**[Verbal Reasoning 12](http://borzabadi.persianblog.ir/page/12" \o "Link)**

1. Contrary to earlier predictions, demand for sugarcane has not increased in recent years. Yet, even though prices and production amounts have also been stable during the last three years, sugarcane growers last year increased their profits by more than ten percent over the previous year’s level.

**Any of the following statements, if true about last** **year, helps to explain the rise in profits EXCEPT:**

  (A) Sugarcane growers have saved money on wages

        by switching from paying laborers an hourly

        wage to paying them by the amount harvested.

  (B) The price of oil, the major energy source used

        by sugarcane growers in harvesting their crops,

        dropped by over twenty percent.

  (C) Many small sugarcane growers joined together

        to form an association of sugarcane producers

        and began to buy supplies at low group rates.

  (D) Rainfall in sugarcane-growing regions was

        higher than it had been during the previous

        year, allowing the growers to save money on

        expensive artificial irrigation.

  (E) Many countries that are large consumers of

        sugarcane increased their production of

        sugarcane-based ethanol, yet their overall

        consumption of sugarcane decreased.

2. Environmentalist: The commissioner of the Fish and Game Authority would have the public believe that increases in the number of marine fish caught demonstrate that this resource is no longer endangered. This is a specious argument, as unsound as it would be to assert that the ever-increasing rate at which rain forests are being cut down demonstrates a lack of danger to that resource. The real cause of the increased fish-catch is a greater efficiency in using technologies that deplete resources.

**Which of the following strategies is used in the** **presentation of the environmentalist’s position?**

   (A) Questioning the motives of an opponent

   (B) Showing that an opposing position is self-contradictory

   (C) Attacking an argument through the use of an analogy

   (D) Demonstrating the inaccuracy of certain data

   (E) Pointing out adverse consequences of a proposal

3. Commentator: The theory of trade retaliation states that countries closed out of any of another country’s markets should close some of their own markets to the other country in order to pressure the other country to reopen its markets. If every country acted according to this theory, no country would trade with any other.

**The commentator’s argument relies on which of the** **following assumptions?**

   (A) No country actually acts according to the theory of trade retaliation.

   (B) No country should block any of its markets to foreign trade.

   (C) Trade disputes should be settled by international tribunal.

   (D) For any two countries, at least one has some market closed to the other.

   (E) Countries close their markets to foreigners to protect domestic producers.

**Answer Key:  1. E        2.C         3.D**