

## SECTION III

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. Although fiber-optic telephone cable is more expensive to manufacture than copper telephone cable, a telephone network using fiber-optic cable is less expensive overall than a telephone network using copper cable. This is because copper cable requires frequent amplification of complex electrical signals to carry them for long distances, whereas the pulses of light that are transmitted along fiber-optic cable can travel much farther before amplification is needed.

The above statements, if true, most strongly support which one of the following?

- (A) The material from which fiber-optic cable is manufactured is more expensive than the copper from which copper cable is made.
- (B) The increase in the number of transmissions of complex signals through telephone cables is straining those telephone networks that still use copper cable.
- (C) Fiber-optic cable can carry many more signals simultaneously than copper cable can.
- (D) Signals transmitted through fiber-optic cable travel at the same speed as signals transmitted through copper cable.
- (E) The cost associated with frequent amplification of signals traveling through copper cable exceeds the extra manufacturing cost of fiber-optic cable.

2. Being near woodlands, the natural habitat of bees, promotes the health of crops that depend on pollination. Bees, the most common pollinators, visit flowers far from woodlands less often than they visit flowers close to woodlands.

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

- (A) The likelihood that a plant is pollinated increases as the number of visits from pollinators increases.
- (B) Many bees live in habitats other than woodlands.
- (C) Woodlands are not the natural habitat of all pollinators.
- (D) Some pollinators visit flowers far from their habitats more often than they visit flowers close to their habitats.
- (E) Many crops that are not near woodlands depend on pollination.

3. According to the rules of the university's housing lottery, the only students guaranteed dormitory rooms are fourth-year students. In addition, any fourth-year student on the dean's list can choose a dormitory room before anyone who is not a fourth-year student.

Which one of the following inferences is most strongly supported by the rules described above?

- (A) Benizer is a fourth-year student who is not on the dean's list, so she is not guaranteed a dormitory room.
- (B) Ivan and Naomi are both fourth-year students but only Naomi is on the dean's list. Therefore, Ivan can choose a dormitory room before Naomi.
- (C) Halle, a third-year student, is on the dean's list. Thus, she is guaranteed a dormitory room.
- (D) Gerald and Katrina are both on the dean's list but only Gerald is a fourth-year student. Thus, Gerald can choose a dormitory room before Katrina.
- (E) Anissa is a fourth-year student who is on the dean's list. Thus, since Jehan is a second-year student who is also on the dean's list, he can choose a dormitory room before Anissa.

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4. To the editor:

For generations, magnificent racehorses have been bred in our area. Our most valuable product, however, has been generations of children raised with the character that makes them winners in the contests of life. Gambling is wrong, and children raised in an atmosphere where the goal is to get something for nothing will not develop good character. Those who favor developing good character in children over gambling on horses should vote against allowing our first racetrack to be built.

L.E.

Which one of the following, if true, most weakens L.E.'s argument?

- (A) If good character is developed in children early, the children continue to have good character in different environments.
- (B) In other areas with gambling, parents are able to raise children of good character.
- (C) In most areas with horse racing, the percentage of adults who gamble increases gradually from year to year.
- (D) Children whose parents gamble do not necessarily gamble when they become adults.
- (E) Where voters have had the opportunity to vote on horse racing, they have consistently approved it.

5. Azadeh: The recent increase in the amount of organically produced food indicates that consumers are taking a greater interest in the environment. Thus, there is new hope for a healthier planet.

Ben: No, Azadeh, if you interviewed people who buy organic produce, you'd see that they're actually as selfish as everyone else, since they're motivated only by worries about their own health.

Azadeh's and Ben's statements provide the most support for holding that they disagree about whether

- (A) it is likely that a healthy planet can be maintained if most people continue in their present eating habits
- (B) people can become healthier by increasing their consumption of organic foods
- (C) people ought to be more concerned about the environment than they currently are
- (D) the rise in organic food production shows people to have a greater concern for the environment than they had before
- (E) people can be persuaded to have a greater concern for the environment than they now have

6. Citizen: The primary factor determining a dog's disposition is not its breed, but its home environment. A bad owner can undo generations of careful breeding. Legislation focusing on specific breeds of dogs would not address the effects of human behavior in raising and training animals. As a result, such breed-specific legislation could never effectively protect the public from vicious dogs. Moreover, in my view, the current laws are perfectly adequate.

Which one of the following most accurately expresses the conclusion drawn by the citizen?

- (A) The public would not be effectively protected from violent dogs by breed-specific legislation.
- (B) A good home environment is more important than breeding to a dog's disposition.
- (C) The home environment of dogs would not be regulated by breed-specific legislation.
- (D) Irresponsible dog owners are capable of producing dogs with bad dispositions regardless of generations of careful breeding.
- (E) The vicious-dog laws that are currently in effect do not address the effects of human behavior in raising and training dogs.

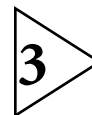
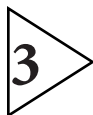
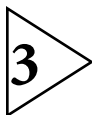
7. Legislator: To keep our food safe, we must prohibit the use of any food additives that have been found to cause cancer.

Commentator: An absolute prohibition is excessive. Today's tests can detect a single molecule of potentially cancer-causing substances, but we know that consuming significantly larger amounts of such a chemical does not increase one's risk of getting cancer. Thus, we should instead set a maximum acceptable level for each problematic chemical, somewhat below the level at which the substance has been shown to lead to cancer but above zero.

Of the following, which one, if true, is the logically strongest counter the legislator can make to the commentator's argument?

- (A) The level at which a given food additive has been shown to lead to cancer in children is generally about half the level at which it leads to cancer in adults.
- (B) Consuming small amounts of several different cancer-causing chemicals can lead to cancer even if consuming such an amount of any one cancer-causing chemical would not.
- (C) The law would prohibit only the deliberate addition of cancer-causing chemicals and would not require the removal of naturally occurring cancer-causing substances.
- (D) For some food additives, the level at which the substance has been shown to lead to cancer is lower than the level at which the additive provides any benefit.
- (E) All food additives have substitutes that can be used in their place.

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8. Consumer advocate: There is ample evidence that the model of car one drives greatly affects the chances that one's car will be stolen. The model of car stolen most often in our country last year, for example, was also the model stolen most often in the preceding year.

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

- (A) fails to address adequately the possibility that the model of car that was stolen most often last year was the most common model of car in the consumer advocate's country
- (B) fails to address adequately the possibility that the age of a car also greatly affects its chances of being stolen
- (C) fails to address adequately the possibility that the car model that was stolen most often last year was stolen as often as it was because it has a very high resale value
- (D) presumes, without providing justification, that someone considering whether or not to steal a particular car considers only what model the car is
- (E) presumes, without providing justification, that the likelihood of a car's being stolen should override other considerations in deciding which car one should drive

9. Laird: Pure research provides us with new technologies that contribute to saving lives. Even more worthwhile than this, however, is its role in expanding our knowledge and providing new, unexplored ideas.

Kim: Your priorities are mistaken. Saving lives is what counts most of all. Without pure research, medicine would not be as advanced as it is.

Laird and Kim disagree on whether pure research

- (A) derives its significance in part from its providing new technologies
- (B) expands the boundaries of our knowledge of medicine
- (C) should have the saving of human lives as an important goal
- (D) has its most valuable achievements in medical applications
- (E) has any value apart from its role in providing new technologies to save lives

10. Naturalist: To be dependable, the accounting framework used by national economists to advise the government must take into account all of our nation's assets; but the current accounting framework used by our national economists assigns no value to government-owned natural resources, which are clearly assets.

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

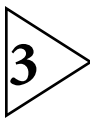
- (A) Economists' indifference toward the destruction of natural resources will lead policymakers to make poor decisions.
- (B) Naturalists and economists disagree about whether natural resources have value.
- (C) The accounting framework used by national economists is not reliable.
- (D) Natural resources are a vital economic asset for every nation.
- (E) Changes in the environment have a value that is not represented in any accounting framework.

11. Carrots are known to be one of the best sources of naturally occurring vitamin A. However, although farmers in Canada and the United States report increasing demand for carrots over the last decade, the number of people diagnosed with vitamin A deficiency in these countries has also increased in that time.

Each of the following, if true of Canada and the United States over the last decade, helps to resolve the apparent discrepancy described above EXCEPT:

- (A) The population has significantly increased in every age group.
- (B) The purchase of peeled and chopped carrots has become very popular, though carrots are known to lose their vitamins quickly once peeled.
- (C) Certain cuisines that have become popular use many more vegetable ingredients, including carrots, than most cuisines that were previously popular.
- (D) Carrot consumption has increased only among those demographic groups that have historically had low vitamin A deficiency rates.
- (E) Weather conditions have caused a decrease in the availability of carrots.

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12. Critics have argued that because Freudianism holds that people have unconscious desires that can defeat their attempts to follow rational life plans, it is incompatible with the predominantly rationalistic spirit of Western philosophical and psychological thought. But it is a central tenet of Freudianism that through psychoanalysis one can become conscious of one's previously unconscious desires, enabling one to avoid being defeated by them. Therefore, \_\_\_\_\_.

Which one of the following most logically completes the argument?

- (A) Freudianism does not run counter to the rationalistic mainstream of Western philosophical and psychological thought
- (B) Freudianism holds that people can always achieve happiness through psychoanalysis
- (C) Freudianism may be the beginning of a new trend in Western philosophical and psychological thought
- (D) psychoanalysis provides one with a rational life plan
- (E) Freudianism reflects the predominantly rationalistic spirit of Western philosophical and psychological thought more than any other psychological theory

13. Writer: In the diplomat's or lawyer's world, a misinterpreted statement can result in an international incident or an undeserved prison term. Thus, legal and diplomatic language is stilted and utterly without literary merit, since by design it prevents misinterpretation, which in these areas can have severe consequences.

The writer's argument requires assuming which one of the following?

- (A) Language that has literary value is more likely to be misunderstood than language without literary value.
- (B) Literary documents are generally less important than legal or diplomatic documents.
- (C) Lawyers and diplomats are much less likely to be misunderstood than are novelists.
- (D) The issues that are of interest to lawyers and diplomats are of little interest to others.
- (E) People express themselves more cautiously when something important is at stake.

14. Overexposure to certain wavelengths of strong sunlight is the main cause of melanoma, a virulent form of skin cancer. For this reason, doctors now urge everyone to put adequate sunblock on skin exposed to strong sunlight. Adequate sunblock, according to doctors, is any preparation that prevents sunburn even if the person is exposed to strong sunlight for a significant length of time.

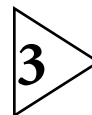
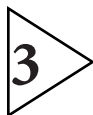
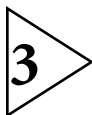
Which one of the following, if true, most weakens the recommendation that people wear adequate sunblock?

- (A) There is no evidence that there are wavelengths of sunlight that lead to both sunburn and melanoma.
- (B) There are people who have allergic reactions to certain chemicals found in many sunblocks.
- (C) Many sunblocks need repeated applications to remain effective for a significant length of time.
- (D) Toxins contained in certain chemical compounds also cause melanoma.
- (E) Sunburns appear immediately after exposure to the sun but melanoma appears years after repeated exposures.

15. In a study, parents were asked to rate each television program that their children watched. The programs were rated for violent content on a scale of one to five, with "one" indicating no violence and "five" indicating a great deal. The number of times their children were disciplined in school was also recorded. Children who watched programs with an average violence rating of three or higher were 50 percent more likely to have been disciplined than other children.

Each of the following, if true, helps to explain the statistical relationship described above EXCEPT:

- (A) Children who are excited by violent action programs on television tend to become bored with schoolwork and to express their boredom in an unacceptable fashion.
- (B) When parents watch violent programs on television with their children, those children become more likely to regard antisocial behavior as legitimate.
- (C) Parents who rated their children's television viewing low on violence had become desensitized to the violence on television by watching too much of it.
- (D) Children learn from violent programs on television to disrespect society's prohibitions of violence and, as a result, are more likely than other children to disrespect the school disciplinary codes.
- (E) Parents who do not allow their children to watch programs with a high level of violence are more likely than other parents to be careful about other aspects of their children's behavior.



16. In the last election, 89 percent of reporters voted for the incumbent. The content of news programs reveals that reporters allowed the personal biases reflected in this voting pattern to affect their news coverage: 54 percent of coverage concerning the challenger was negative, compared with only 30 percent of that concerning the incumbent.

The argument is logically most vulnerable to criticism on the grounds that it

- (A) presumes, without providing justification, that both candidates received equal amounts of coverage overall
  - (B) ignores the possibility that there was more negative news worthy of reporting concerning the challenger than there was concerning the incumbent
  - (C) presumes, without providing justification, that allowing biases to influence reporting is always detrimental to the resulting news coverage
  - (D) ignores the possibility that the electorate's voting behavior is not significantly affected by the content of coverage of candidates
  - (E) ignores the possibility that reporters generally fear losing access to incumbents more than they fear losing access to challengers
17. Art critic: Abstract paintings are nonrepresentational, and so the only measure of their worth is their interplay of color, texture, and form. But for a painting to spur the viewer to political action, instances of social injustice must be not only represented, but also clearly comprehensible as such. Therefore, abstract painting can never be a politically significant art form.

Which one of the following is an assumption that is required by the art critic's argument?

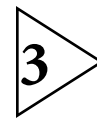
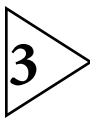
- (A) Abstract painting cannot stimulate people to act.
- (B) Unless people view representations of social injustice, their political activity is insignificant.
- (C) Only art that prompts people to counter social injustice is significant art.
- (D) Paintings that fail to move a viewer to political action cannot be politically significant.
- (E) The interplay of color, texture, and form is not a measure of the worth of representational paintings.

18. North Americans who travel to Europe for the first time should include significant time in Italy on their itinerary. To develop an appreciation of a continent that goes beyond the mere accumulation of impressions, one needs to acquire a thorough knowledge of at least one country, and North Americans seem to find it easier to get to know Italy than other European countries.

Which one of the following best illustrates the principle illustrated by the argument above?

- (A) A person who wants to learn to play the piano should study classical music, because though it is more difficult to play than is popular music, mastery of its techniques enables one to quickly master popular pieces.
- (B) To overcome a fear of water that prevents one from swimming, one should paddle about in shallow water with a trusted friend who is a good swimmer.
- (C) Edith Wharton is the most accessible of the classical U.S. writers. So in order to provide a superb introduction to U.S. literature, a class should emphasize her work while also studying the works of others.
- (D) One can appreciate Taiko-drumming only if one understands how physically demanding it is. Thus, one should see Taiko-drumming and not just hear it in order to appreciate it fully.
- (E) One should travel through North America by train rather than by automobile, because train travel imparts the same sense of open space as does automobile travel, while also affording one the full leisure to attend to the scenery.

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19. Although high cholesterol levels have been associated with the development of heart disease, many people with high cholesterol never develop heart disease, while many without high cholesterol do. Recently, above average concentrations of the blood particle lipoprotein(a) were found in the blood of many people whose heart disease was not attributable to other causes. Dietary changes that affect cholesterol levels have no effect on lipoprotein(a) levels. Hence, there is no reason for anyone to make dietary changes for the sake of preventing heart disease.

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

- (A) It fails to consider the possibility that lipoprotein(a) raises cholesterol levels.
- (B) It provides no evidence for a link between lipoprotein(a) and heart disease.
- (C) It presents but ignores evidence that, for some people, high cholesterol contributes to heart disease.
- (D) It fails to consider the possibility that poor diets cause some people to develop health problems other than heart disease.
- (E) It offers no explanation for why some people with high cholesterol levels never develop heart disease.

20. Philosopher: It is absurd to argue that people are morally obligated to act in a certain way simply because not acting in that way would be unnatural. An unnatural action is either a violation of the laws of nature or a statistical anomaly. There is no possibility of acting as one cannot, nor does the mere fact that something is not usually done provide any good reason not to do it.

Which one of the following most accurately describes a technique used in the philosopher's argument?

- (A) undermining a concept by showing that its acceptance would violate a law of nature
- (B) stating the definition of a key term of the argument
- (C) using statistical findings to dispute a claim
- (D) undermining a claim by showing that the claim is self-contradictory
- (E) using empirical evidence to support one definition of a key term of the argument over another

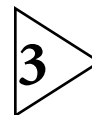
21. Clearly, fitness consultants who smoke cigarettes cannot help their clients become healthier. If they do not care about their own health, they cannot really care for their clients' health, and if they do not care for their clients' health, they cannot help them to become healthier.

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

- (A) Anyone who does not care for his or her own health cannot help others become healthier.
- (B) Anyone who cares about the health of others can help others become healthier.
- (C) Anyone who does not care for the health of others cannot help them become healthier.
- (D) Anyone who does not smoke cares about the health of others.
- (E) Anyone who cares about his or her own health does not smoke.

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22. If one does not have enough information to make a well-informed decision, one should not make a decision solely on the basis of the information one does possess. Instead, one should continue to seek information until a well-informed decision can be made.

Of the following, which one most closely conforms to the principle stated above?

- (A) Economists should not believe the predictions of an economic model simply because it is based on information about the current economy. Many conflicting models are based on such information, and they cannot all be accurate.
- (B) When deciding which career to pursue, one needs to consider carefully all of the information one has. One should not choose a career solely on the basis of financial compensation; instead, one should consider other factors such as how likely one is to succeed at the career and how much one would enjoy it.
- (C) Though a researcher may know a great deal about a topic, she or he should not assume that all information relevant to the research is already in her or his possession. A good researcher always looks for further relevant information.
- (D) When one wants to buy a reliable car, one should not choose which car to buy just on the inadequate basis of one's personal experience with cars. Rather, one should study various models' reliability histories that summarize many owners' experiences.
- (E) When there is not enough information available to determine the meaning of a line of poetry, one should not form an opinion based on the insufficient information. Instead, one should simply acknowledge that it is impossible to determine what the line means.

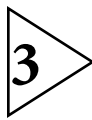
23. Television network executive: Some scientists have expressed concern about the numerous highly popular television programs that emphasize paranormal incidents, warning that these programs will encourage superstition and thereby impede the public's scientific understanding. But these predictions are baseless. Throughout recorded history, dramatists have relied on ghosts and spirits to enliven their stories, and yet the scientific understanding of the populace has steadily advanced.

The television network executive's argument is most vulnerable to criticism on which one of the following grounds?

- (A) It fails to consider that one phenomenon can steadily advance even when it is being impeded by another phenomenon.
  - (B) It takes for granted that if a correlation has been observed between two phenomena, they must be causally connected.
  - (C) It fails to consider that the occurrence of one phenomenon can indirectly affect the pervasiveness of another even if the former does not impede the latter.
  - (D) It fails to consider that just because one phenomenon is known to affect another, the latter does not also affect the former.
  - (E) It takes for granted that the contention that one phenomenon causes another must be baseless if the latter phenomenon has persisted despite steady increases in the pervasiveness of the former.
24. Police commissioner: Last year our city experienced a 15 percent decrease in the rate of violent crime. At the beginning of that year a new mandatory sentencing law was enacted, which requires that all violent criminals serve time in prison. Since no other major policy changes were made last year, the drop in the crime rate must have been due to the new mandatory sentencing law.

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

- (A) Studies of many other cities have shown a correlation between improving economic conditions and decreased crime rates.
- (B) Prior to the enactment of the mandatory sentencing law, judges in the city had for many years already imposed unusually harsh penalties for some crimes.
- (C) Last year, the city's overall crime rate decreased by only 5 percent.
- (D) At the beginning of last year, the police department's definition of "violent crime" was broadened to include 2 crimes not previously classified as "violent."
- (E) The city enacted a policy 2 years ago requiring that 100 new police officers be hired in each of the 3 subsequent years.



25. A corporation created a new division. To staff it, applicants were rigorously screened and interviewed. Those selected were among the most effective, efficient, and creative workers that the corporation had ever hired. Thus, the new division must have been among the most effective, efficient, and creative divisions the corporation had ever created.

The flawed pattern of reasoning in which one of the following is most similar to that in the argument above?

- (A) In order to obtain the best players for its country's Olympic team, a committee reviewed the performance of its country's teams. After reviewing statistics and reading reports, the committee chose one player from each of the six best teams, thus assuring that the six best players in the country had been chosen.
- (B) Several salespeople were given incentives to recruit the largest number of new customers in one month. To monitor the incentive program, the boss interviewed one of the salespeople and found that the salesperson had already exceeded the minimum goals of the program. Thus the incentive program was indeed effective.
- (C) A law firm decided to add a department devoted to family law. To obtain the best employees it could, the firm studied the credentials and composition of several other firms well known to have successful staffs working in family law. Eventually, the firm hired a staff of new lawyers and support personnel having training and aptitudes as much like those of the studied firms as possible. Thus the law firm must have created one of the best family-law departments.
- (D) To put together this year's two All-Star Teams, the best players in the league were selected. Half of them were put on Team One, and half were put on Team Two. Since each player on the two teams was one of the best players in the league this year, it follows that the two All-Star Teams are the two best teams this year.
- (E) Various schools chose teams of students to compete in a debate tournament. Each school's team presented a position and rebutted the others' positions. After the initial scores were in, the ten top teams competed against each other. Since one team eventually emerged with the highest average score, it was clearly the best team.

26. Students in a college ethics class were asked to judge whether two magazines had been morally delinquent in publishing a particular classified advertisement that was highly offensive in its demeaning portrayal of some people. They were told only that the first magazine had undertaken to screen all classified advertisements and reject for publication those it found offensive, whereas the second magazine's policy was to publish any advertisement received from its subscribers. Most students judged the first magazine, but not the second, to have been morally delinquent in publishing the advertisement.

Which one of the following principles, if established, provides the strongest justification for the judgment that the first magazine and not the second was morally delinquent?

- (A) It is wrong to publish messages that could cause direct or indirect harm to innocent people.
- (B) Anyone regularly transmitting messages to the public has a moral responsibility to monitor the content of those messages.
- (C) If two similar agents commit two similar actions, those agents should be held to the same standard of accountability.
- (D) Failure to uphold a moral standard is not necessarily a moral failing except for those who have specifically committed themselves to upholding that standard.
- (E) A magazine should not be considered at fault for publishing a classified advertisement if that advertisement would not be offensive to any of the magazine's subscribers.

## 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.