

录播文章

Passage1: There are many structural and thematic similarities between *Piers Plowman* by Langland (1330-1400) and *House of Fame* by Chaucer (1342-1400), two Middle English poems relating dream visions. Some critics have argued that because a number of the shared elements are uncommon in Middle English poetry, and because Langland's poem probably predates Chaucer's by a few years, Chaucer was most likely influenced by *Piers Plowman* when writing *House of Fame*.

1. Which of the following, if true, most **weakens** the argument given?
 - A. *Piers Plowman* is one of Langland's major works, whereas *House of Fame* is a minor work of Chaucer's.
 - B. *House of Fame* survives in only three manuscript copies, substantially fewer than the number of manuscript copies that exist of *Piers Plowman*.
 - C. Because *Piers Plowman* became a well-known work in its day, it is likely that the similarities between it and *House of Fame* were detected by many of the people who read *House of Fame* soon after Chaucer wrote it.
 - D. Many of the themes and structures of *Piers Plowman* are also found in Latin, Italian, French works with which Chaucer could well have been familiar.
 - E. There is no evidence that Chaucer and Langland ever met or that they corresponded with each other about literary topics.

Passage2: Normally, seeds of *Emmenathe penduliflora* stay dormant for years and germinate only when a fire burns through their habitat. Nitrogen dioxide in the smoke induces the seeds to germinate. Fires clear the brush, allowing germinating seeds to receive the sunlight they need to grow. The plants mature quickly, produce seeds, and then die. In areas with heavy automobile traffic, however, the seed germinates in the absence of fire, with automobile exhaust supplying the required nitrogen dioxide.

1. The information given, if accurate, most strongly supports which of the following **hypotheses**?
 - A. Fires in the habitat of *E. Penduliflora* do not entirely destroy the plant's seeds even in the places where the fires burn most intensely.
 - B. The nitrogen dioxide in automobile exhaust cannot harm plants of *E. Penduliflora* after germination.
 - C. If human intervention decreases the number of fires in the habitat of *E. Penduliflora*, automobile exhaust can replicate the conditions the plant

requires in order to thrive.

D. Within the habitat of *E. Penduliflora*, natural fires are significantly more frequent in areas with heavy automobile traffic than they are in other areas.

E. Unless *E. Penduliflora* seeds that have germinated can survive in the shade, automobile exhaust threatens the long-term survival of the plant in areas with heavy automobile traffic.

Passage3: Columnist: Until very recently, Presorbin and Veltrex, two medications used to block excess stomach acid, were both available only with a prescription written by a doctor. In an advertisement for Presorbin, its makers argue that **Presorbin is superior** on the grounds that doctors have written 200 million prescriptions for Presorbin, as compared to 100 million for Veltrex. It can be argued that the number of prescriptions written is never a worthwhile criterion for comparing the merits of medicines, but that **the advertisement's argument is absurd** is quite adequately revealed by observing that Presorbin was available as a prescription medicine years before Veltrex was.

1. In the argument given, the two highlighted portions play which of the following roles?

A. The first is a claim that the columnist's argument seeks to clarify; the second states a conclusion drawn about one possible interpretation of that claim.

B. The first identifies the conclusion of an argument that the columnist's argument is directed against; the second states the main conclusion of the columnist's argument.

C. The first states the main conclusion of the columnist's argument; the second states a conclusion that the columnist draws in defending that conclusion against an objection.

D. The first identifies an assumption made in an argument that the columnist's argument is directed against; the second states the main conclusion of the columnist's argument.

E. The first is a claim that has been offered as evidence to support a position that the columnist opposes; the second states the main conclusion of the columnist's argument.

Passage4: Members of the San, a hunter-gatherer society, have a diet far richer in fruits and vegetables and lower in salt than is typical in industrialized societies. They also differ from industrialized societies in that they have extremely low rates of high blood pressure and obesity. However, contrary to

what some have claimed, if people in industrialized societies adopted the San's diet, the incidence of high blood pressure and obesity in these societies might not be dramatically reduced, because _____.

1. Which of the following, if true, most logically complete the argument?

- A. psychological stress, which can also cause high blood pressure, occurs in both industrialized and non-industrialized societies
- B. the San's low-salt diet is due, not to preference, but to the limited availability of salt in their region
- C. a few members of the San have been found to suffer from circulatory system ailments other than high blood pressure
- D. members of the San are far more physically active than are most members of industrialized societies
- E. not all individuals with high blood pressure are obese

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