CR Q Marathon

https://www.facebook.com/events/576189252714656/576219179378330

[#CRM1](https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/crm1?source=feed_text&story_id=576219179378330) 2 mins

Consumer health advocate: Your candy company adds caffeine to your chocolate candy bars so that each one delivers a specified amount of caffeine. Since caffeine is highly addictive, this indicates that you intend to keep your customers addicted.

Candy manufacturer: Our manufacturing process results in there being less caffeine in each chocolate candy bar than in the unprocessed cacao beans from which the chocolate is made.

The candy manufacturer’s response is flawed as a refutation of the consumer health advocate’s argument because it

(A) fails to address the issue of whether the level of caffeine in the candy bars sold by the manufacturer is enough to keep people addicted  
(B) assumes without warrant that all unprocessed cacao beans contain a uniform amount of caffeine  
(C) does not specify exactly how caffeine is lost in the manufacturing process  
(D) treats the consumer health advocate’s argument as though it were about each candy bar rather than about the manufacturer’s candy in general  
(E) merely contradicts the consumer health advocate’s conclusion without giving any reason to believe that the advocate’s reasoning is unsound

[#CRM1OA](https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/crm1oa?source=feed_text) : A

Situation A candy manufacturer is accused of adding caffeine, an addictive substance, to its chocolate candy bars with the intent of keeping its customers addicted. The candy manufacturer responds to this accusation by saying that there is less caffeine in each chocolate candy bar than in the unprocessed cacao beans from which the chocolate is made.

Reasoning What is the flaw in the candy manufacturer’s response? First consider whether the response indeed refutes the advocate’s charge. In actuality, instead of focusing on the details of the accusation—adding caffeine to its chocolate bars to keep customers addicted—the manufacturer substitutes an entirely different subject, the amount of caffeine in cacao beans. The manufacturer’s response is a diversion,not an answer.

A Correct. This statement properly identifies the flaw in the response. The candy manufacturer does not answer the question whether adding caffeine to candy bars is designed to make them addictive.

B Even if the manufacturer did make this assumption, the information is not relevant to the accusation, which is not concerned with naturally occurring caffeine in cacao beans.

C The precise amount of caffeine lost in the manufacturing process is not at issue.

D The manufacturer does not treat the health advocate’s argument this way.

E The manufacturer does not contradict the accusation, but rather avoids it.

[#CRM2](https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/crm2?source=feed_text&story_id=576224546044460) 2 mins

Nutritionists are advising people to eat more fish, since the omega-3 fatty acids in fish help combat many diseases. If everyone took this advice, however, there would not be enough fish in oceans, rivers, and lakes to supply the demand; the oceans are already being overfished. The obvious method to ease the pressure on wild fish populations is for people to increase their consumption of farmed fish. Which of the following, if true, raises the most serious doubt concerning the prospects for success of the solution proposed above?

A. Aquaculture, or fish farming, raises more fish in a given volume of water than are generally present in the wild.

B. Some fish farming, particularly of shrimp and other shellfish, takes place in enclosures in the ocean.

C. There are large expanses of ocean waters that do not contain enough nutrients to support substantial fish populations.

D. The feed for farmed ocean fish is largely made from small wild-caught fish, including the young of many popular food species.

E. Some of the species that are now farmed extensively were not commonly eaten when they were only available in the wild

[#CRM2OA](https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/crm2oa?source=feed_text&story_id=576226019377646) : D

Situation Nutritionists advise people to eat fish for the omega-3 fatty acids, but there would not be enough fish to meet the demand if everyone followed this advice. Therefore, people should increase their consumption of farmed fish to ease pressure of wild fish populations.

Reasoning What evidence would suggest that increasing consumption of farmed fish would not ease pressure on wild fish populations? Any evidence suggesting that significantly increasing consumption of farmed fish would diminish the habitat or food available for wild fish would also suggest that increasing consumption of farmed fish would not ease pressure on wild fish populations.

A Probably the less space fish farming requires, the less pressure it creates on wild fish habitats and populations, other things being equal.

B Whether any fish farming takes place in enclosures in the ocean is not clearly relevant to whether it eases pressure on wild fish populations.

C Substantial fish populations may thrive in other large expanses of ocean water that contain more nutrients, and in rivers and lakes.

D Correct. This suggests that increasing consumption of farmed fish would require increased use of wild fish as feed for farmed fish and therefore would not ease pressure on wild fish populations.

E Even if some farmed fish are different species from the wild fish that are commonly eaten, increased consumption of the farmed fish could reduce demand for the wild fish and thereby ease pressure on wild fish populations.

[#CRM3](https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/crm3?source=feed_text) 2 mins

Crops can be traded on the futures market before they are harvested. If a poor corn harvest is predicted, prices of corn futures rise; if a bountiful corn harvest is predicted, prices of corn futures fall. This morning meteorologists are predicting much-needed rain for the corn-growing region starting tomorrow. Therefore, since adequate moisture is essential for the current crop’s survival, prices of corn futures will fall sharply today.

Which of the following, if true, most weakens the argument above?  
(A) Corn that does not receive adequate moisture during its critical pollination stage will not produce a bountiful harvest.

(B) Futures prices for corn have been fluctuating more dramatically this season than last season.

(C) The rain that meteorologists predicted for tomorrow is expected to extend well beyond the corn-growing region.

(D) Agriculture experts announced today that a disease that has devastated some of the corn crop will spread widely before the end of the growing season.

(E) Most people who trade in corn futures rarely take physical possession of the corn they trade

[#CRM3OA](https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/crm3oa?source=feed_text&story_id=576229502710631) : D

Situation Crop futures rise when a harvest is expected to be small and drop when a harvest is expected to be large. Today’s weather forecast for the corn-growing area predicts much-needed rain, so corn futures will fall today.

Reasoning What information weakens the argument that corn futures will fall? The prediction that corn futures will drop sharply today is made solely on the basis of the forecast of rain, which would lead futures buyers to expect an abundant crop. However, if it becomes known that some harmful circumstance such as a devastating disease will severely affect the corn crop before the end of the growing season, this knowledge may lead buyers of futures to expect a smaller harvest, causing prices of futures to rise rather than fall.

A This statement tells at what exact point in the growing cycle rain is critical to a good harvest, but it gives no information about this year’s harvest.

B This comparison of past price fluctuations does not affect what will happen to today’s corn futures on account of the predicted rain. The argument is not weakened.

C The only rain that matters is the rain that affects the corn-growing region, not areas beyond it; this statement is irrelevant to the prediction.

D Correct. This statement properly identifies information that weakens the argument.

E Physical possession of the corn is irrelevant to the price of corn futures

[#CRM4](https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/crm4?source=feed_text) : 2 mins

Large national budget deficits do not cause large trade deficits. If they did, countries with the largest budget deficits would also have the largest trade deficits. In fact, when deficit figures are adjusted so that different countries are reliably comparable to each other, there is no such correlation.

If the statements above are all true, which of the following can properly be inferred on the basis of them?

(A) Countries with large national budget deficits tend to restrict foreign trade.  
(B) Reliable comparisons of the deficit figures of one country with those of another are impossible.  
(C) Reducing a country’s national budget deficit will not necessarily result in a lowering of any trade deficit that country may have.  
(D) When countries are ordered from largest to smallest in terms of population, the smallest countries generally have the smallest budget and trade deficits.  
(E) Countries with the largest trade deficits never have similarly large national budget deficits.

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[#CRM4OA](https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/crm4oa?source=feed_text&story_id=576235336043381) : C

Situation No correlation is found between large national budget deficits and large trade deficits.

Reasoning What inference can be drawn from this information? Since the passage states that national budget deficits do not correlate with trade deficits, it is logical to anticipate an inference about the independent nature of the relationship between the two kinds of deficits. One possible inference is that reducing one deficit need not result in a reduction of the other.

A This would receive some support if there were information indicating that there was a correlation between large budget deficits and small trade deficits, but no such information is given.

B The passage states that reliable comparisons have been developed. look at the last line

C Correct. This statement properly identifies an inference that can be drawn from the given information.

D The passage gives no indication as to whether either type of deficit correlates in any way with the population size of a country  
.  
E Though there is no general correlation between the two kinds of deficits, it cannot be inferred that there are no countries in which both kinds of deficits are large.

[#CRM5](https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/crm5?source=feed_text&story_id=576237986043116) 2 mins

It is often said that high rates of inflation tend to diminish people’s incentive to save and invest. This view must be incorrect, however, because people generally saved and invested more of their income in the 1970’s when inflation rates were high than they did in the 1980’s when inflation rates were low.

Of the following, the best criticism of the argument above is that it overlooks the possibility that

(A) all people do not respond in the same way to a given economic stimulus

(B) certain factors operating in the 1980’s but not in the 1970’s diminished people’s incentive to save and invest

(C) the population was larger in the 1980’s than it was in the 1970’s

(D) the proponents of the view cited would stand to gain if inflation rates become lower

(E) a factor that affects people’s savings behavior in a certain way could affect people’s investment behavior quite differently

[#CRM5OA](https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/crm5oa?source=feed_text) : B

Situation People generally saved and invested more in the 1970’s when inflation was high than in the 1980s when inflation was low, despite the fact that it is commonly believed that high inflation discourages savings and investment.

Reasoning Why does the observation about savings, investment, and inflation rates in the 1970’s and 1980’s not justify the conclusion that high inflation does not generally diminish people’s incentive to save and invest? The argument observes that over the course of two decades there was a positive rather than a negative correlation between inflation on the one hand and savings and investment on the other. It infers from this that high rates of inflation do not tend to diminish people’s incentive to save and invest. The author overlooks the fact that there can be other reasons as well for the people to decrease or increase their savings.

A The argument is compatible with the hypothesis that some people respond to inflation by saving and investing more, while others do not.

B Correct. If these other factors, unrelated to the inflation rate, that operated in the 1980’s but not the 1970’s, created an even greater disincentive to savings and investment than high inflation rates provide, then those trends do not provide evidence about the general relationship among savings, investment, and inflation.

C The argument appears to concern savings and investment per capita, so total population size should be irrelevant. But increasing population would not explain declining total amounts of savings and investment, either.

D If anything, the possibility that the proponents’ ulterior motives distorted their reasoning would help to support the argument’s conclusion that the proponents’ view is incorrect.

E The argument addresses this possibility by presenting evidence that inflation was positively correlated with both savings and investment during the 1970’s and 1980’s.

[#CRM6](https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/crm6?source=feed_text&story_id=576246586042256) 2 mins

Company Alpha buys free-travel coupons from people who are awarded the coupons by Bravo Airlines for flying frequently on Bravo airplanes. The coupons are sold to people who pay less for the coupons than they would pay by purchasing   
tickets from Bravo. This marketing of coupons results in lost revenue for Bravo.

To discourage the buying and selling of free-travel coupons, it would be best for Bravo Airlines to restrict the

(A) number of coupons that a person can be awarded in a particular year

(B) use of the coupons to those who were awarded the coupons and members of their immediate families

(C) days that the coupons can be used to Monday through Friday

(D) amount of time that the coupons can be used after they are issued

(E) number of routes on which travelers can use the coupons

[#CRM6OA](https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/crm6oa?source=feed_text) : B

A Limiting the number of coupons awarded a year does nothing to discourage their resale.

B Correct. This statement properly identifies a limitation that makes the sale of coupons useless while maintaining the coupons’ value as a reward.

C Limiting the time of use to weekdays does not discourage resale and makes the coupons less valuable to the airline’s customers.

D Imposing a date by which the coupons must be used does not discourage resale and diminishes the coupons’ value as a reward.

E Restricting the routes available does not discourage resale but does reduce the coupons’ value as a reward.

[#CRM7](https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/crm7?source=feed_text&story_id=576254402708141) 2 mins  
A proposed ordinance requires the installation in new homes of sprinklers automatically triggered by the presence of a fire. However, a home builder argued that because more than 90 percent of residential fires are extinguished by a household member, residential sprinklers would only marginally decrease property damage caused by residential fires.

Which of the following, if true, would most seriously weaken the home builder’s argument?

(A) Most individuals have no formal training in how to extinguish fires.

(B) Since new homes are only a tiny percentage of available housing in the city, the new ordinance would be extremely narrow in scope.

(C) The installation of smoke detectors in new residences costs significantly less than the installation of sprinklers.

(D) In the city where the ordinance was proposed, the average time required by the fire department to respond to a fire was less than the national average.

(E) The largest proportion of property damage that results from residential fires is caused by fires that start when no household member is present

[#CRM7OA](https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/crm7oa?source=feed_text&story_id=576256176041297) : E  
A If more than 90 percent of residential fires are successfully extinguished by the individuals who live there, then no formal training appears to be necessary.

B The small percentage of new homes supports the builder’s position; it does not weaken the argument.

C The argument is about sprinkler systems, not smoke detection devices.

D The argument is not about a comparison between fire departments and sprinkler systems.

E Correct. This statement properly identifies a weakness in the home builder’s argument by showing that the most damage occurs when no household member is present to put out the fire.

[#CRM8](https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/crm8?source=feed_text&story_id=576257919374456) 2 mins

A recent spate of launching and operating mishaps with television satellites led to a corresponding surge in claims against companies underwriting satellite insurance. As a result, insurance premiums shot up, making satellites more expensive to launch and operate. This, in turn, had added to the pressure to squeeze more performance out of currently operating satellites.

Which of the following, if true, taken together with the information above, best supports the conclusion that the cost of television satellites will continue to increase?

(A) Since the risk to insurers of satellites is spread over relatively few units, insurance premiums are necessarily very high.

(B) When satellites reach orbit and then fail, the causes of failure are generally impossible to pinpoint with confidence.

(C) The greater the performance demands placed on satellites, the more frequently those satellites break down.

(D) Most satellites are produced in such small numbers that no economies of scale can be realized.

(E) Since many satellites are built by unwieldy international consortia, inefficiencies are inevitable.

[#CRM8](https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/crm8?source=feed_text&story_id=576258896041025) OA : C

Reasoning Why might the cost continue to increase? The passage says that the existing satellites are being asked to work harder than previously. If that increase in workload brings with it an increased number of breakdowns, growing satellite repair and replacement costs will add to the already increased cost of insurance premiums.

A The high rate of premiums is a given; nothing in this statement reflects why the costs would increase further.

B The difficulty of diagnosing the causes of satellite failure shows one reason the costs are high; it does not show why they are increasing.

C Correct. This statement properly identifies a factor that explains why costs will continue to increase.

D The small number of satellites shows one reason they are expensive; it does not explain why costs would continue to increase.

E The inefficiencies may partially account for initial high costs; nothing in this statement explains an increase in costs.

[#CRM9](https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/crm9?source=feed_text&story_id=576262459374002) 2 mins

There is relatively little room for growth in the overall carpet market, which is tied to the size of the population. Most who purchase carpet do so only once or twice, first in their twenties or thirties, and then perhaps again in their fifties or sixties. Thus as the population ages, companies producing carpet will be able to gain market share in the carpet market only through purchasing competitors, and not through more aggressive marketing.

Which one of the following, IF TRUE, casts the MOST doubt on the conclusion above?

A. Two of the three mergers in the industry’s last ten years led to a decline in profits and revenues for the newly merged companies.

B. Most of the major carpet producers market other floor coverings as well.

C. Most established carpet producers market several different brand names and varieties, and there is no remaining niche in the market for new brands to fill.

D. Price reductions, achieved by cost-cutting in production, by some of the dominant firms in the carpet market are causing other producers to leave the market altogether.

E. The carpet market is unlike most markets in that consumers are becoming increasingly resistant to new patterns and styles.

Conclusion : Thus as the population ages, companies producing carpet will be able to gain market share in the carpet market ONLY through purchasing competitors, and not through more aggressive marketing.

flaw: Causal : this means if we need to weaken the conclusion we can simply find an option that shows that without purchasing competitors also we can gain MARKET SHARE. market share means we our share in the total number of suppliers.

A. Two of the three mergers in the industry’s last ten years led to a decline in profits and revenues for the newly merged companies.

[ this means the market share fell as the revenues also felll. so incorrect ]

B. Most of the major carpet producers market other floor coverings as well.  
[ does this show any link to increase or decrease in market share. no. it simply says they also market other floor coverings.. this would not be linkedto the market share of carpets] so no

C. Most established carpet producers market several different brand names and varieties, and there is no remaining niche in the market for new brands to fill.

[ if there are no new entrants.. does this means my share will increase .NO/. ]

D. Price reductions, achieved by cost-cutting in production, by some of the dominant firms in the carpet market are causing other producers to leave the market altogether.  
[ bingo .. if other producers are LEAVING.. this means the remaining will GAIN the share of those LEAVING..thus increase in market share ] YES

E. The carpet market is unlike most markets in that consumers are becoming increasingly resistant to new patterns and styles.  
[ if they are becomig resistant.. then we will lose customers]

[#CR10](https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/cr10?source=feed_text&story_id=576268856040029)  
LAST ONE : 2 mins

Columnist: George Orwell’s book 1984 has exercised much influence on a great number of this newspaper’s readers. One thousand readers were surveyed and asked to name the one book that had the most influence on their lives. The book chosen most often was the Bible; 1984 was second.

The answer to which one of the following questions would most help in evaluating the columnist’s argument? [this means which additional information will help you verify what the author is claiming ]

A. How many of those surveyed had actually read the books they chose?  
B. How many books had each person surveyed read?  
C. How many people read the columnist’s newspaper?  
D. How many books by George Orwell other than 1984 were chosen?  
E. How many people chose 1984?

[#CR10OA](https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/cr10oa?source=feed_text) : E  
this is a statistical flaw  
A. How many of those surveyed had actually read the books they chose?  
[ this will not tell whether how many people did 1984 influence]

B. How many books had each person surveyed read?  
[ yes.. it look lucrative.. but does it tell if 1984 influenced more people ..it simply asks for total books the people had read]

C. How many people read the columnist’s newspaper?  
[ this has nothing to do with popularity of 1984 ]

D. How many books by George Orwell other than 1984 were chosen?  
[ digresses from the book in question ]  
E. How many people chose 1984?  
[ yes... we simply need to see how many people chose 1984. it is possible that 900 chose bible .. 30 chose 1984 .. and rest chose others..] so has 1984 influenced more people ? we can come to know