



UNIVERSITY OF GHANA

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B.A. SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS: 2017/2018

UGRC 150: CRITICAL THINKING & PRACTICAL REASONING

3 CREDITS

MAIN CAMPUS

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer **ALL** questions. Answer the questions on the question paper. For questions 1-41, circle the letter corresponding to the correct answer on this page; and answer the rest at the places where they are. Each answer carries 1 (one) mark, unless otherwise stated.

TIME ALLOWED: Two hours

1. A B C D E
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35. A B C D E
36. A B C D E
37. A B C D E
38. A B C D E
39. A B C D E
40. A B C D E

41.

- I. A B C D E F G
- II. A B C D E F G
- III. A B C D E F G
- IV. A B C D E F G
- V. A B C D E F G
- VI. A B C D E F G
- VII. A B C D E F G
- VIII. A B C D E F G
- IX. A B C D E F G
- X. A B C D E F G

Choose the option that best answers each of the questions below:

1. Which of the following statements is confirmable?
 - a. The metal did not expand yesterday when it was heated
 - b. There are different metals in this truck
 - c. All metals expand when heated
 - d. All of the above
 - e. None of the above
2. An observational report may also be called a ...
 - a. Law-like statement
 - b. Research finding
 - c. Deductive premise
 - d. Conclusion
 - e. Confirmation
3. Which of the following best describes the passage in italics?
66% of Africans who were sent to Brazil were taken from Nigeria. Pele's grandfather was sent from Africa to Brazil. Therefore, Pele's father was taken from Nigeria.
 - a. Inductive argument
 - b. Deductive argument
 - c. Sound argument
 - d. Circular argument
 - e. Not an argument
4. Some scientific statements are not falsifiable.
 - a. True
 - b. False
5. Ad hominem fallacy may be explained in ways.
 - a. Two
 - b. Three
 - c. Four
 - d. Five
 - e. six
6. A formal fallacy ...
 - a. Manipulates data
 - b. Manipulates language
 - c. All of the above
 - d. Is linked to syllogisms
 - e. None of the above
7. Polemical tricks and rhetorical ploys are the same as ...
 - a. Fallacies
 - b. Informal fallacies
 - c. All of the above
 - d. Incomplete arguments
 - e. None of the above
8. Which of the following sentences is a fragment?
 - a. That bottle is old
 - b. The International Court for the Arbitration of Sports
 - c. The Accra International Cultural Theatre attracts visitors

- d. Tick the Organization of African Unity
 - e. None of the above
9. The sentence, *Hey! Who do you think you are?* is ...
- a. Fragment
 - b. Imperative
 - c. Declarative
 - d. Emotive
 - e. None of the above
10. The sentence, *Kofi was the one who stole the book* is ...
- a. Non-moral value judgement
 - b. Moral value judgement
 - c. Imperative
 - d. Interrogative
 - e. None of the above
11. Which of the following sentences is factual?
- a. Do not lie
 - b. Is her claim factual or not?
 - c. Sunyani is not bigger than Accra
 - d. Praise the Lord!
 - e. None of the above
12. A sentence which expresses feeling may be described as ...
- a. Emotive
 - b. Definition
 - c. Imperative
 - d. Fragment
 - e. interrogative
13. Which of the following is a syllogistic fallacy?
- a. Fallacy of denying the antecedent
 - b. Fallacy of affirming the consequent
 - c. All of the above
 - d. Informal fallacy
 - e. None of the above
14. Inductive arguments always move from particular statements to a general conclusion.
- a. True
 - b. False
15. If a sentence is general, it has ...
- a. Infinite reference class
 - b. Infinite attribute class
 - c. Finite attribute class
 - d. finite reference class
 - e. Finite reference and attribute classes
16. In a/an ... argument, the conclusion is indirectly contained in the premises.
- a. Valid
 - b. Inductive
 - c. Bad
 - d. True proposition
 - e. None of the above

17. An unsound argument is not really valid.
a. True
b. False
18. The subject of any declarative sentence is definiendum.
a. True
b. False
19. In providing the essential meaning of a word, one would have succeeded in defining the word in a/an ... sense.
a. Theoretical
b. Lexical
c. Ostensive
d. Operational
e. None of the above
20. Defining **even number** as '2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12' is a perfect example of ... definition.
a. Lexical
b. Operational
c. Ostensive
d. Stipulative
e. None of the above
21. A well-defined term is a term which ...
a. Has been defined lexically
b. Has no synonyms
c. Is essentially contestable
d. Is not defined in a circular manner
e. None of the above
22. The definition, *earned income is any acquisition that benefits the recipient* is ...
a. Vague
b. Broad
c. Narrow
d. Operational
e. ostensive
23. Which of the following is a factual sentence?
a. Phone is a manufactured product.
b. Phone is electronic equipment that converts sound into electrical signals that can be transmitted over distances and then converts received signals back into sounds.
c. Phone into the programme which will be aired at.
d. All of the above
e. None of the above
24. Proverbs are subjective.
a. True
b. False
25. When people are exposed to different facts in life, it may lead to ...
a. different well-defined terms
b. substantive disputes
c. verbal disputes
d. metaphorical claims
e. None of the above

26. Is there any ambiguity in the sentence, *The queen was discovered by the team*?
- Yes
 - No
27. When the intended denotation of a word is indeterminate, the sentence in which the word appears is ...
- False
 - Equivocation
 - Ambiguous
 - Vague
 - None of the above
28. Which of the following options best describes the passage in italics?

It is quite tempting not to think that we are the most deprived people in the whole of Africa. Why do we have to beg everyday for everything? Life is tough but ours is worse than tough. In the long run, we are told, things will be better. But I hope we will stay alive till that time.

- Rhetoric
 - Narrative
 - Argument
 - Instruction
 - None of the above
29. Which of the following is a premise indicator?
- It follows that
 - As a result
 - Clearly then
 - Consequently
 - None of the above
30. Which of the following is law-like?
- Mathematical law
 - Divine law
 - Logical law
 - Civil law
 - None of the above
31. Appeal to vanity is the same as ...
- Hasty generalization
 - Appeal to pity
 - Grandstanding
 - Appeal to threat
 - Rhetoric
32. Appeal to consensus is the same as ...
- Ad hominem
 - Appeal to threat
 - Appeal to pity
 - Appeal to the masses
 - None of the above
33. In the sentence, *The parents of Mansah and the uncle of Araba will be invited by the director tomorrow*, the reference class is ...

- a. Parents
 - b. The parents of Mansah
 - c. The uncle of Araba
 - d. The uncle of Araba would be invited by the director tomorrow
 - e. None of the above
34. An unsound argument is ...
- a. Invalid
 - b. Fallacious
 - c. All of the above
 - d. Valid
 - e. None of the above
35. A statistical hypothesis is ...
- a. An observational report
 - b. Confirmable
 - c. All of the above
 - d. A true statement
 - e. A mathematical law
36. The hypothesis of every enumerative induction is ...
- a. Law-like
 - b. Statistical
 - c. Both law-like and statistical
 - d. Either law-like or statistical
 - e. Neither law-like nor statistical
37. A pseudo hypothesis ...
- a. Has a high empirical content
 - b. Has a low empirical content
 - c. Has no empirical content
 - d. Is a syllogistic fallacy
 - e. Is an informal fallacy
38. When a passage is neither deductive nor inductive but is meant to manipulate the reader, then, its discourse is ...
- a. Polemic
 - b. Rhetorical
 - c. Rhetoric
 - d. Polemical
 - e. None of the above
39. Misplaced vividness is a fallacy which ...
- a. Manipulates language
 - b. Is the same as pseudo-precision
 - c. Changes the subject
 - d. Is syllogistic
 - e. None of the above
40. Which of the following sentences is not true?
- a. Definition provides the meaning of a word
 - b. Fallacies make arguments defective at all times
 - c. It is not possible to have a proposition which is not a sentence

- d. A dispute between two parties may or may not be easy to resolve, depending on how it was generated in the first place
- e. None of the above

41. Use (a) 'disjunctive syllogism', (b) 'modus ponens', (c) 'hypothetical syllogism', (d) 'modus tollens', (e) 'false hypothetical syllogism', (f) 'fallacy of denying the antecedent', and (g) 'none of the above' to describe the following statements [Choose only one of the alternatives just mentioned for each statement and circle the corresponding letter at page 1]:

- i. All mathematicians are electrical engineers. Prince Martin Looker is not an electrical engineer. Therefore, Prince Martin Looker is not a mathematician.-----
- ii. All philosophers are interested in Gospel music. Dr. Emmanuel Atuire is interested in Gospel music. It can therefore be said that Dr. Emmanuel Atuire is a philosopher.-----
- iii. All South Koreans are passionate supporters of Manchester United football club. Lee Park is not a South Korean. Therefore, Lee Park is not a passionate supporters of Manchester United football club.-----
- iv. All blacksmiths are traditional in orientation. All individuals who are traditional in orientation are thoughtful. Therefore, All blacksmiths are thoughtful.-----
- v. It is either the case that Mary is washing under the tree or she is playing football on the field. She is not washing under the tree. Yet, she is not playing on the field.-----
- vi. All Ivoirians are excellent dancers to the African rhythm. Coulibally is an excellent dancers to the African rhythm. Therefore, Coulibally is an Ivoirian. -----
- vii. All cars consume fuel. All buses consume fuel. Therefore, all cars are buses. -----
- viii. Lecturers deserve to be paid well by the government of the country. This plantain chips seller is not a lecturer. Therefore, this plantain chips seller does not deserve to be paid well by the government of the country. -----
- ix. All brilliant students are respectful. Anangina is a brilliant student. Therefore, Anangina is not respectful.-----
- x. Either Kofi is singing the latest song or Jael is cooking her favourite food. Kofi is not singing the latest song. Therefore, Jael is cooking her favorite food.-----

42. Indicate the type of declarative contained in the following sentences.

- a. An open way (generally public) for travel or transportation is a road.
.....
- b. The leader of the rebels who were fighting the Congolese government in 2002 is now the finance minister of that country.
- c. It is a shame to tell lies.
- d. It is good to sit upright when writing lotto numbers.
- e. That old man is Satan.
- f. No Ghanaian lives in the United States of America.
.....
- g. It is against the laws of Ghana to employ children.
.....

- h. A bachelor is an unmarried man.
.....
- i. Food is eaten by humans and animals.
.....
- j. Ghana is not in Africa.
- k. Matter is anything that has weight and occupies space.
.....
- l. In the University of Ghana, there are many departments which are grouped under separate Schools and Colleges.
- m. Emmanuel Donkor is the engine of the football team.
.....
- n. Backbiting is a sin.
- o. Master James is a hard-working class leader.
.....

43. Indicate whether each of the following sentences is general or particular (1 mark each):

- a. All the teachers of that school drive Ferrari. -----
- b. The head teachers are going to pay. -----
- c. Dede Ali is taller than Ama. -----
- d. Few students engage in examination malpractices. -----
- e. Most politicians love their country. -----

THE END.

