

SECTION I
Time—35 minutes
26 Questions

Directions: The questions in this section are based on the reasoning contained in brief statements or passages. For some questions, more than one of the choices could conceivably answer the question. However, you are to choose the best answer; that is, the response that most accurately and completely answers the question. You should not make assumptions that are by commonsense standards implausible, superfluous, or incompatible with the passage. After you have chosen the best answer, blacken the corresponding space on your answer sheet.

1. While it might be expected that those neighborhoods most heavily patrolled by police have the least crime, the statistical evidence overwhelmingly supports the claim that such neighborhoods have the most crime. This shows that the presence of police does not decrease crime in a neighborhood.

The reasoning in the argument is flawed because the argument

- (A) attempts to support its conclusion by making an appeal to emotions
 - (B) fails to consider the possibility that criminals may commit crimes in more than one neighborhood
 - (C) draws a general conclusion from too small a sample of data
 - (D) fails to consider the possibility that police presence in a particular area is often a response to the relatively high crime rate in that area
 - (E) takes for granted that public resources devoted to police presence could be allocated in another manner that would be a stronger deterrent to crime
2. Despite increasing international efforts to protect the natural habitats of endangered species of animals, the rate at which these species are becoming extinct continues to rise. It is clear that these efforts are wasted.
- Which one of the following, if true, most weakens the argument?
- (A) Scientists are better able to preserve the habitats of endangered species now than ever before.
 - (B) Species that would have become extinct have been saved due to the establishment of animal refuges.
 - (C) Scientists estimate that at least 2000 species become extinct every year.
 - (D) Many countries do not recognize the increased economic benefit of tourism associated with preserved natural habitats.
 - (E) Programs have been proposed that will transfer endangered species out of habitats that are in danger of being destroyed.

3. When a lawmaker spoke out against a research grant awarded to a professor in a university's psychology department as a foolish expenditure of public money, other professors in that department drafted a letter protesting the lawmaker's interference in a field in which he was not trained. The chair of the psychology department, while privately endorsing the project, refused to sign the protest letter on the ground that she had previously written a letter applauding the same legislator when he publicized a senseless expenditure by the country's military.

Which one of the following principles, if established, provides the strongest justification for the department chair's refusal, on the ground she gives, to sign the protest letter?

- (A) A person should not publicly criticize the actions of a lawmaker in different cases without giving careful consideration to the circumstances of each particular case.
- (B) The chair of an academic department has an obligation to ensure that public funds allocated to support projects within that department are spent wisely.
- (C) A person who has praised a lawmaker for playing a watchdog role in one case should not criticize the lawmaker for attempting to play a watchdog role in another case that involves the person's professional interests.
- (D) Since academic institutions accept public funds but do not pay taxes, a representative of an academic institution should not publicly pass judgment on the actions of government officials.
- (E) Academic institutions have the same responsibility as military institutions have to spend public money wisely.

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4. Aaron: A prominent judge, criticizing “famous lawyers who come before courts ill-prepared to argue their cases,” recently said, “This sort of cavalier attitude offends the court and can do nothing but harm to the client’s cause.” I find the judge’s remarks irresponsible.

Belinda: I find it natural and an admirable display of candor. Letting people know of the damage their negligence causes is responsible behavior.

The point at issue between Aaron and Belinda is whether

- (A) ill-prepared lawyers damage their clients’ causes
 - (B) the judge’s criticism of lawyers is irresponsible
 - (C) a lawyer’s being ill-prepared to argue a client’s case constitutes negligence
 - (D) famous lawyers have a greater responsibility to be well prepared than do lawyers who are not famous
 - (E) it is to be expected that ill-prepared lawyers would offend the court in which they appear
5. The human emotional response presents an apparent paradox. People believe that they can be genuinely moved only by those things and events that they believe to be actual, yet they have genuine emotional responses to what they know to be fictional.

Which one of the following situations most closely conforms to the principle cited above?

- (A) Fred was watching a horror movie. Although he did not expect to be bothered by make-believe monsters, he nonetheless felt frightened when they appeared on the screen.
- (B) Tamara was reading Hamlet. Although she knew that it was a work of fiction, she still made statements such as “Hamlet was born in Denmark” and “Hamlet was a prince.”
- (C) Raheem thought that his sister was in the hospital. Although he was mistaken, he was nevertheless genuinely worried when he believed she was there.
- (D) Jeremy was upset by the actions that a writer attributed to a secret organization, although he considered it unlikely that the writer’s account was accurate.
- (E) Sandy was watching a film about World War II. Although the film’s details were accurate, it was nevertheless difficult for Sandy to maintain interest in the characters.

6. Recent investigations of earthquakes have turned up a previously unknown type of seismic shock, known as a displacement pulse, which is believed to be present in all earthquakes. Alarming, high-rise buildings are especially vulnerable to displacement pulses, according to computer models. Yet examination of high-rises within cities damaged by recent powerful earthquakes indicates little significant damage to these structures.

Which one of the following, if true, contributes to a resolution of the apparent paradox?

- (A) Displacement pulses travel longer distances than other types of seismic shock.
- (B) Scientific predictions based on computer models often fail when tested in the field.
- (C) While displacement pulses have only recently been discovered, they have accompanied all earthquakes that have ever occurred.
- (D) The displacement pulses made by low- and medium-intensity earthquakes are much less powerful than those made by the strongest earthquakes.
- (E) Computer models have been very successful in predicting the effects of other types of seismic shock.

7. Terry: Months ago, I submitted a claim for my stolen bicycle to my insurance company. After hearing nothing for several weeks, I contacted the firm and found they had no record of my claim. Since then, I have resubmitted the claim twice and called the firm repeatedly, but I have yet to receive a settlement. Anyone can make mistakes, of course, but the persistence of the error makes me conclude that the company is deliberately avoiding paying up.

Which one of the following principles is violated by Terry’s reasoning?

- (A) Consumers should avoid attributing dishonesty to a corporation when the actions of the corporation might instead be explained by incompetence.
- (B) Consumers should attempt to keep themselves informed of corporate behavior that directly affects their interests.
- (C) In judging the quality of service of a corporation, a consumer should rely primarily on the consumer’s own experience with the corporation.
- (D) In judging the morality of a corporation’s behavior, as opposed to that of an individual, mitigating circumstances are irrelevant.
- (E) Corporations ought to make available to a customer any information the customer requests that is relevant to the customer’s interests.

8. Fortune-teller: Admittedly, the claims of some self-proclaimed “psychics” have been shown to be fraudulent, but the exposure of a few charlatans cannot alter the fundamental fact that it has not been scientifically proven that there is no such thing as extrasensory perception (ESP). Furthermore, since the failed attempts to produce such a proof have been so numerous, one must conclude that some individuals do possess ESP.

The reasoning in the fortune-teller’s argument is most vulnerable to criticism on the grounds that the argument

- (A) takes for granted that proof that many people lack a characteristic does not establish that everyone lacks that characteristic
 - (B) takes for granted that the number of unsuccessful attempts to prove a claim is the only factor relevant to whether one should accept that claim
 - (C) overlooks the possibility that some of the scientific studies mentioned reached inaccurate conclusions about whether ESP exists
 - (D) takes for granted that there is no scientific way to determine whether some individuals possess ESP
 - (E) takes for granted that the fact that a claim has not been demonstrated to be false establishes that it is true
9. Film historians have made two major criticisms of Depression-era filmmakers: first, that they were too uncritical of the economic status quo; and second, that they self-indulgently created films reflecting their own dreams and desires. However, these filmmakers made their movies with an eye to profit, and so they provided what their audiences most wanted in a film: a chance to imagine being wealthy enough not to have a care in the world. Thus, the second criticism cannot be accurate.
- The conclusion of the argument follows logically if which one of the following is assumed?
- (A) To avoid self-indulgence, filmmakers should take a critical stance toward the existing economic system and should allow audiences to form their own personal aspirations.
 - (B) It is unjustified to demand of all filmmakers that their films engage in criticism of the economic status quo.
 - (C) The people who regularly went to movies during the Depression were those likely to have been most satisfied with the economic status quo.
 - (D) Depression-era filmmakers who did not make films for profit could not take radical critical stances toward then-current economic and political issues.
 - (E) It cannot be self-indulgent for a filmmaker to give an audience what it most wants.

10. Editorial: Many observers note with dismay the decline in the number of nongovernmental, voluntary community organizations. They argue that this decline is caused by the corresponding growth of government services once provided by these voluntary community groups. But this may not be true. The increase in government services may coincide with a decrease in volunteerism, but the former does not necessarily cause the latter; the latter may indeed cause the former.

The editorial undermines the conclusion of the causal argument by

- (A) showing that there is no causality involved
 - (B) offering a counterexample to the alleged correlation
 - (C) proving that no generalization can properly be drawn about people’s motives for volunteering
 - (D) offering an alternate explanation of the correlation cited
 - (E) proving that governments must do what community organizations fail to do
11. In contemplating major purchases, businesses often consider only whether there is enough money left from monthly revenues after paying monthly expenses to cover the cost of the purchase. But many expenses do not occur monthly; taking into account only monthly expenses can cause a business to overexpand. So the use of a cash-flow statement is critical for all businesses.
- Which one of the following, if true, most strengthens the argument?
- (A) Only a cash-flow statement can accurately document all monthly expenses.
 - (B) Any business that has overexpanded can benefit from the use of a cash-flow statement.
 - (C) When a business documents only monthly expenses it also documents only monthly revenue.
 - (D) A cash-flow statement is the only way to track both monthly expenses and expenses that are not monthly.
 - (E) When a business takes into account all expenses, not just monthly ones, it can make better decisions.

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12. All known living things are made of the same basic kinds of matter, are carbon based, and are equipped with genetic codes. So human life has the same origin as all other known life.

The conclusion follows logically if which one of the following is assumed?

- (A) Without the existence of other life forms, human life would never have come into existence.
- (B) There are not any living beings that have genetic codes but are not carbon based.
- (C) There can never be any living thing that does not have a genetic code.
- (D) Many yet-to-be-discovered types of living things will also be carbon based.
- (E) Any two living things made of the same basic kinds of matter have the same origin.

13. All societies recognize certain rules to be so crucial that they define those rules as duties, such as rules restricting violence and those requiring the keeping of agreements. Contained in the notion of a duty is the idea that its fulfillment is so fundamental to a properly functioning society that persons obligated by it cannot be excused on the ground that its fulfillment would be harmful to their self-interest. This shows that _____.

Which one of the following most reasonably completes the argument?

- (A) all societies overrate the benefits of certain rules, such as those governing the keeping of agreements
- (B) all societies have certain rules that no people are capable of following
- (C) all societies recognize the possibility of clashes between individual self-interest and the performance of duty
- (D) a properly functioning society will recognize that some duties take priority over others
- (E) societies have no right to expect people always to perform their duties

14. Linguist: Regional dialects, many of which eventually become distinct languages, are responses by local populations to their own particular communicative needs. So even when the unification of the world economy forces the adoption of a universal language for use in international trade, this language itself will inevitably develop many regional dialects.

Which one of the following is an assumption that the linguist's argument requires?

- (A) No two local populations have the same communicative needs as each other.
- (B) In some regions of the world, at least some people will not engage in international trade after the unification of the world economy.
- (C) A universal language for use in international trade will not arise unless the world economy is unified.
- (D) When the unification of the world economy forces the adoption of a universal language for use in international trade, many regional dialects of other languages will be eradicated.
- (E) After the unification of the world economy, there will be variation among many different local populations in their communicative needs in international trade.

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15. Often, a product popularly believed to be the best of its type is no better than any other; rather, the product's reputation, which may be independent of its quality, provides its owner with status. Thus, although there is no harm in paying for status if that is what one wants, one should know that one is paying for prestige, not quality.

Which one of the following arguments is most similar in its reasoning to the argument above?

- (A) Often, choosing the best job offer is a matter of comparing the undesirable features of the different jobs. Thus, those who choose a job because it has a desirable location should know that they might be unhappy with its hours.
- (B) Most people have little tolerance for boastfulness. Thus, although one's friends may react positively when hearing the details of one's accomplishments, it is unlikely that their reactions are entirely honest.
- (C) Those beginning a new hobby sometimes quit it because of the frustrations involved in learning a new skill. Thus, although it is fine to try to learn a skill quickly, one is more likely to learn a skill if one first learns to enjoy the process of acquiring it.
- (D) Personal charm is often confused with virtue. Thus, while there is nothing wrong with befriending a charming person, anyone who does so should realize that a charming friend is not necessarily a good and loyal friend.
- (E) Many theatrical actors cannot enjoy watching a play because when they watch others, they yearn to be on stage themselves. Thus, although there is no harm in yearning to perform, such performers should, for their own sakes, learn to suppress that yearning.

16. Essayist: Many people are hypocritical in that they often pretend to be more morally upright than they really are. When hypocrisy is exposed, hypocrites are embarrassed by their moral lapse, which motivates them and others to try to become better people. On the other hand, when hypocrisy persists without exposure, the belief that most people are good is fostered, which motivates most people to try to be good.

The essayist's statements, if true, most strongly support which one of the following?

- (A) The existence of hypocrisy encourages people to believe that no one is morally blameless.
 - (B) The existence of hypocrisy encourages people to make efforts to live by moral standards.
 - (C) The existence of hypocrisy in some people encourages others to fall into moral lapses.
 - (D) The hiding of hypocrisy is a better way of motivating people to try to be good than is the exposing of it.
 - (E) There is no stronger motivator for people to try to be good than the exposing of hypocrisy.
17. "Multiple use" refers to the utilization of natural resources in combinations that will best meet the present and future needs of the public. Designating land as a wilderness area does not necessarily violate the multiple-use philosophy, for even when such use does not provide the greatest dollar return, it can provide the greatest overall benefit from that site.
- Which one of the following is an assumption required by the argument?
- (A) Natural resources should be used in combinations that will most greatly benefit present and future generations.
 - (B) Designating a wilderness area prevents any exploitation of natural resources in that area.
 - (C) The present and future needs of the public would best be met by designating greater numbers of wilderness areas.
 - (D) The multiple-use philosophy takes into account some nonfinancial needs of the public.
 - (E) The multiple-use philosophy holds that the future needs of the public are more important than the present ones.

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18. In the troposphere, the lowest level of the earth's atmosphere, the temperature decreases as one progresses straight upward. At the top, the air temperature ranges from -50 degrees Celsius over the poles to -85 degrees Celsius over the equator. At that point the stratosphere begins, and the temperature stops decreasing and instead increases as one progresses straight upward through the stratosphere. The stratosphere is warmed by ozone. When an ozone particle absorbs a dose of ultraviolet sunlight, heat is generated.

If the statements above are true, which one of the following must also be true?

- (A) The troposphere over the poles is thicker than the troposphere over the equator.
- (B) It is warmer at the top of the stratosphere over the poles than it is at the top of the stratosphere over the equator.
- (C) The temperature in the middle part of the stratosphere over the North Pole is at least as great as the temperature in the middle part of the stratosphere over the equator.
- (D) The temperature at any point at the top of the stratosphere is at least as great as the temperature at the top of the troposphere directly beneath that point.
- (E) Depletion of the earth's ozone layer would increase the air temperature in the stratosphere and decrease the air temperature in the troposphere.

19. There have been no new cases of naturally occurring polio in North America in recent years. Yet there are approximately 12 new cases of polio each year in North America, all caused by the commonly administered live oral polio vaccine (OPV). Substituting inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) for most childhood polio immunizations would cut the number of cases of vaccination-caused polio about in half. Clearly it is time to switch from OPV to IPV as the most commonly used polio vaccine for North American children.

Which one of the following, if true, most weakens the argument?

- (A) If IPV replaces OPV as the most commonly used polio vaccine, at least a few new cases of naturally occurring polio in North America will result each year.
- (B) The vast majority of cases of polio caused by OPV have occurred in children with preexisting but unsuspected immunodeficiency disorders.
- (C) A child's risk of contracting polio from OPV has been estimated at 1 in 8.7 million, which is significantly less than the risk of being struck by lightning.
- (D) Although IPV is preferred in some European nations, most countries with comprehensive child immunization programs use OPV.
- (E) IPV, like most vaccines, carries a slight risk of inducing seizures in children with neurological diseases such as epilepsy.

20. Professor: Each government should do all that it can to improve the well-being of all the children in the society it governs. Therefore, governments should help finance high-quality day care since such day care will become available to families of all income levels if and only if it is subsidized.

Which one of the following is an assumption on which the professor's argument depends?

- (A) Only governments that subsidize high-quality day care take an interest in the well-being of all the children in the societies they govern.
- (B) Government subsidy of high-quality day care would not be so expensive that it would cause a government to eliminate benefits for adults.
- (C) High-quality day care should be subsidized only for those who could not otherwise afford it.
- (D) At least some children would benefit from high-quality day care.
- (E) Government is a more efficient provider of certain services than is private enterprise.

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21. Opposition leader: Our country has the least fair court system of any country on the continent and ought not to be the model for others. Thus, our highest court is the least fair of any on the continent and ought not to be emulated by other countries.

The flawed reasoning in which one of the following arguments is most similar to that in the opposition leader's argument?

- (A) The residents of medium-sized towns are, on average, more highly educated than people who do not live in such towns. Therefore, Maureen, who was born in a medium-sized town, is more highly educated than Monica, who has just moved to such a town.
- (B) At a certain college, either philosophy or engineering is the most demanding major. Therefore, either the introductory course in philosophy or the introductory course in engineering is the most demanding introductory-level course at that college.
- (C) For many years its superior engineering has enabled the Lawson Automobile Company to make the best racing cars. Therefore, its passenger cars, which use many of the same parts, are unmatched by those of any other company.
- (D) Domestic cats are closely related to tigers. Therefore, even though they are far smaller than tigers, their eating habits are almost the same as those of tigers.
- (E) If a suit of questionable merit is brought in the first district rather than the second district, its chances of being immediately thrown out are greater. Therefore, to have the best chance of winning the case, the lawyers will bring the suit in the second district.

22. Columnist: There are certain pesticides that, even though they have been banned for use in the United States for nearly 30 years, are still manufactured there and exported to other countries. In addition to jeopardizing the health of people in these other countries, this practice greatly increases the health risk to U.S. consumers, for these pesticides are often used on agricultural products imported into the United States.

Which one of the following, if true, most seriously weakens the columnist's argument?

- (A) Trace amounts of some of the pesticides banned for use in the United States can be detected in the soil where they were used 30 years ago.
 - (B) Most of the pesticides that are manufactured in the United States and exported are not among those banned for use in the United States.
 - (C) The United States is not the only country that manufactures and exports the pesticides that are banned for use in the United States.
 - (D) The banned pesticides pose a greater risk to people in the countries in which they are used than to U.S. consumers.
 - (E) There are many pesticides that are banned for use in other countries that are not banned for use in the United States.
23. Columnist: Neuroscientists have found that states of profound creativity are accompanied by an increase of theta brain waves, which occur in many regions of the brain, including the hippocampus. They also found that listening to music increases theta waves dramatically. Thus, one can attain a state of profound creativity merely by listening to a tape of recorded music.

The columnist's reasoning is most vulnerable to criticism on the grounds that it

- (A) takes for granted that there is a causal connection between the hippocampus and being in a state of profound creativity
- (B) fails to consider that music is not necessary for one to be in a state of profound creativity
- (C) does not rule out the possibility that listening to music by means other than a tape recording also increases theta waves
- (D) ignores the possibility that an increase in theta waves may not always be accompanied by a state of profound creativity
- (E) provides insufficient reasons to believe that people who are not in states of profound creativity have low levels of theta brain waves

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24. Consumer advocate: The manufacturer's instructions for assembling a product should be written in such a way that most consumers would find it much easier to put the product together if the instructions were available than if they were not.

Which one of the following, if true, would provide the strongest reason for thinking that the principle advanced by the consumer advocate cannot always be followed?

- (A) The typical consumer who assembles a product does so using the manufacturer's instructions, but still has great difficulty.
 - (B) Often the store at which a consumer purchases an unassembled product will offer, for a fee, to assemble the product and deliver it.
 - (C) For the typical product, most consumers who assemble it do so very easily and without ever consulting the manufacturer's instructions.
 - (D) Usually a consumer who is trying to assemble a product using the manufacturer's instructions has no difficulty understanding the instructions.
 - (E) Some consumers refer to the manufacturer's instructions for assembling a product only if they have difficulty assembling the product.
25. Claude: Because of the relatively high number of middle-aged people in the workforce, there will be fewer opportunities for promotion into upper-management positions. Since this will decrease people's incentive to work hard, economic productivity and the quality of life will diminish.

Thelma: This glut of middle-aged workers will lead many people to form their own companies. They will work hard and thus increase economic productivity, improving the quality of life even if many of the companies ultimately fail.

On the basis of their statements, Claude and Thelma are committed to agreeing about which one of the following?

- (A) The quality of life in a society affects that society's economic productivity.
- (B) The failure of many companies will not necessarily have a negative effect on overall economic productivity.
- (C) How hard a company's employees work is a function of what they think their chances for promotion are in that company.
- (D) The number of middle-aged people in the workforce will increase in the coming years.
- (E) Economic productivity will be affected by the number of middle-aged people in the workforce.

26. Researchers gave 100 first-graders after-school lessons in handwriting. They found that those whose composition skills had improved the most had learned to write letters the most automatically. This suggests that producing characters more automatically frees up mental resources for other activities.

Which one of the following, if true, most strengthens the argument?

- (A) Among the first-graders who received the after-school lessons in handwriting, those who practiced the most learned to write letters the most automatically.
- (B) The first-graders who wrote letters the most automatically before receiving the after-school lessons in handwriting showed the greatest improvement in their composition skills over the course of the lessons.
- (C) Over the course of the lessons, the first-graders who showed greater improvement in their ability to write letters automatically also generally showed greater improvement in their composition skills.
- (D) Before receiving the after-school lessons in handwriting, the 100 first-graders who received the lessons were representative of first-graders more generally, with respect to their skills in both handwriting and composition.
- (E) Among the first-graders who received the lessons in handwriting, those who started out with strong composition skills showed substantial improvement in how automatically they could write letters.

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IF YOU FINISH BEFORE TIME IS CALLED, YOU MAY CHECK YOUR WORK ON THIS SECTION ONLY.
DO NOT WORK ON ANY OTHER SECTION IN THE TEST.