

Revised GRE Argument 部分

一、Argument 写作思路

例：Since our mechanics are responsible for inspecting and maintaining our aircraft, Get-Away Airlines should pay to send them to the Quality-Care Seminar, a two-week seminar on proper maintenance procedures. I recommend this seminar because it is likely to be a wise investment, given that the automobile racing industry recently reported that the performance of its maintenance crews improved markedly after their crews had attended the seminar. These maintenance crews perform many of the same functions as do our mechanics, including refueling and repairing engines. The money we spend on sending our staff to the seminar will inevitably lead to improved maintenance and thus to greater customer satisfaction along with greater profits for our airline.

二、Argument 逻辑错误

1. 调查类错误 (survey & study)

- A. 样本质量
- B. 样本数量
- C. 其他问题
- D. 数据问题

As for the survey that the article cites, ____ do not necessarily reflect _____. For example, _____. Moreover, the speaker fails to indicate the percentage of _____. In short, without better evidence that the survey is statistically reliable, the author cannot rely on it to draw any firm conclusions.

2. 论据含糊 (Vague Evidence)

3. 因果类错误 Cause and Effect Fallacies)

- A. 时序性
- B. 同时性

C. 无因果

- a. Based on the fact that A occurred after B the editor infers that B should be responsible for A. However, the sequence of these events, in itself, does not suffice to prove that the earlier development caused the later one. It might have resulted from some other events instead: C, D, or E to just a few possibilities, without ruling out scenarios such as these, the editor cannot establish a cause-and-effect relationship between A and B upon which the editor's recommendation depends.
- b. The arguer fails to establish the causal relationship between A and B. It's highly possible that other factors contribute to B. For instance, B might have resulted from C. It is also likely that D caused B. Lacking evidence that links A to B, it is presumptuous to suggest that A was responsible for B.

4. 时间外推错误 (All things remain unchanged over time)

The author claims that ..., because... This assumption is unwarranted because things rarely remain the same over extended period of time. There are likely all kinds of difference between ... and... For example, ...; however, ... Any of these scenarios, if true, would serve to undermine the claim that...

5. 比较错误 (Analogy and comparison)

The arguer's recommendation relies on what might be a poor analogy between A and B. The analogy falsely depends on the assumption that ... in both A and B is similar. However, it is entirely possible that ... In short, without accounting for such possible differences between A and B, the arguer cannot prove that B will reap the similar benefits from the proposed methods.

6. 整体个体 (What is true for a member is also true for the group)

One problem with the argument is that it assumes that the nationwide statistics about ... apply equally to ... Yet this might not be the case, for a variety of possible reasons. Perhaps ...; or

perhaps ... Without ruling out such possibilities, the author cannot justifiably conclude that ...

7. 平均值 (Average)

8. 偷换概念 (Different concepts)

A threshold problem involves the definition of A. The arguer fails to define this critical term. If A is defined as B, then C, is irrelevant to whether ... In short, without a clear definition of A, it is impossible to assess the strength of the argument.

9. 利润问题 (profit)

The author's conclusion that... is unwarranted. Profit is a factor relating to not only revenue, but also cost. It's entirely possible that the cost of A or other costs associated with B, C will offset, even outweigh the revenue. Besides, a myriad of other unexpected occurrences, such as unfavorable economic depression, might prevent... from being as profitable as the argument predicts.

10. 考虑问题不全面 (Falling to weigh the advantage and disadvantage thoroughly)

The author fails to weigh the advantage and disadvantage about ... thoroughly.

11. 非此即彼 (False Dilemma)

- a. Even assuming A is not the reason for C, the author falsely assumes that C must be attributable to B. This "either...or" argument is fallacious in that it ignores other possible cause of C, perhaps D, or perhaps E.
- b. The editorial seems to make two irreconcilable claims. One is...; the other is ... However, this assumption presents a false dilemma, since A B are not necessarily mutually exclusive alternatives.

12. 条件问题 (Sufficient Evidence and Necessary Condition)

The editor's recommendation depends on the assumption that no factors other than A caused B. However, common sense informs me that this assumption is a poor one. A myriad of other factors, including C or D, might be the cause of B. To be specific,..., without ruling out these and other possible causes, the editor can not justifiably conclude that only by A can B.

13. 可行性 (feasibility)

14. 绝对化词汇 (All/Any/Anything)

三、Argument 整体结构

开头段写法

- (1) 功能
- (2) 要素
- (3) 结构

1、C + E + Ev

In this argument, the author concludes that... To support this conclusion, the author points out that... In addition, he indicates that... Further more, the arguer sets sb or sth as a typical example to support... However, these all do not constitute a logical argument, in favor of it's conclusion, and fail to provide convincing support making this argument sound and invulnerable.

2、C + Ev

In the argument above, the arguer concludes that..., however, lacking more accurate information we can not make sure if the proposal could bring about desired effect as predicted. / ...from the logical perspective, this argument suffers from 3 logical flaws.

正文段写法

- (1) 功能
- (2) 整体结构
- (3) 段落结构
- (4) 写作要求

结尾段写法

- (1) 功能
- (2) 要素

To sum up, the arguer fails to substantiate his claim that ... because the evidence cited does not lend strong support to what the arguer maintains. To make the argument more convincing, the author would have to provide more information with regard to...

附录一、Argument 范文

Sample

In surveys Mason City residents rank water sports (swimming, boating and fishing) among their favorite recreational activities. The Mason River flowing through the city is rarely used for these pursuits, however, and the city park department devotes little of its budget to maintaining riverside recreational facilities. For years there have been complaints from residents about the quality of the river's water and the river's smell. In response, the state has recently announced plans to clean up Mason River. Use of the river for water sports is therefore sure to increase. The city government should for that reason devote more money in this year's budget to riverside recreational facilities.

Write a response in which you examine the stated and/or unstated assumptions of the argument. Be sure to explain how the argument depends on the assumptions and what the implications are if the assumptions prove unwarranted.

Essay Response—Score 6

While it may be true that the Mason City government ought to devote more money to riverside recreational facilities, this author's argument does not make a cogent case for increased resources based on river use. It is easy to understand why city residents would want a cleaner river, but this argument is rife with holes and assumptions, and thus, not strong enough to lead to increased

funding.

Citing surveys of city residents, the author reports city resident's love of water sports. It is not clear, however, the scope and validity of that survey. For example, the survey could have asked residents if they prefer using the river for water sports or would like to see a hydroelectric dam built, which may have swayed residents toward river sports. The sample may not have been representative of city residents, asking only those residents who live upon the river. The survey may have been 10 pages long, with 2 questions dedicated to river sports. We just do not know. Unless the survey is fully representative, valid, and reliable, it can not be used to effectively back the author's argument.

Additionally, the author implies that residents do not use the river for swimming, boating, and fishing, despite their professed interest, because the water is polluted and smelly. While a polluted, smelly river would likely cut down on river sports, a concrete connection between the resident's lack of river use and the river's current state is not effectively made. Though there have been complaints, we do not know if there have been numerous complaints from a wide range of people, or perhaps from one or two individuals who made numerous complaints. To strengthen his/her argument, the author would benefit from implementing a named survey asking a wide range of residents why they do not currently use the river.

Building upon the implication that residents do not use the river due to the quality of the river's water and the smell, the author suggests that a river clean up will result in increased river usage. If the river's water quality and smell result from problems which can be cleaned, this may be true. For example, if the decreased water quality and aroma is caused by pollution by factories along the river, this conceivably could be remedied. But if the quality and aroma results from the natural mineral deposits in the water or surrounding rock, this may not be true. There are some bodies of water which emit a strong smell of sculpture due to the geography of the area. This is not something likely to be affected by a clean-up. Consequently, a river clean up may have no impact upon river usage. Regardless of whether the river's quality is able to be improved or not, the author does not effectively show a connection between water quality and river usage.

A clean, beautiful, safe river often adds to a city's property values, leads to increased tourism and revenue from those who come to take advantage of the river, and a better overall quality of life for residents. For these reasons, city government may decide to invest in improving riverside recreational facilities. However, this author's argument is not likely significantly persuade the city government to allocate increased funding.

附录二、Argument 分析论证句式

1. The mere fact that ticket sales in recent years for screenplay-based movies have exceeded those for book-based movies is insufficient evidence to conclude that writing screenplays now provides greater financial opportunity for writers.
2. It is possible that fees paid by movie studios for screenplays will decrease in the future relative to those for book rights.
3. The argument fails to rule out the possibility that a writer engage in both types of writing as well as other types.
4. In any event, the advertisement provides no justification for the mutually exclusive choice that it imposes on the writer.
5. The argument simply equates success with movie ticket sales, which is unwarranted.
6. The author assumes that physical capabilities are the only attributes necessary to operate a motor vehicle.
7. Moreover, the author provides no evidence that the realism of color photography is the reason for its predominance.
8. This assumption presents a false dilemma, since the two media are not necessarily mutually exclusive alternatives.
9. Common sense tells us that a photographer can succeed by working in both media.
10. The argument ignores the factors – such as initiative, creativity, technical skills, and business judgment – that may be more important than the choice of medium in determining success in photography.
11. The major problem with the argument is that the stated similarities between Company A and B are insufficient to support the conclusion that Company A will suffer a fate similar to Company B's.
12. Consequently, the mere fact that Company A holds a large share of the video – game hardware and software market does not support the claim that Company A will also fail.
13. Thus, the author unfairly assumes that highly-rated public television programs are necessarily widely viewed, or popular.
14. While this may be true in some cases, it is equally possible that only companies with products that are already best-sellers can afford the higher ad rates that popular shows demand.

15. Admittedly, the vice president's reasoning linking employee benefits with company profits seems reasonable on the surface.
16. One can infer from the survey's results that a full one-third of the respondents may have viewed the current benefits package unfavorably.
17. Lacking more specific information about how these other employees responded, it is impossible to assess the reliability of the survey's results or to make an informed recommendation.
18. It is unlikely that the brief one-week periods under comparison are representative of longer time periods.
19. If so, even though 3 percent more accidents occurred after the change, the author's argument that changing the speed limit increases danger for drivers would be seriously weakened.
20. The editorial fails to take into account possible differences between East and West Cambria that are relevant to how drivers react to speed-limit changes.
21. In addition, while it is true that many voters change their minds several times before voting, and that some remain undecided until entering the voting booth, this is not true of everyone.
22. Without knowing the extent and nature of the damage resulting from the bad publicity or the reason for the violation, we can not accept the author's conclusion.
23. The author's proposal is inconsistent with the author's conclusion about the consequences of adopting an ethics code.
24. To begin with, the author fails to consider health threats posed by incinerating trash.
25. The author's conclusion that switching to incineration would be more salutary for public health would be seriously undermined.
26. However, this is not necessarily the case.
27. The author's implicit claim that incinerators are economically advantageous to landfills is poorly supported.
28. Consequently, unless the author can demonstrate that the city will incur expenses that are not covered by the increased revenues from these projects, the author's concern about these issues is unfounded.
29. First of all, while asserting that real incomes are rising, the author provides no evidence to support this assertion.
30. But no evidence is provided to show that this explanation is correct.
31. Moreover, the author fails to consider and rule out other factors that might account for

- proportional decreases in spending on food.
32. The author ignores other likely benefits of agricultural technology that affect food pieces only indirectly or not at all.
33. In the first place, a great deal of empirical evidence shows that sequels are often not as profitable as the original movie.
34. However, unless the original cast and production team are involved in making the sequel, there is a good chance it will not be financially successful.
35. Since the difficulties inherent in this process make it hard to predict whether the result will be a success or a failure, the conclusion that the sequel will be profitable is presumptuous.
36. This assumption overlooks other criteria for determining a bridge's importance – such as the number of commuters using the bridge, the role of the bridge in local emergencies and disasters, and the impact that bridge closure would have on the economies of nearby cities.
37. Without such evidence, we cannot accept the author's conclusion that no government funds should be directed toward maintaining the Styx River bridge.
38. The fact that the nearby city has a weakening economy does not prove that the city will not contribute significantly to tax revenues.
39. Substantiating this assumption requires examining the proper duty of government.
40. Accordingly, this assumption is simply an unproven claim.
41. The author is presenting a false dilemma by imposing an either-or choice between two courses of action that need not be mutually exclusive.
42. It is equally possible that legislators can address both areas of concern concurrently.
43. The argument relies on the assumption that the legislators in question have the opportunity to address urban crime problems.
44. Finally, the author unfairly trivializes the severity of rural crime by simply comparing it with urban crime.
45. It is possible that the sales trend in a particular location is not representative of sales in other regions.
46. However, the author fails to acknowledge and rule out other possible causes of such accidents.
47. A third problem with the argument is that the statistical evidence upon which it relies is too vague to be informative.
48. If the subjects for the study were randomly chosen and represent a diverse cross section of the population of shampoo users, the results will be reliable regardless of the number of

participants.

49. Experience alone is far from being enough to guarantee minimized processing costs. Given that Olympic Foods does benefit from lowered processing costs due to its years of experience, the prediction about maximum profits is still in Lake of solid ground.

附录三、Argument 常见核心句型

一、 开头

1. The arguer may be right about..., but he seems to neglect (fail) to mention (take into account) the fact that...
2. As opposed to (contrary to) widely (commonly/generally) held (accepted) belief (ideas/views), I believe (argue) that...
3. Although many people believe that..., I doubt (wonder) whether the argument bears much analysis (close examination).
4. The advantages of B outweigh any benefit we gained from (carry more weight than those of/are much greater than) A.
5. Although it is commonly (widely/generally) held (felt/accepted/agreed) that..., it is unlikely to be true that...
6. There is an element of truth in this argument (statement), but it ignores a deeper and more basic (important/essential) fact (reason) that...
7. it is true that (true/to be sure/admittedly)..., but this is not to say (it is unlikely/it does not follow/it does not mean/it will not be the case) that...
8. The main (obvious/great) problem (flaw/drawback) with (in) this argument (view/remark) is that it is ignorant of (blind to) the basic (bare) fact that...
9. It would be possible (natural/reasonable) to think (believe/take the view) that..., but it would be absurd (wrong) to claim (argue) that...
10. In all the discussion and debate over..., one important (basic) fact is generally overlooked (neglected).
11. There is absolutely (in fact) no (every) reason for us to believe (accept/resist/reject) that...
12. Logical (Valid/Sound) as this argument and I wholeheartedly agree with it, it appears insignificant (absurd) when ... is taken into consideration (account).
13. To assume (suggest) that ... is far from being proved (to miss the point).

14. A close (careful) inspection (examination/scrutiny) of this argument would reveal how flimsy (groundless/fallacious) it is.
15. On the surface (At first thought), it (this) may seem a sound (an attractive) suggestion (solution/idea), but careful weighing on the mind (on closer analysis/on second thought), we find that...
16. Too much emphasis placed on (attention paid to/importance attached to) ... may obscure (overlook/neglect) other facts...
17. The danger (problem/fact/truth/point) is that...
18. What the arguer fails to understand (consider/mention) is that...
19. We do not have to look very far to see (find out) the truth (validity) of this argument (proposition).
20. However just (logical/sound/valid) this argument may be, it only skim the surface of the problem.

二、正文

1. Although the popular belief is that..., a current (new/recent) study (survey/poll/investigation) indicates (shows/demonstrates) that...
2. Common sense tells us that...
3. The increase (change/failure/success) in ... mainly (largely/partly) results from (arises from/is because of) ...
4. The increase (change/failure/success) in ... is due to (owing to/ attributable to) the fact that...
5. Many people would claim that...
6. One may attribute (ascribe/owe) the increase (decrease/change) to ..., but ... is not by itself an adequate explanation.
7. One of the reasons given for ... is that...
8. What is also worth noticing is that...
9. There are many (different/several/a number of/ a variety of) causes (reasons) for this dramatic (marked/significant) growth (change/decline/increase) in ... First, ... Second, ... Finally...
10. There is no evidence to suggest that...
11. Why are (is/do/did) ...? For one thing, ... For another, ...
12. Another reason why I dispute the above statement is that...
13. It gives rise to (lead to/bring/create) a host of problems (consequences).

14. There are numerous reasons why ..., and I shall here explore only a few of the most important ones.
15. it will exert (have / produce) profound (far-reaching / remarkable / considerable / beneficial / favorable / undesirable / disastrous) effect (influence) on...
16. A multitude of factors could account for (contribute to/lead to/result in/influence) the change (increase/decrease/success/failure/development) in...
17. In 1999, it increased (rose/jumped/shot up) from 5 to 10 percent of the total (to 15 percent/by 15 percent).
18. By comparison with 1998, it decreased (dropped/fell) from 10 to 5 percent (to 15 percent/by 15 percent).
19. It account for 15 percent of the total.
20. There were 100 traffic accidents in April, and increase of 5 percent in a five-month period.
21. By 1999, only (less than/more than/almost/about/over/as many as) three quarters (40 percent of/one out of five/one in four) college population (graduates/housewives) as against (as compared with) last year (1998) preferred to (liked)...

三、 结尾

1. From what has been discussed above (Taking into account all these factors/Judging from all evidence offered), we may safely draw (reach/come to/arrive at) the conclusion that...
2. All the evidence (analysis) supports (justifies/confirms/warrants/points to) a(n) unshakable (unmistakable/sound/just) conclusion that...
3. It is high time that we place (lay/put) great (special/considerable) emphasis on the improvement (development/increase/promotion) of...
4. It is high time that we put an end to the deep-seated (unhealthy/undesirable/deplorable) situation (tendency/phenomenon) of ...
5. We must look (search/ cry) for an immediate action (method/measure), because the present (current) situation (phenomenon/tendency/state/attitude) of ..., if permitted (allowed) to continue (proceed), will surely (certainly) lead to (result in) the end (destruction/heavy cost) of...
6. There is no easy (immediate/effective) solution (approach/answer/remedy) to the problem of ..., but ... might be useful (helpful/beneficial).
7. No easy method (solution/recipe/remedy) can be at hand (found/guaranteed) to solve

- (resolve/tackle) the problem of ..., but the common (general/public) recognition of (realization of/awareness of/commitment to) the necessity (importance/significance) of ... might be the first step towards change (on the right way/in the right direction).
8. Following these methods (suggestions) may not guarantee the success in (solution to) ..., but the pay-off will be worth the effort.
9. Obviously (Clearly/No doubt), if we ignore (are blind to) to the problem, there is every chance that...
10. Unless there is a common realization of (general commitment to) ..., it is very likely (the chances are good) that...
11. There is little doubt (no denying) that serious (special/adequate/immediate/further) attention must be called (paid/devoted) to the problem of...
12. It is necessary (essential/fundamental) that effective (quick/proper) action (steps/measures/remedies) should be taken to prevent (correct/check/end/fight) the situation (tendency/phenomenon).
13. It is hoped (suggested/recommended) that great (continuous/persistent/sustained/corporate) efforts should be made to control (check/halt/promote) the growth (increase/rise) of ...
14. It is hoped that great efforts should be directed to (expended on/focused on) finding (developing/improving)...
15. It remains to be seen whether ..., but the prospect (outlook) is not quite encouraging (that rosy).
16. Anyhow, wider (more) education (publicity) should be given to the possible (potential / grave /serious/pernicious) consequences (effects) of...
17. To reverse (check/control) the trend (tendency) is not a light task (an easy job), and it requires (demands/involves/entails) a different state of mind towards (attitude towards/outlook on)...
18. For these reasons, I strongly recommend that...
19. For the reasons given above, I feel that...