**[Verbal Reasoning 6](http://borzabadi.persianblog.ir/page/6" \o "Link)**

**Questions 1-2 are based on the following.**

1. Partly because of bad weather, but also partly because some major pepper growers have switched to high-priced cocoa, world production of pepper has been running well below worldwide sales for three years. Pepper is consequently in relatively short supply. The price of pepper has soared in response: it now equals that of cocoa.

**Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?**

(A) Pepper is a profitable crop only if it is grown on a large scale.

(B) World consumption of pepper has been unusually high for three years.

(C) World production of pepper will return to previous levels once normal

      weather returns.

(D) Surplus stocks of pepper have been reduced in the past three years.

(E) The profits that the growers of pepper have made in the past three years

     have been unprecedented.

2. Some observers have concluded that the rise in the price of pepper means that the switch by some growers from pepper to cocoa left those growers no better off than if none of them had switched;

**this conclusion, however, is unwarranted because it can be inferred to be likely that**

(A) those growers could not have foreseen how high the price of pepper would go

(B) the initial cost involved in switching from pepper to cocoa is substantial

(C) supplies of pepper would not be as low as they are if those growers had not switched crops

(D) cocoa crops are as susceptible to being reduced by bad weather as are pepper crops

(E) as more growers turn to growing cocoa, cocoa supplies will increase and the

      price of cocoa will fall precipitously.

 3. Using computer techniques, researchers analyze layers of paint that lie buried beneath the surface layers of old paintings. They claim, for example, that additional mountainous scenery once appeared in Leonardo da Vinci’s

*Mona Lisa,* which was later painted over. Skeptics reply to these claims, however, that X-ray examinations of the*Mona Lisa* do not show hidden mountains.

**Which of the following, if true, would tend most to weaken the force of the skeptics’ objections?**

(A) There is no written or anecdotal record that Leonardo da Vinci ever painted over major areas of his *Mona Lisa.*

(B) Painters of da Vinci’s time commonly created images of mountainous scenery

     in the backgrounds of portraits like the *Mona Lisa*.

(C) No one knows for certain what parts of the *Mona Lisa* may have been painted

     by da Vinci’s assistants rather than by da Vinci himself.

(D) Infrared photography of the *Mona Lisa* has revealed no trace of hidden

      mountainous scenery.

(E) Analysis relying on X-rays only has the capacity to detect lead-based white

     pigments in layers of paint beneath a painting’s surface layers.

**Answer Key:**

1. D  2. C   3. E