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GRE 官方写作题库 Argument 132

The following appeared in a letter to the school board in the town of Centerville:

"All students should be required to take the driver's education course at Centerville High School. In the past two years, several accidents in and around Centerville have involved teenage drivers. Since a number of parents in Centerville have complained that they are too busy to teach their teenagers to drive, some other instruction is necessary to ensure that these teenagers are safe drivers. Although there are two driving schools in Centerville, parents on a tight budget cannot afford to pay for driving instruction. Therefore an effective and mandatory program sponsored by the high school is the only solution to this serious problem."

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 these assumptions and what the implications are for the argument if the assumptions prove unwarranted.

满分范文赏析

This letter recommends mandatory driver's education courses at Centerville High School based on three facts: during the last two years several Centerville car accidents have involved teenage drivers, Centerville parents are too busy to teach driving to their children, and the two private drivereducation courses in the area are unaffordable. The argument suffers from several critical flaws. Let us look a more deeply.

【此段结构】

本段采用了标准的 Argument 开头段结构,即:C – E - F 的开头结构,首句概括原文的 C(Conclusion)。接下来的一句话概括了原文为了支持他的结论所引用的 E(Evidence)。最后尾句中给出开头段到正文段的过渡句,指出原文在逻辑上存在 F(Flaw)。

【此段功能】

本段作为 Argument 开头段,具体功能就在发起攻击。首先,概括原文的结论:信中推荐 Centerville(后面简称 C)高中进行强制 driver's education。接下来分别列举了原文为了支持这个结论引用的三个证据:过去两年有几起青少年的交通事故,C 地区父母没时间教孩子开车,当地两个驾驶课程很难负担的起。最后点出原文存在逻辑错误,引出后面的分析。



First of all, while teenagers were involved in accidents, it is unclear whether or not these individuals were Centerville High School students. Even if they were students responsible for causing the accidents, could those accidents have been avoided had these students enrolled in the high school's driving course? Without knowing the contributing factors to the accidents themselves, there is no way to determine which driver was at fault and/or how a driver-training course could have altered the events. The author should gather more information about the accidents upon which the argument is founded.

【此段结构】

本段采用了标准的 Argument 正文段结构,即:概括第一个逻辑错误的错误类型和原文犯错位置,接下来给出合理的理由和他因来反驳原文。

【此段功能】

本段作为正文第一段,攻击文章犯的主要逻辑错误:论据模糊。作者认为原文没有交代青少年交通中事故是否有 C 高中的学生。接下来作者提出让步,即便有 C 高中的学生,不能说明驾驶课程可以 avoid accident。作者认为,如果不知道事故的原因,是无法说明司机有错误以及驾驶课程会减少事故的。

The argument is problematic in certain other respects as well. It assumes that a mandatory school-sponsored course would be effective yet provides no evidence to support this assumption. For example, is there a report on all of the schools which have adopted similar programs which indicates that, as a result of training accident rates have always gone, invariably, down?

【此段结构】

本段采用了标准的 Argument 正文段结构,即:概括第二个逻辑错误的错误类型和原文犯错位置,接下来给出合理的理由和他因来反驳原文。

【此段功能】

本段作为正文第二段,攻击文章犯的主要逻辑错误:错误因果。作者认为原文中"强制驾驶课程会有效果"这一论断缺乏证据。作者提出质疑,有没有关于同类学校通过驾驶课程减少事故率的例子?



In conclusion, the speaker fails to adequately support the recommendation for a school-sponsored mandatory driving course. To strengthen the argument, the author must provide clear evidence that the accidents did indeed involve Centerville High School students and that their careless driving was the primary contributing factor in the occurrence of the accidents. To better evaluate the argument, an audience would need more information about the affordability of the two private driving courses and about the effectiveness of a mandatory school-sponsored course compared to that of the two private courses.

【此段结构】

本段采用了标准的 Argument 结尾段结构,即:C – S 的结尾结构,首先再次重申原文的站不住脚的 Conclusion,接下来给出给合理建议 Suggestion。

【此段功能】

本段作为 Argument 结尾段,具体功能就总结归纳+建议措施,首先再次重申 letter 上的的建议不合理。接下来给出合理是原文更有说服力的建议:一是必须说明 C 高中学生 careless driving 是交通事故的 primary contributing factor,二是要说明当地两个私人驾驶培训是否 affordable 以及 mandatory school-sponsored course 与它们的性价比。结尾段的两条建议非常规整的隐射前面的错误,前后呼应,文章有力结尾,浑然一体。

【满分因素剖析】

【语言表达】

- 1. First of all, while..., it is unclear whether ... (标志性的论证段开头句,指出原文的逻辑错误) Even if ..., could ...? (GRE argument 中标志性的让步结构,在忽略第一个逻辑错误的前提下,指出文章存在的另外的逻辑错误,使得攻击更具有层次感,更有深度。主句采用疑问句,使得文章语气更加强烈,更具有思辨性)Without knowing ..., there is no way to ...(标志性的 GRE argument 语句,用于总结文章中的错误) The author should gather more information about the accidents upon which the argument is founded.
- 2. The argument is problematic in certain other respects as well. It assumes that ... yet provides no evidence to support this assumption. For example, ... (标志性的无原因结果的攻击语句)



3. In conclusion, the speaker fails to ...(标准的 argument 结尾段首句,再次重申原文中的结论存在错误) To strengthen the argument, the author must provide clear evidence that ... To better evaluate the argument, an audience would need more information about...(给出使原文更有说服力的合理化建议)

标志性的 GRE argument 的 C-S 结尾结构

【逻辑结构】

本文内容清晰,逻辑严谨,采用了开头段——正文段 1——正文段 2——结尾段的四段论结构,文章长短适中,层次一目了然。开头段按照 C-E-F 的逻辑结构,顺利引出后文的分析。论证段中,从提出错误,到分析错误,到给出可能性,最后总结错误,层次清晰,衔接自然。结尾段总结全文,重申错误,给出合理化建议。这样一篇文章从开头到结尾逻辑严谨,内容清晰,圆满的完成了论证的作用。



