

SECTION III

Time—35 minutes

25 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. Joe: All vampire stories are based on an absurd set of premises. Since, according to such stories, every victim of a vampire becomes a vampire, and vampires have existed since ancient times and are immortal, vampires would by now have almost completely eliminated their prey.

Maria: In most of the vampire stories I am familiar with, vampires turn only a few of their victims into vampires. The rest are permanently dead.

Joe and Maria disagree over the truth of which one of the following?

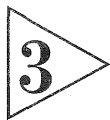
- (A) Vampires are always depicted in vampire stories as immortal.
- (B) Vampires are always depicted in vampire stories as having existed since ancient times.
- (C) No vampire stories are incoherent.
- (D) No vampire stories depict the vampire population as being very large.
- (E) In all vampire stories, every victim of a vampire becomes a vampire.

2. A company decided to scan all of its salespersons' important work that existed only in paper form into a central computer database that could be easily accessed using portable computers, thereby saving salespersons the effort of lugging their paper files all over the country. The project was a dismal failure, however; salespersons rarely accessed the database and continued to rely on many paper files, which they had refused to turn over to the staff responsible for creating the database.

Which one of the following, if true, most helps to account for the failure described above?

- (A) Some of the salespersons gave huge paper files to the staff responsible for creating the database while other salespersons gave them much smaller files.
- (B) Most of the salespersons already had portable computers before the new database was created.
- (C) The papers that the salespersons found most important all contained personal information about employees of client companies, which the salespersons did not want in a central database.
- (D) All of the salespersons were required to attend a series of training sessions for the new database software even though many of them found the software easy to use even without training.
- (E) The number of staff required to create the database turned out to be larger than anticipated, and the company had to pay overtime wages to some of them.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.



3. Politician: The legal right to free speech does not protect all speech. For example, it is illegal to shout "Fire!" in a crowded mall if the only intent is to play a practical joke; the government may ban publication of information about military operations and the identity of undercover agents; and extortion threats and conspiratorial agreements are also criminal acts. The criminalization of these forms of speech is justified, since, although they are very different from each other, they are all likely to lead directly to serious harm.

In the statements above, the politician argues that

- (A) it is legitimate to prohibit some forms of speech on the grounds that they are likely to lead directly to serious harm
 - (B) a form of speech can be restricted only if it is certain that it would lead directly to serious harm
 - (C) in all but a few cases, restricting speech eventually leads directly to serious harm
 - (D) any form of speech may, one way or another, lead directly to serious harm
 - (E) all but one of several possible reasons for restricting freedom of speech are unjustified
4. Art critic: Nowadays, museum visitors seldom pause to look at a work of art for even a full minute. They look, perhaps take a snapshot, and move on. This tells us something about how our relationship to art has changed over time. People have become less willing to engage with works of art than they once were.

The art critic's argument depends on the assumption that

- (A) museum visitors today generally look at more pieces of art during each museum visit than museum visitors looked at in the past
- (B) the ease with which museum visitors can take snapshots of art contributes to the speed with which they move through art museums
- (C) visitors would enjoy their museum experiences more if they took more time with individual works of art
- (D) museum visitors who take snapshots of works of art rarely look at the pictures afterward
- (E) the amount of time spent looking at a work of art is a reliable measure of engagement with that work

5. Heavy tapestry fabrics are appropriate only for use in applications that will not need to be laundered frequently. These applications do not include any types of clothing—such as skirts or even jackets—but instead include swags and balloon valances, which are types of window treatments.

Which one of the following statements is most supported by the information above?

- (A) If a fabric is not a heavy tapestry fabric, then it is not appropriate for use in swags.
 - (B) Heavy tapestry fabrics should not be used unless swags or balloon valances are being made.
 - (C) If heavy tapestry fabrics are appropriate for a particular application, then that application must be a window treatment.
 - (D) If a fabric is appropriate for use in a skirt or jacket, then that fabric is not a heavy tapestry fabric.
 - (E) Heavy tapestry fabrics are sometimes appropriate for use in types of clothing other than skirts and jackets.
6. The construction of new apartments in Brewsterville increased the supply of available housing there. Ordinarily, increasing the supply of available housing leads to lower rents for existing apartments. But in Brewsterville, rents for existing apartments rose.

Which one of the following, if true, most helps to explain the discrepancy described above?

- (A) Fewer new apartments were constructed than originally planned.
- (B) The new apartments were much more desirable than the existing apartments.
- (C) Rents in some areas close to Brewsterville dropped as a result of the construction of the new apartments.
- (D) A sizeable number of people moved out of the existing apartments while the new apartments were being constructed.
- (E) The new apartments were constructed at the outset of a trend of increasing numbers of people seeking residence in Brewsterville.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.

7. Politicians often advocate increased overall economic productivity while ignoring its drawbacks. For example, attempting to increase the productivity of a corporation means attempting to increase its profitability, which typically leads to a reduction in the number of workers employed by that corporation. Thus, attempting to increase productivity in the economy as a whole may benefit business owners, but will increase the number of unemployed workers.

The reasoning in the argument is most vulnerable to criticism on the grounds that the argument

- (A) presumes, without providing justification, that increased unemployment is sufficient reason to abandon increased productivity as an economic goal
- (B) fails to justify its presumption that attempting to increase productivity in the economy as a whole would produce results similar to those produced by attempting to increase productivity in a single corporation
- (C) unfairly criticizes politicians in general on the basis of the actions of a few who are unwilling to consider the drawbacks of attempting to increase productivity
- (D) fails to justify its presumption that attempting to increase productivity in the economy as a whole is always more important than the interests of workers or business owners
- (E) fails to address all potential drawbacks and benefits of attempting to increase productivity at a single corporation

8. A good movie reviewer should be able to give favorable reviews of movies that are not to his or her taste. Because movie reviewers have seen so many movies, their tastes are very different from and usually better informed than those of most moviegoers. Yet the function of movie reviewers, as opposed to film critics, is to help people determine which movies they might enjoy seeing, not to help them better appreciate movies.

Which one of the following most accurately expresses the overall conclusion drawn in the argument?

- (A) Movie reviewers' tastes in movies are very different from and usually better informed than those of most moviegoers.
- (B) If a movie reviewer is good, he or she should be able to give favorable reviews of movies that are not to his or her taste.
- (C) The function of a movie reviewer is different from that of a film critic.
- (D) Movie reviewers see many more movies than most moviegoers see.
- (E) The role of movie reviewers is to help people determine which movies they might enjoy seeing, not to help people better appreciate movies.

9. The brain area that enables one to distinguish the different sounds made by a piano tends to be larger in a highly skilled musician than in someone who has rarely, if ever, played a musical instrument. This shows that practicing on, and playing, a musical instrument actually alters brain structure.

Which one of the following most accurately describes a flaw in the argument?

- (A) The argument presumes, without providing justification, that what is true about the brain structures of highly skilled pianists is also true of the brain structures of other highly skilled musicians.
- (B) The argument fails to address the possibility that people who become highly skilled musicians do so, in part, because of the size of a certain area of their brains.
- (C) The argument draws a conclusion about a broad range of phenomena from evidence concerning a much narrower range of phenomena.
- (D) The argument fails to address the possibility that a certain area of the brain is smaller in people who have listened to a lot of music but who have never learned to play a musical instrument than it is in people who have learned to play a musical instrument.
- (E) The argument presumes, without providing justification, that highly skilled musicians practice more than other musicians.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.



10. Researcher: Overhearing only one side of a cell-phone conversation diverts listeners' attention from whatever they are doing. Hearing only part of a conversation leaves listeners constantly trying to guess what the unheard talker has just said. Listeners' attention is also diverted because cell-phone talkers speak abnormally loudly.

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

- (A) The risk that a driver will cause an accident is increased when the driver is talking on a cell phone.
- (B) When a driver hears a passenger in the driver's vehicle talking on a cell phone, that detracts from the driver's performance.
- (C) Overhearing one side of a conversation on a traditional telephone does not divert listeners' attention from tasks at hand.
- (D) People who overhear one side of a cell-phone conversation inevitably lose track of their thoughts.
- (E) Conversing on a cell phone requires making more guesses about what one's conversational partner means than other forms of conversation do.

11. A new treatment for muscle pain that looked very promising was tested in three separate studies. Although the results were positive, it turned out that all three studies had critical methodological flaws. So the treatment is probably not actually effective.

The flawed nature of the argument above can most effectively be demonstrated by noting that, by parallel reasoning, we could conclude that

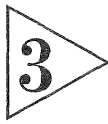
- (A) since the judges in a baking contest did not have uniform criteria for selecting a winner, the cake that won is probably a bad one
- (B) since some people who fish seldom catch any fish, they probably have some reason for fishing other than catching fish
- (C) since some foods have very little nutritional value, people who include those foods in their diets are probably malnourished
- (D) since all scarves are at least somewhat decorative, it is likely that when scarves were first adopted, they were purely decorative
- (E) since all members of the city council have a financial stake in the city's development, any development proposal they make is likely to be motivated purely by self-interest

12. If future improvements to computer simulations of automobile crashes enable computers to provide as much reliable information about the effectiveness of automobile safety features as is provided by actual test crashes, then manufacturers will use far fewer actual test crashes. For the costs of designing and running computer simulations are much lower than those of actual test crashes.

Which one of the following, if true, most strongly supports the argument?

- (A) Apart from information about safety features, actual test crashes provide very little information of importance to automobile manufacturers.
- (B) It is highly likely that within the next 20 years computer simulations of automobile crashes will be able to provide a greater amount of reliable information about the effectiveness of automobile safety features than can be provided by actual test crashes.
- (C) If computer simulations will soon be able to provide more information about the effectiveness of automobile safety features, automobile manufacturers will soon be able to produce safer cars.
- (D) The cost per automobile of testing and designing safety features is decreasing and will continue to decrease for the foreseeable future.
- (E) For years, the aviation industry has been successfully using computer simulations of airplane crashes to test the effectiveness of safety features of airplane designs.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.



13. Legislator: My colleague says we should reject this act because it would deter investment. But because in the past she voted for legislation that inhibited investment, this surely is not the real reason she opposes the act. Since she has not revealed her real reason, it must not be very persuasive. So we should vote to approve the act.

The reasoning in the legislator's argument is most vulnerable to the criticism that the argument

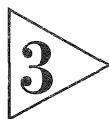
- (A) treats a personal character trait as if it were evidence of the professional viewpoint of the person having that trait
 - (B) fails to address the grounds on which the colleague claims the act should be rejected
 - (C) presumes, without providing justification, that the colleague's opposition to the act is the minority position in the legislature
 - (D) presumes, without providing justification, that voters will oppose legislation that deters investment
 - (E) fails to consider that the colleague's opposition to the act may be a response to constituents' wishes
14. A new computer system will not significantly increase an organization's efficiency unless the computer system requires the organization's employees to adopt new, more productive ways of working. The Ministry of Transportation is having a new computer system custom built to fit the ministry's existing ways of working, so ____.
- Which one of the following most logically completes the argument?
- (A) the new computer system will not increase the efficiency of the Ministry of Transportation to any appreciable degree
 - (B) it is likely that the new computer system will not function correctly when it is first installed
 - (C) the leaders of the Ministry of Transportation must not be concerned with the productivity of the ministry's employees
 - (D) the new computer system will be worthwhile if it automates many processes that are currently performed manually
 - (E) it will be easy for employees of the Ministry of Transportation to learn to use the new computer system

15. Columnist: Many car manufacturers trumpet their cars' fuel economy under normal driving conditions. For all three of the cars I have owned, I have been unable to get even close to the fuel economy that manufacturers advertise for cars of those makes. So manufacturers probably inflate those numbers.

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

- (A) draws a conclusion on the basis of a sample that is too small
 - (B) presumes, without providing justification, that driving conditions are the same in every geographical region
 - (C) overlooks the possibility that the source of a cited claim may be biased and hence unreliable
 - (D) presumes, without providing justification, that car manufacturers knowingly market cars that fail to meet minimum fuel efficiency standards
 - (E) uses the term "fuel economy" in two different senses
16. Tenants who do not have to pay their own electricity bills do not have a financial incentive to conserve electricity. Thus, if more landlords install individual electricity meters on tenant dwellings so that tenants can be billed for their own use, energy will be conserved as a result.
- Which one of the following, if true, most weakens the argument?
- (A) Tenants who do not have to pay their own electricity bills generally must compensate by paying more rent.
 - (B) Many initiatives have been implemented to educate people about how much money they can save through energy conservation.
 - (C) Landlords who pay for their tenants' electricity have a strong incentive to make sure that the appliances they provide for their tenants are energy efficient.
 - (D) Some tenant dwellings can only support individual electricity meters if the dwellings are rewired, which would be prohibitively expensive.
 - (E) Some people conserve energy for reasons that are not related to cost savings.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.



17. The position that punishment should be proportional to how serious the offense is but that repeat offenders should receive harsher punishments than first-time offenders is unsustainable. It implies that considerations as remote as what an offender did years ago are relevant to the seriousness of an offense. If such remote considerations were relevant, almost every other consideration would be too. But this would make determining the seriousness of an offense so difficult that it would be impossible to apply the proportionality principle.

The statement that considerations as remote as what an offender did years ago are relevant to the seriousness of an offense plays which one of the following roles in the argument?

- (A) It is a statement the argument provides grounds to accept and from which the overall conclusion is inferred.
 - (B) It is a statement inferred from a position the argument seeks to defend.
 - (C) It is the overall conclusion in favor of which the argument offers evidence.
 - (D) It is an allegedly untenable consequence of a view rejected in the argument's overall conclusion.
 - (E) It is a premise offered in support of an intermediate conclusion of the argument.
18. Blogger: Traditionally, newspapers have taken objectivity to be an essential of good journalism. However, today's newer media are more inclined to try to create a stir with openly partisan reporting. This contrast in journalistic standards is best understood in terms of differing business strategies. The newer media outlets need to differentiate themselves in a crowded marketplace. The standard of objectivity developed primarily among newspapers with no serious rivals, so the most important objective was to avoid offending potential readers.

Which one of the following is an assumption required by the blogger's argument?

- (A) Journalists at traditional newspapers are just as partisan as journalists who work for newer media outlets.
- (B) People prefer objective reporting to partisan reporting that merely reinforces their own partisan leanings.
- (C) The newer media outlets are increasing in popularity at the expense of traditional newspapers.
- (D) Newspapers have regarded objective reporting as less likely to offend people than openly partisan reporting.
- (E) There can be no basis for taking objectivity to be an essential journalistic standard.

19. Any government practice that might facilitate the abuse of power should not be undertaken except in cases in which there is a compelling reason to do so. The keeping of government secrets is one such practice. Though government officials are sometimes justified in keeping secrets, too often they keep secrets for insubstantial reasons, and in so doing they wind up enabling abuses of power. When government officials conceal from the public the very fact that they are keeping a secret, this practice opens up even greater opportunity for abuse.

Which one of the following can be properly inferred from the statements above?

- (A) In most cases in which government officials conceal information from the public, they are not justified in doing so.
- (B) In those cases in which government officials have a compelling reason to keep a secret, doing so does not facilitate an abuse of power.
- (C) A government official who justifiably keeps a secret should not conceal its existence without having a compelling reason to do so.
- (D) Government officials who conceal information without a compelling reason are thereby guilty of an abuse of power.
- (E) Government officials should keep information secret only if doing so does not make it easier for those officials to abuse their power.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.



20. According to a theory embraced by some contemporary musicians, music is simply a series of sounds, bereft of meaning. But these musicians, because they understand that their theory is radically nonconformist, encourage audience acceptance by prefacing their performances with explanations of their intentions. Thus, even their own music fails to conform to their theory.

Which one of the following, if assumed, enables the argument's conclusion to be properly drawn?

- (A) The human ability to think symbolically and to invest anything with meaning makes it very difficult to create music that has no meaning.
 - (B) It will be possible for musicians to create music that means nothing only when listeners are able to accept such a theory of music.
 - (C) The fact that music is distinguishable from a random series of sounds only when it has meaning makes music with meaning more appealing to audiences than music without meaning.
 - (D) Music that opposes current popular conceptions of music is less likely to be enjoyed by audiences than is music that accords with such conceptions.
 - (E) Musicians whose music has no meaning do not preface their performances with explanations of their intentions.
21. Evolution does not always optimize survival of an organism. Male moose evolved giant antlers as a way of fighting other males for mates, giving those with the largest antlers an evolutionary advantage. But those antlers also make it harder to escape predators, since they can easily get tangled in trees. All male moose would be better off with antlers half the current size: they would all be less vulnerable to predators, and those with the largest antlers would maintain their relative advantage.

Which one of the following is a technique of reasoning used in the argument?

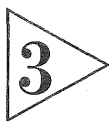
- (A) citing an example to cast doubt on a competing argument
- (B) employing an analogy in order to dispute a generalization
- (C) challenging a general claim by presenting a counterexample
- (D) disputing the relevance of an example thought to support an opposing view
- (E) undermining a claim by showing that it is self-contradictory

22. Biologist: When bacteria of a particular species are placed in a test tube that has different areas lit with different colors of light, the bacteria move only into the areas lit with a particular shade of red. The bacteria contain chlorophyll, a chemical that allows them to produce energy more effectively from this color of light than from any other. This suggests that the bacteria detect this color of light by monitoring how much energy their chlorophyll is producing.

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

- (A) If the chlorophyll is removed from the bacteria, but the bacteria are otherwise unharmed, they no longer show any tendency to move into the areas lit with the particular shade of red.
- (B) The bacteria show little tendency to move into areas containing light in colors other than the particular shade of red, even if their chlorophyll can produce some energy from light in those colors.
- (C) The areas of the test tube lit with the particular shade of red favored by the bacteria are no warmer, on average, than areas lit with other colors.
- (D) The bacteria show no tendency to move into areas lit with blue even when those areas are lit so brightly that the bacteria's chlorophyll produces as much energy in those areas as it does in the red areas.
- (E) There are species of bacteria that do not contain chlorophyll but do move into areas lit with particular colors when placed in a test tube lit with different colors in different places.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.



23. If a piece of legislation is the result of negotiation and compromise between competing interest groups, it will not satisfy any of those groups. So, we can see that the recently enacted trade agreement represents a series of compromises among the various interest groups that are concerned with it, because all of those groups are clearly unhappy with it.

Which one of the following most accurately describes a logical flaw in the argument?

- (A) It draws a conclusion that is merely a disguised restatement of one of its premises.
- (B) It concludes that a condition is necessary for a certain result merely from the claim that the condition leads to that result.
- (C) It relies on understanding a key term in a quite different way in the conclusion from the way that term is understood in the premises.
- (D) It takes for granted that no piece of legislation can ever satisfy all competing interest groups.
- (E) It bases a conclusion about a particular case on a general principle that concerns a different kind of case.

24. After a nuclear power plant accident, researchers found radioactive isotopes of iodine, tellurium, and cesium—but no heavy isotopes—in the atmosphere downwind. This material came either from spent fuel rods or from the plant's core. Spent fuel rods never contain significant quantities of tellurium isotopes. Radioactive material ejected into the atmosphere directly from the core would include heavy isotopes. After the accident, steam, which may have been in contact with the core, was released from the plant. The core contains iodine, tellurium, and cesium isotopes, which are easily dissolved by steam.

Of the following statements, which one is most strongly supported by the information above?

- (A) Radioactive material ejected into the environment directly from a nuclear power plant's core would not include tellurium isotopes.
- (B) The radioactive material detected by the researchers was carried into the atmosphere by the steam that was released from the plant.
- (C) The nuclear power plant's spent fuel rods were not damaged.
- (D) The researchers found some radioactive material from spent fuel rods as well as some material that was ejected into the atmosphere directly from the plant's core.
- (E) Spent fuel rods do not contain heavy isotopes in significant quantities.

25. If ecology and the physical sciences were evaluated by the same criteria, ecology would fail to be a successful science because it cannot be captured by a set of simple laws. But ecology is a successful science, although of a different sort from the physical sciences. Therefore, it clearly is not being evaluated by means of the criteria used to evaluate the physical sciences.

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

- (A) If sales taxes are increased, then either the price of woodchips will go up and the consumer will have to pay more for them, or the woodchip industry will disappear. But the market cannot bear an increase in the price of woodchips, so the woodchip industry will disappear.
- (B) If this gallery could borrow some of Matisse's early works, then, together with its own permanent collection of Matisse, the gallery could have the largest exhibition of Matisse ever. But there is no demand for larger exhibitions of Matisse's work. Therefore, no gallery will be inclined to lend their early Matisses to this gallery.
- (C) If cars of the future are made of lighter and stronger materials, then the number of fatalities due to driving accidents will be drastically reduced. It is obvious that cars will be made of lighter and stronger materials in the future. Therefore, the number of fatalities due to driving accidents will be drastically reduced.
- (D) If physicists attempted research in the social sciences, they would probably be as successful in those areas as researchers who restrict their concentration to the social sciences. However, physicists rarely attempt social science research. Therefore, physicists are not among the most successful researchers in the social sciences.
- (E) If any economic theory were an adequate description of the principles according to which economies operate, then it would be possible to make accurate economic forecasts. But accurate economic forecasts cannot be made. Therefore, no economic theory is an adequate description of the principles according to which economies operate.

S T O P

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.