



UNIVERSITY OF GHANA
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B.A. SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS: 2018/2019

UGRC 150: CRITICAL THINKING & PRACTICAL REASONING

3 CREDITS

MAIN AND CITY CAMPUSES

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer ALL questions by shading the correct answer with pencil on the answer sheet. You should also shade your ID number on the answer sheet (after writing it at the space provided for it on the answer sheet). Each answer carries 1 mark; 70 marks in all.

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

1. In distinguishing types of sentence-shaped thought, one would ...
 - a. Need to know the premise first
 - b. Need to know the conclusion first
 - c. Have first considered both the premises and the conclusion
 - d. Scrutinize all logical possibilities
 - e. None of the above
2. If a sentence is a fragment, then it means ...
 - a. It is emotive
 - b. It is a fallacy
 - c. It has only a subject
 - d. It contains only punctuations
 - e. None of the above
3. Consider the passage in italics: *Some who are civil engineers are readers of the Gospel, since anyone who is a civil engineer must pay more-tax and-a fraction of those who pay more tax read the Gospel.* This passage best illustrates...
 - a. Narrative
 - b. Instruction
 - c. Deductive argument
 - d. Inductive argument
 - e. None of the above
4. In the sentence, *The attribute class of a statement is relied upon in determining good thoughts*, the underlined portion is ...

- a. Consequent
 - b. Reference class
 - c. Attribute class
 - d. Antecedent
 - e. None of the above
5. If the conclusion of an argument is false even if the premises are taken to be true, then ...
- a. There is an unsound argument
 - b. The argument is deductive
 - c. All of the above
 - d. There is a false argument
 - e. None of the above
6. If Kofi is taller than Ama and Ama is shorter than Abi, it means that...
- a. Abi is taller than Kofi
 - b. Kofi is taller than Abi ...
 - c. Kofi and Abi are of the same height
 - d. Abi is taller than Ama but shorter than Kofi
 - e. None of the above
7. If an argument moves from a particular premise to a particular conclusion, then ...
- a. It is inappropriate
 - b. It is not deductive
 - c. It is not inductive
 - d. It could be deductive or inductive
 - e. None of the above
8. A test result is the ...
- a. Conclusion of any argument
 - b. Conclusion of an inductive argument
 - c. Conclusion of a deductive argument
 - d. All of the above
 - e. None of the above
9. Statistical hypothesis has a lower predictive power than a law-like hypothesis.
- a. True
 - b. False
10. Read the passage in italics and select an answer from the options below that best describes it:
- The supporters of the Rugby team are as strong as the players of the team. Olu and Ibu seem to be members of the Rugby team. Therefore, they are strong.*
- a. The conclusion confirms the premises
 - b. The premises confirm the conclusion
 - c. The conclusion proves the premises
 - d. The premises prove the conclusion
 - e. None of the above
11. Which of the options below is interrogative?
- a. What? How is this possible in Ghana today?
 - b. Is every sentence interrogative?
 - c. All of the above
 - d. Play the game!
 - e. None of the above

12. Which of the following sentences is true?
- A declarative sentence is factual as well
 - A factual sentence is neither imperative nor fragment
 - A definition is factual but not declarative
 - A value judgement is declarative but cannot be factual
 - None of the above
13. A metaphor is an expression of a value judgement.
- True
 - False
14. An eliminative definition may also be referred to as ...
- A definition which is true and does not allow unrelated words
 - An essential definition
 - A stipulative definition
 - A theoretical definition
 - None of the above
15. Consider the following conversation between Kofi and Amit:
- Kofi:** Where have you been Amit? I have not seen you in a while
- Amit:** I travelled. I visited my friend in India
- Kofi:** Did you learn anything?
- Amit:** Of course! Among Indians, 'lazy' means good thinking. I took time over there engaging in the act of 'lazy', good thinking
- Kofi:** You misunderstand people easily. And I hope you found a remedy for that problem
- Amit:** Why do you think I have a problem?
- Kofi:** You do not work hard enough to understand people – this is laziness. Yet, you are suggesting that being lazy is good, "good thinking".
- The conversation shows that Kofi misunderstands ...
- Stipulative definition
 - Operational definition
 - Theoretical definition
 - Implicit meaning of a sentence
 - None of the above
16. When exposure to different facts in life leads to a dispute between two people, the dispute is ...
- Capable of not being resolved easily
 - Capable of being resolved easily
 - Never in connection with an argument
 - Fallacious dispute
 - None of the above
17. The intentional vague use of language entails ...
- Metaphors
 - Proverbs
 - All of the above
 - Fallacy of changing the subject
 - None of the above
18. Which of the following is more about the speaker than the facts?
- Rhetoric

- b. Polemic
 - c. Emotive
 - d. All of the above
 - e. None of the above
19. The expression "it follows that" is ...
- a. Logical
 - b. Premise indicator
 - c. All of the above
 - d. Predicate indicator
 - e. None of the above
20. When a passage is about the order of events, then it is ...
- a. Narrative
 - b. Instruction
 - c. Structure related passage
 - d. Scientific law
 - e. None of the above
21. Which of the following laws is often described as law-like?
- a. Moral law
 - b. Logical law
 - c. Natural law
 - d. Statutory law
 - e. None of the above
22. The sentence, *God is omnipotent and the creator of this world* is an example of ...
- a. Civil law
 - b. Natural law
 - c. Divine law
 - d. Logical law
 - e. None of the above
23. The sentence, *Dr. Majeed is stingy* best illustrates ...
- a. An expression of fact but not value
 - b. A statement of value but not fact
 - c. An expression of neither value nor fact
 - d. False sentence
 - e. None of the above
24. The sentence, *If x is a soldier, then x is caring* means ...
- a. One needs to be a soldier before one can be caring
 - b. If someone wants to be caring, then he or she must become a soldier
 - c. All soldiers are people who care
 - d. All caring people must first be soldiers before anything else
 - e. None of the above
25. Affirming the consequent is ...
- a. A syllogistic fallacy
 - b. A valid argument
 - c. An inductive argument
 - d. An unsound argument
 - e. None of the above
26. Denying the consequent is ...

- a. A syllogistic fallacy
 - b. A valid argument
 - c. An inductive argument
 - d. An unsound argument
 - e. None of the above
27. Which of the following statements has no empirical content?
- a. Either Odo Nti is stealing right now or she is reading at the library
 - b. Either Odo Nti created this world or someone created the world
 - c. Either Odo Nti is not taking care of the baby or she is taking care of the baby
 - d. Odo Nti is an interesting human being and a farmer
 - e. All of the above
28. Which of the following fallacies could be dyslogistic?
- a. Syllogistic fallacy
 - b. Equivocation
 - c. Pseudo-precision
 - d. Ad hominem
 - e. Hasty generalization
29. When an argument begs the question, it means that ...
- a. It contains too many questions
 - b. The word which is being defined is repeated in the part that provides the meaning of the word
 - c. A word which has more than one meaning is found in all its parts
 - d. Syllogistic fallacy
 - e. None of the above

Use one of [(a) factual, (b) definition, (c) normative and empirical, (d) moral value judgement, (e) none of the above] to describe correctly the sentences in questions 30-40.

- 30. Ama sweeps her husband's compound every morning, even if it rains
 - 31. A bird is an animal that flies
 - 32. The good husband of the Ghanaian seamstress
 - 33. Abortion is evil
 - 34. A prescribed selection of foods is diet
 - 35. Eating a lot of meat is not prescribed by dieticians
 - 36. These Critical Thinking examination questions are not more than seventy
 - 37. Fish is an animal and it lives in water
 - 38. The headmaster of the Football School is the most respected among the invited guests
 - 39. Life is war
 - 40. The money should be able to buy a car
41. Which of the options below can be found in or used to describe the conversation in italics?

Mr. A: I have an important thing to say

Mr. B: Has anyone stopped you from saying it? What is it?

Mr. A: I know how to identify the best products from every country

Mr. B: Is this knowledge something you just acquired?

Mr. A: No

Mr. B: How do you identify such products then?

Mr. A: I use and examine the products of the best manufacturers of the country concerned. For instance, I used two cars made by the best manufacturer in Germany and they were excellent. Why would I not say that German cars are the best?

Mr. B: Maybe, I have to adopt your mode of assessment too

- a. Good reasoning
 - b. Appeal to consensus
 - c. Illegitimate appeal to authority
 - d. Genetic fallacy
 - e. None of the above
42. Which of the followings statements is true?
- a. A well-defined term does not generate controversies
 - b. A well-defined term could be seen in the mathematical sentence $1+1=2$
 - c. All of the above
 - d. A well-defined term is also a dictionary definition
 - e. All of the above
43. In the sentence, *This administrative position is reserved for a mature person*, there is ...
- a. Vagueness
 - b. Circularity
 - c. Ambiguity
 - d. Well-defined expression
 - e. None of the above
44. Which of the options below best describes the passage in italics?
- 0.01% of illegal lotto operators who come from Akyem recommend that owners of commercial vehicles be made to buy two gallons of kerosene everyday; therefore, one can say that, no illegal lotto operators who come from Akyem recommend that owners of commercial vehicles be made to buy two gallons of kerosene everyday*
- a. Valid argument
 - b. Invalid argument
 - c. Polemic
 - d. A hypothesis
 - e. None of the above

Which of the following options (a-e) best describes the sentences in questions 45-55:
(a) hypothetical syllogism, (b) disjunctive syllogism (c) denying the antecedent (d) modus ponens (e) none of the above

45. All industrialists in the People's Republic of China are followers of Confucius. All Taoists are followers of Confucius. So all industrialists in the People's Republic of China are Taoists.
46. Anyone who abandons his dreams will never prosper in life. Asibi has not abandoned her dreams. Therefore, Asibi will prosper.
47. All educational institutions in the country are owned by the government. Alam School is an educational institution. So Alam School is not owned by the government
48. All Italians are farmers. All farmers are ungrateful. So all Italians are grateful
49. Anytime he sells his shoes, he eats rice and stew. He is not going to eat rice and stew today. So he has not sold his shoes.

50. All Level 400 students who are writing this paper are wearing white shirt. Joojo is writing this paper and wearing a white shirt. So Joojo is a Level 400 student.
51. Either we are returning to New York today or we intend painting our room. We intend painting our room today. So we are not returning to New York today.
52. All zombies are fictitious. Avatar is not a zombie. So Avatar is not fictitious.
53. Either the computer was stolen or the goat was not mine. The computer was not stolen. So the goat was not mine.
54. All Ghanaians are rich. All rich people are interested in dancing agbadza. So all Ghanaians are interested in dancing agbadza.
55. All mathematicians are intelligent. All who work with numbers are intelligent. So all mathematicians are people who work with numbers.

Use either (a) *particular* or (b) *general* or (c) *neither particular nor general* to answer questions 56-64

56. All men in Accra are people who would like to ensure that the city is always clean
57. A few Togolese are capable of speaking English
58. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday constitute the days of the week
59. 2% of teachers who are paid by private employers eat balanced meals twice in a day
60. 100% of regional ministers in the Republic of Ghana had their postgraduate education in the best tertiary institution in Sierra Leone
61. The National Theatre, Accra Sports Stadium and Cedi House attract so many tourists every year
62. Most Australians and the nomads of the Arabia as documented by the World Book of History
63. Osei Wusu just travelled to that town to announce the arrival of the Chief
64. All girls who are above 5 feet and are in this class are Europeans

Use (a) *statistical hypothesis* or (b) *law-like hypothesis* or (c) *neither statistical nor law-like* to answer questions 65-70

65. Every Muslim is expected to marry one wife except in special circumstances
66. The Teachers' Association is in talks with the government over the delay in payment of the salaries of its members
67. All Japanese are tall
68. Some students do not pay their tuition fees in full
69. All I want to say is that she is honest
70. 42% of demonstrations are led by women

THE END.