

Verbal Reasoning

Test 6



Solutions Booklet

Instructions

This practice test contains **30 questions**, and you will have **19 minutes** to answer them.

You will be presented with a passage to read, and a statement about that passage. For each statement you must select one of the following answers:

True: The statement follows logically from the information contained in the passage.

False: The statement is logically false from the information contained in the passage.

Cannot Say: It is not possible to determine whether the statement is true or false without further information.

Read the passage of information thoroughly and select the correct answer from the four options. Read the question thoroughly to ensure you know what the question entails.

Try to find a time and place where you will not be interrupted during the test. When you are ready, turn to the next page and begin.

Oil sands are most commonly found in Venezuela's Orinoco Basin and Alberta, Canada. Modern technology has made the extraction of crude bitumen, or unconventional oil, from these oil sands much easier. The crude oil that is extracted from traditional oil wells is a free-flowing mixture of hydrocarbons, whereas oil sands yield a highly viscous form of petroleum. Increasing world demand for oil and higher petrol prices have made the economic viability of extracting oil sands approach that of conventional oil.

Oil sands have been described as one of the dirtiest sources of fuel. Compared to conventional oil, four times the amount of greenhouse gases are generated from the extraction of bitumen from oil sands. Additionally there is an impact on the local environment. Tailing ponds of toxic waste are created whenever the tar sands are washed with water.

Proponents of oil sands development point to the land that has already been reclaimed following oil sands development. Also, that there will be considerably less surface impact once technology innovations have allowed oil sand reserves to be drilled rather than mined.

Q1 Oil sands offer a clean solution for meeting future energy needs.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: False

Explanation:

the passage emphasises the environmental pollution caused by oil sands development.

Q2 Oil sands are only found in Alberta and the Orinoco Basin.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: False

Explanation:

they are "most commonly" found in these two areas so must occur elsewhere too.

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Q3 Bitumen is a highly viscous form of petroleum that needs to be heated to flow.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: Cannot Say

Explanation:

the passage states only that bitumen is a highly viscous form of petroleum and nothing about the effects of heating.

Q4 It is almost as profitable to extract conventional oil as oil sands.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: Cannot Say

Explanation:

while it can be inferred from the last sentence of the first paragraph: "Increasing world demand for oil and higher petrol prices have made the economic viability of extracting oil sands approach that of conventional oil", this does not mean it is demonstrable that conventional oil is as profitable as oil sands. Since there is no further indication of this, we cannot say.

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Q5 Extracting bitumen from conventional oil generates four times the level of greenhouse gases than extracting from oil sands.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: False

Explanation:

the passage states that it is bitumen extraction from oil sands which produces four times the amount of greenhouse gases emitted by extraction of conventional oil (i.e. the other way round).

Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS) is the widespread name for a disorder that is also called Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME), but many sufferers object to the name CFS on grounds that it does not reflect the severity of the illness. While profound fatigue is one symptom of this debilitating condition, there are many others, including muscle pain, headaches, and cognitive difficulties.

Its nomenclature is not the only controversial aspect of CFS. Although an estimated 17 million people worldwide have CFS, its cause is unknown and a diagnostic test does not exist. Doctors must first rule out other conditions that share CFS's symptoms. As there is no cure for CFS, treatment tends to focus on alleviating symptoms, which can range from mild to severe. Despite the World Health Organisation classifying CFS as a neurological disease, there is much disagreement within the medical community. Some scientists believe that CFS originates from a virus, others argue that it stems from genetic predisposition, while still others believe that it is a psychiatric condition.

Because of continuing scepticism about CFS, patients welcomed a 2009 study that linked CFS and a XMRV retrovirus. What at first appeared to be a major scientific breakthrough, however, was disproven by further research – and XMRV is now thought to be a lab contaminant.

Q6 There is a lack of consensus within the medical community about CFS's symptoms.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: Cannot say

Explanation:

the passage details many aspects of the illness that are controversial, but does not state whether or not the symptoms are debated.

Q7 Many patients believe the name Myalgic Encephalomyelitis trivialises the condition.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: Cannot say

Explanation:

the first sentence states "that many sufferers object to the name CFS on grounds that it does not reflect the severity of the illness." However we are not told if many other patients believe Myalgic Encephalomyelitis trivialises the condition.

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Its nomenclature is not the only controversial aspect of CFS. Although an estimated 17 million people worldwide have CFS, its cause is unknown and a diagnostic test does not exist. Doctors must first rule out other conditions that share CFS's symptoms. As there is no cure for CFS, treatment tends to focus on alleviating symptoms, which can range from mild to severe. Despite the World Health Organisation classifying CFS as a neurological disease, there is much disagreement within the medical community. Some scientists believe that CFS originates from a virus, others argue that it stems from genetic predisposition, while still others believe that it is a psychiatric condition.

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Q8 A 2009 study linking CFS with a retrovirus has now been discredited.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: True

Explanation:

the final sentence states that the link “was disproven by further research.”

Q9 The symptoms of Chronic Fatigue Syndrome are also attributable to other illnesses.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: True

Explanation:

the second paragraph states that “Doctors must first rule out other conditions that share CFS's symptoms.”

Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS) is the widespread name for a disorder that is also called Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME), but many sufferers object to the name CFS on grounds that it does not reflect the severity of the illness. While profound fatigue is one symptom of this debilitating condition, there are many others, including muscle pain, headaches, and cognitive difficulties.

Its nomenclature is not the only controversial aspect of CFS. Although an estimated 17 million people worldwide have CFS, its cause is unknown and a diagnostic test does not exist. Doctors must first rule out other conditions that share CFS's symptoms. As there is no cure for CFS, treatment tends to focus on alleviating symptoms, which can range from mild to severe. Despite the World Health Organisation classifying CFS as a neurological disease, there is much disagreement within the medical community. Some scientists believe that CFS originates from a virus, others argue that it stems from genetic predisposition, while still others believe that it is a psychiatric condition.

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Q10 CFS is a severely debilitating condition for 17 million people worldwide.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: Cannot say

Explanation:

the passage tells us that an “estimated” 17 million people have CFS and the second paragraph states that symptoms can “range from mild to severe.” However we are not told the exact numbers of those who have a severely debilitating form of CFS. So we cannot say for sure.

There is no unifying theory to explain the experience of dreaming. Dreaming involves an altered state of consciousness that occurs during periods of REM (rapid eye movement) sleep. One of the most unusual features of this state is that most of the body's muscles are paralysed.

The most common sleeping pattern is for a period of REM sleep to be preceded by four stages of non-REM sleep, and for this to repeat itself up to five times a night. Most adults and children, if woken during REM sleep, will report that they were dreaming. Whilst the physiological stages of sleeping may be similar across adults and young children, the potential complexity of a child's dreams develops as they age – alongside their imagination.

It's difficult to prove that a dream is taking place – only after the fact can you know that you were dreaming. There are a small number of people, however, who do know when they are experiencing what is called a "lucid" dream. The "scanning hypothesis" posits that eyes move during REM sleep in accordance with the direction of gaze of one's dream. Research, for example with "lucid" dreamers, has shown that eyes do point towards the action that a dreamer, having a goal-orientated dream, describes.

Q11 REM sleep tends to be preceded by non-REM sleep.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: True

Explanation:

this can be inferred from the information in the second paragraph "the most common sleeping pattern is for a period of REM sleep to be preceded by four stages of non-REM sleep".

Q12 Eye muscles are the only muscles that are not paralysed during REM sleep.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: Cannot say

Explanation:

most of the body's muscles are paralysed according to the passage. We are told that eye muscles are not paralysed, but we are not told about other muscles.

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Q13 REM sleep periods always occur after four non-REM sleep periods.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: False

Explanation:

the first sentence of the second paragraph describes this as the "most common" sleeping pattern, so this is not necessarily always the case.

Q14 The scanning hypothesis states that the direction of a lucid dreamer's eye movements reveals what the dream is about.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: False

Explanation:

the scanning hypothesis posits that "eyes move during REM sleep in accordance with the direction of gaze of one's dream". However the eye movements on their own do not reveal the subject of the dream.

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Q15 A child's dreams may become more sophisticated as their imagination develops.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: True

Explanation:

this can be inferred from the last sentence in the second paragraph; "the potential complexity of a child's dreams develops as they age - alongside their imagination."

Ergonomics is the scientific study of the interaction between people and machines. The discipline aims to design equipment and environments that best fit users' physical and psychological needs, thus improving the efficiency, productivity and safety of a person using a device. A multi-disciplinary field, ergonomics encompasses aspects of psychology, physiology, industrial design and mechanical engineering.

The field is divided into three main areas. Physical ergonomics addresses the relationship between human anatomy and physical activity, for instance designing tools that minimize or eliminate muscle strain. This area also looks at how the physical environment affects performance and health. Cognitive ergonomics studies the mental processes involved in humans' interactions with systems, such as computer interfaces. In designing an airplane cockpit, for example, it is of vital importance that control panels take human factors into account. Organisational ergonomics focuses on optimising socio-technical systems, such as team structure and work processes.

Increasingly, progressive organisations are looking for ways to improve workplace ergonomics. The benefit of this strategy is not only increased productivity but also reduced sick leave. In the United States, compensation to workers with repetitive strain injuries costs \$20 billion annually.

Q16 The area of physical ergonomics can involve reducing strain injuries.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: True

Explanation:

this can be inferred from the passage's statement that "physical ergonomics addresses the relationship between human anatomy and physical activity, for instance designing tools that minimize or eliminate muscle strain."

Q17 One of the objectives of ergonomics is to increase the happiness of a work environment.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: Cannot say

Explanation:

the passage states that efficiency, productivity and safety are some of the areas of ergonomics, however, the passage does not tell us explicitly if ergonomics is ever used to increase the happiness of a work environment.

Ergonomics is the scientific study of the interaction between people and machines. The discipline aims to design equipment and environments that best fit users' physical and psychological needs, thus improving the efficiency, productivity and safety of a person using a device. A multi-disciplinary field, ergonomics encompasses aspects of psychology, physiology, industrial design and mechanical engineering.

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Q18 An ergonomically designed control panel accommodates a person's mental and physical needs.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: True

Explanation:

the second sentence describes ergonomics as the design of "equipment and environments that best fit users' physical and psychological needs".

Q19 Environmental factors can affect a worker's productivity and wellbeing.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: True

Explanation:

the second paragraph states that physical ergonomics "looks at how the physical environment affects performance and health."

Ergonomics is the scientific study of the interaction between people and machines. The discipline aims to design equipment and environments that best fit users' physical and psychological needs, thus improving the efficiency, productivity and safety of a person using a device. A multi-disciplinary field, ergonomics encompasses aspects of psychology, physiology, industrial design and mechanical engineering.

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Q20 Ergonomic design places little emphasis on aesthetics.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: Cannot Say

Explanation:

the passage does not make any reference to aesthetics.

The legal term double jeopardy refers to a second prosecution of an individual for an offence for which he has already been prosecuted. Double jeopardy is famously prohibited in the Fifth Amendment of the United States constitution, which states that no person shall, “be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb.” Not only does the double jeopardy doctrine uphold the finality of criminal proceedings, it also protects individuals from the stress of multiple prosecutions. Despite dating back to Roman times, this legal rule is often challenged. Some legal reform advocates believe that a second trial should be permitted if significant new evidence becomes available – for example DNA evidence can reveal more using more recent technology.

Double jeopardy laws are intended to protect innocent people from continual harassment by the state. They also prevent a defendant from receiving successive trials for the same offence – for instance, someone found guilty of murder cannot also be tried for manslaughter for the same act. Some exceptions exist. A new trial is allowed if the original trial is declared a mistrial, or if an appeal against a conviction is successful. The rules also do not restrict a different sovereignty from prosecuting for the same offence. Similarly, in the United States, civil proceedings can be brought against someone who has already been acquitted or convicted of committing the offence.

Q21 Under double jeopardy rules, someone who has been acquitted of a crime can never be retried for the same offence.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: False

Explanation:

the second paragraph states “Some exceptions exist.” Therefore it is not true that someone who has been acquitted can never be retried for the same offence.

Q22 Criminal and civil proceedings fulfil different objectives in the United States.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: Cannot say

Explanation:

the passage does not specify the objectives of criminal and civil proceedings.

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Q23 Double jeopardy laws exist to prevent the government from persecuting innocent individuals.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: True

Explanation:

the second paragraph states, “Double jeopardy laws are intended to protect innocent people from continual harassment by the state.”

Q24 New technology can shed new light on old cases.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: True

Explanation:

the first paragraph of the passage gives as an example of “significant new evidence” the following: “DNA evidence can reveal more using more recent technology”. So new technology can provide new evidence from existing artefacts or existing DNA.

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Q25 The double jeopardy rule was first expressed in the Fifth Amendment of the United States constitution.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: False

Explanation:

the first paragraph states that this legal rule dates back to Roman times.

The Silk Road, stretching from China to the Mediterranean Sea, was not one road, but a network of trade routes across land and sea. Originating in the ancient Chinese capital of Chang'an, the overland routes crossed modern-day India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Turkey, Syria and Iran en-route to various Mediterranean ports, from where the goods were carried to Rome by boat. Typically, traders did not travel the entire 6,440 km distance, instead covering one section of the route and passing their goods to another caravan for the next stage.

As the name suggests, the Silk Road facilitated the trade of Chinese silk, but many other goods were carried along the route. Tea, gunpowder, spices, and porcelain travelled from East to West, while wool, linen, glass and wine travelled in the opposite direction. Not only commodities, but also ideas and technology were transmitted along the Silk Road. Algebra, astronomy, medicine and papermaking were brought to the West, while construction and seafaring methods flowed East from Europe. The Silk Road also enabled the dissemination of religion, most notably the spread of Buddhism from India to China. The Silk Road was in use from the second century BC until the fifteenth century AD. Many factors contributed to the route's demise, including the fall of the Mongol Empire and the resulting political and economic fragmentation along the route. The rise of maritime trade between Europe and Asia was another major cause.

Q26 The Silk Road has never been longer than 6,000km in length.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: False

Explanation:

the third sentence tells us that "typically, traders did not travel the entire 6,440 km distance [of the Silk Road]".

Q27 In addition to bringing commodities such as wool and glass to Asia, the Silk Road spread papermaking techniques from West to East.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: False

Explanation:

the second paragraph states that papermaking was "brought to the West" via the Silk Road.

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Q28 The Silk Road's historical significance goes beyond its function as a commerce route.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: True

Explanation:

the second paragraph explains that the Silk Road played an important role in the spread of knowledge and religion.

Q29 Two main factors led to the Silk Road falling into disuse after the fifteenth century AD.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: False

Explanation:

the passage states that "many factors contributed to the route's demise." Although only two of these factors (the fall of the Mongol Empire; the rise of maritime trade between Europe and Asia) are cited, it does not necessarily follow that they are the two main factors.

The Silk Road, stretching from China to the Mediterranean Sea, was not one road, but a network of trade routes across land and sea. Originating in the ancient Chinese capital of Chang'an, the overland routes crossed modern-day India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Turkey, Syria and Iran en-route to various Mediterranean ports, from where the goods were carried to Rome by boat. Typically, traders did not travel the entire 6,440 km distance, instead covering one section of the route and passing their goods to another caravan for the next stage.

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Q30 Boats were not used in trade along the Silk Road prior to the fifteenth century AD.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer:

Explanation:

the first paragraph says that the Silk Road was 'a network of trade routes across land and sea.' To travel across sea required a boat, hence boats must have been used in trade along the Silk Road.

End of test