful.
  - (d) Statistics about illiteracy percentages are formed, along with other demographic statistics, by conducting extensive survey operations.
  - (e) Many jobs do not require literacy although it is important that an employer is aware of an employee's inability to read or write.
93. ToppKleen, a new cleaning material, will soon be released onto the market. The product has a special molecular composition that allows it to clean without the use of water, and with perfect results. ToppKleen will achieve more than satisfactory sales figures because it will be used by consumers to clean every household object. Which of the following, if true, undermines the explanation for ToppKleen's predicted success?
- (a) To increase sales, some cleaning product companies use celebrities to market their products.
  - (b) Advancements made in the field of molecular science are partly due to the invention of powerful microscopes.
  - (c) The specialization of plastics has resulted in household products being produced from a variety of substances, each reacting differently to a certain cleaning material.
  - (d) Cleaning materials always contain potent chemicals, and should be kept out of the reach of children.
  - (e) ToppKleen is engineered to attack the dirt alone, making the material of the object being cleaned irrelevant to the cleaning process.

94. In mammals it is the secondary palate that permits breathing while eating. Clearly, breathing while eating is necessary to maintain the high rate of metabolism of mammals.

The author's assertions would be most weakened by the discovery of a mammalian species that had a

- (a) high rate of metabolism and the ability to breathe while eating
  - (b) low rate of metabolism and the ability to breathe while eating
  - (c) low rate of metabolism and no ability to breathe while eating
  - (d) high rate of metabolism and no secondary palate
  - (e) low rate of metabolism and a secondary palate
95. Noting that the number of crimes committed in a certain city had decreased in 1982 by 5.2 percent in comparison with 1981, the police chief of the city said, "We see here the result of the innovative police program put into effect in the city at the beginning of 1982."
- Which of the following, if true, most seriously weakens the conclusion drawn by the police chief?
- (a) Several cities that have recently increased spending for police programs experienced no decrease in crime in 1982, as compared with 1981.
  - (b) The number of crimes committed in the city is estimated, by the same method each year, from the number of crimes reported.
  - (c) The number of crimes committed in the suburban areas surrounding the city rose by about 5 percent in 1982 over the figure for 1981 and were nearly equal in number to those in the city in 1982.
  - (d) The number of crimes committed in the city in 1982 was 10 percent higher than the number committed in 1972.
  - (e) The size of the age-group most likely to commit crimes decreased considerably in the city in 1982, as against 1981, because of a declining birth rate.
96. Sometime during the 1950's, rock music permanently ousted jazz from the music scene. This is evident from the behavior of youths of that time. In crowded nightclubs they would applaud rock acts enthusiastically. But when a jazz act began, they went outside and got refreshments. They came back in only when the jazz set was finished.
- Which of the following statements, if true, is a valid objection to the conclusion drawn above?
- (a) Jazz is the most important musical contribution of the United States to world culture.
  - (b) Although some young people who attended nightclubs in the 1950's did try to listen to jazz, they eventually became bored with it.
  - (c) Since the 1960's, rock music has not only provided youths with recreation but has, as well, become a rallying point for making social statements.
  - (d) Although by 1960 jazz performances were less popular, there has since been a revival of interest in jazz among middle-class professionals.
  - (e) Jazz steadily increased in popularity between the 1930's and the 1950's.
97. Restoration of the original paint colors in Colonial-era rooms has until now relied on the technique of scraping paint in a small area down to the chronological level that represents the paint layer of the Colonial period and then matching the color found at that level. This color was most often the color of putty.
- Which of the following, if true, most seriously weakens the validity of the procedure described above?
- (a) If the scraping is too deep, a scratch will be made in the surface of the original paint.

- (b) In the Colonial period, it was customary to paint all the walls of a room the same solid color.
  - (c) It is possible to distinguish the paint used in stenciled border designs, such as those used in the Colonial period, from the underlying paint layer.
  - (d) The original colors were altered over the years by reactions with air, light, and dirt to become putty-colored.
  - (e) Contemporary paint materials include many that did not exist in Colonial times
98. Persons imprisoned for violent street crimes often commit the same crimes again after being released. Persons imprisoned for white-collar crimes such as receiving bribes or embezzlement, however, typically do not, after being released, repeat the crimes for which they have been imprisoned. It is fair to conclude that imprisonment, while it often fails to change the behavior of violent street criminals, does succeed in making white-collar criminals unwilling to repeat their crimes. Which of the following, if true, would most seriously weaken the conclusion stated above?
- (a) Statistics show that persons convicted of committing white-collar crimes rarely have a prison record.
  - (b) The percentage of those who commit white-collar crimes and are imprisoned for doing so is lower than the percentage of those who commit violent street crimes and are imprisoned for doing so.
  - (c) White-collar criminals whose prison sentences are shortened return to criminal activities at a slightly higher rate than white-collar criminals who serve their full sentences.
  - (d) Persons released from prison after white-collar crimes are seldom given high positions or access to other people's money.
  - (e) Persons who commit violent street crimes seldom commit white-collar crimes, and vice versa.
99. A journalist discovered that drugs whose clinical trials are financed by drug companies usually display better results in those trials. The journalist hypothesized that the reason underlying her discovery is that drug companies, which manufacture the drugs, tend to present positive results so as to avoid negative publicity for the drugs. Which of the following, if true, most seriously weakens the journalist's hypothesis?
- (a) Drug companies finance clinical trials only for drugs with higher chances of succeeding in those trials.
  - (b) Drug companies advertise their products in the same publications in which the results of drug trials are published.
  - (c) Clinical trials are very expensive and often cannot be carried out without being financed.
  - (d) To conduct an accurate clinical trial, a very large number of subjects must be tested and closely monitored to preserve neutral conditions.
  - (e) Drug companies tend to downplay drugs' side effects in their commercials.
100. In the past 20 years, there has been a significant increase in the consumption of specialty dark chocolate products. During this same time period, there has been an increasing number of professional articles regarding the health benefits of consuming dark chocolate. Therefore, the increase in specialty dark chocolate consumption must have been caused by consumers' awareness of the health benefits of dark chocolate. Which of the following, if true, most seriously calls into question the explanation for the increase in consumption

- (a) Milk Chocolate has been proven to have health benefits equal to that of dark chocolate
- (b) In the past 20 years, professionals have increasingly recommended eating specialty dark chocolates as a way to curb hunger throughout the day
- (c) On average, people today consume fifty percent more specialty dark chocolates than they did 20 years ago.
- (d) Dark Chocolate has experienced a drastic increase in price over the past 20 years when compared to other types of chocolate
- (e) Most people prefer the taste of milk chocolate over that of dark chocolate

101. Scientists now believe that artificial-hip implants, previously thought to be safe, may actually increase the risk of cancer in recipients after about 45 years of use. Though these implants do improve the quality of recipients' lives, the increased risk of cancer is an unacceptable price to pay for these improvements. Therefore, they should be banned.

Which of the following, if true, is the strongest counterargument to the argument above?

- (a) Artificial-hip implant surgery can cause severe complications, such as infection, chronic fever, and bone degeneration, and these complications can themselves be crippling or even fatal.
- (b) Almost all artificial-hip implant recipients receive their implants at an age when they are unlikely to live more than an additional 30 years.
- (c) Although artificial-hip implants increase the risk of cancer after about 45 years of use; a few of the cancers they induce are not fatal.
- (d) Since artificial-hip implants are not very common, banning them would cause little hardship.
- (e) Although the benefits of artificial-hip implant surgery have remained substantially the same over the past decade, the price of the surgery has risen considerably.

102. There are known cases of children developing strong opposition to drinking water. Liquids are vital for the body so some parents solve the problem by adding artificial flavoring to the water they give their children to drink. The artificial flavoring has a high sugar content and contains many chemical additives. Since the only other option is dehydration, sometimes even resulting in death, parents should use the artificial flavoring to prevent this from happening.

Which of the following, if true, most undermines the argument's conclusion?

- (a) Soda beverages are often blamed for the tendency of many children to resist drinking water.
- (b) Water can be made more attractive to children by the addition of a piece of citrus fruit or a fun-shaped ice cube.
- (c) Dehydration can be caused by excessive vomiting or may occur as a symptom of a disease.
- (d) The sugar in artificial flavouring is usually created from glucose, a natural source.
- (e) In warm climates, the chances of dehydration can be lowered by keeping perspiration to a minimum.

103. A study of a math program implemented in several pre-schools indicates that children who received the specialized Math Plus math education between the ages three and five had significantly higher math scores in 3rd and 4th grade than their classmates who did not receive this instruction. The proponents of the math argue that the introduction of this program for all children age three to five will significantly improve their chances for success in school.

Which of the following, if true, would most seriously weaken the above argument?

- (a) Most parents send their children to preschool for social development and do not have a clear idea about what types of education they want for their children.
- (b) Cognitive abilities of 3- to 5-year-old children are constantly changing.
- (c) The children in the pre-schools that were studied had previously been exposed to another math enrichment program.
- (d) Children are not really interested in enrichment programs in preschool.
- (e) The cost factor needs to be specified and established before a large scale program can be undertaken.

104. A recent report compared the crime figures of today with those of 200 years ago. The report showed that today, the proportion of people who break the law is 22% lower than that of 200 years ago. It can be deduced that people are more morally aware today than people were 200 years ago.

Which of the following, if true, casts the most doubt on the argument's conclusion?

- (a) Many actions that were considered morally acceptable 200 years ago have been criminalized by modern legal systems
- (b) Today, morals are taught in schools, and since more children are educated, immoral behavior is decreasing.
- (c) Some people consider certain illegal acts as not being immoral.
- (d) Modern methods for controlling crime have been implemented so that less of the taxpayer's money is now spent on the penal system.
- (e) Reports analyzing the crime figures of certain time periods are always conducted by a team of government and private researchers.

105. The garment industry is labor-intensive; the production of garments requires the employment of a relatively large number of people. The auto industry is capital-intensive; a large amount of money is invested in elaborate equipment run by a relatively small number of people. If fringe benefits are not considered, a typical United States garment worker in 1979 earned 46 percent of a typical auto worker's wages.

Which of the following, if true, is likely to be among the factors that account for the disparity between auto workers' and garment workers' wages?

- (a) There is generally less variation among the wages of garment industry workers than among those of auto industry workers.
- (b) Wage increases in the auto industry have a smaller effect on manufacturers' total costs than do wage increases in the garment industry.
- (c) The fringe benefits that automakers provide for their employees are more comprehensive than are those provided for garment workers.
- (d) The auto industry faces more competition from companies outside the United States paying low wages than does the garment industry.
- (e) The auto industry employs a larger total number of workers than does the garment industry.

106. Because the process of freezing food consumes energy, many people keep their electric freezers half empty, using them only to store commercially frozen foods. Yet freezers that are half-empty often consume more energy than they would if they were kept fully stocked.

Which of the following, if true, contributes most to an explanation of the apparent discrepancy described above?

- (a) A given volume of air in a freezer requires much more energy to be maintained at a temperature below freezing than does an identical volume of frozen food.
- (b) The more often a freezer's door is opened, the more energy is required to maintain that freezer's normal temperature.
- (c) When unfrozen foods are placed in a freezer, the average temperature of a given volume of air inside that freezer rises temporarily.
- (d) A person who normally maintains a half-empty freezer can cut energy costs considerably by using a freezer that is 50 percent smaller.
- (e) An electric freezer can operate efficiently only if chilled air is free to circulate within the freezing compartment.

107. An advertising agency, in its first campaign, used an animal character as a mascot for a breakfast cereal targeted at children. In an analysis of the campaign, it was found that the image of the animal was a major influence on the excellent sales that the product created. Faced with its next challenge - creating a campaign for a women's fashion chain - the agency would be well-advised to repeat its previous tactics.

The argument is flawed primarily because the author

- (a) suggests a plan of action that has not been verified in any previous trial
- (b) draws a conclusion on the basis of the success of a previous methodology
- (c) relies on a false analogy to form a recommendation
- (d) does not provide detailed findings of the analysis
- (e) does not consider the market influence of campaigns created by competing agencies

108. New employees of Ace Industries are complaining about discomfort caused by excessive noise inside Ace's factory. Experienced Ace factory employees, however, do not suffer any such discomfort. Although Ace accepts responsibility for the health of its employees, it has decided not to issue earplugs to new employees. Ace reasoned that the new employees would also become accustomed to the noise without using earplugs,  
Which of the following, if true, indicates a flaw in Ace's decision not to issue earplugs to new employees?
- (a) Because the noise in Ace's factory is absorbed by soundproof walls, it cannot be heard by Ace executives in their offices.
  - (b) Many of the new employees interviewed said they would not wear earplugs on the job
  - (c) Issuing earplugs to all new employees would be a less effective method of reducing employees' exposure to noise than altering the machinery to be less noisy would be.
  - (d) The experienced employees' lack of discomfort is attributable to hearing loss caused by the factory noise.
  - (e) The machines in Ace's factory have not become any noisier since the experienced workers were originally hired.
109. According to a newspaper article, a customs inspector believed that he could always tell if people were trying to deceive him. He based this belief on the fact that, in ten years of experience, in cases where he suspected that a tourist was carrying contraband, he was always right. Careful inspections of the luggage and persons of the suspects always turned up the contraband goods.  
Which of the following points up a logical flaw in the inspector's reasoning?
- (a) The tourists who passed through the inspector's checkpoint could have known that they might be searched.
  - (b) Only a small percentage of the tourists passing through the inspector's checkpoint could be expected to be intentionally carrying contraband.
  - (c) Other customs inspectors at the same checkpoint caught tourists carrying contraband just as often as this inspector did.
  - (d) Some tourists whom the inspector decided not to search could have -knowingly carried contraband.
  - (e) Some tourists who passed through the checkpoint without being searched could have been carrying contraband unwittingly.
110. The average giraffe is six and a half to seven foot tall at the age of six months. Therefore, if a six-month-old giraffe is over seven feet tall, it grew by more inches each month than the average giraffe does.  
Which of the following indicates a flaw in the reasoning above?
- (a) The giraffe's weight is not taken into consideration.
  - (b) Overall faster growth and faster growth per month are not the same.
  - (c) Some six-month-old giraffes are almost eight feet tall.
  - (d) Height is only one measure of normal development in giraffes.
  - (e) The average height at six months for giraffes in general is not the same as the average growth rate of a single giraffe.
111. In an area that is both agricultural and residential in nature, nursery owners involved in the growing of decorative garden trees and plants complained to authorities of an average decline of approximately 25% in profits caused by a lack of water which resulted in irrigation problems, and the consequent loss of merchandise. To provide assistance to the nursery owners, the authorities plan to



induce water rations upon residents in the area since if less water is used by the residents, more will be available to the nursery owners.

Which of the following points to the most serious logical flaw in the plan devised by the authorities?

- (a) Since the rationing of water by residents will result in lower payments for water by residents to the authorities, the plan will most likely be detrimental to the revenue earned by the local government for such services.
- (b) By punishing the residents for financial difficulties experienced by agricultural business owners, the authorities risk harming the way they are perceived by the residential population, affecting future endeavours.
- (c) It is not probable that 100% of the 25% decline in the profits earned by the nursery owners was a direct result of the irrigation problems and the damage caused to the merchandise by them
- (d) Because most of the residents in the area are not homeowners, but instead rent their apartments, the water rations, creating the need to save water, will give rise to the infrequent cleaning of apartments and buildings, lowering the market value of the area's residential properties.
- (e) The introduction of water rationing to the area will improve the status of the nurseries' goods at the expense of the revenues they earn since, due to the need for irrigation entailed in the care of such products, residents will cease to purchase garden plants.

112. A recent research article published under the title *An American Dream* claims that the duration of REM sleep in adult Americans nowadays is significantly shorter than was the duration of REM sleep in adult Americans in the 1950s. In this, the research article's claim cannot be wrong because it compared the duration of REM sleep in 100 participants today to that of 100 participants of a similar study conducted in the 1950s, and the results clearly showed a decrease in the duration of REM sleep in each and every one of the participants.

Which of the following points to the most serious logical flaw in the writer's argument?

- (a) Dreaming is not only about the duration of REM sleep.
- (b) The argument fails to specify the exact duration of REM sleep in the 1950s and nowadays.
- (c) Modern day participants may have been chosen so that their results reflect the decrease suggested by the research.
- (d) The research does not refer to international statistics to show whether or not the decline has occurred globally.
- (e) The title of the research does not properly reflect the results of the research.

113. In an attempt to counter a rise in the number of cases of child neglect, child abuse, and general domestic problems, the government has decided to fund a program for the education of parents. The program has been designed by a team of the country's most talented and renowned experts, and is being offered at community centers in the form of group courses, free of charge. Therefore, parents who abstain from participation in such a course cannot be considered responsible caretakers.

A major flaw in the argument above is that

- (a) an assumption is made about the effectiveness of the program in countering the problem
- (b) the caretaking competence of parents who participate in the course is compared to that of those who do not
- (c) it fails to mention whether the courses being offered are obligatory or voluntary
- (d) it incorrectly equates participating in an activity with pursuing the goals promoted by the activity
- (e) it forms a conclusion that is in opposition to the information presented

114. Country G and Country H have been engaged in a cold war for almost 40 years. Common knowledge and public opinions expressed through the media show that Country H has malevolent and hostile intentions towards Country G. Country H is a major manufacturer of military equipment and weapons. Even at the risk of suffering a few casualties, Country G should attack Country H now, or it is to suffer an attack by Country H later, resulting in the death of many civilians. The argument is flawed primarily because the author
- (a) is in favor of one side of the argument, instead of maintaining an objective position
  - (b) offers an inaccurate analogy to explain the circumstances facing both countries
  - (c) creates a false dilemma by presenting fewer paths of action than there are available
  - (d) assumes the existence of military or political tension between Country G and Country H
  - (e) does not provide evidence to prove Country H's production of weapons and military surplus
115. The quality of heliotropism, a plant's ability to change its bearing to face the direction of the sun, is common in sunflowers. Moss displays the tendency to grow only on the side of trees opposite the sunniest direction. Therefore, moss exhibits the opposite phenomenon of heliotropism, which may be called contra-heliotropism. The argument is flawed primarily because the author
- (a) does not take into consideration the fact that the direction of the sun changes during the day and between the southern and northern hemispheres
  - (b) includes sunflowers and moss in the same group while ignoring obvious differences between them
  - (c) creates a new word in Latin which does not really exist
  - (d) fails to distinguish between a plant's special ability and a plant's special growth conditions
  - (e) compares two types of plants which rarely grow in similar conditions
116. Jane got John a portable media player for his birthday last month. John was very pleased with Jane's choice of gift. Therefore, women who get men a portable media player for their birthday are guaranteed that the recipient will be pleased with their choice. Which of the following points to the most serious logical flaw in the argument?
- (a) There are several types of portable media players, and we do not know which one Jane got for John.
  - (b) Women like portable media players just as much as men do, yet the conclusion is limited to getting such players for men only.
  - (c) The conclusion is limited to birthdays whereas gifts are given in other occasions as well.
  - (d) The reason John was pleased with Jane's gift is not necessarily the gift itself but rather her remembering his birthday and caring enough to get him a gift.
  - (e) The fact that John was pleased with Jane's choice of gift does not necessarily mean that the same is true for all men.
117. Since the Pizzarella pizza parlour began advertising in the local newspaper six months ago, it has nearly doubled its revenues. Therefore, local businesses that wish to increase revenues would be advised to do the same. A major flaw in the argument above is that
- (a) it draws a general conclusion based on a single case
  - (b) it fails to provide data on which to base its conclusion

- (c) it compares a pizza parlour to local businesses
- (d) it ignores the cost of advertising in the local newspaper
- (e) it confuses revenues with profit

118. A new company can offer stocks in an initial public offering (IPO) before the company has proven itself capable of generating long-term profits for its stockholders. Historically, if a company has seemed likely to generate profits, the stock price in the IPO has risen; if the company seemed less likely to generate profits, the stock price in the IPO has fallen. Today business analysts announced that the Tenon Corporation has turned a profit in the financial quarter just completed. Therefore, stock prices for the Tenon Corporation's IPO, which is planned for next week, will rise.

The author's conclusion about Tenon Corporation is based on faulty reasoning because it

- (a) depends on the assumption that what has been true in the past will hold true in the future
- (b) relies on a line of reasoning that is circular
- (c) confuses cause with effect
- (d) overlooks cases in which the counter-example is true
- (e) rests on a faulty comparison

119. In 2006, there were 4,736 fatalities caused by road accidents in California. That year, there were 4,810 deaths caused by motorcycle accidents nationwide. Officials in the Department of Transportation hypothesized that in 2006, it was not much safer to be a driver or a pedestrian in California than it was to be a motorcyclist anywhere in the USA.

Which of the following investigations is most likely to expose a logical flaw in the above hypothesis?

- (a) Comparing the number of fatalities separately for drivers and for pedestrians
- (b) Comparing the number of casualties in each group per 1,000 people, instead of the total number of casualties
- (c) Comparing the number of fatalities in Californian motorcycle accidents to the number of fatalities in motorcycle accidents nationwide
- (d) Calculating the ratio between the fatality totals in both groups
- (e) Comparing the 2006 statistics with statistics of previous years

120. The two main factors determining the climate of a region are its latitude and altitude. The three cities of Jubilee, Joy and Jest are all on the same latitude and are spread over only 100 miles on this line. However, the difference in temperature throughout most of the year between Jubilee and Jest on one side and Joy on the other is more than 30 degrees Fahrenheit.

Which of the following, if true, would most contribute to an explanation of the facts above?

- (a) It is much harder to get to Joy by car than it is to get to Jubilee and Jest.
- (b) While the city of Joy is quite a tourist attraction, only 0.5% of the revenue made in the cities of Jubilee and Jest comes from the tourism industry.
- (c) During most of the year short clothes are worn in the city of Joy, while in Jubilee and in Jest warmer clothes are usually needed.
- (d) While the city of Joy is situated high in the mountains, Jubilee and Jest are located not more than 200 feet above sea level.
- (e) Whereas Joy is populated mostly by affluent people, Jubilee and Jest are home to many people of lower socio-economic status.

121. Since 1985, pollution levels in Lake Thomas have dropped considerably, primarily because of a state program to clean the lake water by means of a water refinery. Ironically, during this same period, the once-abundant population of sunfish in the lake has dwindled.

Which of the following, if true, would best explain why the sunfish population of Lake Thomas has dwindled at the same time that the lake water has become cleaner?

- (a) The life spans of sunfish are not diminished by high pollution levels, but the number of offspring they create during their lifetime is diminished.
- (b) Several artificial chemicals are introduced into the lake as a result of the refinement process, but these chemicals are known to have a benign effect on fish.
- (c) The water refinement process creates an environment extremely favorable to pike, a predator fish.
- (d) The heaviest concentrations of sunfish population in the lake are at its northern and north-eastern shores, many miles away from the water refinery.
- (e) Ever since 1972, a strictly enforced state regulation has prevented anglers from over-fishing Lake Thomas.

122. Unlike in the vast majority of species of monkeys, in a newly discovered society of minuscule monkeys in South Africa the dominant male is not the largest specimen, but rather the one with the strongest odour, even if it is quite unimpressive looking.

Which of the following, if true, would most contribute to an explanation of the facts above?

- (a) The new type of monkey is deaf.
- (b) Odour plays a role in the ability to determine ovulation among many mammals.
- (c) The new species of monkey is visually impaired, and thus relies on its sense of smell.
- (d) In most monkey communities the largest and strongest males are the alpha males and they mate with the mature females of the community.
- (e) Monkeys have a wide variety of parameters which together establish order of precedence among the males of a community.

123. At a certain investment bank that specializes in mergers and acquisitions, the highest percentage of potential deals that are never completed are those in which the bank's senior partner was the lead negotiator. Each of the senior partner's colleagues, however, states unequivocally that she is the most adept negotiator at the bank.

Which one of the following, if true, goes furthest toward showing that these two statements could both be correct?

- (a) The current senior partner has a better record of success than her immediate predecessor did.
- (b) Many of the junior partners were trained by the senior partner when they first joined the firm.
- (c) The senior partner works only on potential deals that have the least chance of coming to fruition.
- (d) The number of mergers in which the investment bank has been involved has declined slightly in each of the past three years.
- (e) The senior partner was chosen by the board of directors of the bank's parent company, a large publishing conglomerate.

124. Several recent studies have shown that when alcohol is consumed before driving, the incidence of automobile accidents increases significantly. On this basis, the federal government has passed strict laws prohibiting drivers from operating their vehicles after consuming specific amounts of alcohol. Surprisingly, it has since been discovered that a large number of drivers who have not been consuming alcohol in amounts that exceed the legal specifications are still becoming involved in the type of automobile accidents that the laws were designed to reduce.

Which one of the following, if true, could by itself adequately explain the unexpected finding reported in the passage?

- (a) Some people are defying the law by drinking slightly less than the legal limit of alcoholic beverages.
- (b) People are more likely to make automobile trips under the influence of alcohol than they were before the introduction of the laws.
- (c) The sophisticated language used in the phrasing of the laws has caused many people to misunderstand the amount of alcohol they can legally consume.
- (d) The laws prohibiting drinking alcohol and then driving were not designed to prevent all types of accidents, so it is not surprising that some accidents still occur.
- (e) The consumption rates specified in the laws are based on the higher tolerance rates of men aged 35-40, while the later accidents involve younger men and women.

125. Contrary to a former estimation made by the head of the tourism industry of Country X, there was no rise in the number of tourists or in the average sum of money spent by each tourist in the past year. There was, however, a steep increase of almost 20 percent in profits from the tourist industry in that time span.

Which of the following statements, if true, help to explain the rise in profits?

- (a) The tourists last year came mostly from developed countries, whereas previously most tourists came from developing countries.
- (b) A rise of 20% was estimated for last year in the amount of tourists expected to frequent Country X.
- (c) Following a long strike, employers in the tourism industry were forced at the beginning of last year to raise salaries by 20%.
- (d) A change in the foreign ministry of Country X, which was authorised at the beginning of last year, has made it much easier for tourists to enter the country.
- (e) A general rise in unemployment throughout the country enabled employers in the tourism industry to significantly cut salaries at the beginning of last year.

126. **Media coverage of complex news events often oversimplifies.** The causes of this strong tendency include the inherent challenge of explaining the larger context in which events occur, the need to provide coverage across a wide range of issues, the emotional power of images, and the short time allotted to news relative to entertainment by ratings-conscious broadcasters. This has helped give rise to "soft news," in which events are covered by talk shows. The format of such shows, however, lends itself most strongly not to a complex factual explanation of events but instead to the creation of a venation that engages our sympathy and emotions—a story about the event in which there are "good guys" and "bad guys," heroes, villains, and victims. **The power of such narratives may well have helped increase support among the American public for 1990s- era U.S. intervention in Somalia, Bosnia, and Kosovo.**

The relationship between the two bolded sentences is best described as:

- (a) The first is an assessment of a phenomenon and the second is a description of specific examples of this phenomenon.
  - (b) The first is an evaluation of a general trend and the second is a reason for this trend.
  - (c) The first is a judgment of a relationship and the second is an instance in which this judgment is shown to be correct.
  - (d) The first is a statement evaluating a phenomenon and the second is an observation of a possible result of that phenomenon.
  - (e) The first is a claim about a particular issue and the second is an assessment of the accuracy of that claim.
127. It is ludicrous to assert that the math department's new policy, allowing the use of nonprogrammable calculators during exams, is discriminatory. Though a calculator can be expensive, and some students will not be able to purchase one, the department is not requiring that students use one, it is only allowing them to do so if they desire. Thus, any student who does not purchase a calculator for use on his exams will not be penalized; he or she will be no worse off at exam time than he or she was prior to the policy change.
- To which of the following would the opponents of the math department's new policy be most likely to refer, in an attempt to have the new policy abolished?
- (a) The difference in speed between a top-of-the-line calculator and a bottom-end one is significant.
  - (b) Each individual student's performance is evaluated against the performance of his or her fellow students on math department exams.
  - (c) The university student services department will make available to all students calculators that can be borrowed as library books are.
  - (d) Much of the math being tested on most of the exams in question is so complex that it requires a calculator-like mind to do the necessary computations.
  - (e) When calculators were not allowed, more than half of all students failed their math exams.
128. Many people feel that hard work deserves a reward. However, this is not true. **Hard work should be its own reward**, because such work intrinsically gives the worker satisfaction when it is performed satisfactorily.
- The bold phrase plays which of the following roles in the argument?
- (a) It provides information that undermines the conclusion.
  - (b) It points out the assumption with which the author disagrees.
  - (c) It repeats a previously stated premise.

- (d) It offers support for the author's conclusion.
- (e) It is the conclusion the author's argument is designed to reach.

129. **Poppy:** High taxes have a chilling effect on the economy. When individuals and corporations are taxed, they have less money to spend. Demand for products and services is reduced, causing unemployment to increase. Taxes must be lowered.

**Lilly:** But you must also consider that taxes generate funds for the government. If taxes are lowered, the government will be forced to borrow more money, thus reducing the amount of credit available. Unable to borrow money easily, businesses and individuals will be forced to limit their purchases.

Lilly objects to Poppy's argument by

- (a) claiming that Poppy has exaggerated the adverse effects of high taxes
- (b) indicating that Poppy has based his argument on insufficient evidence about the effects of taxes on the economy
- (c) noting that Poppy has failed to adequately define the term "taxes"
- (d) demonstrating that the danger of reducing taxes is far more severe than the threat of maintaining them at current levels
- (e) suggesting that the economic benefits of easy credit outweigh the danger of unemployment

130. Many industrialized nations have reported a sharp rise in the per capita cost of health care -- the total amount paid in the nation for health care, divided by the number of people. This increase is likely to continue since the population of these countries is predominantly older, and elderly people have more reasons to need health care than do younger people

Which one of the following points out an error in the reasoning behind the prediction made above?

- (a) It fails to consider the actual frequency of use of health care services by younger people and the resulting costs of that use.
- (b) It assumes that the cost of health care will remain stable at current levels.
- (c) It fails to cite actual numbers in making its claim.
- (d) It only considers the number of times someone might seek health care, rather than considering the cost of that care
- (e) It discusses health care in terms of two very broad-based segments of the community, without considering the actual composition of those segments.

131. Although writers can copyright the text of novels or nonfiction books that they write, they cannot copyright their pieces' titles. Therefore, writers should be allowed to copyright any inscriptions that they include in their work.

Which of the following, if included as a premise in the argument above, would make its conclusion more logical?

- (a) In most cases, text is less likely to be plagiarized than are titles.
- (b) Copyright laws vary for different types of fiction and nonfiction.
- (c) Writers are often more widely known for the titles of their books than for their books' contents.
- (d) A book's title is an essential part of that book.
- (e) By the guidelines used to determine copyrights, inscriptions are more similar to text than to titles.

132. The Montridge Town Council has just voted to increase the local tax rate on all new commercial businesses within the town's border. The council believes that if it acts to keep the town as residential as possible, the town will attract wealthier people who will gravitate toward the town's charm and will not complain about an increase in property taxes.

Which of the following best expresses the logical pattern underlying the Montridge Town Council's recent decision?

- (a) It rationalized that a drop in revenue from one source would ultimately be offset by an increase from another source.
- (b) It established its distaste for commercial activity within Montridge.
- (c) It questioned the assumption that all commercial businesses would react to the tax hike by leaving town.
- (d) It believes that in order to achieve goals, they must be prioritized.
- (e) It weighed several options and chose the one that it believed would result in the least collateral damage.

133. A new private college offers a course that prepares students for a career in which only 7% of the professionals are successful financially in the related industry. In a radio commercial, the course is presented as a guarantee to financial success based on that career. Clearly, such a guarantee warrants charges of false advertising.

The answer to which of the following would be most useful in evaluating the argument?

- (a) Is the percentage of professionals that did not take part in the course in the new private college lower than 93%?
- (b) Did any of the professionals included in the 7% not graduate from the course?
- (c) Did more than 50% of the professionals graduate from a similar course offered by another college?
- (d) How many students does the college accept into a single course?
- (e) What percentage of professionals have participated in a course that trains for this specific career?

134. It has been discovered that a chemical compound present in a liquid sprayed by pinkback ants as a defence mechanism contains antiseptic properties very useful in the treatment of minor flesh wounds. The volume of the chemical stored in a pinkback's glands is so small that it took scientists more than a year to acquire a sufficient amount for research purposes. Clearly, it will be very expensive, if not impossible, to use the chemical in commercial applications since such applications require much greater amounts than those used during research.

The answer to which of the following would be most useful in evaluating the argument?

- (a) What kind of commercial applications could benefit from the presence of such a chemical?
- (b) Does the chemical have properties that would make it useful for the healing of ailments other than flesh wounds?
- (c) When the chemical is drawn from the glands of a pinkback ant, how long does it take for the ant to reproduce the missing amount?
- (d) What alternative sources of other chemicals used for the treatment of minor flesh wounds are there?
- (e) Can the compound be synthetically produced without it losing any of its characteristics?



**SOLUTIONS**

## SOLUTIONS

1. (B) **The right answer here should be B.** Since this is an inference based CR question, the main thing we are looking to do is to select a conclusion that **MUST** be true. The best way to do this is to eliminate all answers that can be false, since the correct answer **CANNOT** be false.
- A - We only know the number of PhDs per university. It is very possible that the number of unis increased OR decreased. Hence, we cannot make definitive reliable claims about the total number of PhDs. **OUT**
  - B - The number enrolled per university per year has dropped, but the total number per university has increased. This is only possible if fewer people complete their PhDs than the number of new admissions. If people are not completing their PhDs at the same rate, it **MUST** be the case that on average, students are taking longer than they did before. **CORRECT**
  - C - We don't even know about all the applicants, only the ones who were admitted. If fewer candidates were admitted in total, it may be tempting to think a lower percentage were admitted. But it could very much be the case that fewer candidates applied to begin with. **OUT**
  - D - We don't know anything about this at all, since all data is on a per university basis. **OUT**
  - E - Demand refers to number of applicants, and as we addressed in C, we don't know what happened to that number. **OUT**
2. (A) The fact that the restaurant industry average table occupancy rate (i.e., percent of the time that a table was occupied) rose from 74 percent to 81 percent between 1986 and 1996 seems like it should correspond with a similar increase in the number of meals eaten out by Americans. However, the number of meals eaten out by Americans declined from an average of 212 meals out per month per 1,000 people to 195 meals out per month per 1,000 people over the same time period.
- Choice A:** If the average amount of time spent per meal by Americans eating out increased between 1991 and 1996, then diners would be occupying restaurant tables for longer time periods. This would provide a reason that table occupancy rates increased from 1991 to 1996, while meals eaten out by Americans per month decreased. Hence, **Option A is the answer**
- Choice B:** No, this answer choice addresses only one side of the conflict. Even if the proportion of very lengthy meals to somewhat lengthy meals was greater in 1996 than 1986, there is no corresponding information regarding how this relates to all meals of all lengths.
- Choice C:** No, this answer choice is out of scope. Even if the average number of Americans dining out per month tends to decline whenever table occupancy rates increase, there is no information regarding how this relates specifically to the 1986 to 1996 data in question.
- Choice D:** No, this answer choice addresses only one side of the conflict. The number of meals served could limit the number of meals eaten out by Americans, but it would have no impact on the average table occupancy rate.
- Choice E:** No, this answer choice addresses only one side of the conflict. Even if the more tables a restaurant has, the higher its occupancy rate is likely to be is true, there is no corresponding information about how this relates to the number of meals eaten out by Americans.

3. (E) Between B, C and E  
 C- Business leaders are irrelevant. Successful leaders are the context  
 B- In inference questions future events can't be always true.  
 E is the winner  
 use syllogism in this sort of question.  
 A (successful business leaders with deep resources) totally inside B (ppl who have trials or experience).  
 E matches.
4. (D) Regardless of how often it occurs, an illegal deed is still illegal and should be punished. This part of the sentence can be paraphrased as D. She asserts that the frequency of a crime does not lessen its severity. **Answer is D**
5. (D) Close fight between B and D; we can easily eliminate options A, C, and E. But, D is accurate based on evidence and concise but B is only woman's experience. In conclusion we choose which one is must true. Hence, option D should be chosen over B. **Answer is D**
6. (D) Only C and D come close to be the answer.  
 Option C should be rejected because "often..." well nothing is told about the frequency with which discrepancy in poll results occur. Option D takes a more measured and mature approach by saying, "may not accurately". C is too strong a statement to be true. Hence, **option D is answer.**
7. (B) Option A is incorrect as we cannot prove that gas mileage has steadily gotten worse over the past two weeks.  
 Option B is correct as it is talking about **money per mile**. So definitely the mileage is affected.  
 Option C is incorrect as it says she ESTIMATED the figure. We cannot be sure about this.  
 Option D is incorrect. Same as A  
 Option E is incorrect as the overall income didn't change for sure; her profits did.
8. (D) It's stated that the Pacific NW prec. and water table levels "have varied drastically" (6 points is cited), but the moisture level swing in Canada was "no more than three points" (which is within the scaled range of 2-4 given as normal a few sentences before).  
 So, the precipitation and water table levels varied more in the Pac NW than in Canada.
9. (B) Poll is conducted in only two states of America and that is considered a widespread (whole America) notion.  
 So the poll is a kind of assumption drawn from few people opinion. Poll itself is at fault.  
 C and D are same -they also weaken but not as strong as B.
10. (E)

11. (E) A - The argument only tells us that most web users ignore the results. This does not, however, mean that they consider these results illegitimate. Hence, we can't say that this would be true for sure. **OUT**
- B - This option is wildly off base. It is not suggested anywhere that the visibility can increase for less pay for any given type of advertising, and quite the opposite in fact. **OUT**
- C - This is made to sound like online advertising is only for online products. But all we need is to think of a situation that doesn't match this, for example, advertising lawnmowers online. It's probably easier to buy one online since it can be delivered to you, but they don't provide any online service. Hence, C does not add up. **OUT**
- D - The same logic in C holds true here as well. It's not necessary that online businesses would gain more from online ads. What the product offers and how it is advertised have little correlation for this question. **OUT**
- E - This must be correct by process of elimination. But let us confirm nonetheless. The claim made here is very mild: spend more or risk missing out on customers. And this is true of any advertising actually. In particular, this can never be false because advertisers know that every bit of money they spend gives them potential sales, since the targets are already qualified. Hence, *it's never NOT a trade-off*. This answer is therefore **CORRECT**.

Remember that the right answer must always be true, and it is much harder to prove that than it is to falsify something. So you're best off trying to prove an option wrong to eliminate it.

12. (B) (A) Nowhere has it been mentioned about competency. Also in conclusion it is stated as "people who train their dogs are more likely to participate in dog shows". So obedience training class not required. Hence, this option is eliminated
- (B) The proportion of dog owners who enroll their dogs in formal obedience training classes is representative of the proportion who train their dogs outside such classes. This is the answer.
- (C) No. It has been mentioned in the argument as "people who train their dogs are more likely to participate in dog shows". it's not mentioned as Obedience training class
- (D) Owner's attention for dog out of scope. Eliminate.
- (E) Falsify the conclusion.
13. (E) For something to be really free, there should be nothing in return or exchange. However, in the passage, the transportation option is an exchange for the free meal (which was employee perquisite or benefit). The company endured nothing, while the employees paid their meals for their transportation. This is what **E** concluded
14. (C) This is an inference question, so we need an answer choice we know to be true from the argument. All we know about is the ability of one particular computer program to detect counterfeit currency, and how it does so.
- (A) No. We have no idea how expensive the program is, and prohibitively is extreme.

- (B) No. Possibly, but nothing in the argument talks about consumer banks, so this is out of scope.
- (C) Yes. This is the correct answer. The passage says that even the best counterfeiters can't hope to reproduce all facets of a nation's currency, and that the program contains extensive profiles of all major currencies.
- (D) No. This may be true, but the information in the passage doesn't tell us how long development of the program took.
- (E) No. This appears nowhere in the passage, and in fact contradicts the argument that this program works very well.
15. (E) Since the incidence rate for conjunctivitis is the same for people of all ages and the average age will increase, therefore E is the answer.
16. (C) C is the answer.
17. (B) A. The only reaction of people mentioned in the stem is that they are trying to buy this property. There is no mention of other possible reactions such as to seek other interested real estate developers  
 B. The town council must be aware that commercializing this property into an airport will lead to lowering of surrounding property values. Yet the council is paying no regard to the financial loss of people and lifting the restriction  
 C. Out of scope  
 D. Even if the residents persuade the town council to reconsider its decision it is not guaranteed that property values will rise. The max that could happen is the values will remain same.  
 E. Out of scope
18. (D) If one way ride is 1.25, therefore 2 way ride from office to home is 2.50...which is of no use for daily commuter as daily pass is 2.50, thereby supporting the against statement of Advocate.
19. (D) Line of reasoning:  
 Health prof: "too much consumption butter" ---> heart attack  
 South Korea: "almost no butter" **But**, "heart attacks is no less than high consumption countries"  
 So,...?  
 (A) Margarine & willingness to switch to it is not relevant to the given info.  
 (B) This is against the given fact told by health experts. we cannot refuse facts.  
 (C) Cause of avoiding butter is out of line of reasoning based on given info.  
 (D) seems correct; in line with given info  
 (E) Other stuff is not relevant.  
 So (D) is the correct answer.
20. (B) We can easily narrow down our choices to B and D.  
 B is an opinion - not a fact ("should be"). In addition to the facts in the passage, you have to use your own judgement about what is right and what is not to arrive at B. Someone else may have a different judgement. Hence option B is not correct.  
**Light plastic materials, such as bottles for freezing** and containers for microwave cooking, have been shown by research to release carcinogenic toxins

into the liquids and foods stored therein, **thus posing a health risk problem for humans. Stainless steel is a better material health-wise for preserving food by freezing** while only ceramics are healthy for heating foods and liquids in a microwave.

Please look at the bold sentences.

21. (E) Use numbers to get the answer. Because we are dealing with percentage, we can use numbers. Let us assume that price in country S is 100 and it has risen to 125 now. Hypothetically the price in country D must be between 100 and 125 as it has the best deal now. Now, if we reduce the country S's price by 25% then it will again have the best deal available for country L.
22. (A) (A) **Correct.** If you negate this option, the manufacturer claims fall apart since more Freon will be released into the atmosphere.  
 (B) Incorrect. We are concerned with the manufacturer's prediction that there will be no further damage apart from Freon that's already in the environment. Whether the damage done already is significant or not is irrelevant to the manufacturer's claim. We are only interested in the differential amount of damage (if any) caused by replacement.  
 (C) Incorrect. Same as B. We are not concerned with the damage caused by Freon already in the atmosphere.  
 (D) Incorrect. Even if new refrigerant doesn't counteract damaging effects, the manufacturer claims can hold true so long as there is no additional damage from such refrigerants. It isn't an essential condition.  
 (E) Only refers to environmental damage. Eliminated.
23. (D) (A) There is nothing said that second floor dormitories do not have a fire escape, only that if a dormitory room is above the second floor, it has a fire escape. This does not have to be true.  
 (B) If a dormitory room is above the second floor, it has a fire escape. Thus this is false.  
 (C) Only dormitory rooms above the second floor have fire escapes. Same reasoning as with A. This is false.  
 (D) If a dormitory room is above the second floor, it has a fire escape. So a fourth-floor dormitory always has a fire escape. This is true.  
 (E) We do not have enough information to confirm this. So this is false.
24. (D) (A) Incorrect: It doesn't match the blood type of most people but is compatible with blood of all types. Even if one uses matches interchangeability with compatible, most vs all distinction still prevails.  
 (B) Incorrect: Supply low or not cannot be inferred. What can be inferred is that supply cannot meet the demand as type O can be used irrespective of recipient's blood type.  
 (C) Incorrect: 45% of all blood donated is of type A.  
 (D) Correct: It is mentioned that Type O blood can be given to any recipient regardless of his/her blood type. It is also mentioned that this application of type O is unique. Thus, decision to give other blood types cannot be made in absence of knowledge of recipient's blood type  
 (E) Incorrect: Hilarious. Suggests that some sort of typing is involved in connection with blood.

25. (D) Correct answer: D
- (A) Incorrect. The statement only concerns whether a package is accepted, not the costs associated with different size packages.
  - (B) Incorrect. The statement concerns packages not meeting a criterion that are rejected; the statement does not say that all packages that meet this criterion are accepted.
  - (C) Incorrect. The statements both concern criteria for acceptance. However, there could be other criteria that preclude a package from being accepted (e.g. destination).
  - (D) Correct. The first statement says that packages not within established size limits are never accepted; (D) is consistent with that criterion.
  - (E) Incorrect. Out of scope. Neither statement touches upon whether a package must be returned to the sender.
26. (B) Condition --> Effect  
 Sun + <0 --> Parka  
 rain + >0 --> raincoat  
 Nothing mentioned about = 0; so, for must be true, applying POE E is out;
- (A) If it is not raining and Susan is wearing her parka, the sun is shining. What about chill factor? Not necessarily true
  - (B) If the wind-chill factor is below zero and Susan is not wearing her parka, the sun is not shining. Correct
  - (C) If the wind-chill factor is below zero and it is not raining, Susan is wearing her parka. "not raining" doesn't mean sun is shining
  - (D) If the wind-chill factor is below zero and it is raining, Susan is wearing her raincoat. Wrong straightforward; chill factor must be >0
  - (E) If it rains while the sun is shining and the wind-chill factor is zero, Susan wears her parka : not mentioned
27. (D) A. Most women who joined the workforce during the Second World War wanted to return to domestic life when the war ended. no way to know
- B. The great majority of women who joined the workforce during the Second World War were employed in manufacturing jobs.  
 Stimulus doesn't mention this. Long stretch to make this assumption
- C. The end of the Second World War was followed by a large-scale transfer of women workers from manufacturing to agriculture. Stimulus doesn't mention anywhere that women transferred from manufacturing to agriculture.
- D. The increase in women's employment that accompanied the Second World War was longer lasting in agriculture than it was in manufacturing.  
 This is definitely true, since the para explicitly states "But in agriculture, unlike other industries where women were viewed as temporary workers, women's employment did not end with the war."
- E. The popular media were more forceful in calling for women to join the workforce during the Second World War than in calling for women to return to domestic life after the war. No way to know.
28. (B) (A) Country B should apologize and dismantle its intelligence operation in Country A. - Incorrect - Out of scope

- (B) The spokesperson for Country B claims that Country A engages in intelligence gathering too. – Correct
- (C) Because all countries engage in this practice, Country A's outrage was disingenuous. - Incorrect - The charge was genuine and was accepted by the spokesperson of Country B. So outrage of Country A need not be disingenuous.
- (D) Relations between Country A and Country B will be strained for some time. - Incorrect - Out of scope
- (E) Country B would be just as outraged if it was reported that Country A was running a covert intelligence operation with Country B's borders. - Incorrect - Out of scope

29. (B) Thick atmosphere-majorly nitrogen-was the key difference between Titan and Ganymede and Callisto.

Low temperature at titan favors nitrogen formation whereas high temperature at G&C cause no nitrogen.

B is correct answer.

30. (A) Break it down:Less unemployed people in X than Y

- A. There are more unemployed people in Country Y than there are in Country X.Good
- B. There are more unemployed people in Country X than there are in Country Y. Opposite: Level of unemployment is lower in country X, therefore less unemployed people.
- C. There are as many unemployed people in Country Y as there are in Country X. Same # people, different rates of employment.. This is impossible
- D. The percentage of the population that are employed in Country X is the same as that in Country Y. Same as (C)
- E. The percentage of the population that are employed in Country X is lower than that in Country Y. Repeats (B) but in different wording.

31. (D) Premise: Company has experienced a decrease in profitability

CEO's belief: Fire 20 employees to increase profitability

CFO's belief: All employees should take a salary cut.

We need to support the CFO's claim and refute the CEO's claim.

If we show that firing the employees might have a negative effect, then our job is done.

Option D says just the same. There is already an increasing work load and firing people will increase it even more. This might not be beneficial for the company.

Correct Option: D

32. (A) A. The costs associated with offering distance learning are lower than those of other instruction methods.True.

B. Online classes are more convenient for both instructors and students than are classes held at specific geographic locations.

We don't know about if it is at all convenient for the students (Doubt Clearing might be an issue), but it is certainly cost saver for the Institution.

C. Distance learning does not required climate control or parking facilities. Explicitly been stated in the Passage - Nothing to Infer.



- D. Most types of instruction can be effectively conducted in an online setting. Out of scope and Irrelevant, we don't have sufficient Information to state the same.
- E. Computers and internet access are uniformly available to people in the developed world. Out of scope.

33. (B) This is an inference question, so the correct answer will be something you know from the argument.

- (A) No. We have no information about the drugs' cost to the patient.
- (B) Yes. If the companies can no longer place surcharges on more popular drugs, they will lose the sources of revenue that balance the losses from orphan drugs. They will have to find other revenue sources or lose money.
- (C) No. The passage provides no information about generic drugs—it's out of scope.
- (D) No. This is contradicted by the argument, which says there will be a constant percentage of profit allowed. So if drug costs are reduced, the profit should be commensurately reduced.
- (E) No. There is no information in this argument about charitable organizations and offsetting of costs.

34. (E) Incidence of Conjunctivitis is same across all age groups. By 2010 there will be many >50 aged people and hence more people likely to suffer from Conjunctivitis.

35. (E) The Mutual fund Company is company Growth Stock Fund with other stock funds of the same company. Despite substantial new investment in Growth Stock Fund there is no significant increase in investment in other mutual funds, the reason might be that the perceived/historic return of other mutual fund is not as high as that of Growth Stock Fund.

Option (E) correctly addresses this key issue hence, (E)

36. (E) The director at the Mayor's office for the people with disabilities suggests that "each and every unit must be big enough for handicapped" and the Paris based company declines the job if "all the toilets are to be made accessible for handicapped people". Even though the company is ready to make some toilets accessible the directors requires all of them to be accessible to handicapped. Therefore, unless the director changes his/her mind, it's unlikely the toilets are built. Hence, (E).

37. (E) (A) A newspaper article appearing in the science section states that classical music is more conducive to sleep than Pop, Rock and Roll and Rhythm & Blues. => Comparative analysis of different music genres is not necessary to the conclusion here

(B) The cost of the classical music appreciation course, per student, comes to 10% of the average monthly salary paid in the National Train Company. => NTC is not taking cost into account here -- at least in the passage

(C) A survey handed to students in 10 separate music appreciation courses shows that music appreciation courses affect the musical tastes of only 20% of participants. => The musical taste of participants is not important

- (D) Classical music appreciation courses are preferred by employees of large companies over Pop or House music appreciation courses. => Same as A
- (E) Classical music has been shown to have a positive effect on the digestive system, thus lowering the average days of sick leave among those who listen to it. => CORRECT. Strengthens the link between classical music and improved health just as the results of the study do.

So, should be E

38. (B) The 'All included' cruise staff are saying that theirs is the best cruise in terms of economics.

We need to support the the stand of 'all included' staff.

Option A: Unrelated to the argument.

Option C: Weakens.

Option D: (Says in mathematically..., (Initial fee+ extra) of 'Inexpensive' < 'all included' cruise [Weakening the statement]

Option E: unrelated.

Only stands B. (Although the additional words such as scuba diving or is irrelevant or you can say are there to distract the reader)

39. (A) (A) The poison that will be used in the stream is not toxic to the farmers' livestock -- CORRECT, this makes sure that the farmers' plan inadvertently cause the same problem they wanted to eliminate in the first place
- (B) The naked mole rat is not susceptible to most conventional poisons -- We don't know enough about conventional poisons from the passage to make a judgement
- (C) The befurred vole, a relative to the naked mole rat, is most effectively controlled with contraception rather than with poison -- we are not worried about animals of other species
- (D) The poison to be used is less expensive than other poisons -- cost is not the issue of discussion here
- (E) The poison will be most effective if administered after the harvest -- same as D; not integral to the conclusion

So, answer should be A.

40. (D) Clearly, the answer choice should present new information so that to make the conclusion more believable. Moreover, the answer choice can be even the assumption of the argument. Which is the assumption in this case? Zoologists must believe that monkeys raised in capture will not perform the same movements, or not perform at all the dance.

A. This information is already given in the argument. Note that since it is a strengthen type of question, we need to select an answer choice that would provide new information. A is out because what is said can be clearly inferred from the argument.

B. This option weakens. This one says that although a monkey is raised by monkeys from a different species, it performs a dance that is different from its adopting group. Thus, the dance movements is something programmed in its genetics. Out.

C. Well, this one might be tricky, especially if you find the argument confusing. This is a clear OFS. It talks about ant-luring technique, which has nothing to do with the dance movements.

- D. This one basically restates the assumption identified above. A monkey raised in captivity does not perform the dance. Thus, the dance is learned.
  - E. This one is irrelevant, and has no effect on the conclusion.
- D is so far the best answer.

41. (C) (A) The regions with the lowest unemployment rates had many of the same kinds of industries as those in the regions with high unemployment, but this was not the case in 1978. - if true, one would expect more migration. Since similar industries would take up already trained workers
- (B) In contrast to 1978, the regions with the lowest unemployment rates had the largest number of new jobs, although substantially fewer of the new jobs required retraining. - US would have expected to have new jobs available and these new jobs didn't require much retraining. Again, we would expect many to migrate in such case or US would accept workers.
- (C) In contrast to 1978, housing costs in the areas with the lowest unemployment rates were substantially higher than housing costs in other parts of the country. - Housing costs are very high in 1988 thus less affordable for the new workers to move into US without a job. That wasn't the case in 1978. Hence a good contender.
- (D) The unemployment rate in countries outside of the United States was higher than it was ten years before. - This option doesn't help in anyway
- (E) Unemployment benefits in the regions of high unemployment were slightly lower than they were ten years earlier in regions of high unemployment. - This option doesn't address the migration in anyway.

1988 - US had lowest unemployment rate

- Other countries had highest unemployment rate

1978 - Large migration from high unemployment to low unemployment rate countries

Therefore, it was expected that large migration would happen into US in 1988 as well but migration was very little. Why?

42. (D) (A) The Securities and Exchange Commission is far more likely to investigate brokerage firms than other businesses. we are comparing within brokerage firms only, so out
- (B) Most of the employees of Schicksal, Barnham & Lampert are scrupulously honest and would not intentionally act in such a way as to violate a regulation such as the Securities and Exchange Act. the use of 'most' negates the choice
- (C) A greater number of the Schicksal, Barnham & Lampert employees with MBAs investigated for possible violations of the Securities and Exchange Act were cleared of all wrong-doing than were their counterparts at other brokerage firms. a deceptive choice.. we are talking about % and not number
- (D) The level of corruption of individuals on a staff is not directly related to the proportion of these individuals who have been convicted of corrupt behavior. the choice is correct... because of the four times the average number people being convicted, the argument claims people are four times more corrupt... there may be more number of people corrupt but the level may be less,...

(E) Schicksal, Barnham & Lampert regularly hires from the top eight percent of all business school graduates, who must have competed vigorously to have enjoyed such success. Out of scope

43. (D) College fired GM considering 5th to be lower rank, However, GM stated that 5th is a very high rank. Only option D, which shows that there were plenty of teams helps to fill the gap between two action/statement.

44. (B) TBF has decided to build a GPS device for hikers as it believes that hikers also need GPS for navigation.

We need to strengthen this claim by TBF.

Option B does that by taking a survey from the hikers themselves. If hikers are themselves agreeing to the fact that they would buy the GPS device, then TBF's conclusion is correct.

45. (C) Pre-think: When S melts > P melts or S melts > X melts  
POE

(A) Q and P melt at a higher temperature than S melts: Irrelevant

(B) X melts at a higher temperature than S melts: Irrelevant

(C) P melts at a lower temperature than S melt: Correct as Per Pre-thinking

(D) Q melts at the same temperature that S melts: Irrelevant

(E) S melts at a higher temperature than Q melts: Irrelevant

46. (C) The argument deals with highlighting the common trait, that is "Social Smiling", between the special children, who are blind/deaf and blind, and normal children which begins with the same schedule (phase)

So, the correct proof should support the above claim

(A) Talks about the after affect of smile — smile advantage — incorrect

(B) Tells when babies smile — incorrect

(C) mentions the common trait and its development — correct

(D) talks about the Characteristics Of Smile - wrong

(E) talks about the happenings when babies smile — wrong

So the credited answer would be C

47. (E) Simplify the argument

Industrial solvents damage river. The pure water is tested by checking the level of solvents in 1 and a half gallon of water that a typical adult drinks.

**Conclusion-** This method is not protecting the public adequately.

Anything that suggests that there are alternate ways by which additional industrial solvents can enter the human body is an option that strengthens.

A. Even if water comes from soft drinks, we have to assume that it is pure water for the above mentioned method to be inadequate.

B. Some solvents won't help our cause if majority of the solvents are not addressed.

C. Irrelevant. The argument concerns industrial solvents.

D. Out of scope. Does not discuss inadequacy of the method.

E. This is in line with our prethinking. Additional solvents are entering the body through skin that the above mentioned method does not take into account.

48. (A) At first glance E seems to not support the statement above BUT reading very carefully it does, indeed. Look at the first part of the stimulus.  
As more and more women develop breast cancer. As it turns out, E says just this as a starting point in the chain logic. E is very tricky.  
Instead A says that the cancer has ALSO environmental causes but this is not our concern. As such, A is out of scope and actually the right answer
49. (B) **Premise:** The population of peregrine falcons declined rapidly during the 1950's and 1960's and reached an all-time low in the early 1970's.  
**Conclusion:** The decline was attributed by scientists to the widespread use of the pesticide DDT in rural areas.  
Which of the following, if true, gives the strongest support to the scientists' claim?  
Pre-think: To support Cause-effect relationship, show if cause is removed so is effect.  
(A) DDT was not generally in use in areas devoted to heavy industry.  
Irrelevant: as rural area is discussed not heavy industry  
(B) In the time since the use of DDT was banned in 1972, the population of peregrine falcons has been steadily increasing. --> Correct  
(C) Peregrine falcons, like other birds of prey, abandon eggs that have fallen out of the nest, even if the eggs remain intact. --> No effect  
(D) Starlings, house sparrows, and blue jays - birds the peregrine falcon preys on - were not adversely affected by DDT in their habitats. --> Other birds out of scope  
(E) Other birds of prey, such as the osprey, the bald eagle, and the brown pelican, are found in the same areas as is the peregrine falcon. --> No relation with the time-period
50. (B) A: The board monitors the demographic targets of large advertising companies and chooses target audiences for their streaming service based off those trends. Does not tell us anything about what is happening in the demography of parents with kids under 12.  
B: A population study conducted by an independent research group has uncovered a large uptick in the number of parents who are raising children under the age of 12. Gives a valid reason on why the focus should be on parents with kids under 12.  
C: People aged 18–35 generally have less disposable income than other age demographics. Weakens not strengthen  
D: The licensing agreement MoviesNow! has with the largest movie production company is set to expire within the next 5 years. Our focus is on the target group not his license  
E: The board of MoviesNow! is comprised of parents of children under the age of 12. If this is true then they are just a really stupid bunch of guys on the board. Basically irrelevant.
51. (C) Conclusion: carcasses of rats killed by bromethalin will not pose a threat to other animals  
Premise: bromethalin is lethal to all species.  
Strengthen, Pre-think: bromethalin gets converted to some nontoxic

- (A) Rats that consume bromethalin die immediately. : But carcass can still hold poison,threat to other animal.
- (B) Animals, prompted by curiosity, often examine carcasses that appear in their territory. Same reason as A
- (C) Chemicals in the digestive tract of dead rats quickly break bromethalin down into a nontoxic substance.**
- (D) Traces of bromethalin remain in the rat's mouth and saliva after the rat eats the poison. : Clearly threat to other animal.
- (E) Certain animals are scavengers and feed habitually on refuse and dead flesh.Same reason as A

52. (E) Key Points:Mayor wants to increase voter turnout count for next election, how is he planning? By improving the facility.

- A: Out of scope.
- B: Says by publicity they are increasing the turnout count(It weakens the conclusion)
- C: It says people behaviour won't change after the facility provided. The statement doesn't care whom people are voting, they care only how many people turn for voting(Incorrect).
- D: Out of scope
- E: This option says that people will turn up for voting if there is good facility provided. (Correct Answer)

53. (B) P1: Regular exercise improves heart health

P2: 5 yrs ago, less than 60 yrs old had 50% of total 1 or more heart attack

P3: today, less than 60 yrs old have 40% of total 1 or more attack

P4: less than 60 yrs people workout more now while 60+ yrs old remain the same

**Conclusion** :- Workout has helped to reduce these numbers

B) The proportion of the population aged 60 and over has remained constant over the last five years. (This option sounds like an assumption rather than an option that strengthens, if we negate it argument will fall apart)

**Meaning:-** proportion was 60+ people was 1/3, its still 1/3 today i.e. if there were 33 (65+ yrs old 5 years ago) out of 99 then today might be 66 out of 198.

D.) People aged 60 and over are generally less capable of strenuous exercise than are people under the age of 60.

**Meaning:** if 60+ yrs old people can't put any extra effort into workout hence their numbers are same, while younger than 60 yrs old can hence their heart attack numbers have reduced strengthens the conclusion.

54. (E) Since the argument is, we should administer broad spectrum antibiotics for treating burnt patients because the bacteria affecting the burnt patient can change from one day to the next, we can improve the efficacy of the treatment by keeping the patient in a sterile environment. Hence, the answer is E.

55. (C) You need to understand that the argument made above depends on the two points enumerated above. Any answer option that reinforces any of the two points above strengthens the argument. So we need to look out for an option in which the author's assertion that a volunteer army cannot be trusted because a volunteer army tried some years ago failed miserably. What could potentially

weaken this argument? What if the process of recruitment for the volunteer army that failed several years ago has changed? Then the author's argument will be weakened right? So the option that strengthens is that the process of recruitment adopted for the failed volunteer army in the past has not changed. This is one of the potential assumptions of the argument above.

Secondly, it has to be assumed that a volunteer into the army will still not be assessed based on his/her educational level and his/her likelihood to do drugs and engage in crime while in the army. So basically all you have to do is to look for an option that suggests that the recruitment process will not change.

With this in mind, let's examine the answer choices.

C. The first attempt to create a volunteer army was carried out according to the same plan now under the proposal and under the same conditions as those that exist today.

This is correct. It clearly reinforces the argument above as per the reasoning provided above.

56. (D) The question becomes slightly less challenging if one is able to decipher that plume is stationary and it plays a central role in crater and cinder cone formation. Also trails of cinder cones and crater moved as the continent moved westward.

Imagine two objects one above another. One of them leaks water and is stationary. The other one absorbs water. The one that absorbs water moves slightly west. Now when the water leaks from the first object after the movement, in relation to the second object where would the new water get stranded? On the eastern side of the second object!

Option D states the new trails would be made on eastern side of the existing trails. Bingo! That is what is required to prove that the continent (with existing trails) moved westwards

57. (E) The Environmentalist is claiming that pure bio-diesel is much more economical than impure bio-diesel. The reason he is citing is the presence of petrol in "impure bio-diesel"

The Chemist is rejecting the idea of the environmentalist and claims that pure bio-diesel is an economical disaster compared to impure bio-diesel because due to its vegetable origin, bio-diesel is susceptible to molds

Now to support the object of chemist we need to show that impure bio-diesel is better than pure bio diesel .while doing so we need to keep close to argument of chemist. E does that job !!

58. (A) (A) The math flows as follows, taking 100 contributors:

70 contributors by ads

30 not by ads

At least 2x more contributors from ads (2/3 of the 3/3) by adding the months =  $70 \times 3 = +140$

New total = 240 (2.4x original)

- (B) (b) is out of scope; we do not know how the cash position of wheat farmers their propensity to contribute in the fall or by what amount they will increase contributions (i.e., will the number of contributors double?).

- (C) (c) opposes the president's conclusion, suggesting that contributors will not increase by a large amount if ads are increased.

- (D) (d) merely restates an established fact: 70% of contributors come from the ads.
- (E) (e) is out of scope by referring only to the number of readers, not how those readers will contribute to the PAC if advertisements are increased.

59. (E) (A) Books that are written by men are less likely to be chosen by Winfra to be promoted on her show. (There is no discussion of men and women book preference.)
- (B) Books whose first chapters are very long are less suitable for promotion through Winfra's show. (There is no info regarding length of the chapter. OFS)
- (C) If a book is not promoted by Winfra on her show, its chances of becoming a best seller are lower than those of books promoted in Winfra's show. (If X causes Y then it is not mandatory that Lack of X results in lack of Y or X is the only way to result in Y)
- (D) The effectiveness of using the services of a public relations office to promote one's book is lower than the effectiveness of promoting a book through Winfra's show. (same reasoning as of C)
- (E) A recently published book that gains access to a promotional spot on Winfra's show is likely to become a bestseller.  
(This is true as it indicates the possibility of the success getting repeated.)

60. (A) Assumption: Crestwood or Lynbrook have very few students of their own.  
Only choice A makes sense. All other choices are irrelevant.

61. (D) Pre-thinking: Author is saying that reducing the price of water supplied by municipality will encourage residents to go back to drinking it.  
This means that author is assuming that currently the municipality supplied water is costlier than the bottled water. Also, price is the major factor which will affect the residents' decision.

We need to select the option that tells us the assumption of the author.

Let's analyse the options now:

- A. The bottled water is imported from springs overseas. - Incorrect. This option is completely irrelevant.
- B. The municipality's water supply is filtered through a sophisticated process. Incorrect - this option does tell that municipality water is filtered but if the residents decision was driven by quality and filtering process, then they would be anyways buying the municipality water.
- C. Residents of Lonelitown are not dedicated to the livelihood of their municipality. - Incorrect. This option is completely irrelevant.
- D. The price is the factor that most influences the residents' choice of drinking water. - Correct. Residents are currently buying cheap bottled water and if municipality will reduce the price enough, the residents will be encouraged to buy municipality water (as mentioned in the conclusion of argument).
- E. Bottled mineral water receives far more public attention through advertising than municipal water does. - Incorrect. This option is completely irrelevant.



62. (C) A similarity in playing music and sales is presented, and the conclusion drives us to a similarity...
- Now , among the given options only (C) fits in to fit the missing link that the strategy will work with the increase in sales of pop singer Frenchie Pear's new CD.
63. (D) The author concludes that the number of people who received the products did not increase.
- This of course he says because even though the number of products sold increased, the population of the area didn't.
- The assumption made here is that the company serviced ALL the possible areas / people in 1950's itself. Option D makes sense, thus.
64. (C) (A) The age of the man wearing the business suit is greater than that of the man wearing casual clothing. WRONG  
(This negates the information in the argument. This statement suggests that attire has no correlation with the looks of the person and formally dressed person appears older because he is indeed old).)
- (B) The older a man is, the more likely it is that he will wear a business suit. WRONG  
(No correlation is made in the argument regarding the choice of attire and the age)
- (C) The age of the man wearing the business suit is equal to the age of the man wearing casual clothing. Correct  
(If this is true, indeed the formal attire makes the person look older! reinforces our conclusion that a person appears older because he is wearing formal attire)
- (D) The average observer's estimates of age are generally more accurate regarding casually dressed people than formally dressed people. WRONG - Average ages are not discussed in the argument
- (E) The average observer's estimates of age are generally more accurate regarding formally dressed people than casually dressed people. WRONG - Average ages are not discussed in the argument
65. (A) The assumption is the unstated idea, which would fill the gap between altering the dynamics of the brain and the need for more tests before distribution. If the changes in the dynamics of the brain have overall a negative impact on the human body, then it is definitely not good for use.
- (A) This is the correct answer. It reflects what was said above. Moreover, it passes the negation test. If the shift does not have any side effects, then there is no need for additional testing.
- (B) Testing can result in the finding of additional uses for the drug which will then increase its market value.  
Other uses - irrelevant.
- (C) To handle the extreme challenges presented to them, police, rescue, and medical services need the use of any practical tool available to them.  
This has no effect on the conclusion.
- (D) The brain adapts to increased visual ability in a similar way to an increased ability of another of the body's senses.

Even if it does, this answer choice does not address directly the conclusion that more tests are needed.

- (F) Enhancing the eyesight of the professionals mentioned will not actually result in an increase of their performance.

Increasing performance of the drug users is not discussed in the argument. Out.

66. (C) **Logical structure:**

- a - company creates inferior products
- b - consumers buy the same product repeatedly
- c - the economy's strength isn't helped

**argument:**

a ==> b

**conclusion:**

a ==> c

What's missing here is the assumption that b ==> c (meaning that buying inferior products doesn't help the economy), as this means a ==> b ==> c

67. (B) The assumptions identified:

1. Men will buy clothes with such fabrics;
  2. It is actually the fabrics that brought success.
- A - Irrelevant.
  - B - States exactly the 1st assumption identified.
  - C - Irrelevant
  - D - So what?
  - E - Doesn't help.

68. (E) Here we need to find an assumption which states "charging an extra fee to users of the lakes helps to reduce water quality deterioration or atleast stops further deterioration.

- (A) Changing global temperatures has been shown to be mostly responsible for the lakes' deterioration. (out of scope)
- (B) It is clear that charging higher fees will not be enough to stop the destruction of the lakes. (opposite)
- (C) The level of the lakes in Country Casa has fallen by 20 centimeters per year over the last decade. (out of scope)
- (D) Camping at the lakes has never been prohibited. (not relevant)
- (E) Higher fees would actually deter a significant amount of people from visiting the lakes. (This is correct. If higher fees would deter most number of people from visiting, water deterioration can be reduced as the water is getting polluted due to too many visitors)

69. (C) (A) It is difficult to quantify the risk involved in any single decision to grant credit. This one incorrect because of strong wording (whole passage talks in can/could format)

- (B) Without the service provided by credit bureaus, businesses would have no factual basis for making credit decisions. Same reason as given for A
- (C) The financial data that credit bureaus supply to businesses is generally accurate. Here wording sounds alright (use of generally- not so strong), also if we validate the assumption by negation then whole conclusion stands

contradicted ...so hold it for the moment if you have doubt about it being a contender

- (D) It is difficult to reduce the complexities of an individual's financial history to a computerized record. Out of scope- no talk on this in the passage
- (E) Consumers, in general, tend to seek more credit than they can safely assume. Again not backed up in the passage given

70. (E) Thus, the particularly sharp reductions imposed on such programs this year seem dictated not by financial constraints but by social philosophy.  
This particularly reduction indicates we CAN do it. And IF we can do it means the impact on the overall budget is NOT critical.  
Moreover, the blue part, tells us that the reduction is ALSO not related to financial motivations. Turns out, the reduction is not critical to the budget.  
Turns out, its impact is negligible.  
E is the best option. This is a GREAT question. It seems conceived just for those who go for business programs.

71. (C) Simplify the argument:  
Different colors- perceived as higher or lower quality of cars, even though the cars are of same quality. The argument does not specify which color is associated with better quality or poor quality. The argument then takes a leap and concludes that in future advertisements, cars with only highest quality colors will be advertised. The argument therefore assumes that there is a colour associated with higher quality.  
Let's scan the options now.  
A. Out of scope. What alternative buyer prefers is not relevant.  
B. New or old cars is not the issue.  
C. Correct. This is in line with our pre-thinking. Negate this choice and argument is destroyed.  
There is not a single color generally associated with the highest quality rating in the study.  
If this is true then there is no way to identify cars with highest quality color.  
D. A general statement. Does not help.  
E. Color vs price is not discussed. Out of scope.  
C is the correct answer.

72. (D) **Premises:** Bob used illegal drug. Bob is a poor role model for young people.  
**Assumption:** since Bob is qualified candidate for HF, there must be a well explanation for why Bob cannot be admitted.  
(A) Superb athletes usually do not use illegal drugs. - might be true. but this general statement cannot explain why Bob cannot be admitted. There must be at least 1 or more cases that superb athletes use illegal drugs. still, there is not tie between using illegal drug and getting admitted. Hence wrong.  
(B) Bob is interested in being admitted to the Hall of Fame. - Out of scope. His interest cannot explain the reason why he should or should not be admitted.  
(C) Bob's use of illegal drugs has had a negative effect on his athletic performance. - Out of scope.

(D) Being an adequate role model for young people should be one of the criteria for admission to the Hall of Fame.

Right. This answer tells us that even though Bob is a qualified candidate, he can be rejected due to one of the criteria for admission to HF.

(E) All athletes who are good role models for young people are qualified for admission to the Hall of Fame. - from Jones's argument we know that Bob is a qualified athlete, and E cannot give us a reason for Bob's admission result. Hence, E is wrong.

73. (E) The conclusion states that the guests' discomfort will be completely diminished in time. However that is possible only if the guests are returning costumers.

So if we negate E, the argument falls apart since if we have new customers coming in, we cant say that the guests will still feel comfortable with the singer, Hence E is the answer.

74. (C) Because they were anxious to balance Wyoming's population of 8000 men and 2000 women, the state's lawmakers extended voting rights to women in Wyoming in 1869.

(A) Women would vote in ways that would make Wyoming a better place to live.

(B) Women were superior to men in the ability to make political decisions.

(C) Women would want to live in a place where they could vote.

(D) Women who were willing to endure frontier conditions deserved the right to vote.

(E) Women who voted would be better citizens than those who did not.

So, in order to Balance the Women myst want to cast their vote, hence (C) fits in perfectly....

75. (C) **Premise:** A new center celebrating all religions is to be built in Dawn City. Since statues depicting human beings are considered blasphemous in certain religions, the architect of the new center avoided including statues of men or women in her plans for the center

**Conclusion:** so that no-one is offended.

**Prephrase:** Building no statue will not offend the people of religion having human gods.

(A) All statues may be found objectionable by some people. out of scope

(B) Not only statues of men but also statues of women may be found to be objectionable by some people. out of scope

(C) Statues of human beings are not essential to the worship of any religion.

Matches with the prephrase . If statues of human beings are essential and not present , it will offend that religion's person.

(D) The inappropriateness of statues is discussed at length in many scriptures. Irrelevant

(E) Some religions incorporate statues of animals in their ritual. Out of scope

76. (D) The argument says, the slow advancement of technology used in golf balls is the reflection of demand the manufacturers aim to meet. This clearly shows that the demand is actually low because the pace of advancement in technology is slow. Hence, the answer is D.
77. (C) **Conclusion:** The successful drama of the Restoration period, therefore, is a good index to the typical tastes and attitudes of its time.  
The author seems to assume that the audience of the restoration period is representative of all the audience at that time.
- (A) plays written for Restoration audiences do not appeal to modern audiences- out of scope- the argument doesn't talk about the audience in different time periods- just the restoration period
  - (B) plays are superior to novels as a form of narrative art- there is absolutely no mention of which type of narrative art is better
  - (C) Restoration audiences were representative of the whole population of their time- if we negate this: restoration audiences were NOT representative of the whole population of their time- if such audience were not representative of their time then : the Restoration period, therefore, is NOT a good index to the typical tastes and attitudes of its time.- breaks the conclusion
  - (D) playgoers and novel readers are typically distinct and exclusive groups- okay but this has no impact on the conclusion
  - (E) Restoration drama achieved popular success at the expense of critical success- out of scope: type of success doesn't really matter - just that the narrative art is successful if it meets a certain condition
78. (A) **Conclusion:** Therefore, the use of "neat" as a general term of approval is incorrect and should be discouraged.
- (A) The original meaning of an English word is the only correct meaning to use. Negation breaks the conclusion.
  - (B) The term "neat" has been in the English language for many centuries. Even if it hasn't been, conclusion still holds true on negation.
  - (C) The use of "neat" as a general term of approval is a recent innovation in English. Recent or not, conclusion isn't affected with this.
  - (D) Speakers of colloquial English are not obligated to speak correctly. It is about the overall use- scope
  - (E) The term "neat" has changed its meaning only once in the history of English. Not about change in meaning- scope
79. (C) The crux of the argument is that the galaxies are moving at a faster speed than they would under only gravitational pull visible stars. So there must be some other reason. That reason is the gravitation pull of the dark matter.  
We have to find the assumption.
- A. it actually weakens the argument. If measurements are unreliable then the falls.
  - B. it also weakens the argument. If workings are not well known then the hypothesis is also not correct.
  - C. If the effect of visible star is known with certainty then we can safely validate the hypothesis about dark matter.

- D. This choice does not help us. It gives us redundant information about composition.
- E. This also superfluous information with no tie to the conclusion.

80. (A) Party with limited aims vs Party with unlimited aims.

Party with limited aims = Loose

Because, scope of aims determines the energy and perseverance.

Which of the following is an assumption implicit in the passage above?

(A) The intensity with which parties conduct negotiations affects the outcome of those negotiations.

Right. Scope determines the energy because of which party with limited sim will lose.

(B) Negotiations almost always pit against one another parties whose aims differ in scope.

Wrong. Negotiation are always pit against one another parties whose views differ.

(B) The outcome of negotiations cannot be correctly predicted in advance.

Wrong. True. But how is this helping the conclusion?

(C) A negotiator who has exceptionally high aims needs exceptional perseverance in order to avoid losing.

Wrong. Unlimited aims brings high perseverance not high aims.

(D) Negotiating parties are typically not aware of the scope of each other's aims until the outcome is no longer in doubt.

Wrong. If they are not aware of each other's aim then how will they counter-act to each other's points?

81. (C) **Conclusion:** Thanks to rapid advancements in digital technology, businesses now communicate more efficiently than they ever have before.

Premise supporting conclusion: Wireless phone, Internet, and email technology presently allow quicker correspondence between team members, managers, and vendors than was possible even just a few years ago.

(C) The new technology has not contributed to a surplus of unnecessary yet time-consuming correspondence.

If this assumption is NOT TRUE then conclusion FALLS APART.

82. (E) (A) No candidate for elected office can mount a successful campaign without allocating a large portion of campaign funds to television advertising.

This is a very strong claim. Moreover, it is not supported by the argument. We have polls that show SEVERAL races when the above case was true. It means that in some cases, the above is not true. Thus, NO CANDIDATE is not correct.

(B) The losing candidates described would have won their respective campaigns had they not spent as heavily in the early stages of those campaigns. can be true, or not. we know that the losing candidate in some cases, lost because no ads in the late stages of campaign. But, what if they did not win in the first stages of elections without \$\$?

(C) The winning candidates described accrued more funds throughout their campaigns than did the losing candidates.  
again, might, or might not be true.

we only know that in some cases, the candidates spent less in the late stages, and this had a negative result.

- (D) Candidates who spend a large amount of their campaign funds on television advertising are more successful than those who spend the same amount on print advertising.

tv ads vs. print ads - irrelevant.

- (E) The losing candidates described would not have eliminated their chances of winning by spending less in the early stages of their campaigns.

aha! negate this one:

the losing candidate would have eliminated the chances of winning if reduced the spending in early stages. this completely destroys the argument.

83. (B) To retain teachers, school has started tuition credit program

Tuition credit programs --> helps teachers to earn masters degree at substantial savings

If the teacher leaves the district early then payment has to be done fully

- A. A legally binding agreement will morally oblige most teachers to fulfill their side of the bargain. - Incorrect. Out of context.
- B. The deterrent of having to reimburse the district fully will encourage teachers to remain in the employ of the district for at least five years. - Correct. The main objective of the program is to ensure that teachers stay in the public school system. The deterrent of paying the full money will ensure that the objective is realized.
- C. The financial burden taken on by most teachers who finance postgraduate education themselves is less onerous than the negative effect of a five-year teaching commitment. - Incorrect. Opposite.
- D. Most teachers who take part in the program will have to be persuaded to remain in the employ of the district through financial and other means. - Incorrect. Out of scope
- E. The program will discourage teachers from pursuing advanced degrees. - Incorrect. Out of scope.

84. (E) Writing more slowly is the best way to produce high-quality manuscripts because best-selling authors use this method.

- (A) Writing quickly and then rewriting many drafts of a manuscript is not useful in creating certain types of manuscripts. out of scope

- (B) Best-selling authors are able to write either quickly or slowly, and create many or few drafts of a manuscript.

The choice of authors between the two methods isn't relevant.

- (C) At least some writing teachers lead their students to write slow first drafts with little editing. out of scope

- (D) Best-selling authors write slowly and create few drafts in creating the majority of their manuscripts.

This is a restatement of the information.

- (E) Best-selling authors create higher quality manuscripts than do authors of books that are not best-sellers.

Since best-selling authors are used as the proof that slow writing produces high-quality manuscripts one has to assume that best-selling authors produce high-quality manuscripts.

85. (E) (A) Oil-based paints release harmful fumes that are not released by water-based paints. -- This will make the argument Stronger because we want to show oil based paint are better -- OUT
- (B) Companies producing oil-based paints outnumber those that produce water paint by 2 to 1. -- This is irrelevant , number of companies cant prove which paint is better
- (C) Painting and decorating without professional assistance has become very popular. -- OUT OF SCOPE, Argument is not at all concerned with professional assistance
- (D) Walls should always be smooth and clean before fresh paint is applied. -- Good precautionary measure , but its not helping us to show that oil based paints are good -- OUT
- (E) The components used in water-based paints cannot withstand high levels of moisture or direct sunlight. -- CORRECT, its clearly pointig out water based paints are not good and hence weakening the conclusion
86. (E) (A) Maintaining a bank savings account requires the payment of handling fees which can be costly, depending on the bank. - Incorrect as it does not say anything about investment. It rather supports Economist A's claim that keeping money in bank is not advantageous.
- (B) Investment portfolios are designed to maximize profits while reducing the risk to a minimum by dividing the investments to cover a variety of markets. - Incorrect as this supports Economist A's advice. It is opposite to our desired option.
- (C) A recent economic crisis led to the closing of several banks and to the subsequent loss of a great deal of the customers' savings. - Incorrect - While this maybe true for future savings also, it only supports the Econmist A's advice. Also, we cannot predict future results based on one historical data.
- (D) Owners of savings accounts in banks are only allowed to withdraw their money on certain dates decided upon when the account was created. - Incorrect - This is irrelevant because advice is og gains on funds and not on accesibility of funds.
- (E) A financial statistics report shows that 97% of all investment portfolios created in the last 3 years hold losses on their initial investments. - Correct - This shows that initial investment has been ended up in losses for most of the portfolio (~97%) in past 3 years. So, if someone makes an investement portfolio today, there will be higher chance that it will be a loss.
87. (B) A. Same deal with another company have no effect on this stimulus
- B. Correct
- C. Receive orders is an advantage.Strengthens the Conclusion (profit)
- D. Increase in Demand is also Strengthens the Conclusion(profit)
- E. Other materials is not an issue here.Outside the Scope
88. (B) A. The nation's power grid would need a massive restructuring if it is to generate the energy needed to power vehicles that run on electricity. -- Irrelevant. Doesn't mean that power plants won't restructure the power grid if there are significant benefits.
- B. Electric vehicles are significantly more energy-efficient than their gasoline powered counterparts. -- CORRECT, this says that even though initial costs



of both fossil fuel cars and electric-powered cars are same, the latter will cause less emissions, hence overall impact on environment is less.

- C. Coal is a far less environmentally-friendly way to generate energy than is natural gas. -- We don't need the comparison among various types of fossil fuels. IRRELEVANT
- D. Studies indicate that most drivers would be reluctant to switch from gasoline -powered to electric vehicles. -- Strengthens the conclusion
- E. Hybrid vehicles offer a more practical short-term alternative than do vehicles that run solely on electricity. -- Out-of-scope, Doesn't take fossil-fuelled cars into account.

89. (D) The answer is D. It weakens the argument by bringing forth a fact that all/majority of people who came were those who preferred SparkleSoda. Therefore, the set of people in the survey were those who already liked the SparkleSoda.

90. (E) E is the correct answer. AS per the arguments, it seems occurrence of acid rain and decaying matter cause acidity separately. If we can how somehow that both are correlated we can weaken the conclusion. hence option E is correct. It tells Acid rain causes or enhances decaying of matter which causes acidity in the lakes.

91. (D) Premises:-New cycle allows faster speeds with less fatigue as compared to those of Old cycle  
Conclusion:-Speedy delivery should replace old with new so that it can deliver more packages a day  
Answer - D - If the area has a speed limit lower than the peak speed of old ones then the higher speeds provided by new cycle will not help the Speedy delivery in delivering more packages a day.

92. (B) A. A device has been invented that is capable of speedily scanning a printed page and immediately reading it aloud using voice-synthesizing software.  
- Good, this new software can convert text to audio. But more audio is strengthening Almosk's explanation. WRONG.

B. The increased number of audio stimuli and high volume levels to which humans of all ages are being subjected has resulted in hearing problems in one third of the population.  
- Hearing problems means people cannot adopt audio solution. As it has already resulted hearing problems, these illiterate people haven't used this audio solution. So the reason for the illiteracy must be something else. Now, this weakens Almosk's explanation. CORRECT.

C. The educational system has undergone drastic reforms in the last 25 years, including changes in teacher training programs which were proven to be successful.  
- Seemed like a strong contender as it talks about last 25 years and discussion between Franjel and Almosk is about adults. It says education system has improved, but it isn't explaining the reason behind illiteracy of 10% people. It is not weakening Almosk's explanation. WRONG

D. Statistics about illiteracy percentages are formed, along with other demographic statistics, by conducting extensive survey operations.

- It doesn't say anything about the reason behind the illiteracy. WRONG.
- E. Many jobs do not require literacy although it is important that an employer is aware of an employee's inability to read or write.
- Same as above. WRONG.

93. (C) ToppKleen, a new cleaning material, will soon be released onto the market. The product has a special molecular composition that allows it to clean without the use of water, and with perfect results. ToppKleen will achieve more than satisfactory sales figures because it will be used by consumers to clean every household object.

**Assumption:** every household object will react same and positive to the chemical material

- (A) To increase sales, some cleaning product companies use celebrities to market their products.(He said some but nothing specific about Toppkleen)
- (B) Advancements made in the field of molecular science are partly due to the invention of powerful microscopes.  
(What are reason for advancements is no concern here)
- (C) The specialization of plastics has resulted in household products being produced from a variety of substances, each reacting differently to a certain cleaning material.(This attacks out assumption and weakens the conclusion)
- (D) Cleaning materials always contain potent chemicals, and should be kept out of the reach of children.  
(This is not related to sales as many such materials can be toxic to kids)
- (E) ToppKleen is engineered to attack the dirt alone, making the material of the object being cleaned irrelevant to the cleaning process. (Explains how it works. OFS)

94. (D) **Premise:** In mammals it is the secondary palate that permits breathing while eating.

**Conclusion:** Clearly, breathing while eating is necessary to maintain the high rate of metabolism of mammals.

Pre-think: Cause-effect to weaken, hurt the co-relation of high metabolism to breathing

- (A) high rate of metabolism and the ability to breathe while eating
- (B) low rate of metabolism and the ability to breathe while eating
- (C) low rate of metabolism and no ability to breathe while eating
- (D) high rate of metabolism and no secondary palate. **Correct** as This is hurting the most. No secondary palate, still high metabolism; Removing the "cause" still effect exists
- (E) low rate of metabolism and a secondary palate

95. (E) A. What happens in other cities has no relevance to this city. Many parameters could be influencing the result.  
B. This strengthens the argument.  
C. Irrelevant.  
D. Irrelevant to the argument.  
E. This provides an alternative reason for why crimes could have decreased. Good.

96. (D) Youths going to nightclubs listened to rock music and ignored jazz.  
From this the argument jumps to conclusion that rock has ousted jazz.  
**Flaw:** Just because youths do not prefer jazz does not mean that jazz is no longer heard.  
A. General statement. Does not help.  
B. This actually further strengthens the conclusion that people got bored with jazz. Incorrect.  
C. Strengthens again. Incorrect.  
D. Correct. This option says middle class professionals are still interested in jazz. So jazz is not completely ousted.  
E. What happened between 1930 and 1950 is irrelevant.  
D is correct.
97. (D) **Assumption:** The original paint is still preserved and in same condition  
A. Irrelevant. Even if a scratch is made restoration is still possible.  
B. Even if colors of the walls are different does it matter? We can still scrap and get the original paint.  
C. Out of scope.  
D. Correct. If the original color was altered, there is no way restoration can be done with the same colored paint.  
E. Irrelevant  
D is correct
98. (D) **Conclusion:** Imprisonment, while it often fails to change the behavior of violent street criminals, does succeed in making white-collar criminals unwilling to repeat their crimes.  
(A) out of scope, we are talking about persons imprisoned  
(B) It questions premise 2, so cannot be the answer  
(C) Question does not take about length of imprisonment  
(D) This option provides additional info about white-collar criminals. They seldom get jobs that require access to people's money. Since they don't have access to money they cannot commit the crime. This additional info weakens the conclusion without questioning the existing premises, hence the answer.
99. (A) **Premise** - Drugs get better results when trials are backed by drug companies  
Conc. - Drug companies display positive results only to avoid publicity  
A. Weakens the argument by stating that companies only finance trials for drugs that have a higher change of succeeding. (Correct Answer)  
B. This is Out of Scope; It has no relevance to drug trials.  
C. Good to know, but again, how does this help with the author's conclusion? Irrelevant.  
D. Details about the trial are not up for debate in the argument. Irrelevant.  
E. If anything, this slightly strengthens the author's argument so it's the wrong answer.
100. (B) The conclusion is basically saying that the increase in consumer awareness caused the increase in consumption of dark chocolate.  
The only choice that weakens the argument is B for the simple reason that it's not Consumer awareness that was responsible for the increased consumption, rather it was the advice of the doctors that dark chocolate helps in weight loss by curbing hunger.

101. (B) It's a straight B.  
The moment you read "may actually increase the risk of cancer in recipients after about 45 years of use." You need to think what if the patient/recipient dies before the age of 45 or the average age of patient alive is less than 45.
102. (B) **Conclusion:** It says that there are only two options 1) Drink the artificial flavoring or 2) Get dehydrated.  
What if there are other healthier ways too. This will attack the conclusion that there are only two possible outcomes.  
Option B tells us that by adding piece of citrus fruit or a fun-shaped ice cube, water can be made attractive.  
Correct Option: B
103. (C) Conclusion X --> Y (Math+ program during 3-5 years age is responsible for higher score in 3rd and 4th grade)  
Weakener Z --> y (some other factor is responsible for higher score)  
C correctly states that hence correct answer.
104. (C) A is wrong because it rather supports argument's conclusion.  
Option B is also supportive to the argument conclusion  
Option C is one after I did POE which I was left with.  
Option D is in my point of view out of scope because it talks about crime and not touching the issue of amoral behavior.  
Option E. This one seems to me once again as an out of scope, or I am just unable to notice any kind of connection.
105. (B) (A) There is generally less variation among the wages of garment industry workers than among those of auto industry workers.  
Wrong. The questions stem is asking for a reason and not a conclusion.  
(B) Wage increases in the auto industry have a smaller effect on manufacturers' total costs than do wage increases in the garment industry.  
Correct. This can be one of the reasons.  
(C) The fringe benefits that automakers provide for their employees are more comprehensive than are those provided for garment workers.  
Wrong. The fringe benefits is not the reason for the wage disparity. If this is true, then clothing labor should be getting more wage if they are not getting fringe benefits.  
(D) The auto industry faces more competition from companies outside the United States paying low wages than does the garment industry.  
Wrong. If this is true, then they should lower the wages of auto-makers if they are facing competition.  
(E) The auto industry employs a larger total number of workers than does the garment industry.  
Wrong. This is going against the facts stated in premise.
106. (A) (A) A given volume of air in a freezer requires much more energy to be maintained at a temperature below freezing than does an identical volume of frozen food.  
---> This choice only talks about more energy used when the freezer isn't used to its volume. (Correct answer)

- (B) The more often a freezer's door is opened, the more energy is required to maintain that freezer's normal temperature.  
---> Concern here isn't to maintain the same temperature
- (C) When unfrozen foods are placed in a freezer, the average temperature of a given volume of air inside that freezer rises temporarily.  
---> Out of scope - Talking about unfrozen foods
- (D) A person who normally maintains a half-empty freezer can cut energy costs considerably by using a freezer that is 50 percent smaller.  
---> We aren't talking about energy costs but the amount of energy used.
- (E) An electric freezer can operate efficiently only if chilled air is free to circulate within the freezing compartment.  
--->again it says how to use it efficiently

107. (C) The flaw is that agency try to apply this strategy to completely another audience: children in first campaign and women in another campaign. This is wrong because we cannot apply the same strategies to different groups. That is why C is correct.

108. (D) Conclusion: Ace decided that it won't give earplugs to new employees because they would get used to of the factory noise just as experienced ones have been. So something unpleasant with experienced employees or anything that directly attacks Ace's decision would surely suggest a flaw in Ace's reasoning.

- (A) Because the noise in Ace's factory is absorbed by soundproof walls, it cannot be heard by Ace executives in their offices. - WRONG. Argument is about Ace's employees not executives. It also doesn't touch the core of the issue.
- (B) Many of the new employees interviewed said they would not wear earplugs on the job. - WRONG. Employees own decision is not concerned about.
- (C) Issuing earplugs to all new employees would be a less effective method of reducing employees' exposure to noise than altering the machinery to be less noisy would be. - WRONG. The option might look to be supporting the decision taken by Ace but it doesn't deal with the actual reasoning of the argument.
- (D) The experienced employees' lack of discomfort is attributable to hearing loss caused by the factory noise. - CORRECT. A hearing loss is surely not acceptable when Ace is responsible for its employees' health. The option is attacking the core reasoning of the Ace's decision.
- (E) The machines in Ace's factory have not become any noisier since the experienced workers were originally hired. - WRONG. But machines still are problematic so the option is rather supporting to some extent.

109. (D) (A) Incorrect. Out of scope: whether someone knows they might be tested does not determine whether the customs inspector was perfect in his identification of contraband carriers.

(B) Incorrect. Irrelevant: the percentage of tourists carrying contraband does not bear on the accuracy of the custom inspector in identifying suspects.

(C) Incorrect. Irrelevant: the passage concerns only the account of this particular customs inspector.

- (D) Correct. The customs inspector may have neglected to suspect some contraband carriers, indicating that he could not always tell when people were trying to deceive him.
- (E) Incorrect. Out of scope: (E) concerns tourists who were not searched, i.e. who would not have been in the position to deceive the customs inspector.

110. (B) (B) Overall faster growth and faster growth per month are not the same. Correct. The fact that one object grew faster than another (overall growth) does not mean that this object has a higher pre-month growth rate.
111. (E) Option E suggests -
1. Quality of nursery owner's goods (decorative garden trees and plants) improved - Due to more availability of irrigation water
  2. Residents will not be willing to purchase garden plants.
112. (C) The answer should be C. Here the argument talks only about the 100 participants chosen in 1950s and now. It is very much possible that these 100 are not representative of the actual facts. This point is demonstrated in option C.
113. (D) To solve the question stress on the conclusion: "Therefore, parents who abstain from participation in such a course cannot be considered responsible caretakers." How do you prove this to be flawed? Now read option D. D says if you participate then you have the right intention, is NOT necessarily true. That means, people who don't participate are not necessarily bad caretakers. With B, Takes about comparing competence. This is not a flaw in the argument.
114. (C) The question type is a flaw-question with no negative words. The passage or the argument is like a short reading => to find the right answer, eliminate all options that mentions things not from the passage. => A,B, and E are out. C is better than D.
115. (D) **Reason:** heliotropism, a plant's ability should not be compared to moss' growth condition. To elaborate, we have no idea about the growth condition of sunflowers, which may be similar to that of moss. Alternatively, moss may also show heliotropism under some situations. Thus D is the answer.
116. (E) The right answer here is E. In order to find a flaw in the argument, we must first know what the conclusion is. In this case it is that "women who get men a portable media player for their birthday are guaranteed that the recipient will be pleased with their choice". So it used the individual case of Jane and John to make a general conclusion regarding women getting men media players.
- A - While this does make the argument worse off, it is not the logical flaw or the gap between the conclusion and the premise.
- B - The problem is not that all women like getting the players as well, its 'how did you get to all men like media players' in the first place. OUT
- C - This is irrelevant because we want to know how the premises don't lead to the conclusion, not what the specifics of the conclusion are. OUT

D - This point attacks the specific conclusion that "John was pleased with the choice of gift". It does not address anything about the general case of men. OUT

E - This correctly points out that this single datapoint premise does not indicate that the rule is true as a whole for men. CORRECT

117. (A) The right answer here is A. This question is asking us to identify the flaw that weakens the argument, so we must first identify the conclusion that we are weakening. In this case, it is that "local businesses that wish to increase revenues would be advised to" advertise in the local newspaper.

A - The evidence used to arrive at the conclusion is indeed a single case. The conclusion made from it is indeed a general one, so we have to keep this answer in. CORRECT

B - This is not the flaw, since there is data. The data is limited but it is nonetheless still there. OUT

C - This is not a problem since the pizza parlor is a local business. OUT

D - We don't know if they did this or not, but it is certainly not what makes the argument flawed. OUT

E - The claim of the argument however is about revenues. Hence, profits don't matter here. OUT

118. (A) This is a reasoning question, so pay attention to how the author constructs his argument. He takes a historical trend and uses it to predict the outcome of a specific event. As you read through the answer choices, simply ask yourself, "Did he do that?"

(A) Yes. The author based his conclusion about Tenon on the assumption that what has been true in the past (in an IPO, a company that seemed likely to generate profits saw an increase in their stock price) will be true for Tenon.

(B) No. There is no circular reasoning here.

(C) No. There is no confusion of cause and effect—potential profits cause an increase in stock price.

(D) No. There are no counterexamples given, so this answer choice is out of scope.

(E) No. There is no comparison made in the argument, so this cannot be the credited response.

119. (B) The argument compares the number of fatalities in California with the number of fatalities nationwide, and concludes that it was not safer in California than it was elsewhere in the United States. However, this comparison is logically flawed since the argument ignores the fact that the population of the US is much more than that of California. Hence, B is the right answer.

120. (D) (A) It is much harder to get to Joy by car than it is to get to Jubilee and Jest. - Out of Scope

(B) While the city of Joy is quite a tourist attraction, only 0.5% of the revenue made in the cities of Jubilee and Jest comes from the tourism industry. - Irrelevant

(C) During most of the year short clothes are worn in the city of Joy, while in Jubilee and in Jest warmer clothes are usually needed. - This information is already provided in the passage in the form of difference in temperature.

- (D) While the city of Joy is situated high in the mountains, Jubilee and Jest are located not more than 200 feet above sea level. - Correct - Same Latitude, different Altitude, explains the Difference in temperature.
- (E) Whereas Joy is populated mostly by affluent people, Jubilee and Jest are home to many people of lower socio-economic status. - Out of Scope.

121. (C) C has to be right assuming that the pike preys on the sunfish.  
As for A: the sunfish population was abundant but did not have enough offspring. The old fish start to die; the number of the young fish is small, and even clean water cannot correct the situation.
122. (C) Before these species, most of the other species had "good look and size" as the criteria to determine dominance. But now a new variety of species has come which doesn't approve of or doesn't depend on these criteria. The only reason from the following that satisfies is that they were visually impaired, hence took "odour" as their reference.
123. (C) A. The current senior partner has a better record of success than her immediate predecessor did.- Really doesn't make sense. Not in line.  
B. Many of the junior partners were trained by the senior partner when they first joined the firm. - how does it matter ?  
C. The senior partner works only on potential deals that have the least chance of coming to fruition.- this is exactly the kind of thing we are looking for. The senior leadership works on tough projects. Looks good. Hold.  
D. The number of mergers in which the investment bank has been involved has declined slightly in each of the past three years.- this is so discouraging. Doesn't really talk about the senior.  
E. The senior partner was chosen by the board of directors of the bank's parent company, a large publishing conglomerate. - still that doesn't mean she is adept or people say she is. It doesn't show her ability as an adept professional.  
Hence, C is the only option which holds the truth of both parts of the argument.
124. (E) The question asks for resolve the paradox whereas in D , the statement clearly mentions the reason that some accidents are still possible. It does not explain why accidents are increasing. E does that
125. (E) (A) The tourists last year came mostly from developed countries, whereas previously most tourists came from developing countries.  
(Native of tourists does not matter)  
(B) A rise of 20% was estimated for last year in the amount of tourists expected to frequent Country X.  
(This does not explain profit since even if a tourist frequently visits X he may or may not spend more.)  
(C) Following a long strike, employers in the tourism industry were forced at the beginning of last year to raise salaries by 20%.  
(Salary of employees will result in costs not profits.)  
(D) A change in the foreign ministry of Country X, which was authorised at the beginning of last year, has made it much easier for tourists to enter the country.



(This facilitates to increase the no of tourists which did not happen. This does not explain)

- (E) A general rise in unemployment throughout the country enabled employers in the tourism industry to significantly cut salaries at the beginning of last year.

(The tourism industry took advantage of the rising unemployment in the country and reduced the salaries. since they will not quit even with low salary as they don't have jobs outside. This explains the paradox as we know how the tourism industry made profits. )

126. (D) The passage went through the following:

The author discussed the "Media coverage of complex news events".His evaluation/assessment/claim is that the news coverage is "oversimplified".

Then, he explained the causes of oversimplification and cited a prominent model/example (which is the "soft news" or "talk shows" or "from news to stories shift")

Then he mentioned how "talk shows/narratives", which is example of oversimplification, increased the public support for U.S. intervention.

The last sentence explains the effect of an example of oversimplification on certain event (it discusses a result/ consequence).

So it explains an example of a result not an example of the phenomena itself. That is what D says.

127. (B) Conclusion: Math department's new policy is not discriminatory.

- A. The difference in speed between a top-of-the-line calculator and a bottom-end one is significant.

The issue is between people with no calculators and those with calculators.

- B. Each individual student's performance is evaluated against the performance of his or her fellow students on math department exams.

This tells you that the performance is relative. Hence, it is wrong if some people get an advantage. This is a good argument for people against the policy and hence, is the answer.

- C. The university student services department will make available to all students calculators that can be borrowed as library books are.

This argument is useful for those pro-policy.

- D. Much of the math being tested on most of the exams in question is so complex that it requires a calculator-like mind to do the necessary computations.

The people not using a calculator will not have any disadvantage. Their situation is the same - they had to do those calculations by hand before and they will have to do them the same way now. It doesn't help people who are against calculators.

- E. When calculators were not allowed, more than half of all students failed their math exams.

This is irrelevant. We don't know how much the calculator helps. It certainly help the case of those who are against calculators. If anything, it says that calculators might help and hence should be allowed.

128. (D) Here the point is not to prove that Hard work should be its own reward but to refute the commonly held belief that hard work should be rewarded. Hence, D is the answer.
129. (B) A. claiming that Poppy has exaggerated the adverse effects of high taxes  
Incorrect: Lilly doesn't comment on Poppy's evidences, simply says other points must be considered
- B. indicating that Poppy has based his argument on insufficient evidence about the effects of taxes on the economy  
Correct: Poppy says lower taxes, however, Lilly objects by providing details of what would happen if taxes are lowered.
- C. noting that Poppy has failed to adequately define the term "taxes"  
Incorrect: Lilly doesn't define the term "taxes"
- D. demonstrating that the danger of reducing taxes is far more severe than the threat of maintaining them at current levels  
Incorrect: In Lilly's argument, no comparison of severity of the problem with current tax levels with that of low/high tax levels
- E. suggesting that the economic benefits of easy credit outweigh the danger of unemployment  
Incorrect: Lilly mentions about consequences of low tax on the economy as a whole, no comparison of economic benefits and danger of unemployment
130. (A) The part 'and elderly people have more reasons to need health care than do younger people' implies that elderly people need more frequent healthcare. But the cost per usage is not defined. So it may happen that an elderly person uses healthcare 10 times and pays \$100 but a young person will pay \$200 for using just once. Hence, **option A** is the answer.
131. (E) Allow to Copyright --> the text of novels or nonfiction books  
Not Allow to Copyright --> Titles.  
Conclusion: They can copyright inscriptions.  
Pre-Thinking: Inscriptions are not titles. They are similar to text or non-fiction books.  
Option [E] is the answer. By the guidelines used to determine copyrights, inscriptions are more similar to text than to titles. -->As per the pre-thinking.
132. (A) A: It didn't allow commercial businesses to set up and instead believed that would lead to an increase in wealthy customers being attracted because the area seems more residential. (Hold it)
- B: No. Too strong.
- C: Nothing of that sort is being spoken about.
- D: Out of scope.
- E: It did not weigh "several" options.  
Hence, A is most concise and is the right answer!
133. (A) **Conclusion:** Clearly, such a guarantee warrants charges of false advertising.  
(A) Is the percentage of professionals that did not take part in the course in the new private college lower than 93%?  
If the % of professionals that did not take the course less than 93%

Yes - 90% professionals did not take this course. This means 10% did and obviously all of them cannot make up the 7%. The advertising is false.

No - 95% professionals did not take this course. Only 5% did. Well, 5 can be a part of the 7 so it is possible that the advertising is true. We need to further evaluate at this point.

Yes, and No give different answers so this is useful to evaluate.

Correct

134. (E) **Conclusion:** It will be very expensive, if not impossible, to use the chemical in commercial applications.

**Assumption:** This argument explicitly assume that the chemical compound cannot be produced by any other source which may be cheaper than producing this chemical from ants.

Paying attention to the conclusion is very important. It talks about the cost factor not the benefit factor. So, A and B can be eliminated.

C is out of scope.

D is incorrect because we are not interested as to how those wounds can be treated.

E is the answer.