

## Critical Reasoning-18-07-2017 Practice Event

### Question-1

Archaeologists in Michigan have excavated a Native American camp near Dumaw Creek. Radiocarbon dating of animal bones found at the site indicates that the camp dates from some time between 1605 and 1755. However, the camp probably dates to no later than 1630, since no European trade goods were found at the site, and European traders were active in the region from the 1620s onward.

Which of the following, if true, most strengthens the argument?

- A. Due to trade among Native Americans, some European trade goods would have reached the area before the European traders themselves did.
- B. At all camps in the region that have been reliably dated to the late 1620s, remains of European trade goods have been found.
- C. The first European trade goods to reach the area would have been considered especially valuable and preserved as much as possible from loss or destruction.
- D. The first European traders in the area followed soon after the first European explorers.
- E. The site is that of a temporary camp that would have been used seasonally for a few years and then abandoned.

### Question-2

For years the beautiful Renaissance buildings in Palitito have been damaged by exhaust from many tour buses that come to the city. There has been little parking space, so most buses have idled at the curb during each stop on their tour, and idling produces as much exhaust as driving. The city has now provides parking that accommodates a third of the tour buses, so damage to Palitito's buildings from the buses; exhaust will diminish significantly.

Which of the following, if true, most strongly supports the argument?

- A) The exhaust from Palitito's few automobiles is not a significant threat to Palitito's buildings.
- B) Palitito's Renaissance buildings are not threatened by pollution other than engine exhaust.
- C) Tour buses typically spend less than one-quarter of the time they are in Palitito transporting passengers from one site to another.
- D) Most tourists come to Palitito by tour bus than by any other single means of transportation.
- E) Some of the tour buses that are unable to find parking drive around Palitito while their passengers are visiting a site.

### Question-3

Demographers doing research for an international economics newsletter claim that the average per capita income in the country of Kuptala is substantially lower than that in the country of Bahlton. They also claim, however, that whereas poverty is relatively rare in Kuptala, over half the population of Bahlton lives in extreme poverty. At least one of the demographers; claims must, therefore, be wrong.

The argument above is most vulnerable to which of the following criticisms?

- (A) It rejects an empirical claim about the average per capita incomes in the two countries without making any attempt to discredit that claim by offering additional economic evidence.

- (B) It treats the vague term "poverty"; as though it had a precise and universally accepted meaning.
- (C) It overlooks the possibility that the number of people in the two countries who live in poverty could be the same even though the percentages of the two populations that live in poverty differ markedly.
- (D) It fails to show that wealth and poverty have the same social significance in Kuptala as in Bahlton.
- (E) It does not consider the possibility that incomes in Kuptala, unlike those in Bahlton, might all be very close to the country's average per capita income.

#### Question-4

Either Perry's faction or Tucker's faction, but not both, will win control of the government. If Perry's faction wins, the nation will suffer economically. If Tucker's faction wins, the nation will suffer militarily.

Given the statements in the passage, which one of the following statements must be true?

- (A) It is possible, but not certain, that the nation will neither suffer economically nor suffer militarily.
- (B) If the nation suffers economically, it is certain that Perry's faction has won control of the government.
- (C) It is certain that the nation will suffer either economically or militarily, and also certain that it will not suffer both.
- (D) If the nation suffers militarily, it is possible, but not certain, that Tucker's faction has won control of the government.
- (E) If the nation suffers both economically and militarily, it is certain that neither Perry's faction nor Tucker's has won control of the government.

#### Question-5-Nice One

Although fullerenes - spherical molecules made entirely of carbon - were first found in the laboratory, they have since been found in nature, formed in fissures of the rare mineral shungite. Since laboratory synthesis of fullerenes requires distinctive conditions of temperature and pressure, this discovery should give geologists a test case for evaluating hypothesis about the state of the Earth's crust at the time these naturally occurring fullerenes were formed.

Which of the following, if true, most seriously undermines the argument?

- A) Confirming that the shungite genuinely contained fullerenes took careful experimentation
- B) Some fullerenes have also been found on the remains of a small meteorite that collided with a spacecraft.
- C) The mineral shungite itself contains large amounts of carbon, from which the fullerenes apparently formed.
- D) The naturally occurring fullerenes are arranged in a previously unknown crystalline structure
- E) Shungite itself is formed only under distinctive conditions.

#### Question-6

FILM DIRECTOR: It is true that certain characters and plot twists in my newly released film

THE BIG HEIST are strikingly similar to characters and plot twists in Thieves, a movie that came out last year. Based on these similarities, the film studio that produced Thieves is now accusing me of taking ideas from that film. The accusation is clearly without merit. All production work on the BIG HEIST was actually completed months before THIEVES was released.

Which of the following, if true, provides the strongest support for the director's rejection of the accusation?

- A. Before thieves began production, its script had been circulating for several years among various film studio, including the studio that produced The Big Heist
- B. The characters and plot twists that are most similar in the two films have close parallels in many earlier films of the same genre
- C. The film studio that produced Thieves seldom produces film in this genre
- D. The director of Thieves worked with the director of the Big Heist on several earlier projects
- E. The time it took to produce THE BIG HEIST was considerably shorter than the time it took to produce Thieves

#### Question-7

Although exposure to asbestos is the primary cause of mesothelioma, a slow-developing cancer, researchers believe that infection by the SV40 virus is a contributing factor, since in the United States 60% of tissue samples from mesotheliomas, but none from healthy tissue, contain SV40. SV40 is a monkey virus; however, in 1960 some polio vaccine was contaminated with the virus. Researchers hypothesize that this vaccine was the source of this virus found in mesotheliomas decades later.

Which of the following, if true, most strongly supports the researchers' hypothesis?

- a. SV40 is widely used as a research tool in cancer laboratories.
- b. changes in the technique of manufacturing the vaccine now prevent contamination with SV40.
- c. recently discovered samples of the vaccine dating from 1960 still show traces of the virus.
- d. In a small percentage of cases of mesothelioma, there is no history of exposure to asbestos.
- e. In Finland, where the polio vaccine was never contaminated, samples from mesotheliomas do not contain SV40.

#### Question-8

A manufacturer of workstations for computer-aided design seeks to increase sales to its most important corporate customers. Its strategy is to publish very low list prices for workstations in order to generate interest among the buyers for those corporations.

Which of the following, if characteristic of the marketplace, would tend to cause the manufacturer's strategy to fail?

- A. The proposed list prices would seem low to a typical buyer for the manufacturer's most important corporate customers.
- B. The capabilities of workstations suitable for given jobs are not significantly different among various manufacturers.
- C. The manufacturer's most important corporate customers employ as buyers persons who are very knowledgeable about prices for workstations for computer-aided design.

D. customers differ significantly in the percentage of resources they can devote to computer workstations.

E. Buyers for corporations that purchase workstations for computer-aided design receive bonuses for negotiating large discounts from the list price.

#### Question-9

Sonya: The government of Copeland is raising the cigarette tax. Copeland's cigarette prices will still be reasonably low, so cigarette consumption will probably not be affected much. Consequently, government revenue from the tax will increase.

Raoul: True, smoking is unlikely to decrease, because Copeland's cigarette prices will still not be high. They will, however, no longer be the lowest in the region, so we might begin to see substantial illegal sales of smuggled cigarettes in Copeland.

Raoul responds to Sonya's argument by doing which of the following?

A: Questioning the support for Sonya's conclusion by distinguishing carefully between No change and no decrease

B: calling Sonya's conclusion into question by pointing to a possible effect of a certain change.

C: Arguing that Sonya's conclusion would be better supported if Sonya could cite a precedent for what she predicts will happen.

D: showing that a cause that Sonya claims will be producing a certain effect is not the only cause that could produce that effect

E: pointing out that a certain initiative is not bold enough to have the effects she predicts it will have

#### Question-10

Tiger sharks are common in waters surrounding Tenare Island. Usually tiger sharks feed on smaller sharks, but sometimes they have attacked tourists swimming and surfing at Tenare's beaches. This has hurt Tenare's tourism industry, which is second only to its fishing industry in annual revenues. In order to help the economy, therefore, the mayor of the island has proposed an ongoing program to kill any tiger sharks within a mile of the beaches.

Which of the following, if true, most strongly calls into question the likelihood that implementation of the mayor's proposal will have the desired consequence?

A. Even if not all tiger sharks that come close to the beaches are killed, the existence of the program would reassure tourists.

B. Business owners who depend on tourism are willing to pay most of the cost of implementing the program.

C. Tourists come to Tenare Island for its beaches, even though the island features a number of other tourist attractions.

D. The small sharks on which tiger sharks prey feed on fish that are commercially important to the island's fisheries.

E. Not all tourists who come to Tenare Island enjoy swimming or surfing.

#### Question-11

Plant scientists have used genetic engineering on seeds to produce crop plants that are highly resistant to insect damage. Unfortunately, the seeds themselves are quite expensive, and the

plants require more fertilizer and water to grow well than normal ones. Thus, for most farmers the savings on pesticides would not compensate for the higher seed costs and the cost of additional fertilizer. However, since consumer demand for grains, fruits, and vegetables grown without the use of pesticides continues to rise, the use of genetically engineered seeds of this kind is likely to become widespread.

In the argument given, the two portions in boldface play which of the following roles?

- (A) The first supplies a context for the argument; the second is the argument's main conclusion.
- (B) The first introduces a development that the argument predicts will have a certain outcome; the second is a state of affairs that the argument denies will be part of that outcome.
- (C) The first presents a development that the argument predicts will have a certain outcome; the second acknowledges a consideration that weighs against that prediction.
- (D) The first provides evidence to support a prediction that the argument seeks to defend; the second is that prediction.
- (E) The first and the second each provide evidence to support the argument's main conclusion.

#### Question-12

The imposition of quotas limiting imported steel will not help the big American steel mills. In fact, the quotas will help "mini-mills"; flourish in the United States. Those small domestic mills will take more business from the big American steel mills than would have been taken by the foreign steel mills in the absence of quotas.

Which of the following, if true, would cast the most serious doubt on the claim made in the last sentence above?

- A) Quality rather than price is a major factor in determining the type of steel to be used for a particular application
- B) Foreign steel mills have long produced grades of steel comparable in quality to the steel produced by the big American mills
- C) American quotas on imported goods have often induced other countries to impose similar quotas on American goods.
- D) Domestic "mini-mills"; consistently produce better grades of steel than do the big American mills
- E) Domestic "mini-mills" produce low-volume specialized types of steel that are not produced by the big American steel mills

#### Question-13

The higher the level of certain vitamin and minerals in the bloodstream, the better a person's lungs function, as measured by the amount of air the person can expel in one second. The lung function of smokers is significantly worse, on average, than that of nonsmokers. Clearly, therefore, one way for smokers to improve their lung function is for them to increase their intake of foods that are rich in these helpful vitamins and minerals.

Which of the following is an assumption on which this argument depends?

- A) Smokers are less likely than nonsmokers to have diets that are rich in vitamins and minerals
- B) The lung function of smokers whose diet are rich in those vitamins and minerals is generally better than that of nonsmokers with comparable diets

- C) People whose diets are deficient in those vitamins and minerals do not typically have other health problems in addition to diminished lung function
- D) Stopping smoking will not typically improve lung function more than any diet changes can
- E) Smoking does not introduce into the body chemicals that prevent the helpful vitamins and minerals from entering the bloodstream

#### Question-14

For several years, per capita expenditure on prescription drugs in Voronia rose by fifteen percent or more annually. In order to curb these dramatic increases, the ministry of health prohibited drug manufacturers from raising any of their products' prices. Even though use of prescription drugs did not expand after this price freeze, per capita expenditure for prescription drugs continued to increase by a substantial percentage each year.

Which of the following, if true, most helps to explain why the ministry's action did not achieve its goal?

- (A) After price increases were prohibited, drug manufacturers concentrated on producing new medications to replace existing products.
- (B) The population of Voronia rose steadily throughout the period.
- (C) Improvements in manufacturing processes enabled drug manufacturers to maintain high profit levels on drugs despite the price freeze.
- (D) In addition to imposing a price freeze, the government encouraged doctors to prescribe generic versions of common drugs instead of the more expensive brand-name versions.
- (E) After price increases were prohibited, some foreign manufacturers of expensive drugs ceased marketing them in Voronia.

#### Question-15

Which if the following most logically completes the argument?United states manufacturers currently produce most of the world's solar-power generators – most of which are exported to Europe. However, European manufacturers are emerging and probably will ultimately capture much of the European market. The United States government is funding initiatives intended to encourage use of solar power within the United States. If these initiatives succeed in increasing the demand for solar-power generators in the United States, United States manufacturers will probably maintain significant production levels, since--

- A) some United States manufacturers have been substantially increasing their output over the last several years.
- B) the efficiency of solar-power generators in converting energy from the Sun into electric power is not improving as fast as it once did
- C) Just as European manufacturers enjoy certain advantages in Europe, so do united States manufacturers in the United States.
- D) European government are currently undertaking initiatives to stimulate the use of solar power within Europe
- E) the current market for solar-power generators in the United States is very limited.



1. OA-B

The argument mentions the following 2 things and, therefore, they must be true:

1. no European trade goods were found at the site
2. the site, as dated, could also be in existence in 1645, for example.

Both of them cannot be simultaneously true, which is exactly stated in B.

2. OA-C

If the tour buses only spend about 1/4 of the time on driving from 1 site to another, then it means that about 3/4 of the time, the buses will idle next to the building. With a new parking lot, approximately 3/4 of the damage will go away because the buses will idle in the parking lot instead.

3. OA-E

Answer is E because of the definitions used in the stem - average per capita income means total income/number of people

Hence if one country has lower average per cap income than another it does not mean that the income distribution in the country with lower average is as uneven as the country with a higher avg. income. Answer E clearly states that this fact about the lopsided income distribution.

4. OA-D

5. OA-D

Take another look at that answer choice: It's the crystalline structure of the found fullerenes that's previously unknown. That means that the fullerenes that have been discovered are fundamentally different from ALL other fullerenes that have ever been described - including all the ones that have ever been made in labs.

\* This means that these particular fullerenes - the ones that have been found in the fissures - are chemically different from all the KNOWN classes of fullerenes.

\* [KEY INFERENCE] That means that we don't know the distinctive conditions of temp and pressure required to form the NEW kinds of fullerenes.

\* Therefore, because of this ignorance, they don't constitute a test case for anything geological.

D only makes sense with the assumption that the original fullerenes discovered in the laboratory were not arranged in the same crystalline structure. And since there is no time line for fullerenes discoveries, other than first and since, one could think of those laboratory discovered fullerenes arrangements as of previously unknown ones.

6. OA-B

7. OA-E

Researcher's Hypothesis : vaccine was the source of this virus found in mesotheliomas  
POE

Between C and E- Mesothelioma - Primary cause Asbestos

Contributing Factor -SV40

60% of Tissue samples of meso\* contain SV40

SV40 - Polio vaccines were contaminated with the virus

C talk about traces of virus found in the vaccine. But doesnt talk about the traces of virus in cases of meso\*

E Strongly says that vaccine was not contaminated and that samples of meso\* did not contain SV40

Which means the only source possible for a tissue affected by meso\* to contain SV40 is from the vaccine the problem asks you to strengthen the argument, not to weaken it.

8. OA-E

9. OA-B

10. OA-D

Assumption is that no negative impact will happen due to Mayor's proposal further hurting economy. So if we prove that a secondary negative effect will occur hurting the revenue then Mayor's proposal will be weakened. In choice "D" by killing tiger shark, small shark will increase in population and in turn will hurt revenue by killing smaller fishes that are commercially important to the island's fisheries. So, choice "D" is correct.

11. OA-C

12. OA-E

E explains that US small mills can't take from US big mills because they are producing a different type of steel.

13. OA-E

The argument is- provided the smokers can get the vitamins and minerals into their bloodstreams to begin with. that's the only missing link here - all that's mentioned in the argument is intake, which is an entirely separate matter from absorption into the bloodstream.

E is correct because it takes care of the connection between intake and absorption, by establishing that the smokers' intake of vitamins and minerals will actually make it into the bloodstream.

14. OA-A

15. OA-C

We need an assertion that says, or implies, that the u.s. firms will gain a hold in the u.s. market (i.e., the euro firms won't take over the u.s. market as well). this statement strongly suggests that the u.s. firms will dominate the u.s. market for the same reasons that the euro firms will dominate the euro market.

16.