Checking that the arguments supplied by the reader are proper is a good way to prevent confusing results or error messages from occurring later on in the function. It is also a useful way to enforce documented requirements for a function.

In this case, the num_download() function is expecting both the pkgname and date arguments to be character vectors. In particular, the date argument should be a character vector of length 1. We can check the class of an argument usingis.character() and the length using the length() function.

The revised function with argument checking is as follows.

```
num_download <- function(pkgname, date = "2016-07-20") {
        check_pkg_deps()

        ## Check arguments
        if(!is.character(pkgname))
                stop("'pkgname' should be character")
        if(!is.character(date))
                stop("'date' should be character")
        if(length(date) != 1)
                stop("'date' should be length 1")

        dest <- check_for_logfile(date)
        cran <- read_csv(dest, col_types = "ccicccccci",
                         progress = FALSE)
        cran %>% filter(package %in% pkgname) %>%
                group_by(package) %>%
                summarize(n = n())
}
```

Note that here, we chose to stop() and throw an error if the argument was not of the appropriate type. However, an alternative would have been to simply coerce the argument to be of character type using the as.character() function.

```
num_download("filehash", c("2016-07-20", "2016-0-21"))
Error in num_download("filehash", c("2016-07-20", "2016-0-21")): 'date' should
  be length 1
```

Mark as completed