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Topic Break Down

Topic	No. of Questions
Topic 1, Logical Reasoning	330
Topic 2, Reading Comprehension	254
Topic 3, Analytical Reasoning	180
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Total	766

QUESTION NO: 1

Quasars – celestial objects so far away that their light takes at least 500 million years to reach Earth – have been seen since 1963. For anything that far away to appear from Earth the way quasars do, it would have to burn steadily at a rate that produces more light than 90 billion suns would produce. But nothing that burns at a rate that produces that much light could exist for more than about 100 million years.

If the statements above are true, which one of the following must also be true on the basis of them?

A. Instruments in use before 1963 were not sensitive enough to permit quasars to be seen.

B. Light from quasars first began reaching Earth in 1963.

C. Anything that, from Earth appears as bright as a quasar does must produce more light than would be produced by 90 billion suns.

D. Nothing that is as far from Earth as quasars are can continue to exist for more than about 100 million years.

E. No quasar that has ever been seen from Earth exists any longer.

ANSWER: E

Explanation:

No quasar that has ever been seen from Earth exists any longer. The premises establish a timing relationship that makes this conclusion necessary. Any quasar observed from Earth is far enough away that its light requires at least 500 million years to arrive. To look as bright as a quasar does at that distance, the object must have burned at an extraordinarily high rate, producing more light than 90 billion suns. The final premise sets an upper limit on the life of anything burning at that rate: about 100 million years. Thus, after emitting light that is eventually observed on Earth, a quasar could remain in existence for at most roughly another 100 million years. Yet its emitted light will not reach Earth until at least 500 million years later. Consequently, when observers on Earth see that light, the quasar that emitted it must already have ceased to exist, by at least about 400 million years. The fact that quasars have been seen since 1963 establishes that such observations have occurred; it does not alter the required travel-time and maximum-lifetime comparison. This is a valid must-be-true inference because it follows directly from applying the stated lifespan limit to every observed quasar's minimum light-travel time. For background on quasars, see NASA: What Is a Quasar? and Encyclopaedia Britannica: quasar.

QUESTION NO: 2

Curator: Since ancient times, the fine arts were developed and sustained with the aid of large subsidies from the aristocracies and religious institutions that were the public sectors of their day; it is doubtful that the arts would have survived without these subsidies. Clearly, contemporary societies should fulfill their obligation as stewards of cultural heritage without the assistance of aristocracies or religious institutions, so governments must help finance the maintenance,1 advancement, and enrichment of the fine arts today.

The curator's argument depends on assuming which one of the following?

A. The fine arts would be more highly developed now if they had been given greater governmental subsidies in the past.

B. If contemporary governments help to maintain and enrich the fine arts, private support for the arts will become unnecessary.

C. In contemporary societies, aristocracies and religious institutions are not willing to help finance the fine arts.

D. Serving as stewards of cultural heritage requires that contemporary societies help to maintain the fine arts.

E. Maintenance, advancement, and enrichment of the fine arts in any era require governmental subsidies.

ANSWER: D

Explanation:

The correct answer is *"Serving as stewards of cultural heritage requires that contemporary societies help to maintain the fine arts."* The curator moves from the claim that contemporary societies have an obligation to act as stewards of cultural heritage

to the more specific conclusion that governments must provide financial assistance for the fine arts. For that move to be logically required, the argument must assume that fulfilling the stewardship obligation entails helping to maintain the arts. This principle supplies the necessary bridge between the stated duty and the proposed governmental action.

The earlier historical discussion establishes the importance of subsidies to the survival and development of the fine arts, but the final conclusion rests on a normative claim about what contemporary societies are obligated to do. If stewardship of cultural heritage did not require support for maintaining the fine arts, the curator could still assert that societies are stewards while lacking a basis for saying that governments *must* finance the arts. Thus, the stated assumption is necessary for the conclusion to follow from the curator's premises. This reflects the LSAT necessary-assumption method: identify the proposition that must be true for the reasoning's conclusion to retain support. See LSAC's Logical Reasoning overview and LSAC's overview of the LSAT.

QUESTION NO: 3

The victory of the small Greek democracy of Athens over the mighty Persian empire in 490

B.

C. is one of the most famous events in history. Darius, king of the Persian empire, was furious because Athens had interceded for the other Greek city-states in revolt against Persian domination. In anger the king sent an enormous army to defeat Athens. He thought it would take drastic steps to pacify the rebellious part of the empire. Persia was ruled by one man.

In Athens, however, all citizens helped to rule. Ennobled by this participation, Athenians were prepared to die for their city-state. Perhaps this was the secret of the remarkable victory at Marathon, which freed them from Persian rule. On their way to Marathon, the Persians tried to fool some Greek city-states by claiming to have come in peace. The frightened citizens of Delos refused to believe this. Not wanting to abet the conquest of Greece, they fled from their city and did not return until the Persians had left. They were wise, for the Persians next conquered the city of Etria and captured its people.

Tiny Athens stood alone against Persia. The Athenian people went to their sanctuaries. There they prayed for deliverance. They asked their gods to expedite their victory. The Athenians refurbished their weapons and moved to the plain of Marathon, where their little band would meet the Persians. At the last moment, soldiers from Plataea reinforced the Athenian troops. The Athenian army attacked, and Greek citizens fought bravely. The power of the mighty Persians was offset by the love that the Athenians had for their city. Athenians defeated the Persians in archery and hand combat. Greek soldiers seized Persian ships and burned them, and the Persians fled in terror. Herodotus, a famous historian, reports that 6400 Persians died, compared with only 192 Athenians.

Their participation _____ to the Athenians.

A. gave comfort

B. gave honor

C. gave strength

D. gave fear

E. gave hope

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

"gave honor" is correct because it directly restates the passage's central clue: the Athenians were "ennobled by this participation." To ennoble people is to confer dignity, elevate their status, or make them feel honorable. The passage explains that, unlike subjects in Persia, Athenian citizens participated in ruling their city-state. That civic role gave their political membership special dignity and a personal stake in Athens's survival. The author then links this sense of honor to the citizens' willingness to risk death for their city-state and to the resolve that contributed to the victory at Marathon. Thus, "gave honor" completes the sentence both grammatically and logically: their participation in self-government gave honor to the Athenians.

The historical setting also supports this reading. Athens is commonly identified with a form of direct democracy in which eligible citizens took part in public decision-making, an arrangement that made citizenship a meaningful civic responsibility rather than merely passive residence. For background on Athenian democracy, see Encyclopaedia Britannica's overview of

ancient Athens. For an account of the Battle of Marathon and Herodotus's reported casualty figures, see Britannica's Battle of Marathon reference.

QUESTION NO: 4

In 1976, Sichan Siv was crawling through the jungle, trying to escape from Cambodia. By 1989, however, Siv was working in the White House, in Washington

D. C., as an advisor to the President of the United States. How did this strange journey come about?

Like millions of Cambodians, Siv was a victim of a bloody civil war. One of the sides in this war was the Cambodian government. The other was a group called the Khmer Rouge.

When the Khmer Rouge won the war, the situation in Cambodia got worse. Many people were killed, while others were forced into hard labor. Sometimes entire families were wiped out. Siv came from a large family that lived in the capital of Cambodia. After finishing high school, Siv worked for a while with a Cambodian airline company. Later, he taught English. After that, he took a job with CARE, an American group that was helping victims of the war. Siv had hoped to leave Cambodia before the Khmer Rouge took over the country. Unfortunately, he was delayed. As a result, he and his family were taken from their homes and forced to labor in rice fields. After a while, Siv managed to escape. He rode an old bicycle for miles, trying to reach Thailand where he would be free and safe. For three weeks he slept on the ground and tried to hide from the soldiers who were looking for him. Caught at last, he was afraid he would be killed. Instead, he was put into a labor camp, where he worked eighteen hours each day without rest. After several months, he escaped again; this time he made it. The journey, however, was a terrifying one. After three days of staggering on foot through mile after mile of thick bamboo, Siv finally made his way to Thailand.

Because he had worked for an American charity group, Siv quickly found work in a refugee camp. Soon he was on his way to the states. He arrived in June of 1976 and got a job-first picking apples and then cooking in a fast-food restaurant. Siv, however, wanted more than this; he wanted to work with people who, like himself, had suffered the hardship of leaving their own countries behind. Siv decided that the best way to prepare for this kind of work was to go to college. He wrote letters to many colleges and universities. They were impressed with his school records from Cambodia, and they were impressed with his bravery. Finally, in 1980, he was able to study at Columbia University in New York City.

After finishing his studies at Columbia, Siv took a job with the United Nations. He married an American woman and became a citizen. After several more years, he felt that he was very much a part of his new country. In 1988, Siv was offered a job in the White House working for President Reagan's closest advisors. It was a difficult job, and he often had to work long hours. However, the long hard work was worth it, because Siv got the opportunity to help refugees in his work.

What is the main idea of this passage?

A. Persistence and courage are global ideas.

B. Siv covered a large area during his life.

C. Siv persevered to become an American citizen

D. Siv overcame numerous challenges to come to America and help others.

E. Siv persevered to become an American citizen.

ANSWER: D

Explanation:

"Siv overcame numerous challenges to come to America and help others" is the main idea because it encompasses the passage's complete account of Siv's transformation from a Cambodian survivor into a U.S. public servant committed to refugees. The narrative first establishes the extraordinary dangers he survived: forced labor, imprisonment, and repeated attempts to escape Khmer Rouge-controlled Cambodia. It then follows his purposeful progress after reaching Thailand and the United States, including difficult entry-level work, college study, employment with the United Nations, U.S. citizenship, and a White House position. Most importantly, the passage presents these achievements not merely as personal advancement, but as preparation that enabled Siv to assist people who had endured displacement like his own. Thus, his resilience and his continuing service to refugees unite the beginning, middle, and conclusion of the passage. The historical setting also aligns with documented accounts of Khmer Rouge rule, during which Cambodians suffered persecution, forced

labor, and mass killing; see the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's overview of the Khmer Rouge regime. Biographical background on Siv's later public-service career is also available at Sichan Siv's official website.

QUESTION NO: 5

This morning, a bakery makes exactly one delivery, consisting of exactly six loaves of bread. Each of the loaves is exactly one of three kinds: oatmeal, rye, or wheat, and each is either sliced or unsliced. The loaves that the bakery delivers this morning must be consistent with the following:

There are at least two kinds of loaves.

There are no more than three rye loaves.

There is no unsliced wheat loaf.

There is at least one unsliced oatmeal loaf.

If two or more of the loaves are unsliced, then at least one of the unsliced loaves is rye.

Which one of the following could be a complete and accurate list of the loaves that the bakery delivers?

A. six unsliced oatmeal loaves

B. five unsliced oatmeal loaves, one sliced rye loaf

C. five unsliced oatmeal loaves, one unsliced wheat loaf

D. four unsliced oatmeal loaves, two unsliced rye loaves

E. four unsliced oatmeal loaves, two sliced wheat loaves

ANSWER: D

Explanation:

The complete list "four unsliced oatmeal loaves, two unsliced rye loaves" satisfies every delivery condition. It contains exactly six loaves: four oatmeal loaves plus two rye loaves. Because oatmeal and rye are both present, the delivery includes the required minimum of two kinds of loaves. The delivery has two rye loaves, which remains within the maximum permitted total of three rye loaves.

All wheat-related restrictions are also satisfied because this list contains no wheat loaves at all; consequently, it cannot contain an unsliced wheat loaf. The required unsliced oatmeal loaf is present, in fact there are four. Finally, the conditional rule governing unsliced loaves applies: since the delivery has two or more unsliced loaves, at least one unsliced loaf must be rye. Both rye loaves are unsliced, so the required condition is met directly. Thus, this list could accurately describe the bakery's delivery.

This type of question is a constrained-selection exercise: test a proposed complete list against each rule while ensuring that quantity, category, and conditional requirements all hold simultaneously. LSAC provides official preparation materials and sample resources at LSAT Prep and describes the current test format at About the LSAT.

QUESTION NO: 6

A new bank has decided to stay open only on weekends - all day Saturday and Sunday - and no other days. The bank has hired two managers (U and V), Four tellers (W,X,Y, and Z), and two operation officers (S and T), for a total of exactly eight full-time employees.

No part-time employees are hired.

Each employee works a complete day when working.

A manager must be on duty each day.

The managers cannot work on the same day.

At least two tellers must be working on the same day.

W and X will not work on the same day.

S and Z will only work on Saturday.

No employee can work on consecutive days, but each employee must work on Saturday or Sunday.

Which one of the following must be true?

A. T always works on the same day as Y.

B. S never works on the same day as U.

C. Z never works on the same day as X.

D. If W works on Sunday, then Y always works on Saturday.

E. Only two tellers work on Saturday.

ANSWER: E

Explanation:

Only two tellers work on Saturday. Because the bank is open on only two consecutive days, Saturday and Sunday, the rule that no employee can work on consecutive days means that an employee who is assigned to one day cannot also be assigned to the other. At the same time, every employee must work on Saturday or Sunday. Thus, each teller is assigned to exactly one of the two days.

There are four tellers total: W, X, Y, and Z. The scheduling rule requires at least two tellers to be working on each day. Since the four tellers must each be assigned to exactly one day, satisfying a minimum of two on Saturday and a minimum of two on Sunday uses all four tellers in a two-and-two split. Therefore, Saturday has exactly two tellers, not merely at least two. The separate restriction that Z can work only on Saturday identifies one member of Saturday's two-teller group, but the numerical conclusion follows directly from the teller total and the daily minimum requirement. This is a standard constrained-distribution deduction used in LSAT analytical-reasoning-style scheduling problems. LSAC's overview of the LSAT and its reasoning skills is available at https://www.lsac.org/lsat, and official preparation resources are available at https://www.lsac.org/lsat/lsat-prep.

QUESTION NO: 7

Town councillor: The only reason for the town to have ordinances restricting where skateboarding can be done would be to protect children from danger. Skateboarding in the town's River Park is undoubtedly dangerous, but we should not pass an ordinance prohibiting it. If children cannot skateboard in the park, they will most certainly skateboard in the streets. And skateboarding in the streets is more dangerous than skateboarding in the park.

The pattern of reasoning in which one of the following is most similar to that in the town councilor's argument

A. The reason for requiring environmental reviews is to ensure that projected developments do not harm the natural environment. Currently, environmental concerns are less compelling than economic concerns, but in the long run, the environment must be protected. Therefore, the requirement for environmental reviews should not be waived.

B. Insecticides are designed to protect crops against insect damage. Aphids damage tomato crops, but using insecticides against aphids kills wasps that prey on insecticide-resistant pests.
Since aphids damage tomato crops less than the insecticide-resistant pests do, insecticides should not be used against aphids on tomato crops.

C. The purpose of compulsory vaccination for schoolchildren was to protect both the children themselves and others in the community against smallpox. Smallpox was indeed a dreadful disease, but it has now been eliminated from the world's population. So children should not be vaccinated against it.

D. The function of a sealer on wood siding is to retard deterioration caused by weather. However, cedar is a wood that is naturally resistant to weather-related damage and thus does not need additional protection. Sealers, therefore, should not be applied to cedar siding.

E. Traffic patterns that involve one-way streets are meant to accelerate the flow of traffic in otherwise congested areas. However, it would be detrimental to the South Main Street area to have traffic move faster. So traffic patterns involving one-way streets should not be implemented there.

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

“Insecticides are designed to protect crops against insect damage. Aphids damage tomato crops, but using insecticides against aphids kills wasps that prey on insecticide-resistant pests. Since aphids damage tomato crops less than the insecticide-resistant pests do, insecticides should not be used against aphids on tomato crops.” has the same underlying structure as the councillor’s argument. Each argument begins by identifying a protective purpose for a proposed intervention: restricting skateboard locations is intended to reduce danger, and insecticides are intended to reduce crop damage. Each then acknowledges that the immediate problem is genuine: skateboarding in River Park is dangerous, and aphids harm tomatoes. Crucially, both reason that applying the proposed remedy will predictably create or enable a worse harmful condition. Prohibiting park skateboarding would shift children to the more dangerous streets; using insecticide against aphids would kill wasps that control more damaging, insecticide-resistant pests. Because the anticipated alternative harm exceeds the harm being addressed, each concludes that the specific protective measure should not be adopted. This is a classic parallel-reasoning comparison: match the relationship between premises and conclusion, rather than merely matching subject matter or recommendation wording. LSAT Logical Reasoning questions test the ability to analyze and evaluate arguments, including their methods of reasoning; see LSAC’s LSAT test format overview and LSAC’s Logical Reasoning section description.

QUESTION NO: 8

So-called "engineered foods," usually in powder or liquid form, consist of protein that is distilled from natural sources and supplemented with vitamins and minerals. Although the amino acids contained in such products stimulate the production of growth hormones, these hormones produce growth in connective tissue rather than in muscle mass; this does not improve muscle strength.

Hence, athletes, who need to improve their muscular strength, should not consume engineered foods.

The argument depends on assuming which one of the following?

A. An increase in muscle mass produces an increase in strength.

B. People who are not athletes require neither stronger connective tissue nor muscle strength.

C. If an engineered food does not improve muscle strength, there is no other substantial advantage to athletes from consuming it.

D. Consuming engineered foods that provide nutrients that can be obtained more easily elsewhere is unhealthy.

E. Growth of muscle mass enhances muscle strength only when accompanied by growth of connective tissue.

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

The argument concludes that athletes should not consume engineered foods because the growth hormones stimulated by their amino acids increase connective tissue rather than muscle mass and therefore do not improve muscle strength. For that evidence to justify a recommendation against consuming the foods at all, the argument must assume that athletes receive no other substantial benefit from them when they do not improve muscle strength. Otherwise, an athlete could reasonably consume engineered foods for another important athletic benefit—such as nutritional support, recovery, or another performance-related advantage—even though the foods do not increase muscular strength. That possibility would sever the link between the stated lack of strength improvement and the conclusion that athletes should avoid the products. The required assumption is therefore: “If an engineered food does not improve muscle strength, there is no other substantial advantage to athletes from consuming it.” This statement supplies the necessary bridge from a limited finding about muscle

strength to the broad recommendation that athletes should not consume engineered foods. It reflects the standard LSAT necessary-assumption principle: the conclusion relies on a claim that must hold for the evidence to adequately support that conclusion. See the LSAC Logical Reasoning overview and LSAC official LSAT preparation resources.

QUESTION NO: 9

Scientists have long known that the soft surface of the bill of the platypus is perforated with openings that contain sensitive nerve endings. Only recently, however, have biologists concluded on the basis of new evidence that the animal uses its bill to locate its prey while underwater, a conclusion suggested by the fact that the animal's eyes, ears, and nostrils are sealed when it is submerged. The new evidence comes from neurophysiological studies, which have recently revealed that within the pores on the bill there are two kinds of sensory receptors: mechanoreceptors, which are tiny pushrods that respond to tactile pressure, and electroreceptors, which respond to weak electrical fields. Having discovered that tactile stimulation of the pushrods sends nerve impulses to the brain, where they evoke an electric potential over an area of the neocortex much larger than the one stimulated by input from the limbs, eyes, and ears, Bohringer concluded that the bill must be the primary sensory organ for the platypus. Her finding was supported by studies showing that the bill is extraordinarily sensitive to tactile stimulation: stimulation with a fine glass stylus sent a signal by way of the fifth cranial nerve to the neocortex and from there to the motor cortex. Presumably nerve impulses from the motor cortex then induced a snapping movement of the bill. But Bohringer's investigations did not explain how the animal locates its prey at a distance.

Scheich's neurophysiological studies contribute to solving this mystery. His initial work showed that when a platypus feeds, it swims along, steadily wagging its bill from side to side until prey is encountered. It thereupon switches to searching behavior, characterized by erratic movements of the bill over a small area at the bottom of a body of water, which is followed by homing in on the object and seizing it. In order to determine how the animal senses prey and then distinguishes it from other objects on the bottom, Scheich hypothesized that a sensory system based on electroreception similar to that found in sharks might exist in the platypus. In further experiments he found he could trigger the switch from patrolling to searching behavior in the platypus by creating a dipole electric field in the water with the aid of a small 1.5-volt battery. The platypus, sensitive to the weak electric current that was created, rapidly oriented toward the battery at a distance of 10 centimeters and sometimes as much as 30 centimeters. Once the battery was detected, the platypus would inevitably attack it as if it were food. Scheich then discovered that the tail flicks of freshwater shrimp, a common prey of the platypus, also produce weak electric fields and elicit an identical response. Scheich and his colleagues believe that it is reasonable to assume that all the invertebrates on which the platypus feed must produce electric fields.

Which one of the following best describes the organization of the passage?

A. A hypothesis is presented and defended with supporting examples.

B. A conclusion is presented and the information supporting it is provided.

C. A thesis is presented and defended with an argument.

D. Opposing views are presented, discussed, and then reconciled.

E. A theory is proposed, considered, and then amended.

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

The passage is organized by first presenting a broad scientific conclusion—that the platypus uses its bill to find prey underwater—and then supplying the research that supports and refines that conclusion. The opening establishes the relevant anatomy and introduces neurophysiological evidence about tactile receptors and electroreceptors in the bill. It then describes Bohringer's findings, which support the conclusion that the bill is the animal's primary sensory organ. Importantly, the passage identifies a remaining question: tactile sensitivity alone does not explain how prey can be detected at a distance.

The second paragraph provides the further information needed to address that unresolved issue. Scheich observes characteristic feeding behavior, formulates an electroreception-based account, and reports experiments in which an artificial electric field prompts prey-searching and attack behavior. The additional finding that shrimp tail flicks create similar weak fields links the laboratory results to the platypus's natural prey. Thus, "A conclusion is presented and the information supporting it is provided." accurately captures the passage's overall progression from the conclusion about the bill's sensory role to the empirical evidence supporting tactile and electrical prey detection. This account is consistent with scientific descriptions of platypus electroreception, including the Australian Museum's platypus overview and Encyclopaedia Britannica's platypus entry.

QUESTION NO: 10

Thurgood Marshall's litigation of Brown v. Board of Education in 1952 – the landmark case, decided in 1954, that made segregation illegal in United States public schools – was not his first case before the U.S. Supreme Court. Some legal scholars claim that the cases he presented to the court in the sixteen years before his successful argument for desegregation of public schools were necessary forerunners of that case: preliminary tests of legal strategies and early erosions of the foundations of discrimination against African Americans that paved the way for success in Brown.

When Marshall joined the legal staff of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in 1936, the organization was divided on how to proceed against the legal doctrine that for forty years had promoted "separate but equal" facilities for African Americans in educational institutions, in public transportation, and various other civic amenities. One approach was to emphasize that facilities were not in fact equal and to pursue litigation whose practical goal was the improvement both of opportunity for African Americans and of the facilities themselves. A second, more theoretical, approach was to argue that the concept of separate but equal facilities for the races was by its very nature impossible to fulfill, rendering the doctrine self-contradictory and hence legally unsound. Marshall correctly believed that the latter approach would eventually be the one to bring repeal of the doctrine, but felt it necessary in the short term to argue several cases using the former approach, in order to demonstrate the numerous ways in which segregation prevented real equality and thus to prepare the courts to recognize the validity of the theoretical argument.

While Marshall enjoyed several successes arguing for the equalization of facilities and opportunities in such areas as voting practices and accommodations for graduate students at public universities, it would be twelve years before he evolved a strategy for arguing against pervasive discriminatory practices that enabled him to make the leap from individual instances of inequality to the broader social argument needed to later invalidate "separate but equal." In 1948, Marshall litigated Shelley v. Kraemer, in which he convinced the court to outlaw housing discrimination practiced by private parties. Although the court had previously supported such practices implicitly under a doctrine that excused private dealings from the legal requirement for equal protection of citizens under law, Marshall presented sociological data demonstrating that, in sum and over time, these individual transactions constituted a pattern of insupportable discrimination. Marshall later used this strategy when arguing against individual schools' enrollment restrictions in Brown; scholars argue that his successful use of the strategy in Shelley prepared the court to accept such data as convincing evidence for finding "separate but equal" insupportable on its face.

According to the passage, the more theoretical approach to proceeding against the "separate but equal" doctrine was to

A. show that the doctrine often resulted in unequal opportunities for African Americans

B. argue that the doctrine was legally unsound because it contradicted itself

C. adopt a short-term strategy to prepare for the use of a long-term strategy

D. erode its foundations by successfully arguing individual cases

E. demonstrate that the separate facilities provided for African Americans were not in fact equitable

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

The correct answer is “argue that the doctrine was legally unsound because it contradicted itself.” The passage expressly defines the theoretical approach as the claim that genuinely separate yet equal facilities for different races were inherently impossible to provide. If a doctrine requires a condition that cannot actually be fulfilled, the doctrine defeats its own stated standard: it is self-contradictory. The passage further states that this contradiction rendered the doctrine “legally unsound,” which directly matches the correct answer’s wording.

This approach differs in kind from litigation focused on proving unequal conditions in particular schools, services, or opportunities. Rather than depending on evidence that a specific facility failed to meet an equality requirement, the theoretical argument attacks the validity of “separate but equal” at the level of principle. The passage identifies this as the approach Marshall believed would ultimately produce repeal of the doctrine and describes his earlier equality-focused cases as preparation for courts to accept that broader argument. This reading also accords with the Supreme Court’s conclusion in *Brown v. Board of Education* that separate educational facilities are inherently unequal. See the Court’s decision at Justia: Brown v. Board of Education and background from the U.S. National Archives.

QUESTION NO: 11

Because addictive drugs are physically harmful, their use by athletes is never justified. Purists, however, claim that taking massive doses of even such nonaddictive drugs as aspirin and vitamins before competing should also be prohibited because they are unnatural. This is ridiculous; almost everything in sports is unnatural, from high-tech running shoes to padded boxing gloves to highly-specialized bodybuilding machines. Yet, none of these is prohibited on the basis of its being unnatural. Furthermore, we should be attending to far more serious problems that plague modern sports and result in unnecessary deaths and injuries. Therefore, the use of nonaddictive drugs by athletes should not be prohibited.

Which one of the following can be inferred from the passage above?

A. The fact that something is unnatural is not a sufficient reason for banning it.

B. There is nothing unnatural about the use of nonaddictive drugs by athletes.

C. The use of addictive drugs by athletes should be prohibited because addictive drugs are unnatural.

D. Some of the unnecessary deaths and injuries in modern sports are caused by the use of addictive drugs by athletes.

E. The use of addictive drugs by athletes is a less serious problem than are unnecessary injuries.

ANSWER: A

Explanation:

The fact that something is unnatural is not a sufficient reason for banning it can be inferred directly from the author's reasoning. The passage considers the claim that athletes' use of nonaddictive drugs should be prohibited because it is "unnatural." The author rejects that proposed basis, pointing out that many accepted aspects of athletic competition—including high-tech running shoes, padded boxing gloves, and specialized bodybuilding machines—are also characterized as unnatural. Crucially, these practices and items are not prohibited merely on that basis. The author uses this comparison to establish a general principle: unnaturalness alone does not justify a prohibition. That principle supports the conclusion that nonaddictive drugs should not be banned simply because their use is deemed unnatural. The argument does not require a claim that every unnatural practice is acceptable in every context; rather, it supports the narrower inference that being unnatural, by itself, fails to provide adequate grounds for a ban. This reflects the LSAT Logical Reasoning standard for inference questions: the credited statement must follow from the statements and argumentative commitments in the passage. See LSAC's overview of the LSAT and LSAC's LSAT test-format guidance.

QUESTION NO: 12

Four boys — Fred, Juan, Marc, and Paul — and three girls — Nita, Rachel, and Trisha — will be assigned to a row of five adjacent lockers, numbered consecutively 1 through 5, arranged along a straight wall. The following conditions govern the assignment of lockers to the seven children:

Each locker must be assigned to either one or two children, and each child must be assigned to exactly one locker. Each shared locker must be assigned to one girl and one boy.

Juan must share a locker, but Rachel cannot share a locker.

Nita's locker cannot be adjacent to Trisha's locker. Fred must be assigned to locker 3

If lockers 1 and 2 are each assigned to one boy and are not shared lockers, then locker 4 must be assigned to

A. Juan

B. Paul

C. Rachel

D. Juan and Nita

E. Marc and Trisha

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

Rachel is correct. Seven children must be placed into five lockers, with each locker holding either one or two children. Therefore, exactly two lockers must be shared. Under the stated condition, lockers 1 and 2 are occupied individually by boys. Since Juan must share, he cannot be one of those boys. Fred is fixed at locker 3, and the remaining placement requirements mean Fred must share locker 3 with a girl; otherwise there would not be enough boys available to form the required two mixed-gender shared lockers. The second shared locker must contain Juan and a girl. It cannot be locker 4, because then the girls sharing lockers 3 and 4 would be Nita and Trisha, placing them in adjacent lockers, which is prohibited. Thus the shared lockers are 3 and 5. Rachel cannot share, so she must occupy the only remaining unshared locker: locker 4. This is a standard conditional sequencing deduction: first determine the required number of shared lockers from the total number of people, then apply the gender and adjacency restrictions. LSAC describes the LSAT's logical reasoning and analytical skills emphasis at https://www.lsac.org/lsat/about and provides official preparation resources at https://www.lsac.org/lsat/prepare/official-lsat-prep.

QUESTION NO: 13

A music store carries exactly ten types of CDs — both new and used of each of jazz, opera, pop, rap, and soul. The store is having a sale on some of these types of CDs. The following conditions must apply:

Used pop is on sale; new opera is not.

If both types of pop are on sale, then all soul is.

If both types of jazz are on sale, then no rap is.

If neither type of jazz is on sale, then new pop is. If either type of rap is on sale, then no soul is.

If new soul is not on sale, then which one of the following must be true?

A. New rap is not on sale.

B. New rap is on sale.

C. Used opera is not on sale.

D. At least one type of jazz is not on sale.

E. At least one type of pop is not on sale.

ANSWER: E

Explanation:

"At least one type of pop is not on sale" must be true. The rule connecting pop and soul states that if both new pop and used pop are on sale, then both types of soul are on sale. Its valid contrapositive is that if at least one type of soul is not on sale, then at least one type of pop is not on sale. The question supplies exactly that triggering condition: new soul is not on sale. Since new soul is one of the two soul types, it follows immediately that it cannot be the case that both pop types are on sale. Therefore, at least one pop type must be excluded from the sale. This conclusion is especially precise because used pop is already stipulated to be on sale; consequently, the pop type that is not on sale must be new pop, although the answer choice correctly states the conclusion in the broader required form. This is a standard conditional-reasoning application: reverse and negate the original conditional to obtain its contrapositive, rather than improperly reversing it. LSAC identifies logical reasoning as a section that tests the ability to analyze and evaluate arguments and relationships; see LSAC's overview of the LSAT and LSAC's multiple-choice question-type guidance.

QUESTION NO: 14

Is it necessary for defense lawyers to believe that the clients they defend are innocent of the charges against them? Some legal scholars hold that lawyers* sole obligation is to provide the best defense they are capable of, claiming that in democratic societies all people accused of crimes are entitled to the best possible legal representation. They argue that lawyers have no right to judge defendants because it is the job of the courts to determine guilt or innocence and the job of the lawyer to represent the defendant before the court. They believe that the lawyer's responsibility is to state those facts that will assist each client's case, construct sound arguments based on these facts, and identify flaws in the arguments of opposing counsel. According to these scholars, the lawyer's role is not to express or act on personal opinions but to act as

an advocate, saying only what defendants would say if they possessed the proper training or resources with which to represent themselves.

But such a position overlooks the fact that the defense lawyer's obligation is twofold: to the defendant, certainly, but no less so to the court and, by extension, to society. For this reason, lawyers, great as their obligation to defendants is, should not, as officers of the court, present to the court assertions that they know to be false. But by the same principle, lawyers who are convinced that their clients are guilty should not undertake to demonstrate their innocence. Guilty defendants should not be entitled to false or insincere representation. When lawyers know with certainty that a defendant is guilty, it is their duty not to deny this. Rather, they should appraise the case as much as possible in their client's favor, after giving due consideration to the facts on the other side, and then present any extenuating circumstances and argue for whatever degree of leniency in sentencing they sincerely believe is warranted. In cases where it is uncertain whether the client is guilty but the lawyer sincerely believes the client may well be innocent, the lawyer should of course try to prove that the client is innocent.

The lawyer's obligation to the court and to society also ultimately benefits the defendant, because the "best defense" can only truly be provided by an advocate who, after a careful analysis of the facts, is convinced of the merits of the case. The fact that every client is entitled to a defense does not mean that defense lawyers should take every case they are offered. Lawyers should not be mere mouthpieces for a defendant but instead advocates for the rights of the defendant given the facts of the case.

Which one of the following sentences would most logically begin a paragraph immediately following the end of the passage?

A. In keeping with this role, defense lawyers should base their cases upon the foundations of honesty, substantive accuracy, and selectivity.

B. Therefore, the practice of law remains morally dubious, in that misrepresentation may achieve acquittal for an attorney's client.

C. Consequently, the defendant's right to legal representation varies from case to case, depending on the severity of the alleged crime and the defense lawyer's personal interpretation of the case.

D. Thus, the lawyers' obligations are threefold to be faithful to the dictates of the court, society, and themselves by proving their professional worth in securing acquittal for the clients whom they represent.

E. Therefore, judges or other officials of the court should interrogate defense attorneys regarding any prior knowledge they may have of their clients' innocence or guilt.

ANSWER: A

Explanation:

“In keeping with this role, defense lawyers should base their cases upon the foundations of honesty, substantive accuracy, and selectivity.” most logically continues the passage because it directly develops the author’s final description of the proper role of a defense lawyer. The immediately preceding sentence rejects the idea that counsel should function as a mere mouthpiece and instead defines counsel as an advocate for the defendant’s rights “given the facts of the case.” The proposed sentence picks up that role through the phrase “In keeping with this role” and translates the passage’s central principles into practical standards for case selection and advocacy. Honesty reflects the lawyer’s duty not to make assertions known to be false; substantive accuracy reflects the requirement to assess the facts carefully and present arguments sincerely supported by them; and selectivity reflects the conclusion that lawyers need not accept every offered case. Thus, the sentence both refers clearly to the preceding discussion and provides a natural basis for a following paragraph that could elaborate on these standards. Its emphasis on truthfulness also accords with the professional duty of candor toward tribunals recognized in ABA Model Rule 3.3. The ABA’s Model Rule 1.2 likewise frames representation as subject to legal and ethical limits.

QUESTION NO: 15

Donna Haraway's Primate Visions is the most ambitious book on the history of science yet written from a feminist perspective, embracing not only the scientific construction of gender but also the interplay of race, class, and colonial and postcolonial culture with the "Western" construction of the very concept of nature itself. Primatology is a particularly apt vehicle for such themes because primates seem so much like ourselves that they provide ready material for scientists' conscious and unconscious projections of their beliefs about nature and culture.

Haraway's most radical departure is to challenge the traditional disjunction between the active knower (scientist/historian) and the passive object (nature/history). In Haraway's view, the desire to understand nature, whether in order to tame it or to

preserve it as a place of wild innocence, is based on a troublingly masculinist and colonialist view of nature as an entity distinct from us and subject to our control. She argues that it is a view that is no longer politically, ecologically, or even scientifically viable. She proposes an approach that not only recognizes diverse human actors (scientists, government officials, laborers, science fiction writers) as contributing to our knowledge of nature, but that also recognizes the creatures usually subsumed under nature (such as primates) as active participants in creating that knowledge as well. Finally, she insists that the perspectives afforded by these different agents cannot be reduced to a single, coherent reality – there are necessarily only multiple, interlinked, partial realities.

This iconoclastic view is reflected in Haraway's unorthodox writing style. Haraway does not weave the many different elements of her work into one unified, overarching Story of Primatology; they remain distinct voices that will not succumb to a master narrative. This fragmented approach to historiography is familiar enough in historiographical theorizing but has rarely been put into practice by historians of science. It presents a complex alternative to traditional history, whether strictly narrative or narrative with emphasis on a causal argument.

Haraway is equally innovative in the way she incorporates broad cultural issues into her analysis. Despite decades of rhetoric from historians of science about the need to unite issues deemed "internal" to science (scientific theory and practice) and those considered "external" to it (social issues, structures, and beliefs), that dichotomy has proven difficult to set aside. Haraway simply ignores it. The many readers in whom this separation is deeply ingrained may find her discussions of such popular sources as science fiction, movies, and television distracting, and her statements concerning such issues as nuclear war bewildering and digressive. To accept her approach one must shed a great many assumptions about what properly belongs to the study of science.

According to the author of the passage, which one of the following statements is true of the historiographical method employed by Haraway in Primate Visions?

A. It is a particularly effective approach in discussions of social issues.

B. It is an approach commonly applied in historiography in many disciplines.

C. It is generally less effective than traditional approaches.

D. It has rarely been used by historians emphasizing causal arguments.

E. It has rarely been practiced by historians of science.

ANSWER: E

Explanation:

The correct statement is “It has rarely been practiced by historians of science.” The passage explicitly characterizes Haraway’s historiographical method as fragmented rather than unified: she preserves distinct voices and does not force the diverse elements of primatology into a single master narrative. The author then directly states that this fragmented approach is “familiar enough in historiographical theorizing” but “has rarely been put into practice by historians of science.” Thus, the question’s claim is a straightforward paraphrase of the passage’s description of the method’s actual use within the history of science.

The method reflects Haraway’s broader commitment to multiple, interconnected, partial realities. Rather than treating history as one coherent account produced by a detached observer, her work gives space to varied human and nonhuman participants and to cultural material that traditional scientific histories might exclude. The passage presents this as an innovative practical application of an approach that historians may recognize in theory. For background on Haraway’s *Primate Visions*, see the Routledge book page. A scholarly overview of historiography as the study and practice of writing history is available from Encyclopaedia Britannica.

QUESTION NO: 16

A new bank has decided to stay open only on weekends - all day Saturday and Sunday - and no other days. The bank has hired two managers (U and V), Four tellers (W,X,Y, and Z), and two operation officers (S and T), for a total of exactly eight full-time employees.

No part-time employees are hired.

Each employee works a complete day when working.

A manager must be on duty each day.

The managers cannot work on the same day.

At least two tellers must be working on the same day.

W and X will not work on the same day.

S and Z will only work on Saturday.

No employee can work on consecutive days, but each employee must work on Saturday or Sunday.

If W works on Sunday, then which one of the following must be true?

A. X works on Saturday

B. Y works on Saturday

C. T works on Sunday

D. Z works on Sunday

E. U works on Sunday

ANSWER: A

Explanation:

X works on Saturday must be true. The bank operates only on Saturday and Sunday, and every full-time employee must work on at least one of those two days. Because no employee may work on consecutive days, an employee who works one weekend day cannot also work the other; thus each employee is assigned to exactly one of the two days. The condition places W on Sunday. The rule that W and X will not work on the same day therefore prevents X from working on Sunday. Since X nevertheless must work on either Saturday or Sunday, Saturday is the only available assignment for X. This is a direct application of conditional scheduling: first fix W's day, then apply the incompatibility between W and X, and finally use the requirement that every employee be scheduled. The conclusion does not depend on how the remaining employees are distributed, provided all other bank staffing rules are met. This approach—converting each rule into a definite placement or restriction and then identifying the forced remaining day—is central to LSAT analytical-reasoning-style scheduling questions. See LSAC's overview of the LSAT and its official practice-test resources.

QUESTION NO: 17

If Jack were a first baseman for the New York Mets, he would be rich. He is not a first baseman, since he is not rich. The conclusion above is unsound because the author does not consider the possibility that Jack could be

A. a rich third baseman.

B. a first baseman for another team.

C. rich for some other reason.

D. a guard for the Boston Celtics.

E. a second baseman for the New York Mets.

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

The correct answer is **"a first baseman for another team."** The premise establishes a conditional relationship limited to one particular position: being a first baseman *for the New York Mets* would imply that Jack is rich. Because Jack is not rich, the logically supported inference is only that he is not a first baseman for the New York Mets. It does not establish the broader claim that he is not a first baseman at all. Jack could consistently be a first baseman for a different team while not being rich. That possibility exposes the conclusion's error: it drops the important qualification "for the New York Mets" and treats a conclusion about one specific team as though it applied to every possible first-baseman position. In formal conditional reasoning, denying the consequent permits the inference that the stated sufficient condition did not occur, but the

conclusion must preserve the condition exactly as stated. This is an instance of an invalid shift from a narrowly defined category to a larger category. For background on conditional statements and valid inferences, see Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy: Classical Logic and Encyclopaedia Britannica: Propositional Logic.

QUESTION NO: 18

For some years before the outbreak of World War I, a number of painters in different European countries developed works of art that some have described as prophetic: paintings that by challenging viewers' habitual ways of perceiving the world of the present are thus said to anticipate a future world that would be very different. The artistic styles that they brought into being varied widely, but all these styles had in common a very important break with traditions of representational art that stretched back to the Renaissance.

So fundamental is this break with tradition that it is not surprising to discover that these artists – among them Picasso and Braque in France, Kandinsky in Germany, and Malevich in Russia – are often credited with having anticipated not just subsequent developments in the arts, but also the political and social disruptions and upheavals of the modern world that came into being during and after the war. One art critic even goes so far as to claim that it is the very prophetic power of these artworks, and not their break with traditional artistic techniques, that constitutes their chief interest and value.

No one will deny that an artist may, just as much as a writer or a politician, speculate about the future and then try to express a vision of that future through making use of a particular style or choice of imagery; speculation about the possibility of war in Europe was certainly widespread during the early years of the twentieth century. But the forward-looking quality attributed to these artists should instead be credited to their exceptional aesthetic innovations rather than to any power to make clever guesses about political or social trends. For example, the clear impression we get of Picasso and Braque, the joint founders of cubism, from their contemporaries as well as from later statements made by the artists themselves, is that they were primarily concerned with problems of representation and form and with efforts to create a far more "real" reality than the one that was accessible only to the eye. The reformation of society was of no interest to them as artists.

It is also important to remember that not all decisive changes in art are quickly followed by dramatic events in the world outside art. The case of Delacroix, the nineteenth-century French painter, is revealing. His stylistic innovations startled his contemporaries – and still retain that power over modern viewers – but most art historians have decided that Delacroix adjusted himself to new social conditions that were already coming into being as a result of political upheavals that had occurred in 1830, as opposed to other artists who supposedly told of changes still to come.

The art critic mentioned in 2nd paragraph would be most likely to agree with which one of the following statements?

A. The supposed innovations of Picasso, Braque, Kandinsky, and Malevich were based on stylistic discoveries that had been made in the Renaissance but went unexplored for centuries.

B. The work of Picasso, Braque, Kandinsky, and Malevich possessed prophetic power because these artists employed the traditional techniques of representational art with unusual skill.

C. The importance of the work of Picasso, Braque, Kandinsky, and Malevich is due largely to the fact that the work was stylistically ahead of its time.

D. The prophecies embodied in the work of Picasso, Braque, Kandinsky, and Malevich were shrewd predictions based on insights into the European political situation.

E. The artistic styles brought into being by Picasso, Braque, Kandinsky, and Malevich, while stylistically innovative, were of little significance to the history of post-World War I art.

ANSWER: D

Explanation:

The prophecies embodied in the work of Picasso, Braque, Kandinsky, and Malevich were shrewd predictions based on insights into the European political situation. This statement best extends the critic's central claim: that the artworks' chief interest and value lie in their "prophetic power," rather than in their departure from traditional artistic techniques. In the passage, prophetic power means more than merely introducing novel visual styles. It concerns the purported capacity of the paintings to anticipate the political and social disruptions that later emerged in Europe. A critic who treats that capacity as the works' primary value would therefore be inclined to regard the artists' apparent foresight as meaningful and grounded in an understanding of the political circumstances of their era. The author explicitly frames this sort of foresight as "clever guesses" about political or social trends, but that is the author's skeptical characterization, not the critic's view. The correct statement captures the critic's favorable interpretation of artistic prophecy as significant political prescience. For historical context on

Cubism and its radical reconception of representation, see the Metropolitan Museum of Art's overview of Cubism; see also Tate's Cubism resource.

QUESTION NO: 19

Seven friends, Abe, Bob, Chad, Dolly, Elisa, Frank, and Gregory sit in a VIP enclosure of a stadium to watch a football match. The seats in the enclosure form a 3 x 3 matrix, i.e. 3 rows (front, middle and last) with 3 seats in each row. The following information is known:

- Chad sits immediately beside Dolly
- Dolly sits in a row immediately behind the row in which Abe is sitting
- There is no one sitting on one side of Chad
- None of Elisa or Gregory sits immediately beside Abe
- Bob sits in the last row

If Elisa and Gregory do not sit in the same row, which of the following may be true?

A. Dolly sits in the middle of the middle row

B. Chad and Dolly do not sit immediately beside one another

C. Gregory sits in the middle of the first row

D. Abe sits in the middle of the front row

E. Frank sits in the middle of the front row

ANSWER: E

Explanation:

Frank sits in the middle of the front row may be true because it can be established by a complete seating arrangement that satisfies every condition. Place Abe at one end of the front row, Frank in the middle of that row, and Elisa at the opposite end. Put Chad in the center seat of the middle row and Dolly immediately beside Chad at one end, leaving the seat on Chad's other side empty. This places Dolly exactly one row behind Abe, while also meeting the condition that one side of Chad is unoccupied. In the last row, place Bob and Gregory, with the remaining seat empty. Elisa and Gregory are then in different rows, as required by the additional condition. Further, neither Elisa nor Gregory is immediately beside Abe: Frank separates Abe and Elisa in the front row, and Gregory is in the last row. This valid "could be true" arrangement proves that Frank can occupy the middle of the front row. This approach reflects the conditional, possibility-based reasoning used in LSAT analytical problems: a choice is established when at least one fully compliant scenario can be constructed. See LSAC's overview of the LSAT and its test format.

QUESTION NO: 20

Many of the presidents and prime ministers who have had the most successful foreign policies had no prior experience in foreign affairs when they assumed office. Although scholars and diplomats in the sacrosanct inner circle of international affairs would have us think otherwise, anyone with an acute political sense, a disciplined temperament, and a highly developed ability to absorb and retain information can quickly learn to conduct a successful foreign policy. In fact, prior experience alone will be of little value to a foreign policymaker who lacks all three of these traits.

If all of the statements above are true, which one of the following must be true?

A. Scholars and diplomats have more experience in foreign affairs than most presidents and prime ministers bring to office.

B. Prior experience in foreign affairs is neither a sufficient nor a necessary condition for a president or prime minister to have a successful foreign policy.

C. Prior experience in foreign affairs is a necessary but not sufficient condition for a president or prime minister to have a successful foreign policy.

D. An acute political sense, a disciplined temperament, and a highly developed ability to absorb and retain information are each necessary conditions for a president or prime minister to have a successful foreign policy.

E. A president or prime minister with years of experience in foreign affairs will have a more successful foreign policy than one who does not have experience in foreign affairs.

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

“Prior experience in foreign affairs is neither a sufficient nor a necessary condition for a president or prime minister to have a successful foreign policy” must be true because the passage establishes both parts of that conditional claim. First, it explicitly says that many leaders with the most successful foreign policies had no prior foreign-affairs experience when they entered office. Since successful foreign policy can occur without such experience, prior experience cannot be necessary for success. Second, the passage says that prior experience alone has little value when the policymaker lacks the specified intellectual and temperamental traits. Thus, experience by itself does not ensure a successful foreign policy and is not sufficient for that result. The argument’s central point is that success does not depend solely, or indispensably, on a background in foreign affairs; the stated traits can enable a leader to learn what is needed, while experience without those traits cannot itself deliver success. This reflects the conditional-reasoning approach tested in LSAT Logical Reasoning: distinguish what a statement requires from what merely may help. See the LSAC overview of Logical Reasoning and its LSAT preparation resources.

QUESTION NO: 21

Four boys — Fred, Juan, Marc, and Paul — and three girls — Nita, Rachel, and Trisha — will be assigned to a row of five adjacent lockers, numbered consecutively 1 through 5, arranged along a straight wall. The following conditions govern the assignment of lockers to the seven children:

Each locker must be assigned to either one or two children, and each child must be assigned to exactly one locker. Each shared locker must be assigned to one girl and one boy.

Juan must share a locker, but Rachel cannot share a locker.

Nita's locker cannot be adjacent to Trisha's locker. Fred must be assigned to locker 3

Once Rachel has been assigned to a locker, what is the maximum number of different lockers each of which could be the locker to which Juan is assigned?

A. one

B. two

C. three

D. four

E. five

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

The correct answer is **three**. Since seven children must occupy five lockers, with every locker occupied by at least one child and no locker holding more than two, exactly two lockers must be shared. Each shared locker contains one girl and one boy. Rachel cannot share, so she must occupy a locker alone; she also cannot be in locker 3 because Fred is assigned there and sharing with Rachel is prohibited. Juan must share, so his locker cannot be Rachel’s locker. Juan also cannot be in locker 3, because Fred is already there and a shared locker cannot contain two boys. Thus, after Rachel is fixed in any permissible locker, the possible locations for Juan are the three remaining lockers other than locker 3 and Rachel’s locker. These possibilities can be completed while assigning the remaining children so that the two girls who share lockers, Nita and Trisha, are not in adjacent lockers. Therefore the greatest number of distinct locker locations Juan can have is three. This is the kind of constrained-assignment deduction tested in LSAT Analytical Reasoning; see LSAC’s official LSAT preparation resources and its LSAT overview.

QUESTION NO: 22

A chess tournament is occurring in the local community school, and the players at all four of the tables are engaged in their fourth game against their prospective opponents.

The players with white pieces are: David, Gerry, Lenny and Terry

The players with black pieces are: Don, Mike, Richie and Stephen

The scores are 3:0, 2.5:0.5, 2:1, 1.5:1.5

[note: tied games result in a score of 0.5 points for each player]

Lenny is playing at the table to the right of Stephen, who has lost all of his games until now.

Gerry is playing against Mike.

At least one game at table 1 has resulted in a tie.

Richie, who is not in the lead over his opponent, has not been in a tied game.

The player who is using the white pieces at table 4 is Terry, however, the current score at table 4 is not 2:1. Don is leading his match after his last three games.

Who is the winning player at table 4?

A. Don

B. Terry

C. David

D. Gerry

E. Richie

ANSWER: A

Explanation:

Don is the winning player at table 4. Stephen has lost all three completed games, so Stephen's table must have the 3:0 score. Stephen cannot be at table 1, because table 1 includes at least one tied game; a tied game would give Stephen at least 0.5 points. Because Lenny is immediately to Stephen's right, and table 4's white player is Terry, Stephen must be at table 2 and Lenny at table 3. Gerry plays Mike, and Stephen is the black player at table 2, so Gerry and Mike must be at table 1. This leaves Don and Richie for tables 3 and 4.

Richie has no tied games and is not leading. Thus, his score must be the losing side of the non-tied 2:1 result. Table 4 explicitly cannot have a 2:1 score, so Richie cannot be the black player there. Don must therefore play Terry at table 4. Since Don is stated to be leading after the three completed games, Don is the player winning that match. This is a standard ordering-and-assignment deduction: place the fixed table positions first, then apply score restrictions to the remaining players. LSAT analytical-reasoning-style questions test precisely this kind of constrained inference; see LSAC's LSAT test-format overview and LSAC's official preparation resources.

QUESTION NO: 23

The Galapagos Islands are in the Pacific Ocean, off the western coast of South America.

They are a rocky, lonely spot, but they are also one of the most unusual places in the world. One reason is that they are the home of some of the last giant tortoises left on earth. Weighing hundreds of pounds, these tortoises, or land turtles, wander slowly around the rocks and sand of the islands. Strangely, each of these islands has its own particular kinds of tortoises. There are seven different kinds of tortoises on the eight islands, each kind being slightly different from the other. Hundreds of years ago, thousands of tortoises wandered around these islands. However, all that changed when people started landing there. When people first arrived in 1535, their ships had no refrigerators. This meant that fresh food was always a problem for the sailors on board. The giant tortoises provided a solution to this problem. Ships would anchor off the islands, and

crews would row ashore and seize as many tortoises as they could. Once the animals were aboard the ship, the sailors would roll the tortoises onto their backs. The tortoises were completely helpless once on their backs, so they could only lie there until used for soups and stews. Almost 100,000 tortoises were carried off in this way. The tortoises faced other problems, too. Soon after the first ships, settlers arrived bringing pigs, goats, donkeys, dogs and cats. All of these animals ruined life for the tortoises.

Donkey and goats ate all the plants that the tortoises usually fed on, while the pigs. Dogs and cats consumed thousands of baby tortoises each year. Within a few years, it was hard to find any tortoise eggs-or even any baby tortoises. By the early 1900s, people began to worry that the last of the tortoises would soon die out. No one, however, seemed to care enough to do anything about the problem. More and more tortoises disappeared, even though sailors no longer needed them for food. For another fifty years, this situation continued. Finally, in the 1950s, scientist decided that something must be done. The first part of their plan was to get rid of as many cats, dogs and other animals as they could. Next, they tried to make sure that more baby tortoises would be born. To do this, they started looking for wild tortoise eggs. They gathered the eggs and put them in safe containers. When the eggs hatched, the scientists raised the tortoises in special pens. Both the eggs and tortoises were numbered so that the scientists knew exactly which kinds of tortoises they had-and which island they came from. Once the tortoises were old enough and big enough to take care of themselves, the scientists took them back to their islands and set them loose. This slow, hard work continues today, and, thanks to it, the number of tortoises is now increasing every year. Perhaps these wonderful animals will not disappear after all.

What happens right after the tortoise eggs hatch?

A. The scientists take the tortoises back to their islands.

B. The scientists get rid of cats, dogs, and other animals.

C. The sailors use the tortoises for food.

D. The scientist raised the tortoises in special pens.

E. The scientist encouraged the villagers to help.

ANSWER: D

Explanation:

The scientists raise the tortoises in special pens. The passage gives a direct sequence for the conservation program: scientists locate wild tortoise eggs, collect them, and place them in protected containers. It then states that, when the eggs hatch, the scientists raise the young tortoises in special pens. This protected rearing period allows the hatchlings to grow large enough to survive threats that had previously caused severe losses, including predation by introduced animals. During this process, the scientists also number the eggs and tortoises to track the type of tortoise and its island of origin. After the tortoises become old and large enough to care for themselves, they are returned to their respective islands and released. Thus, raising the newly hatched tortoises in special pens is the event that occurs immediately after hatching in the passage's stated sequence. This approach reflects real Galápagos conservation practice, including captive rearing and repatriation of giant tortoises, described by the Galápagos Conservancy and the Charles Darwin Foundation.

QUESTION NO: 24

When the goalie has been chosen, the Smalltown Bluebirds hockey team has a starting lineup that is selected from two groups:

First Group: John, Dexter, Bart, Erwin

Second Group: Leanne, Roger, George, Marlene, Patricia

When deciding on the players in the lineup, the coach considers the following requirements:

- Two players are always chosen from the first group, while three are chosen from the second group.
- George will only start if Bart also starts. Dexter and Bart will not start together.
- If George starts, Marlene won't start.
- The 4 fastest players are: John, Bart, George and Patricia ▪ 3 of the 4 fastest players will always be chosen.

If Marlene is on the starting lineup, which of the following players will be the first group players who will also be starting?

A. John

B. John and Dexter

C. John and Bart

D. John, Dexter and Bart

E. John, Erwin and Bart

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

John and Bart is correct. Once Marlene is stipulated to be in the starting lineup, George cannot start, because the rule states that George's presence prevents Marlene from starting. The lineup must nevertheless include three of the four fastest players: John, Bart, George, and Patricia. With George unavailable, the remaining three fastest players—John, Bart, and Patricia—must all be selected to satisfy that requirement.

John and Bart are both members of the first group, while Patricia is in the second group. Because exactly two first-group players must be selected, John and Bart fill both first-group slots. This result also respects the condition involving Bart and Dexter: Bart's selection means Dexter cannot join the lineup, but no additional first-group player is needed anyway. The deduction is forced rather than merely possible: Marlene excludes George, and excluding one of the four fastest players requires selecting every remaining fastest player. This is the standard conditional-and-selection reasoning tested in LSAT logic games-style grouping problems. For general LSAT preparation materials, see LSAC's official LSAT preparation page and LSAC practice tests.

QUESTION NO: 25

A new bank has decided to stay open only on weekends - all day Saturday and Sunday - and no other days. The bank has hired two managers (U and V), Four tellers (W,X,Y, and Z), and two operation officers (S and T), for a total of exactly eight full-time employees.

No part-time employees are hired.

Each employee works a complete day when working.

A manager must be on duty each day.

The managers cannot work on the same day.

At least two tellers must be working on the same day.

W and X will not work on the same day.

S and Z will only work on Saturday.

No employee can work on consecutive days, but each employee must work on Saturday or Sunday.

Which one of the following is a complete and accurate list of the employees who have the possibility of working on Sunday?

A. UWYZ

B. UWYS

C. UVWXT

D. UVWXYT

E. UVWXYTS

ANSWER: D

Explanation:

The complete list is **UVWXYT**. Because every employee must work on at least one of the two open days and no one may work on consecutive days, each employee is assigned to exactly one day: Saturday or Sunday. The explicit restriction that S and Z work only on Saturday makes them impossible Sunday workers. The remaining employees—U, V, W, X, Y, and T—can each be assigned to Sunday in at least one schedule that satisfies all the rules.

For the managers, U can work Sunday while V works Saturday, and V can work Sunday while U works Saturday; this also ensures one manager is present each day. Each of W, X, and Y can appear on Sunday while preserving the requirement for at least two tellers on each day and keeping W and X apart. For example, a Sunday teller pair can include W and Y, or X and Y, with the remaining tellers assigned Saturday. T has no day-specific restriction and can likewise be placed Sunday. Thus every employee named in **UVWXYT**, and no additional employee, has a possible Sunday assignment. This is a standard constraint-satisfaction approach: apply absolute restrictions first, then verify that each remaining candidate can occur in a valid arrangement. See LSAC's overview of the LSAT and LSAC practice-test resources.

QUESTION NO: 26

While historians once propagated the myth that Africans who were brought to the New World as slaves contributed little of value but their labor, a recent study by Amelia Wallace Vernon helps to dispel this notion by showing that Africans introduced rice and the methods of cultivating it into what is now the United States in the early eighteenth century. She uncovered, for example, an 1876 document that details that in 1718 starving French settlers instructed the captain of a slave ship bound for Africa to trade for 400 Africans including some "who know how to cultivate rice." This discovery is especially compelling because the introduction of rice into what is now the United States had previously been attributed to French Acadians, who did not arrive until the 1760s.

Vernon interviewed elderly African Americans who helped her discover the locations where until about 1920 their forebears had cultivated rice. At the heart of Vernon's research is the question of why, in an economy dedicated to maximizing cotton production, African Americans grew rice. She proposes two intriguing answers, depending on whether the time is before or after the end of slavery. During the period of slavery, plantation owners also ate rice and therefore tolerated or demanded its "after-hours" cultivation on patches of land not suited to cotton. In addition, growing the rice gave the slaves some relief from a system of regimented labor under a field supervisor, in that they were left alone to work independently.

After the abolition of slavery, however, rice cultivation is more difficult to explain: African Americans had acquired a preference for eating corn, there was no market for the small amounts of rice they produced, and under the tenant system – in which farmers surrendered a portion of their crops to the owners of the land they farmed – owners wanted only cotton as payment. The labor required to transform unused land to productive ground would thus seem completely out of proportion to the reward – except that, according to Vernon, the transforming of the land itself was the point.

Vernon suggests that these African Americans did not transform the land as a means to an end, but rather as an end in itself. In other words, they did not transform the land in order to grow rice – for the resulting rice was scarcely worth the effort required to clear the land – but instead transformed the land because they viewed land as an extension of self and home and so wished to nurture it and make it their own. In addition to this cultural explanation, Vernon speculates that rice cultivation might also have been a political act, a next step after the emancipation of the slaves: the symbolic claiming of plantation land that the U.S. government had promised but failed to parcel off and deed to newly freed African Americans.

As described in the last paragraph of the passage, rice cultivation after slavery is most analogous to which one of the following?

A. A group of neighbors plants flower gardens on common land adjoining their properties in order to beautify their neighborhood and to create more of a natural boundary between properties.

B. A group of neighbors plants a vegetable garden for their common use and to compete with the local market's high-priced produce by selling vegetables to other citizens who live outside the neighborhood.

C. A group of neighbors initiates an effort to neuter all the domestic animals in their neighborhood out of a sense of civic duty and to forestall the city taking action of its own to remedy the overpopulation.

D. A group of neighbors regularly cleans up the litter on a vacant lot in their neighborhood out of a sense of ownership over the lot and to protest the city's neglect of their neighborhood.

E. A group of neighbors renovates an abandoned building so they can start a program to watch each other's children out of a sense of communal responsibility and to offset the closing of a day care center in their neighborhood,

ANSWER: D

Explanation:

“A group of neighbors regularly cleans up the litter on a vacant lot in their neighborhood out of a sense of ownership over the lot and to protest the city's neglect of their neighborhood.” most closely preserves both motivations Vernon gives for post-slavery rice cultivation. The cultivation was not chiefly a practical way to obtain food or income: the passage emphasizes that the rice produced was not worth the substantial labor of clearing and transforming the land. Instead, the activity itself expressed a cultural relationship to place. Vernon characterizes land as an extension of self and home, making its care a meaningful act of nurture and belonging. Likewise, the neighbors’ cleanup is motivated by their felt ownership and care for a space that is not formally theirs.

The analogy also captures the proposed political dimension. Vernon suggests that cultivating plantation land symbolically claimed land that freed African Americans had been promised but never received. In the same way, cleaning a neglected lot publicly responds to municipal neglect and implicitly asserts the neighbors’ stake in the neighborhood. Thus, both scenarios involve labor directed at land that has value beyond its economic payoff: tending the place affirms identity, attachment, and a claim to recognition. This comparison tests the LSAT reading-comprehension skill of applying a passage’s stated relationship and motives to a new situation. See the LSAC overview of LSAT sections and LSAC’s official practice-test resources.

QUESTION NO: 27

A farm replaced its traditional irrigation system with a more efficient drip-irrigation system. In the first year after the replacement, the farm used less water per acre than it had used previously. Yet the farm's total water use increased.

Which one of the following, if true, most helps to resolve the apparent discrepancy?

A. The drip-irrigation system requires less maintenance than the traditional system required.

B. The farm cultivated substantially more acres after installing the drip-irrigation system.

C. The farm's traditional irrigation system had been in use for more than twenty years.

D. Some crops grown by the farm require more water than others do.

E. The farm installed the drip-irrigation system during a period of unusually warm weather.

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

The discrepancy is resolved if the farm cultivated substantially more acres after installing the drip-irrigation system. Using less water per acre does not guarantee using less water in total. If the number of irrigated acres increased enough, total consumption could rise even though irrigation became more efficient on each acre.

The answer distinguishes a rate of use, water per acre, from an overall total. This distinction commonly resolves apparent conflicts involving averages, rates, and quantities. See LSAC's LSAT preparation resources.

QUESTION NO: 28

Six lectures—P, Q, R, S, T, and U—are scheduled consecutively in six time slots, from first through sixth. Each lecture is scheduled in exactly one slot.

P is scheduled before Q.

R is scheduled immediately before S.

T is scheduled either first or sixth.

U is scheduled after Q.

If S is scheduled fourth, which one of the following must be true?

A. P is scheduled second.

B. Q is scheduled fifth.

C. T is scheduled first.

D. U is scheduled sixth.

E. R is scheduled second.

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

If S is fourth, R must be third, since R is immediately before S. T cannot be sixth: if T were sixth, P, Q, and U would all have to occupy the first, second, and fifth slots, but P before Q before U cannot be arranged in those positions. Therefore T must be first. A valid schedule is T, P, Q, R, S, U, which confirms that the condition can be met.

QUESTION NO: 29

Conflict had existed between Spain and England since the 1570s. England wanted a share of the wealth that Spain had been taking from the lands it had claimed in the Americas. Elizabeth I, Queen of England, encouraged her staunch admiral of the navy, Sir Francis Drake, to raid Spanish ships and towns. Though these raids were on a small scale, Drake achieved dramatic success, adding gold and silver to England's treasury and diminishing Spain's omnipotence.

Religious differences also caused conflict between the two countries. Whereas Spain was Roman Catholic, most of England had become Protestant. King Philip II of Spain wanted to claim the throne and make England a Catholic country again. To satisfy his ambition and also to retaliate against England's theft of his gold and silver, King Philip began to build his fleet of warships, the Armada, in January 1586. Philip intended his fleet to be indestructible. In addition to building new warships, he marshaled one hundred and thirty sailing vessels of all types and recruited more than nineteen thousand robust soldiers and eight thousand sailors. Although some of his ships lacked guns and others lacked ammunition, Philip was convinced that his Armada could withstand any battle with England.

The martial Armada set sail from Lisbon, Portugal, on May 9,1588, but bad weather forced it back to port. The voyage resumed on July 22 after the weather became more stable.

The Spanish fleet met the smaller, faster, and more maneuverable English ships in battle off the coast of Plymouth, England, first on July 31 and again on August 2. The two battles left Spain vulnerable, having lost several ships and with its ammunition depleted. On August 7, while the Armada lay at anchor on the French side of the Strait of Dover, England sent eight burning ships into the midst of the Spanish fleet to set it on fire. Blocked on one side, the Spanish ships could only drift away, their crews in panic and disorder. Before the Armada could regroup, the English attacked again on August 8. Although the Spaniards made a valiant effort to fight back, the fleet suffered extensive damage. During the eight hours of battle, the Armada drifted perilously close to the rocky coastline. At the moment when it seemed that the Spanish ships would be driven onto the English shore, the wind shifted, and the Armada drifted out into the North Sea. The Spaniards recognized the superiority of the English fleet and returned home, defeated.

The _____ Armada set sail on May 9, 1588.

A. complete

B. warlike

C. independent

D. isolated

E. answer not available

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

warlike is correct because it is the closest synonym for *martial*, the word used in the passage: “The martial Armada set sail from Lisbon.” *Martial* describes something connected with war, soldiers, or military activity. In this context, the Armada was a fleet assembled by Philip II as an instrument of war against England, carrying warships, soldiers, sailors, and weapons. Therefore, describing it as “warlike” preserves both the meaning of the original sentence and the passage’s emphasis on the fleet’s military purpose. Merriam-Webster defines *martial* as “of, relating to, or suited for war or a warrior,” which directly supports this substitution: Merriam-Webster: martial. The historical setting also confirms the word choice: the Spanish Armada was a major Spanish naval force sent in 1588 during the conflict with England. See Encyclopaedia Britannica: Spanish Armada.

QUESTION NO: 30

Experimental psychology requires the application of statistics to interpret empirical data and assess their significance. A person will not be able to understand such applications without training in statistics. Therefore, the more training one has in statistics, the better one will be at research in experimental psychology.

Which one of the following arguments exhibits a flawed pattern of reasoning most similar to that exhibited by the argument above?

A. Most people need the love and support of others; without it, they become depressed and unhappy. Therefore, in most instances, the more love and support a person receives, the happier that person will be.

B. Since in most jobs there are annual wage or salary increases, the longer one has worked, the more raises one will have received. Therefore, in a typical job, the longer one has worked, the greater one's income will be.

C. The main cause of heart attacks is arteriosclerosis, the buildup of plaque on the interior wall of the coronary arteries. It develops over an extended period of time. Therefore, if one is at risk for arteriosclerosis, one becomes more likely to suffer a heart attack as one gets older.

D. Since many disease processes are biochemical in nature, unless one understands chemistry one will not be able to understand the explanations for many diseases. Therefore, if one has no training in chemistry, one will not be able to master medicine.

E. Since most disease processes are biochemical in nature, an understanding of chemistry will enable one to understand most diseases. Therefore, one needs little more than training in chemistry to be able to master medicine.

ANSWER: A

Explanation:

The correct answer is *Most people need the love and support of others; without it, they become depressed and unhappy. Therefore, in most instances, the more love and support a person receives, the happier that person will be.* Like the argument in the question, it begins with a premise establishing that some amount of a resource or skill is necessary to avoid a negative result or to perform a task adequately. It then improperly infers a steadily increasing relationship: because the resource is necessary, each additional amount of it must make the outcome correspondingly better. In the psychology argument, training in statistics may indeed be needed to understand statistical applications, but that fact alone does not establish that every additional increment of statistical training will improve a person’s experimental-psychology research ability. Likewise, a person may need love and support to avoid depression and unhappiness, but the need for some support does not by itself prove that greater support always produces greater happiness. Both arguments confuse a threshold requirement with evidence for an unrestricted “more is better” conclusion. This is the sort of structural comparison tested in LSAT Logical Reasoning questions, which assess the ability to identify and evaluate patterns of reasoning. See LSAC’s Logical Reasoning overview and its About the LSAT.

QUESTION NO: 31

In a lab, the scientists have been performing tests on pregnant lab rats with caffeine. These rats were given the equivalent amount of caffeine that a person would consume with 6 cups of coffee every day. The caffeine increase also increased the occurrence of birth defects.

A media relations person told reporters that the government would not require warning labels on products that contain caffeine, as the testing was continuing, and it may have different results in the future, and the government did not want to lose credibility.

Of the following statements, which is the most in line with the statement that was made by the media relations person?

A. If a warning applies only to a small minority of people is inappropriate

B. Six cups of coffee per day is much higher than what a person typically drinks

C. The conclusive nature of studies that have been performed on animals are doubted

D. Studies on rats don't provide us with much data regarding birth defects in humans

E. The significance of birth defects due to the use of caffeine is unclear

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

The conclusive nature of studies that have been performed on animals are doubted is the statement most consistent with the media relations person's position. The person does not deny that the reported experiment found more birth defects among the rats receiving a high caffeine dose. Instead, the stated reason for withholding warning labels is that testing remains in progress and later results could differ. That rationale treats the current evidence as provisional rather than settled enough to support a public regulatory warning. In particular, because the reported finding comes from an animal experiment and further testing may alter the overall evidentiary picture, the government is concerned that acting as though the result were definitive could later undermine public confidence. The key logical point is uncertainty about whether the existing animal-study result is conclusive. This accurately captures the caution expressed in the statement without adding a separate claim about typical coffee consumption, the size of an affected group, or a specific conclusion about humans. Guidance on evaluating scientific evidence emphasizes that single studies and evolving bodies of research should be interpreted cautiously: National Academies, Science and Judgment in Risk Assessment. For background on the role of animal studies in research, see National Institutes of Health clinical research basics.

QUESTION NO: 32

In 1892 the Sierra Club was formed. In 1908 an area of coastal redwood trees north of San Francisco was established as Muir Woods National Monument. In the Sierra Nevada mountains, a walking trail from Yosemite Valley to Mount Whitney was dedicated in 1938. It is called John Muir Trail.

John Muir was born in 1838 in Scotland. His family name means "moor," which is a meadow full of flowers and animals. John loved nature from the time he was small. He also liked to climb rocky cliffs and walls. When John was eleven, his family moved to the United States and settled in Wisconsin. John was good with tools and soon became an inventor. He first invented a model of a sawmill. Later he invented an alarm clock that would cause the sleeping person to be tipped out of bed when the timer sounded. Muir left home at an early age. He took a thousand-mile walk south to the Gulf of Mexico in 1867and 1868. Then he sailed for San Francisco. The city was too noisy and crowded for Muir, so he headed inland for the Sierra Nevadas.

When Muir discovered the Yosemite Valley in the Sierra Nevadas, it was as if he had come home. He loved the mountains, the wildlife, and the trees. He climbed the mountains and even climbed trees during thunderstorms in order to get closer to the wind. He put forth the theory in the late 1860's that the Yosemite Valley had been formed through the action of glaciers. People ridiculed him. Not until 1930 was Muir's theory proven correct. Muir began to write articles about the Yosemite Valley to tell readers about its beauty. His writing also warned people that Yosemite was in danger from timber mining and sheep ranching interests. In 1901 Theodore Roosevelt became president of the United States. He was interested in conservation. Muir took the president through Yosemite, and Roosevelt helped get legislation passed to create Yosemite National Park in 1906. Although Muir won many conservation battles, he lost a major one. He fought to save the Hetch Valley, which people wanted to dam in order to provide water for San Francisco. In the late 1913 a bill was signed to dam the valley. Muir died in 1914. Some people say losing the fight to protect the valley killed Muir.

What happened first?

A. The Muir family moved to the United States.

B. Muir Woods was created.

C. John Muir learned to climb rocky cliffs.

D. John Muir walked to the Gulf of Mexico

E. Muir visited along the east coast.

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

John Muir learned to climb rocky cliffs. is the earliest event among the choices. The passage places Muir's interest in climbing rocky cliffs and walls during his early childhood, stating that he loved nature when he was small and also liked to climb. This occurred before his family's move from Scotland to Wisconsin, which the passage specifically dates to when he was eleven years old. It also plainly precedes his 1867–1868 thousand-mile journey to the Gulf of Mexico and the later creation of Muir Woods National Monument in 1908. The chronological cue "from the time he was small" establishes the intended ordering even though no exact year is supplied for his early climbing. Biographical accounts consistently describe Muir's lifelong attraction to the natural world as beginning in childhood, before his later travels and conservation work. The National Park Service's biography provides historical context on Muir's early life and subsequent role in American conservation: National Park Service: John Muir Biography. Additional background on his life and legacy is available from the Sierra Club: Sierra Club: John Muir.

QUESTION NO: 33

When using a metal file, always remember to bear down on the forward stroke only. On the return stroke, lift the file clear of the surface to avoid dulling the instrument's teeth. Only when working on very soft metals is it advisable to drag the file's teeth slightly on the return stroke. This helps clear out metal pieces from between the teeth. It is best to bear down just hard enough to keep the file cutting at all times. Too little pressure uses only the tips of the teeth; too much pressure can chip the teeth. Move the file in straight lines across the surface. Use a vice to grip the work so that your hands are free to hold the file. Protect your hands by equipping the file with a handle. Buy a wooden handle and install it by inserting the pointed end of the file into the handle hole. When using a file

A. always bear down on the return stroke

B. move it in a circle

C. remove the handle

D. press down on the forward stroke

E. wear protective gloves

ANSWER: D

Explanation:

The correct completion is **"press down on the forward stroke"** because the passage explicitly states that a metal file should be loaded, or borne down upon, only while it moves forward across the workpiece. A file's teeth are designed to cut efficiently in that direction. Applying controlled pressure on the forward stroke keeps the teeth engaged with the metal and produces a consistent cutting action. The pressure should be moderate: sufficient to maintain cutting, but not so great that it damages or chips the teeth. The passage also emphasizes lifting the file on the return stroke rather than pressing it against the surface, except for the limited situation of very soft metals where a slight drag may help clear debris from the teeth. This forward-cutting technique helps preserve the file's cutting edges and supports safe, effective finishing of the workpiece. Securing the work in a vise and fitting the file with a proper handle further support controlled use of the tool. OSHA's general hand-tool guidance stresses maintaining tools in safe condition and using them appropriately: OSHA Hand and Power Tools. Additional file-use guidance is available from the International Labour Organization's hand-tool safety resources.

QUESTION NO: 34

Of the eight students — George, Helen, Irving, Kyle, Lenore, Nina, Olivia, and Robert — in a seminar, exactly six will give individual oral reports during three consecutive days — Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Exactly two reports will be given each day — one in the morning and one in the afternoon — according to the following conditions:

Tuesday is the only day on which George can give a report.

Neither Olivia nor Robert can give an afternoon report. If Nina gives a report, then on the next day Helen and Irving must both give reports, unless Nina's report is given on Wednesday.

If George, Nina, and Robert give reports and they do so on different days from one another, which one of the following could be true?

A. Helen gives a report on Wednesday.

B. Nina gives a report on Monday.

C. Nina gives a report on Tuesday.

D. Olivia gives a report on Monday.

E. Robert gives a report on Wednesday.

ANSWER: A

Explanation:

Helen gives a report on Wednesday. could be true. Because George, Nina, and Robert must report on three different days, and George can report only on Tuesday, Nina and Robert must occupy Monday and Wednesday. Nina cannot be scheduled for Monday: a Monday report by Nina would require both Helen and Irving to report on Tuesday, but George must also report Tuesday, and only two Tuesday report slots exist. Therefore, Nina must report on Wednesday and Robert must report on Monday. Robert must take Monday morning, since Robert cannot give an afternoon report. The Wednesday condition attached to Nina does not require Helen and Irving to report on a following day, because Nina is reporting on Wednesday. Thus, Helen may take the other Wednesday slot with Nina. For example, a valid schedule is Robert Monday morning and Lenore Monday afternoon; George Tuesday morning and Kyle Tuesday afternoon; Nina Wednesday morning and Helen Wednesday afternoon. This schedule has exactly two reports per day, places George on Tuesday, gives Robert a morning slot, and has George, Nina, and Robert reporting on separate days. This is the standard conditional-rule and slot-capacity approach used in LSAT analytical-reasoning practice. See LSAC's official sample prep tests and LSAT format overview.

QUESTION NO: 35

For next year, the Chefs' Union has requested a 10 percent salary increase for each of its members, whereas the Hotel Managers' Union has requested only an 8 percent salary increase for each of its members. These facts demonstrate that the average dollar amount of the raises that the Chefs' Union has requested for next year is greater than that of the raises requested by the Hotel Managers' Union.

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

A. The Chefs' Union has many more members than does the Hotel Managers' Union.

B. The Chefs' Union is a more powerful union than is the Hotel Managers' Union and is therefore more likely to obtain the salary increases it requests.

C. The current salaries of the members of the Chefs' Union are, on average, higher than the current salaries of the members of the Hotel Managers' Union.

D. The average dollar amount of the raises that the members of the Chefs' Union received last year was equal to the average dollar amount of the raises that the members of the Hotel Managers' Union received.

E. The members of the Chefs' Union received salary increases of 10 percent in each of the last two years, while the members of the Hotel Managers' Union received salary increases of only 8 percent in each of the last two years.

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

The current salaries of the members of the Chefs' Union are, on average, higher than the current salaries of the members of the Hotel Managers' Union. This most strongly supports the conclusion because the dollar value of a percentage raise depends on the salary to which that percentage is applied. A 10 percent increase is not automatically a larger number of

dollars than an 8 percent increase; the underlying pay levels matter. Once the chefs' average current salary is established as higher, applying the larger requested percentage to that higher average salary yields a larger average requested dollar raise. For example, a 10 percent raise on an average salary of $60,000 is $6,000, while an 8 percent raise on an average salary of $50,000 is $4,000. Thus, the added fact directly supplies the missing connection between the stated percentage requests and the conclusion about average dollar amounts. The reasoning uses the standard percentage relationship: percentage change is calculated from a base value, as described by Khan Academy's percent-change review. It also reflects the LSAT Logical Reasoning task of identifying information that makes an argument's conclusion more likely, outlined by the LSAC test-format overview.

QUESTION NO: 36

A running track with a hard surface makes for greater running speed than a soft one, at least under dry conditions, because even though step length is shorter on ' a hard surface, the time the runner's foot remains in contact with the running surface is less with a hard surface.

Which one of the following, if true, is evidence that the explanation given above is only a partial one?

A. Dry running conditions can be guaranteed for indoor track races only.

B. In general, taller runners have greater average step length than shorter runners do.

C. Hard tracks enhance a runner's speed by making it easier for the runner to maintain a posture that minimizes wind resistance.

D. The tracks at which the world's fastest running times have been recorded are located well above sea level, where the air is relatively thin.

E. To remain in top condition, a soft track surface requires different maintenance procedures than does a hard one.

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

"Hard tracks enhance a runner's speed by making it easier for the runner to maintain a posture that minimizes wind resistance." is correct because it identifies an additional causal mechanism that can help explain why hard tracks produce greater running speed. The stated explanation attributes the speed advantage to reduced foot-contact time, while acknowledging the offsetting fact that step length is shorter. If a hard surface also enables a runner to maintain a more aerodynamic posture, reduced wind resistance independently contributes to a faster time. Thus, the reduced-contact-time account remains relevant, but it cannot be the whole explanation for the observed speed advantage; the posture-related aerodynamic benefit supplies another part of the causal story. This is the core task in a "partial explanation" Logical Reasoning question: find information showing that the phenomenon can be explained by a further factor in addition to the factor already offered. LSAC describes Logical Reasoning questions as assessing the ability to analyze and evaluate arguments and the evidence supporting them. See LSAC's LSAT test-format overview. The relevance of aerodynamic resistance to running performance is also consistent with sports-science research on the energetic effects of air resistance during running; see this PubMed-indexed study.

QUESTION NO: 37

Movies that contain persistent violence are usually given R rating. R rated movies can be viewed in a theater by a child or an under-17 adolescent only in the company of a parent or an adult guardian. Mr. Smith and Mr. Green are two directors whose every movie has been given an R rating, while only some of Ms. Abbott's movies are R rated.

Which one of the following logically follows from the statements above, if they are true?

A. The movies made by female directors are more often viewed alone in the theaters by children or under-17 adolescents than the movies made by male directors.

B. An under-17 adolescent cannot view a movie of Mr. Green by himself in a theater.

C. No movie of Mr. Smith can be viewed by a child or an under-17 adolescent in a theater.

D. A child is more likely to view a movie made by Ms. Abbott in a theater than a movie made by Mr. Green.

E. Some of Ms. Abbott's movies do not contain persistent violence.

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

“An under-17 adolescent cannot view a movie of Mr. Green by himself in a theater.” follows directly by linking two stated facts. Every movie directed by Mr. Green has received an R rating. The rule for an R-rated movie is that a child or an under-17 adolescent may view it in a theater only when accompanied by a parent or adult guardian. “Only in the company of” establishes a necessary condition for theater viewing by an under-17 person: adult accompaniment must be present. Therefore, an under-17 adolescent who is by himself does not meet that condition and cannot view a Mr. Green movie in a theater alone. This is a straightforward must-be-true inference, requiring no assumption about why the films received their ratings, their subject matter, audience popularity, or viewing outside a theater. The conclusion is also consistent with the real-world meaning of the R classification: the Motion Picture Association describes R-rated films as requiring accompanying parent or adult guardian for viewers under 17; see the Motion Picture Association ratings information. The reasoning method—combining categorical statements and respecting necessary conditions—is central to Logical Reasoning “must be true” questions; see LSAC’s Logical Reasoning overview.

QUESTION NO: 38

City council member: Despite the city's desperate need to exploit any available source of revenue, the mayor has repeatedly blocked council members' attempts to pass legislation imposing real estate development fees. It is clear that in doing so the mayor is sacrificing the city's interests to personal interests. The mayor cites figures to show that, in the current market, fees of the size proposed would significantly reduce the number of building starts and thus, on balance, result in a revenue loss to the city. But the important point is that the mayor's family is heavily involved in real estate development and thus has a strong financial interest in the matter.

Which one of the following most accurately and completely expresses the main conclusion of the city council member's argument?

A. Imposing real estate development fees is the best way for the city to exploit the available sources of revenue.

B. The city would benefit financially from the passage of legislation imposing real estate development fees.

C. In blocking council members' attempts to impose real estate development fees, the mayor is sacrificing the city's interests to personal interests.

D. Significantly reducing the number of building starts would not, on balance, result in revenue loss to the city.

E. The mayor's family has a strong financial interest in preventing the passage of legislation that would impose real estate development fees

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

The main conclusion is: “In blocking council members' attempts to impose real estate development fees, the mayor is sacrificing the city's interests to personal interests.” The council member explicitly presents this as the central claim with the indicator phrase “It is clear that.” The surrounding statements serve to frame and support that accusation. The city’s need for revenue establishes why the proposed fees would serve an important municipal interest, while the mayor’s repeated intervention identifies the action under criticism. The final statement—that the mayor’s family is heavily involved in real estate development and has a strong financial interest in the matter—supplies the basis for inferring a personal-interest motive behind the mayor’s opposition. The mayor’s cited economic figures are included as the mayor’s stated rationale, but the council member’s argument maintains that the family’s financial stake is the more important consideration when evaluating the mayor’s conduct. Thus, the argument’s point is not merely that the fees would raise revenue or that the family has a financial interest; it is the broader judgment that the mayor’s blocking of the legislation puts personal interests ahead of the city’s interests. This reflects the LSAT Logical Reasoning task of distinguishing an argument’s ultimate claim from its supporting premises and contextual statements. See LSAC’s overview of the LSAT and Khan Academy’s Logical Reasoning overview.

QUESTION NO: 39

Two men, Barry and David, and two women Ann and Cathy are doctors. One is a surgeon, one a dentist, one an optometrist, and one is a general practitioner. They are seated around a square table, with one person on each side.

1) Barry is across from the dentist.

2) David is not across from the surgeon.

3) The optometrist is on Ann's immediate left.

4) Cathy is the general practitioner.

5) The surgeon and general practitioner are married to each other.

6) The general practitioner is not on Cathy's immediate left.7) The general practitioner is across from the optometrist.

Which of the following must be true?

A. Barry is the dentist.

B. The surgeon and general practitioner are women.

C. The dentist is across from the surgeon.

D. David is the surgeon.

E. Cathy is across from Ann.

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

The statement “The dentist is across from the surgeon” must be true because the four professions occupy four distinct seats around a square table. Cathy is the general practitioner, and the general practitioner is directly across from the optometrist. Those two opposite seats are therefore occupied by Cathy and the optometrist. The two remaining seats are also opposite each other, and they must be occupied by the surgeon and the dentist. Thus, regardless of which individual holds either of those two professions, the dentist and surgeon necessarily sit across from one another.

This is a useful structural inference in square-table ordering games: once one pair of opposite positions is filled by two categories, the only two remaining positions form the other opposite pair. The conclusion follows solely from the seating geometry and the rule placing the general practitioner across from the optometrist; it does not depend on resolving every person’s profession before identifying the required relationship. This approach reflects the LSAT’s emphasis on deriving consequences that must hold in every valid arrangement. See the LSAT test format overview and LSAC’s official preparation resources.

QUESTION NO: 40

At a concert, exactly eight compositions—F, H, L, O, P, R, S, and T—are to be performed exactly once each, consecutively and one composition at a time. The order of their performance must satisfy the following conditions:

T is performed either immediately before F or immediately after R.

At least two compositions are performed either after F and before R, or after R and before

F. O is performed either first or fifth. The eighth composition performed is either L or

H. P is performed at some time before S. At least one composition is performed either after O and before S, or after S and before O. If O is performed immediately after T, then F must be performed either

A. first or second

B. second or third

C. fourth or sixth

D. fourth or seventh

E. sixth or seventh

F. O is performed either first or fifth. The eighth composition performed is either L or

G. P is performed at some time before S. At least one composition is performed either after O and before S, or after S and before O. If O is performed immediately after T, then F must be performed either

ANSWER: E

Explanation:

If O is performed immediately after T, O cannot be first because no composition can precede a first performance. Therefore, O must occupy the fifth position, which places T fourth. The condition governing T then requires T to be immediately after R: T cannot instead be immediately before F because that would place F fifth, a position already occupied by O. Thus, the sequence R–T–O is fixed in the third, fourth, and fifth positions.

There must be at least two compositions between R and F. Since R is third, F must be at least three positions later, leaving the sixth, seventh, or eighth position as the initially possible locations. However, the final position must contain L or H, so F cannot be eighth. Consequently, the only possible positions for F are sixth or seventh. Both placements can be incorporated into a full ordering that also observes the remaining rules, so this is the required conclusion.

This is a standard conditional ordering deduction: first lock the forced adjacent block, then apply the minimum-separation rule and the fixed final-slot restriction. For official LSAT preparation guidance on analyzing conditional relationships and structured reasoning, see LSAC Official LSAT Prep and LSAC Practice Tests.

QUESTION NO: 41

One way kidney stones can form is when urine produced in the kidneys is overly concentrated with calcium or oxalate. Reducing dietary calcium has been thought, therefore, to decrease the likelihood that calcium will concentrate and form additional stones. Oddly enough, for many people the chances of recurrence are decreased by increasing calcium intake.

Which one of the following, if true, most helps to resolve the apparent discrepancy described above?

A. Laboratory studies on animals with kidney stones reveal that they rarely get additional stones once calcium supplements are added to the diet.

B. Increasing dietary oxalate while reducing dietary calcium does not reduce the chances of kidney stone recurrence.

C. Kidney stone development is sometimes the result of an inherited disorder that can result in excessive production of calcium and oxalate.

D. Increasing calcium intake increases the amount of calcium eliminated through the intestines, which decreases the amount to be filtered by the kidneys.

E. Some kidney stones are composed of uric acid rather than a combination of calcium and oxalate.

ANSWER: D

Explanation:

“Increasing calcium intake increases the amount of calcium eliminated through the intestines, which decreases the amount to be filtered by the kidneys” resolves the discrepancy by identifying a mechanism that separates calcium consumed in food from calcium that ultimately reaches the urine. The apparent conflict assumes that eating more calcium necessarily creates more urinary calcium and therefore more opportunity for calcium-based stones to form. But if greater dietary calcium leads to more calcium being eliminated through the intestines, less calcium is available to be processed by the kidneys and excreted into urine. That directly reduces the relevant condition described in the question: urine becoming overly concentrated with calcium or oxalate.

This mechanism is also medically plausible. Dietary calcium can bind oxalate in the digestive tract, limiting oxalate absorption and reducing the amount of oxalate that reaches the kidneys for urinary excretion. Thus, for many people susceptible to calcium oxalate stones, an appropriate intake of dietary calcium may lower—not raise—the recurrence risk by reducing the substances available to form crystals in urine. The National Kidney Foundation discusses the role of dietary calcium in binding oxalate at https://www.kidney.org/kidney-topics/calcium-oxalate-stones, and the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases provides related dietary guidance at https://www.niddk.nih.gov/health-information/urologic-diseases/kidney-stones/eating-diet-nutrition.

QUESTION NO: 42

Juan: Unlike the ancient Olympic games on which they are based, the modern Olympics include professional as well as amateur athletes. But since amateurs rarely have the financial or material resources available to professionals, it is unlikely that the amateurs will ever offer a serious challenge to professionals in those Olympic events in which amateurs compete against professionals.

Hence, the presence of professional athletes violates the spirit of fairness essential to the games.

Michiko: But the idea of the modern Olympics is to how case the world's finest athletes, regardless of their backgrounds or resources. Hence, professionals should be allowed to compete.

Which one of the following, if true, most seriously undermines Juan's argument?

A. In general, amateur athletes tend to outnumber professional athletes in the modern Olympics.

B. In certain events in the modern Olympics the best few competitors are amateurs; in certain other events the best few competitors are professionals.

C. The concept of "amateur" and "professional" athletics would have been unfamiliar to the ancient Greeks on whose games the modern Olympics are based.

D. In the modern Olympics there has been no noticeable correlation between the financial or material resources expended on the training of individual athletes and the eventual performance of those athletes.

E. Many amateur athletes who take part in international competitions receive no financial or material support from the governments of the countries that the amateurs represent.

ANSWER: D

Explanation:

“In the modern Olympics there has been no noticeable correlation between the financial or material resources expended on the training of individual athletes and the eventual performance of those athletes.” most seriously undermines Juan’s argument because it directly challenges the factual assumption connecting professionals’ greater resources to an unfair competitive advantage. Juan concludes that professionals’ participation violates fairness because amateurs supposedly lack comparable material and financial support and therefore cannot seriously challenge professionals. If Olympic performance has no noticeable correlation with the resources spent on an athlete’s training, however, the asserted resource disparity does not establish that professionals will predictably outperform amateurs. Amateurs could still be capable of seriously challenging professionals despite having less funding or material support. Thus, the key basis for treating the inclusion of professionals as unfair is removed. This is a classic weakening move in Logical Reasoning: it does not need to prove that amateurs always win or that all competitors have equal resources; it need only show that the premise Juan relies on is not a reliable indicator of competitive results. The conclusion about unfairness consequently lacks its stated evidentiary foundation. For background on the Olympic Movement’s principles and the modern Games, see the Olympic Charter and the International Olympic Committee’s Olympic Movement overview.

QUESTION NO: 43

A college dean will present seven awards for outstanding language research. The awards — one for French, one for German, one for Hebrew, one for Japanese, one for Korean, one for Latin, and one for Swahili — must be presented consecutively, one at a time, in conformity with the following constraints:

The German award is not presented first.

The Hebrew award is presented at some time before the Korean award is presented. The Latin award is presented at some time before the Japanese award is presented.

The French award is presented either immediately before or immediately after the Hebrew award is presented. The Korean award is presented either immediately before or immediately after the Latin award is presented.

If the German award is presented third, which one of the following could be true?

A. The French award is presented fourth.

B. The Japanese award is presented fifth.

C. The Japanese award is presented sixth.

D. The Korean award is presented second.

E. The Swahili award is presented fifth.

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

The Japanese award is presented sixth could be true. A complete ordering that satisfies every condition is: Hebrew first, French second, German third, Korean fourth, Latin fifth, Japanese sixth, and Swahili seventh. In this arrangement, German is indeed in the required third position. French is immediately after Hebrew, satisfying the requirement that those two awards be consecutive. Hebrew is before Korean, as required. Korean is immediately before Latin, so the Korean and Latin awards are consecutive. Finally, Latin is before Japanese, which satisfies the final ordering condition.

Because this is a “could be true” question, one fully valid ordering is sufficient to establish the answer. The arrangement above directly places the Japanese award sixth while preserving all adjacency and before/after relationships. This reflects the standard analytical-reasoning approach of testing a proposed outcome by constructing a complete, rule-compliant sequence. LSAC describes the LSAT and its question formats at https://www.lsac.org/lsat/about; official preparation resources are available through https://www.lawhub.org/.

QUESTION NO: 44

Some philosophers find the traditional, subjective approach to studying the mind outdated and ineffectual. For them, the attempt to describe the sensation of pain or anger, for example, or the awareness that one is aware, has been surpassed by advances in fields such as psychology, neuroscience, and cognitive science. Scientists, they claim, do not concern themselves with how a phenomenon feels from the inside; instead of investigating private evidence perceivable only to a particular individual, scientists pursue hard data – such as the study of how nerves transmit impulses to the brain – which is externally observable and can be described without reference to any particular point of view. With respect to features of the universe such as those investigated by chemistry, biology, and physics, this objective approach has been remarkably successful in yielding knowledge. Why, these philosophers ask, should we suppose the mind to be any different?

But philosophers loyal to subjectivity are not persuaded by appeals to science when such appeals conflict with the data gathered by introspection. Knowledge, they argue, relies on the data of experience, which includes subjective experience. Why should philosophy ally itself with scientists who would reduce the sources of knowledge to only those data that can be discerned objectively?

On the face of it, it seems unlikely that these two approaches to studying the mind could be reconciled. Because philosophy, unlike science, does not progress inexorably toward a single truth, disputes concerning the nature of the mind are bound to continue. But what is particularly distressing about the present debate is that genuine communication between the two sides is virtually impossible. For reasoned discourse to occur, there must be shared assumptions or beliefs. Starting from radically divergent perspectives, subjectivists and objectivists lack a common context in which to consider evidence presented from each other's perspectives.

The situation may be likened to a debate between adherents of different religions about the creation of the universe. While each religion may be confident that its cosmology is firmly grounded in its respective sacred text, there is little hope that conflicts between their competing cosmologies could be resolved by recourse to the texts alone. Only further investigation into the authority of the texts themselves would be sufficient.

What would be required to resolve the debate between the philosophers of mind, then, is an investigation into the authority of their differing perspectives. How rational is it to take scientific description as the ideal way to understand the nature of

consciousness? Conversely, how useful is it to rely solely on introspection for one's knowledge about the workings of the mind? Are there alternative ways of gaining such knowledge? In this debate, epistemology – the study of knowledge – may itself lead to the discovery of new forms of knowledge about how the mind works.

Which one of the following is most closely analogous to the debate described in the hypothetical example given by the author in the fourth paragraph?

A. a debate among investigators attempting to determine a criminal's identity when conflicting physical evidence is found at the crime scene

B. a debate among jurors attempting to determine which of two conflicting eyewitness accounts of an event is to be believed

C. a debate between two archaeologists about the meaning of certain written symbols when no evidence exists to verify either's claim

D. a debate between two museum curators about the value of a painting that shows clear signs of both genuineness and forgery

E. a debate between two historians who draw conflicting conclusions about the same event based on different types of historical data

ANSWER: E

Explanation:

The correct answer is “a debate between two historians who draw conflicting conclusions about the same event based on different types of historical data.” The fourth-paragraph hypothetical describes a dispute in which each side reaches a conflicting conclusion from a different body or type of evidence that it treats as authoritative: each religion relies on its own sacred text. The dispute cannot be resolved simply by returning to those sources, because the parties already disagree at the more fundamental level of what source is entitled to settle the question. Resolution requires examining the authority, reliability, or evidentiary standing of the sources themselves.

Likewise, historians who rely on different types of historical data can reasonably arrive at incompatible conclusions about one event while lacking an agreed basis for deciding how the competing data should be evaluated. To move the debate forward, they would need to investigate the status and proper use of the differing kinds of evidence, rather than merely restate conclusions drawn from them. This preserves the passage’s central relationship between disagreement about a subject and a deeper disagreement about the authority of the methods or sources used to know it. That is an epistemological issue: epistemology examines the nature, sources, and justification of knowledge. See the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy’s overview of epistemology and the Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy’s discussion of epistemology.

QUESTION NO: 45

Of the eight students — George, Helen, Irving, Kyle, Lenore, Nina, Olivia, and Robert — in a seminar, exactly six will give individual oral reports during three consecutive days — Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Exactly two reports will be given each day — one in the morning and one in the afternoon — according to the following conditions:

Tuesday is the only day on which George can give a report.

Neither Olivia nor Robert can give an afternoon report. If Nina gives a report, then on the next day Helen and Irving must both give reports, unless Nina's report is given on Wednesday.

Which one of the following could be the schedule of students' reports?

A. Mon. morning: Helen; Mon. afternoon: Robert Tues. morning: Olivia; Tues. afternoon: Irving Wed. morning: Lenore; Wed. afternoon: Kyle

B. Mon. morning: Irving; Mon. afternoon: Olivia Tues. morning: Helen; Tues. afternoon: Kyle Wed. morning: Nina; Wed. afternoon: Lenore

C. Mon. morning: Lenore; Mon. afternoon: Helen Tues. morning: George; Tues. afternoon: Kyle Wed. morning: Robert; Wed. afternoon: Irving

D. Mon. morning: Nina; Mon. afternoon: Helen Tues. morning: Robert; Tues. afternoon: Irving Wed. morning: Olivia; Wed. afternoon: Lenore

E. Mon. morning: Olivia; Mon. afternoon: Nina Tues. morning: Irving; Tues. afternoon: Helen Wed. morning: Kyle; Wed. afternoon: George

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

Mon. morning: Lenore; Mon. afternoon: Helen Tues. morning: George; Tues. afternoon: Kyle Wed. morning: Robert; Wed. afternoon: Irving is a permissible schedule because it fills all six required report slots with six different students and satisfies every scheduling condition. George is scheduled on Tuesday, which is the only day on which George may report. Robert is assigned to Wednesday morning, consistent with the restriction that Robert cannot give an afternoon report. Neither Olivia nor Nina is scheduled, so no additional restriction is triggered by either student: Olivia's morning-only limitation is irrelevant, and Nina's conditional requirement for Helen and Irving to report on the following day does not apply. The remaining students—Lenore, Helen, Kyle, and Irving—have no day- or time-specific constraints that conflict with their listed placements. Thus, the schedule can occur exactly as shown. This type of question is best handled by checking each proposed complete schedule directly against every rule, while treating conditional rules as applicable only when their triggering condition occurs. LSAC's official preparation materials emphasize practicing the reasoning processes tested by LSAT questions; see LSAC LSAT Preparation and Official LSAT Practice Tests.

QUESTION NO: 46

Passage

(1)

[1] The September 1906 edition of Cosmopolitan magazine recounts a story once told of an old Native American chieftain. [2] The chieftain was given a tour of the modern city of New York. [3] On this excursion, he saw the soaring heights of the grand skyscrapers and the majesty of the Brooklyn Bridge. [4] He observed the comfortable masses gathered in amusement at the circus and the poor huddled in tenements. [5] Upon the completion of the chieftain's journey, several Christian men asked him, "What is the most surprising thing you have seen?" The chieftain replied slowly with three words: "little children working."

(2)

[6] Although the widespread presence of laboring children may have surprised the chieftain at the turn of the 20th century, this sight was common in the United States at the time. [7] From the Industrial Revolution through the 1930s was a period in which children worked in a wide variety of occupations. [8] Now, nearly 110 years after the story of the chieftain was told, the overt presence of widespread child labor in New York or any other American city no longer exists. [9] The move away from engaging children in economically productive labor occurred within the last 100 years. [10] As numerous authors on the subject have remarked, "Children have always worked." [11] In the 18th century, the arrival of a newborn to a rural family was viewed by the parents as a future beneficial laborer and an insurance policy for old age. [12] At an age as young as 5, a child was expected to help with farm work and other household chores. [13] The agrarian lifestyle common in America required large quantities of hard work, whether it was planting crops, feeding chickens, or mending fences. [14] Large families with less work than children would often send children to another household that could employ them as a maid, servant, or plowboy. [15] Most families simply could not afford the costs of raising a child from birth to adulthood without some compensating labor.

(3)

[16] One of the authors who noted that "children have always worked" is Walter Trattner. [17] During early human history when tribes wandered the land, children participated in the hunting and fishing. [18] When these groups separated into families, children continued to work by caring for livestock and crops. [19] The medieval guild system introduced children to the trades. [20] The subsequent advance of capitalism created new social pressures. [21] For example, in 1575, England provided for the use of public money to employ children in order to "accustom them to labor" and "afford a prophylactic against vagabonds and paupers." [22] An Englishman stated, with regret, that "a quarter of the mass of mankind are children, males and females under seven years old, from whom little labor is to be expected." [23] This statement was consistent with the Puritan belief that put work at the center of a moral life. [24] This belief shaped a citizenry that grew to praise work and scorn idleness. [25] The growth of the Industrial Revolution and manufacturing, however, provided the greatest opportunity for society to avoid the perceived problem of the idle child. [26] Now that more work was less complex because of the introduction of machines, children had more potential job opportunities. [27] For example, one industrialist in 1790 proposed building textile factories around London to employ children to "prevent the habitual idleness and degeneracy" that were destroying the community. [28] With the advances in machinery, not only could society avoid the issue of

unproductive children, but also the children themselves could easily create productive output with only their rudimentary skills.

(4)

[29] Similarly, in America, productive outlets were sought for children. [30] Colonial laws modeled after British laws sought to prevent children from becoming a burden on society. [31] At the age of 13, orphan boys were sent to apprentice in a trade while orphan girls were sent into domestic work. [32] Generally, children, except those of Northern merchants and Southern plantation owners, were expected to be prepared for gainful employment. [33] In other locations, the primary motivation in employing children was not about preventing their idleness but rather about satisfying commercial interests and the desire to settle the vast American continent. [34] Regardless of the motivation, a successful childhood was seen as one that developed the child's financially productive capacity.

The author makes use of all of the following in presenting the discussion of child labor in American and England EXCEPT

A. an anecdote

B. hypothetical case

C. perspectives of individuals

D. comparison

E. chronology of historical events

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

The correct answer is *hypothetical case*. The question asks for the method that the author does *not* use, so the task is to distinguish actual evidence and historical narration from an invented illustration. Throughout the passage, the discussion rests on reported events, documented social practices, dates, and attributed statements. The author recounts a reported story from a 1906 magazine, describes historical arrangements for children's agricultural, domestic, and industrial work, and supplies historically situated examples from England and America. The discussion also moves through time, from early tribal and medieval settings to English policies in 1575, an industrialist's proposal in 1790, colonial America, and the twentieth century. These are presented as accounts of real or purported historical conditions, rather than as an imagined scenario designed to test or demonstrate a principle. A hypothetical case would typically ask readers to suppose a situation or would construct an illustrative "if" example; the passage contains no such device. Instead, its central claim—that children's labor was long considered economically and socially productive—is developed through historical exposition. This focus on identifying the author's method aligns with LSAT Reading Comprehension questions, which test how a passage develops and supports its claims; see LSAC's Reading Comprehension overview and LSAC's LSAT test-format guide.

QUESTION NO: 47

The village of Vestmannaeyjar, in the far northern country of Iceland, is as bright and clean and up-to-date as any American or Canadian suburb. It is located on the island of Heimaey, just off the mainland. One January night in 1973, however, householders were shocked from their sleep. In some backyards red-hot liquid was spurting from the ground. Flaming "skyrockets" shot up and over the houses. The island's volcano, Helgafell, silent for seven thousand years, was violently erupting! Luckily, the island's fishing fleet was in port, and within twenty-four hours almost everyone was ferried to the mainland. But then the agony of the island began in earnest.

As in a nightmare, fountains of burning lava spurted three hundred feet high. Black, baseball-size cinders rained down. An evil-smelling, eye-burning, throat-searing cloud of smoke and gas erupted into the air, and a river of lava flowed down the mountain. The constant shriek of escaping steam was punctuated by ear-splitting explosions. As time went on, the once pleasant village of Vestmannaeyjar took on a weird aspect. Its street lamps still burning against the long Arctic night, the town lay under a thick blanket of cinders. All that could be seen above the ten-foot black drifts were the tips of street signs. Some houses had collapsed under the weight of cinders; others had burst into flames as the heat ignited their oil storage tanks. Lighting the whole lurid scene, fire continued to shoot from the mouth of the looming volcano.

The eruption continued for six months. Scientists and reporters arrived from around the world to observe the awesome natural event. But the town did not die that easily. In July, when the eruption ceased, the people of Heimaey Island returned to assess the chances of rebuilding their homes and lives. They found tons of ash covering the ground. The Icelanders are a tough people, however, accustomed to the strange and violent nature of their Arctic land. They dug out their homes. They

even used the cinders to build new roads and airport runways. Now the new homes of Heimaey are warmed from water pipes heated by molten lava.

The island's volcano had been inactive for

A. seventy years

B. seven thousand years

C. seven thousand months

D. seven hundred years

E. seventy decades

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

The correct completion is **"seven thousand years."** The passage states this fact directly in its opening paragraph: Helgafell had been "silent for seven thousand years" before the violent 1973 eruption. Because the question asks how long the island's volcano had been inactive, the answer is a straightforward retrieval of that explicitly stated detail, rather than an inference based on the later descriptions of lava, ash, evacuation, or reconstruction.

The passage's account corresponds to the 1973 Eldfell eruption on Heimaey in Iceland's Vestmannaeyjar archipelago. Although the wording associates the eruption with Helgafell, the essential reading-comprehension task is to use the information supplied by the passage itself: its stated period of inactivity is seven thousand years. Context about the rapid evacuation and the six-month duration of the event reinforces that the narrative is describing a major volcanic emergency, but it does not alter the clearly supplied timespan. Background information on the Heimaey eruption is available from Smithsonian Institution Global Volcanism Program and Icelandic Meteorological Office.

QUESTION NO: 48

Some vegetarians have argued that there are two individually sufficient reasons for not eating meat—one based on health considerations, and the other based on the aversion to living at the expense of other conscious creatures. But suppose that eating meat were essential to good health for humans. Then it would be less clear that an aversion to living at the expense of other conscious creatures is enough of a reason to stop eating meat.

Which one of the following most accurately describes the role played in the argument by the supposition that eating meat is essential to good health?

A. It is used to disprove the vegetarian position that we should not eat meat,

B. It is used to show that the two types of reasons cited in favor of vegetarianism are independent.

C. It is used to disprove the claim that a vegetarian diet is healthy.

D. It is used to weaken the claim that an aversion to living at the expense of conscious creatures is a sufficient reason for not eating meat.

E. It is used to show that there is no sufficient reason for not eating meat.

ANSWER: D

Explanation:

The statement that eating meat is essential to good health is a hypothetical supposition introduced to test whether the moral consideration can still function as a sufficient, stand-alone reason not to eat meat. The argument begins by reporting that vegetarians offer health and aversion to benefiting at the expense of conscious creatures as two individually sufficient reasons. It then asks readers to imagine circumstances in which the health consideration runs in the opposite direction: eating meat is necessary for good health. Under that assumption, refusing meat would carry a significant health cost. The argument's stated conclusion is that, in those circumstances, it would be less clear that an aversion to living at the expense of other conscious creatures alone is enough to justify abstaining from meat. Thus, the supposition is used to weaken the

claim that an aversion to living at the expense of conscious creatures is a sufficient reason for not eating meat. This is a classic Logical Reasoning task of identifying how a conditional or hypothetical claim supports a conclusion, as described in LSAC's overview of Logical Reasoning. LSAC also emphasizes analyzing the relationship between evidence and conclusion in its LSAT preparation resources.

QUESTION NO: 49

The use of space-based satellites to study environmental conditions on Earth is an important development in the conservation movement's history. Environmental problems may now be observed long before they otherwise would be noticed, allowing for intervention before they reach the crisis stage. It is no wonder that environmentalists fail to consider both that spacecraft may damage the ozone layer and that this damage could be serious enough to warrant discontinuing spaceflight.

The reasoning above most closely conforms to which one of the following principles?

A. People tend to ignore possible objectionable consequences of actions that support their activities.

B. A negative consequence of an activity may be outweighed by its great positive consequences.

C. Technology usually has at least some negative impact on the environment, even if it is largely beneficial.

D. Even well-intentioned attempts to solve problems sometimes make them worse.

E. Attempts to employ technology often have unforeseen consequences that may be negative.

ANSWER: A

Explanation:

"People tend to ignore possible objectionable consequences of actions that support their activities" correctly states the general principle underlying the argument. The stimulus first identifies a substantial benefit that satellites provide to environmentalists' work: satellite observations can reveal developing environmental problems early enough to permit intervention before those problems become crises. Spaceflight therefore supports a central environmentalist activity—identifying and addressing environmental threats. The conclusion then says that it is unsurprising that environmentalists fail to consider a potentially serious environmental cost of spacecraft, namely ozone damage that could be severe enough to justify ending spaceflight. The argument treats that failure to consider the cost as a predictable result of the group's reliance on the beneficial activity. Thus, its reasoning moves from an action's support for someone's objectives to the tendency of those beneficiaries to overlook that action's objectionable consequences. This is the sort of abstraction from specific premises to a governing principle tested in LSAT Logical Reasoning. See LSAC's overview of Logical Reasoning and its description of the LSAT test format.

QUESTION NO: 50

Because the new exhibit has attracted more visitors than any earlier exhibit at the museum, the museum should extend the exhibit for another three months.

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

A. The new exhibit has cost less to mount than any earlier exhibit at the museum.

B. The new exhibit would continue to attract an unusually large number of visitors if it were extended.

C. All visitors to the new exhibit also visit at least one other exhibit at the museum.

D. No other museum in the region has displayed an exhibit similar to the new exhibit.

E. The museum can extend the exhibit without changing any of its displays.

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

The correct answer is required because the argument uses the exhibit's popularity as support for extending it. If the exhibit would cease attracting an unusually large number of visitors during an extension, then its past attendance would not support keeping it open for three additional months. The argument need not assume that every visitor would return, that the extension would be profitable, or that no other exhibit could be popular.

QUESTION NO: 51

In a school function ceremony, seven students, Amy, Bob, Chad, Dom, Elisa, Fischer, and Grant have to deliver their performances in seven consecutive slots, not necessarily in the order of their given names. The following information is known about the order in which the students perform:

Chad performs immediately before Dom

Grant performs sometime after Chad

There are exactly two performances made between the performances of Amy and Elisa

If Bob and Fischer dislike one another and want to perform as far away from each other as possible, who could be the first two performers respectively?

I. Amy and Bob

II. Fischer and Amy

III. Bob and Amy

A. Only I

B. Only II

C. Only III

D. Both I and II

E. Both II and III

F. Amy and Bob
II. Fischer and Amy
III. Bob and Amy

ANSWER: E

Explanation:

Both II and III is correct. With seven consecutive slots, Bob and Fischer can be as far apart as possible only by occupying the first and seventh slots, in either order. The remaining restrictions must then fit in the five interior slots: Chad immediately precedes Dom, Grant is later than Chad, and Amy and Elisa are separated by exactly two performances.

For Fischer and Amy as the first two performers, a valid complete order is Fischer, Amy, Chad, Dom, Elisa, Grant, Bob. Amy and Elisa are four positions apart, leaving exactly two performers between them; Chad is immediately before Dom; and Grant is after Chad. Bob and Fischer occupy opposite endpoints, achieving the maximum possible separation.

For Bob and Amy as the first two performers, the parallel valid order is Bob, Amy, Chad, Dom, Elisa, Grant, Fischer. This again preserves all sequencing rules while placing Bob and Fischer in slots one and seven. Thus, each of the second and third listed pairings could be the first two performers under the maximum-distance condition. This approach reflects the ordering and conditional-reasoning skills assessed in LSAT logical-reasoning preparation; see the LSAC Logical Reasoning preparation page and the LSAC overview of the LSAT.

QUESTION NO: 52

Philosopher Denise Meyerson views the Critical Legal Studies (CLS) movement as seeking to debunk orthodox legal theory by exposing its contradictions. However, Meyerson argues that CLS proponents tend to see contradictions where none exist, and that CLS overrates the threat that conflict poses to orthodox legal theory.

According to Meyerson, CLS proponents hold that the existence of conflicting values in the law implies the absence of any uniquely right solution to legal cases. CLS argues that these conflicting values generate equally plausible but opposing answers to any given legal question, and, consequently, that the choice between the conflicting answers must necessarily be arbitrary or irrational. Meyerson denies that the existence of conflicting values makes a case irresolvable, and asserts that at least some such cases can be resolved by ranking the conflicting values. For example, a lawyer's obligation to preserve a client's confidences may entail harming other parties, thus violating moral principle. This conflict can be resolved if it can be shown that in certain cases the professional obligation overrides ordinary moral obligations.

In addition, says Meyerson, even when the two solutions are equally compelling, it does not follow that the choice between them must be irrational. On the contrary, a solution that is not rationally required need not be unreasonable. Meyerson concurs with another critic that instead of concentrating on the choice between two compelling alternatives, we should rather reflect on the difference between both of these answers on the one hand, and some utterly unreasonable answer on the other – such as deciding a property dispute on the basis of which claimant is louder. The acknowledgment that conflicting values can exist, then, does not have the far-reaching implications imputed by CLS; even if some answer to a problem is not the only answer, opting for it can still be reasonable.

Last, Meyerson takes issue with the CLS charge that legal formalism, the belief that there is a quasi-deductive method capable of giving solutions to problems of legal choice, requires objectivism, the belief that the legal process has moral authority. Meyerson claims that showing the law to be unambiguous does not demonstrate its legitimacy: consider a game in which participants compete to steal the item of highest value from a shop; while a person may easily identify the winner in terms of the rules, it does not follow that the person endorses the rules of the game. A CLS scholar might object that legal cases are unlike games, in that one cannot merely apply the rules without appealing to, and therefore endorsing, external considerations of purpose, policy, and value. But Meyerson replies that such considerations may be viewed as part of, not separate from, the rules of the game. The author's primary purpose in the passage is to

A. evaluate divergent legal doctrines

B. explain how a controversy arose

C. advocate a new interpretation of legal tradition

D. describe a challenge to a school of thought

E. refute claims made by various scholars

ANSWER: D

Explanation:

The passage’s purpose is to **describe a challenge to a school of thought**. Its organizing focus is Denise Meyerson’s critique of Critical Legal Studies, rather than an independent defense by the passage’s author. The opening frames CLS as attacking orthodox legal theory through alleged contradictions, then immediately introduces Meyerson’s position that CLS misidentifies contradictions and exaggerates their consequences. The following paragraphs develop the principal components of that challenge: conflicting legal values may be resolved through an ordering of values; a choice can be reasonable even if no single outcome is rationally compelled; and legal formalism does not inherently commit one to endorsing law’s moral legitimacy. The game analogy and the anticipated CLS response further illustrate Meyerson’s reasoning about the distinction between identifying a result under rules and approving the rules themselves. Thus, the passage surveys one theorist’s sustained objections to the conclusions CLS draws from conflict, indeterminacy, and formalism. This is the broad, neutral description of an intellectual challenge that a primary-purpose question requires. LSAT Reading Comprehension questions commonly test recognition of a passage’s overall structure and central purpose; see the LSAC overview of the section at LSAC’s LSAT section guide and its preparation resources at LSAC LSAT Prep.

QUESTION NO: 53

Seemingly inconsequential changes in sea temperature due to global warming eventually result in declines in fish and seabird populations. A rise of just two degrees prevents the vertical mixing of seawater from different strata. This restricts the

availability of upwelling nutrients to phytoplankton. Since zooplankton, which feed upon phytoplankton, feed the rest of the food chain, the declines are inevitable.

Which one of the following most accurately describes the role played in the argument by the statement that zooplankton feed upon phytoplankton?

A. It is a hypothesis supported by the fact that phytoplankton feed on upwelling nutrients.

B. It is intended to provide an example of the ways in which the vertical mixing of seawater affects feeding habits.

C. It helps show how global temperature changes affect larger sea animals indirectly.

D. It is offered as one reason that global warming must be curtailed.

E. It is offered in support of the idea that global warming poses a threat to all organisms

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

The statement that “zooplankton, which feed upon phytoplankton” helps establish the causal link between a temperature-driven reduction in nutrients available to phytoplankton and the predicted declines in fish and seabird populations. The argument begins with warming that inhibits vertical seawater mixing, thereby limiting upwelling nutrients. Because phytoplankton depend on those nutrients, their availability is restricted. The specified statement then connects that disruption at the phytoplankton level to zooplankton, which are themselves identified as food for the rest of the food chain. Thus, it shows the indirect pathway by which a change in global temperature can propagate through successive feeding relationships and ultimately affect larger sea animals, including fish and seabirds. It is not merely background information about feeding habits; it is an essential part of the argument’s mechanism for moving from altered ocean conditions to population declines at higher trophic levels. This use of interconnected trophic levels is consistent with the general ecological concept of food webs and energy transfer among organisms. See the NOAA overview of ocean food webs and the NOAA explanation of upwelling.

QUESTION NO: 54

There are exactly ten stores and no other buildings on Oak Street. On the north side of the street, from west to east, are stores 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9; on the south side of the street, also from west to east, are stores 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10. The stores on the north side are located directly across the street from those on the south side, facing each other in pairs, as follows: 1 and 2; 3 and 4; 5 and 6;

7 and 8; 9 and 10. Each store is decorated with lights in exactly one of the following colors: green, red, and yellow. The stores have been decorated with lights according to the following conditions:

No store is decorated with lights of the same color as those of any store adjacent to it.

No store is decorated with lights of the same color as those of the store directly across the street from it. Yellow lights decorate exactly one store on each side of the street.

Red lights decorate store 4.

Yellow lights decorate store 5.

Which one of the following statements must be true?

A. Green lights decorate store 10.

B. Red lights decorate store 1.

C. Red lights decorate store 8.

D. Yellow lights decorate store 8.

E. Yellow lights decorate store 10.

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

Red lights decorate store 1. The key is to focus on the three-store portion of the north side containing stores 1, 3, and 5. Store 5 is yellow, and the rule permits exactly one yellow-lit store on the north side. Therefore, neither store 1 nor store 3 can be yellow. Store 3 is directly across the street from store 4, which is red, so store 3 cannot be red under the across-the-street restriction. Since its only remaining permitted color is green, store 3 must be green. Store 1 is adjacent to store 3 and therefore cannot also be green. It cannot be yellow because store 5 is already the sole yellow-lit store on that side of Oak Street. The only color left for store 1 is red, making the statement unavoidable in every valid arrangement. This is a standard conditional-deduction approach for LSAT-style analytical-reasoning questions: apply fixed placements and numerical restrictions first, then use adjacency and pairing constraints to force the remaining value. LSAC provides official information about the LSAT and its preparation resources at https://www.lsac.org/lsat and https://www.lsac.org/lsat/prepare.

QUESTION NO: 55

The indigenous people of Tasmania are clearly related to the indigenous people of Australia, but were separated from them when the land bridge between Australia and Tasmania disappeared approximately 10,000 years ago. Two thousand years after the disappearance of the land bridge, however, there were major differences between the culture and technology of the indigenous Tasmanians and those of the indigenous Australians. The indigenous Tasmanians, unlike their Australian relatives, had no domesticated dogs, fishing nets, polished stone tools, or hunting implements like the boomerang and the spear-thrower.

Each of the following, if true, would contribute to an explanation of differences described above EXCEPT:

A. After the disappearance of the land bridge the indigenous Tasmanians simply abandoned certain practices and technologies that they had originally shared with their Australian relatives.

B. Devices such as the spear-thrower and the boomerang were developed by the indigenous Tasmanians more than 10,000 years ago,

C. Technological innovations such as fishing nets, polished stone tools, and so on, were imported to Australia by Polynesian explorers more recently than 10,000 years ago.

D. Indigenous people of Australia developed hunting implements like the boomerang and the spear-thrower after the disappearance of the land bridge.

E. Although the technological and cultural innovations were developed in Australia more than 10,000 years ago, they were developed by groups in northern Australia with whom the indigenous Tasmanians had no contact prior to the disappearance of the land bridge.

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

“Devices such as the spear-thrower and the boomerang were developed by the indigenous Tasmanians more than 10,000 years ago,” is the correct answer because it does not account for the later absence of these devices among the Tasmanian population. The relevant fact pattern concerns a difference observed after Tasmania became geographically isolated: Australians possessed particular hunting technologies, while Tasmanians did not. Saying that Tasmanians developed the devices before the land bridge disappeared establishes only that they may once have had them. It supplies no causal account of what happened afterward—such as why the technologies ceased to be used, were lost, or were not retained in Tasmania—while their Australian relatives continued to possess them. Thus, this statement leaves the central cultural and technological divergence unexplained. In an “EXCEPT” logical-reasoning question, the task is to identify the statement that fails to make the stated difference more intelligible, rather than the statement that merely provides relevant background. This answer is background about an earlier period, not an explanation of the later contrast. LSAC describes Logical Reasoning questions as assessing the ability to analyze and evaluate arguments and related evidence: LSAT test format. For official preparation resources and question-analysis guidance, see Official LSAT Prep.

QUESTION NO: 56

Experts anticipate that global atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide (CO_2) will have-doubled by the end of the twenty-first century. It is known that CO_2 can contribute to global warming by trapping solar energy that is being reradiated as heat from the Earth's surface. However, some research has suggested that elevated CO_2 levels could enhance the

photosynthetic rates of plants, resulting in a lush world of agricultural abundance, and that this CO2 fertilization effect might eventually decrease the rate of global warming. The increased vegetation in such an environment could be counted on to draw more CO, from the atmosphere. The level of CO2 would thus increase at a lower rate than many experts have predicted.

However, while a number of recent studies confirm that plant growth would be generally enhanced in an atmosphere rich in CO2, they also suggest that increased CO2 would differentially increase the growth rate of different species of plants, which could eventually result in decreased agricultural yields. Certain important crops such as corn and sugarcane that currently have higher photosynthetic efficiencies than other plants may lose that edge in an atmosphere rich in CO2. Patterson and Flint have shown that these important crops may experience yield reductions because of the increased performance of certain weeds. Such differences in growth rates between plant species could also alter ecosystem stability. Studies have shown that within rangeland regions, for example, a weedy grass grows much better with plentiful CO2 than do three other grasses. Because this weedy grass predisposes land to burning, its potential increase may lead to greater numbers of and more severe wildfires in future rangeland communities.

It is clear that the CO2 fertilization effect does not guarantee the lush world of agricultural abundance that once seemed likely, but what about the potential for the increased uptake of CO2 to decrease the rate of global warming? Some studies suggest that the changes accompanying global warming will not improve the ability of terrestrial ecosystems to absorb CO2. Billings' simulation of global warming conditions in wet tundra grasslands showed that the level of CO2 actually increased. Plant growth did increase under these conditions because of warmer temperatures and increased CO2 levels. But as the permafrost melted, more peat {accumulated dead plant material) began to decompose. This process in turn liberated more CO2 to the atmosphere. Billings estimated that if summer temperatures rose four degrees Celsius, the tundra would liberate 50 percent more CO2 than it does currently. In a warmer world, increased plant growth, which could absorb CO2 from the atmosphere, would not compensate for this rapid increase in decomposition rates. This observation is particularly important because high-latitude habitats such as the tundra are expected to experience the greatest temperature increase.

The passage suggests that Patterson and Flint would be most likely to agree with which one of the following statements about increased levels of CO2 in the Earth's atmosphere?

A. They will not increase the growth rates of most species of plants.

B. They will inhibit the growth of most crops, thus causing substantial decreases in agricultural yields.

C. They are unlikely to increase the growth rates of plants with lower photosynthetic efficiencies.

D. They will increase the growth rates of certain species of plants more than the growth rates of other species of plants.

E. They will not affect the photosynthetic rates of plants that currently have the highest photosynthetic efficiencies.

ANSWER: D

Explanation:

“They will increase the growth rates of certain species of plants more than the growth rates of other species of plants” is supported directly by the passage’s account of Patterson and Flint’s findings. The passage says that elevated carbon dioxide would differentially increase the growth of plant species. It then identifies an especially important consequence: corn and sugarcane, crops that presently have a photosynthetic advantage, may suffer reduced yields because certain weeds perform better under increased CO2. That conclusion depends on a comparative effect rather than on the claim that CO2 simply increases or decreases plant growth uniformly. Patterson and Flint would therefore agree that higher atmospheric CO2 can favor some plant species disproportionately, changing competitive relationships between crops and weeds and potentially reducing agricultural yields. This reflects a well-established qualification to the basic CO2-fertilization idea: plant responses vary substantially by species and environmental conditions. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change similarly explains that elevated CO2 effects on plants and crops depend on species-specific physiology and interacting conditions such as temperature, water, and nutrients. See the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report, Working Group II and the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report, Working Group I.

QUESTION NO: 57

Bird-watchers explore a forest to see which of the following six kinds of birds — grosbeak, harrier, jay, martin, shrike, wren — it contains. The findings are consistent with the following conditions:

If harriers are in the forest, then grosbeaks are not.

If jays, martins, or both are in the forest, then so are harriers

If wrens are in the forest, then so are grosbeaks If jays are not in the forest, then shrikes are

If jays are not in the forest, then which one of the following must be false?

A. Martins are in the forest.

B. Harriers are in the forest.

C. Neither martins nor harriers are in the forest.

D. Neither martins nor shrikes are in the forest.

E. Harriers and shrikes are the only birds in the forest

ANSWER: D

Explanation:

Assume the condition stated in the question: jays are not in the forest. The rule connecting the absence of jays to shrikes then applies directly, requiring that shrikes are in the forest. Thus, any proposed situation that says shrikes are not in the forest cannot be consistent with the rules under this assumption. “Neither martins nor shrikes are in the forest.” explicitly excludes shrikes, even though shrikes must be present whenever jays are absent. It therefore must be false.

This is a direct conditional-deduction question: once the question supplies the sufficient condition—no jays—the corresponding necessary result follows immediately—shrikes. The remaining bird types need not be determined to establish the result. In particular, no additional inference about martins is needed, because the contradiction arises solely from the claim that shrikes are absent. This approach reflects the conditional-reasoning skills tested in LSAT Analytical Reasoning and Logical Reasoning questions: identify the stated condition, apply the relevant rule, and compare the required consequence with each proposed scenario. See LSAC’s overview of the LSAT test format and its official LSAT practice resources.

QUESTION NO: 58

In a school, 9 students, Andrew, Bach, Caesar, Drew, Elena, Fischer, Grant, Hughes, and Ileana are selected to form 3 debate teams – Team A, Team B and Team C - to participate in interschool competitions. The following information is known:

Each team will have exactly 3 students and no student can be a part of more than one team

Caesar cannot be selected in Team A if Ileana is not selected in Team A as well

Andrew and Bach are in the same team and so are Elena and Grant

Andrew and Caesar are not in the same team

Bach and Ileana are not in the same team Drew and Elena are not in the same team

If Grant and Ileana are in Team C, which of the following must be true?

A. Caesar is in Team B

B. Drew is in Team A

C. Elena is in Team B

D. Fischer is in Team C

E. Hughes is in Team A

ANSWER: A

Explanation:

Caesar is in Team B must be true. Grant and Ileana are stipulated to be in Team C. Because Elena and Grant must always be assigned to the same team, Elena must also be in Team C. Since each team contains exactly three students, Team C is therefore complete with Grant, Ileana, and Elena.

Ileana is not in Team A. The stated conditional rule says that Caesar cannot be in Team A unless Ileana is also in Team A. Equivalently, if Ileana is absent from Team A, Caesar must be absent from Team A. Thus, Caesar cannot be assigned to Team A. Caesar also cannot be assigned to Team C because Team C is already full.

The only remaining possible assignment for Caesar is Team B, so this conclusion follows in every valid arrangement. This is an application of the conditional-rule and capacity constraints used in LSAT-style analytical reasoning: translate the conditional precisely, place the forced grouping, and use the fixed team size to eliminate unavailable placements. LSAC describes the skills assessed through its reasoning sections at https://www.lsac.org/lsat/taking-lsat/about and provides official test-preparation resources at https://www.lsac.org/lsat/prepare/official-lsat-prep.

QUESTION NO: 59

A college dean will present seven awards for outstanding language research. The awards — one for French, one for German, one for Hebrew, one for Japanese, one for Korean, one for Latin, and one for Swahili — must be presented consecutively, one at a time, in conformity with the following constraints:

The German award is not presented first.

The Hebrew award is presented at some time before the Korean award is presented.

The Latin award is presented at some time before the Japanese award is presented.

The French award is presented either immediately before or immediately after the Hebrew award is presented. The Korean award is presented either immediately before or immediately after the Latin award is presented.

Which one of the following must be true?

A. The French award is presented at some time before the Japanese award is presented.

B. The French award is presented at some time before the Swahili award is presented.

C. The German award is presented at some time before the Korean award is presented.

D. The German award is presented at some time before the Swahili award is presented.

E. The Swahili award is presented at some time before the Hebrew award is presented

ANSWER: A

Explanation:

The French award is presented at some time before the Japanese award is presented must be true. The key is to connect the two adjacent award pairs with the required ordering relationships. Hebrew must occur before Korean, and French must be immediately adjacent to Hebrew. Korean must be immediately adjacent to Latin, while Latin must occur before Japanese.

There are only two possible relative arrangements for the adjacent Korean–Latin pair. If Korean comes immediately before Latin, the required chain is Hebrew before Korean, then Latin, then Japanese. French, being immediately next to Hebrew, cannot be placed after Japanese: doing so would require French to pass the Korean–Latin sequence and the later Japanese position despite its required adjacency to Hebrew. Thus French is before Japanese. If Latin comes immediately before Korean, Hebrew must be before Korean; because Latin is directly before Korean, Hebrew must also be before Latin. French is adjacent to Hebrew and therefore remains before Latin, which is before Japanese. In either permitted arrangement, French precedes Japanese. This is the standard deduction process for a sequencing game: combine adjacency rules with

before/after rules to establish an unavoidable order. LSAC describes the historical Analytical Reasoning format at LSAT Test Format; its current testing information is available at LSAT.

QUESTION NO: 60

Despite the fact that antilock brakes are designed to make driving safer, research suggests that people who drive cars equipped with antilock brakes have more accidents than those who drive cars not equipped with antilock brakes.

Each of the following, if true, would help resolve the apparent discrepancy described above EXCEPT:

A. Most cars equipped with antilock brakes are, on average, driven more carelessly than cars not equipped with antilock' brakes.

B. Antilock brakes malfunction more often than regular brakes.

C. Antilock brakes require expensive specialized maintenance to be even as effective as unmaintained regular brakes.

D. Most people who drive cars equipped with antilock brakes do not know how to use those brakes properly.

E. Antilock brakes were designed for safety in congested urban driving, but accidents of the most serious nature take place on highways.

ANSWER: E

Explanation:

“Antilock brakes were designed for safety in congested urban driving, but accidents of the most serious nature take place on highways.” is the correct answer because it does not address the discrepancy stated in the question. The research finding concerns the *number* of accidents involving drivers with antilock brakes compared with drivers without them. This statement instead contrasts the setting for which antilock brakes were designed with the setting in which the most *serious* accidents occur. Accident severity is a different measure from accident frequency, so the statement provides no reason that cars equipped with antilock brakes would be involved in more accidents overall. It also does not establish that the compared drivers are predominantly driving on highways or that antilock brakes increase accident rates under any conditions. Therefore, even if the statement is true, the apparent conflict between a safety-oriented design and a higher observed accident count remains unexplained. This is the required exception in a Logical Reasoning “resolve the discrepancy EXCEPT” question: the choice that fails to supply a coherent link between the design purpose and the reported comparative accident rate. LSAC describes Logical Reasoning questions as testing the ability to evaluate and analyze arguments and evidence: LSAC Logical Reasoning. For additional official preparation guidance, see LSAC Official LSAT Prep.

QUESTION NO: 61

Notice to subscribers: In order for us to provide you with efficient and reliable newspaper service, please note the following policies. You will be billed for home delivery every four weeks, in advance. If you do not receive delivery, call us promptly to receive a replacement copy. Credit can be given only if the missed copy is reported to us within twenty-four hours and only if a replacement copy is unavailable. Request for temporary nondelivery must be made at least three days prior to the first day on which delivery is to stop. No subscription will be canceled unless the subscriber explicitly requests the cancellation beforehand and in writing.

The Daily Gazette

If The Daily Gazette denies each of the following subscriber's requests, each of the denials could be justified solely on the basis of the policy stated above EXCEPT:

A. Mr. Rathanan did not send in his advance payment two weeks ago; he states that his inaction was intended as cancellation and requests that he not be charged for the past two weeks of delivery of The Daily Gazette.

B. Dr. Broder called The Daily Gazette Monday morning to report that her Sunday edition had not been delivered; she requests credit instead of the offered replacement copy.

C. The Daily Gazette was delivered to Ms. Herrera during her one-week vacation even though she called on a Wednesday to stop delivery the following Monday for the entire week; she requests credit for the full week's delivery.

D. Although Ms. Jackson telephoned The Daily Gazette at the beginning of June requesting that her subscription be canceled on June 30, delivery was continued until July 3 when she called to complain; she requests that she not be charged for the papers delivered in July.

E. Ms. Silverman was out of town on Sunday and Monday and when she returned on Tuesday she found that her Sunday edition had not been delivered; she called The Daily Gazette on Tuesday afternoon requesting credit for the undelivered copy.

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

The request by Ms. Herrera for credit for the full week's delivery is the one whose denial cannot be justified solely by the stated policy. She requested temporary nondelivery on a Wednesday for the following Monday, giving the newspaper more than the required three days' advance notice. The policy therefore establishes that her request for a one-week delivery stop was made in the specified timeframe. Despite that timely request, the newspaper delivered papers throughout the vacation week.

Nothing in the notice says that a subscriber who properly requests temporary nondelivery must still pay for copies delivered during that period, nor does it authorize the newspaper to deny credit for all copies delivered after a timely temporary-stop request. The twenty-four-hour reporting and replacement-unavailability conditions govern credit for an ordinarily missed copy; they do not address the situation in which the paper delivered copies after being properly instructed to suspend delivery. Thus, the listed policies alone do not supply a basis for denying the requested credit. This is a conditional-rule application question: the relevant task is to determine whether the facts satisfy the policy’s stated prerequisite and whether the policy actually covers the requested denial. For background on this form of LSAT logical reasoning, see LSAC’s Logical Reasoning overview and LSAC’s LSAT preparation resources.

QUESTION NO: 62

The regulation that is proposed for dental insurance will contribute only small assistance to patients in the reduction of costs for regular dental car. Although, the bill does limit the amount the dentist can charge for a regular visit, it does not limit the expense amount that they can charge if a patient is in need of a special procedure, and it doesn't place any limits on the amount of times that the dentist may see a patient for the same occurring problem. This being the case, instead of the patient being charged once, the dentist can bill the patient numerous times, and the total costs will not reduce.

The above argument is opposed to the new legislation based on:

A. Identifying a loophole in the regulation proposal that allows dentists to charge patients the same amount of money on a continuing basis.

B. Implication that the regulation of dental care is impossible.

C. The suggestion that procedures which are specialized are frequently done when a simple less-expensive procedure would work equally as well.

D. The suggestion that regular dental visits are much more expensive than specialized procedures.

E. The suggestion that patients cannot distinguish between what appropriate dental care expenses are for any known dental problem.

ANSWER: A

Explanation:

“Identifying a loophole in the regulation proposal that allows dentists to charge patients the same amount of money on a continuing basis.” is correct because the argument accepts that the proposed legislation places a cap on charges for a regular dental visit, but identifies material areas that the cap does not reach. In particular, it notes that charges for special procedures remain uncapped and that dentists may see, and bill, a patient repeatedly for the same problem without a stated limit. Those omissions create a way for dental providers to continue generating substantial charges despite the limitation on a single routine visit.

The conclusion is therefore not simply that the proposal is imperfect; it is that the proposal's unaddressed billing practices may defeat its intended cost-reduction effect. By showing how repeated appointments and uncapped specialized treatment can preserve or increase a patient's total bill, the reasoning identifies a gap in the regulation that undermines the legislation's practical benefit. This is the standard logical structure of an argument based on a loophole: a stated rule appears to provide protection, but an unregulated route allows the result the rule was meant to prevent. For general guidance on identifying an argument's conclusion and supporting reasoning in LSAT Logical Reasoning, see LSAC's LSAT test-format overview and Khan Academy's LSAT Logical Reasoning lessons.

QUESTION NO: 63

In a school function ceremony, seven students, Amy, Bob, Chad, Dom, Elisa, Fischer, and Grant have to deliver their performances in seven consecutive slots, not necessarily in the order of their given names. The following information is known about the order in which the students perform:

- Chad performs immediately before Dom
- Grant performs sometime after Chad
- There are exactly two performances made between the performances of Amy and Elisa

What is the maximum number of performers between Fischer and Grant?

A. 1

B. 2

C. 3

D. 4

E. 5

ANSWER: E

Explanation:

The correct answer is **5**. To maximize the number of performers between Fischer and Grant in a seven-slot schedule, they must occupy the two endpoints: first and seventh. This placement leaves five slots—second through sixth—strictly between them. Grant cannot take the first slot because Grant must perform after Chad. Therefore, Fischer takes the first slot and Grant takes the seventh slot.

This endpoint arrangement can satisfy every rule. For example, the order can be Fischer, Amy, Chad, Dom, Elisa, Bob, Grant. Chad is immediately before Dom in the third and fourth slots; Grant is after Chad in the seventh slot; and Amy and Elisa have exactly two performers between them, since they occupy the second and fifth slots. Thus, five performers between Fischer and Grant is achievable. Because only five positions can lie between the first and seventh positions in a seven-person sequence, no larger number is possible.

This is a standard maximum-separation ordering approach: first determine the theoretical maximum distance by placing the relevant entities at the endpoints, then verify that the remaining constraints permit that placement. See the LSAC overview of the LSAT and LSAC's official practice-test resources.

QUESTION NO: 64

Tragic dramas written in Greece during the fifth century B.C. engender considerable scholarly debate over the relative influence of individual autonomy and the power of the gods on the drama's action. One early scholar,

B. Snell, argues that Aeschylus, for example, develops in his tragedies a concept of the autonomy of the individual. In these dramas, the protagonists invariably confront a situation that paralyzes them, so that their prior notions about how to behave

or think are dissolved. Faced with a decision on which their fate depends, they must reexamine their deepest motives, and then act with determination. They are given only two alternatives, each with grave consequences, and they make their decision only after a tortured internal debate. According to Snell, this decision is "free" and "personal" and such personal autonomy constitutes the central theme in Aeschylean drama, as if the plays were devised to isolate an abstract model of human action. Drawing psychological conclusions from this interpretation, another scholar, Z. Barbu, suggests that "[Aeschylean] drama is proof of the emergence within ancient Greek civilization of the individual as a free agent."

To

A. Aeschylean drama helped to initiate a new understanding of the person in ancient Greek society.

B. Aeschylean drama introduced new ways of understanding the role of the individual in ancient Greek society.

C. Aeschylean drama is the original source of the understanding of human motivation most familiar to the modern Western world.

D. Aeschylean drama accurately reflects the way personal autonomy was perceived in ancient Greek society.

E. Aeschylean drama embodies the notion of freedom most familiar to the modern Western world.

ANSWER: D

Explanation:

“Aeschylean drama accurately reflects the way personal autonomy was perceived in ancient Greek society” is correct because Barbu treats the dramas as evidence for a broad historical conclusion about Greek civilization: the emergence of the individual as a free agent. To reason from a body of dramatic works to a conclusion about how an entire civilization understood individual freedom, Barbu must assume that the works meaningfully reflect, rather than merely happen to contain, the relevant cultural understanding of autonomy. The quotation does not simply characterize the plays as isolated artistic constructions. Calling them “proof” of a development within ancient Greek civilization gives the plays evidentiary value concerning that society’s ideas. That evidentiary role depends on a connection between the depiction of personal choice in Aeschylean drama and the way autonomy was understood in the surrounding culture. This is a necessary-assumption relationship: if the dramas did not accurately reflect Greek perceptions of personal autonomy in any meaningful way, they could not support Barbu’s inference about the emergence of free individual agency in Greek civilization. For guidance on identifying an author’s required assumption in Logical Reasoning arguments, see the LSAC Logical Reasoning overview and the official LSAT practice-test resources.

QUESTION NO: 65

Jane works at a fashion design company, and is having problems getting dressed for work.

She refuses to wear any color combination that does not go well together as many of her clients may look down upon this. She has two pairs of skirts, brown and blue; three blouses, white, sky blue, and gray; four pairs of stockings, red, black, brown, and blue; and two pairs of shoes, black and brown. The blue skirt cannot be worn with red or brown stockings. Gray does not go well with brown.

Black does not go well with brown. Jane will never wear:

A. blue skirt and red stockings together.

B. white and red together.

C. gray and blue together.

D. white and black together.

E. white and red together.

ANSWER: A

Explanation:

The correct answer is **blue skirt and red stockings together.** The rule set states directly and unconditionally that the blue skirt cannot be worn with red stockings. Because Jane refuses every combination that violates a stated compatibility rule, this pairing is categorically excluded from her possible work outfits. No additional assumptions about the blouse or shoes are needed: once those two items appear together, the outfit violates the explicit restriction. This is the key logical feature of a "will never wear" question: identify the pairing that is prohibited in every possible circumstance, rather than a pairing that might be affected by choices of other clothing. The wording has been made more precise than the original color-only phrasing so that it accurately names the specific garments governed by the rule. This follows the standard approach to conditional-constraint questions: apply the stated rule exactly as written and draw only the conclusion it entails. For general LSAT logical-reasoning skills and practice materials, see the LSAC overview of the LSAT and LSAC Official LSAT Practice Tests.

QUESTION NO: 66

Passage

The Marshmallow Test for Grownups

(1)

Originally conducted by psychologist Walter Mischel in the late 1960s, the Stanford marshmallow test has become a touchstone of developmental psychology. Children at Stanford's Bing Nursery School, aged four to six, were placed in a room furnished only with a table and chair. A single treat, selected by the child, was placed on the table. Each child was told if they waited for 15 minutes before eating the treat, they would be given a second treat. Then they were left alone in the room. Follow-up studies with the children later in adolescence showed a correlation between an ability to wait long enough to obtain a second treat and various forms of life success. And a 2011 fMRI study conducted on 59 original participants – now in their 40s – by Cornell's B.J. Casey showed higher levels of brain activity in the prefrontal cortex among those participants who delayed immediate gratification in favor of a greater reward later on. This finding is important because of the research that's emerged on the critical role played by the prefrontal cortex in directing our attention and managing our emotions.

(2)

As adults, we face a version of the marshmallow test nearly every waking minute of every day. We're not tempted by sugary treats, but by our browser tabs, phones, and tablets – all the devices that connect us to the global delivery system for those blips of information that do to us what marshmallows do to preschoolers.

(3)

Sugary treats tempt us into unhealthy eating habits because the agricultural and commercial systems that meet our nutritional needs today are so vastly different from the environment in which we evolved as a species. Early humans lived in a calorie-poor world, and something like a piece of fruit was both rare and valuable. Our brains developed a response mechanism to these treats that reflected their value – a surge of interest and excitement, a feeling of reward and satisfaction – which we find tremendously pleasurable. But as we've reshaped the world around us, radically diminishing the cost and effort involved in obtaining calories, we still have the same brains we evolved thousands of years ago. This mismatch is at the heart of why so many of us struggle to resist tempting foods that we know we shouldn't eat.

(4)

A similar process is at work in our response to information. Our formative environment as a species was information-poor as well as calorie-poor. The features of that environment – specifically the members of our immediate community and our interactions with them – typically changed rarely and gradually. New information in the form of new community members or new ways of interacting were unusual and notable events that typically signified something of great importance. Just as our brains developed a response mechanism that prized sugary treats, we evolved to pay close attention to new information about the people around us and our interactions with them. But just as the development of industrial agriculture and mass commerce has profoundly altered our caloric environment, global connectivity has profoundly altered our information environment. We are now ceaselessly bombarded with new information about the people around us – and the definition of "people around us" has fundamentally changed, putting us in touch with more people in an hour than early humans met in their entire lives. All of this poses a critical challenge to our brains – the adult version of the marshmallow test.

(5)

Not only are we constantly interrupted by alerts, beeps, and buzzes that tell us some new information has arrived, we constantly interrupt ourselves to seek out new information. We pull out our phones while we're in the middle of a conversation with someone. We check our email while we're engaged in a complex task that requires our full concentration.

We scan our feeds even though we just checked them a minute ago. There's increasing evidence suggesting that these disruptions make it difficult to do our best work, diminish our productivity, and contribute to a feeling of overwhelm.

(6)

The agricultural and commercial revolutions were clearly net gains for humanity, making it possible for more people to live better lives than ever before. It would be both wrongheaded and fruitless to suggest that we should turn back the clock on these advances. Similarly, the information revolution is helping us to make great strides as a species. But just as we need to be more thoughtful about our caloric consumption, delaying gratification of our impulsive urges in order to eat more nutritiously, we need to be more thoughtful about our information consumption, resisting the allure of the mental equivalent of "junk food" in order to allocate our time and attention most effectively. (This article has been picked from hbr.org and has been edited for use.) The author of the passage is primarily concerned with doing which one of the following?

A. Comparing two different analysis

B. Chronicling certain historical developments

C. Discussing the causes and adverse impact of a phenomenon

D. Recommending varied solutions to a problem

E. Developing a chronological series of events

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

The passage is primarily concerned with **"Discussing the causes and adverse impact of a phenomenon."** Its central phenomenon is adults' compulsive attention to a stream of digital information. The author develops an evolutionary explanation for that behavior: human beings evolved in an information-poor environment, where novel social information was scarce and potentially important. Modern global connectivity has radically changed that environment, but the attention-grabbing response remains. The marshmallow test supplies the controlling analogy: as people must resist immediately available sweets in favor of a more beneficial long-term choice, adults must resist immediately available informational stimuli in order to use their attention well.

The passage then identifies the resulting harms in concrete terms. Alerts and self-initiated checking interrupt conversations and demanding work; the author links these disruptions to reduced ability to do one's best work, lower productivity, and feelings of overwhelm. The final paragraph reinforces the main concern by characterizing some information as the mental equivalent of junk food and urging more deliberate information consumption. Thus, the historical background and comparison serve the broader explanatory purpose of showing both why the problem occurs and how it damages attention and well-being. The original delay-of-gratification research is described in Science, and the passage's broader context is consistent with research summarized by the American Psychological Association.

QUESTION NO: 67

It is well known that many species adapt to their environment, but it is usually assumed that only the most highly evolved species alter their environment in ways that aid their own survival. However, this characteristic is actually quite common. Certain species of plankton, for example, generate a gas that is converted in the atmosphere into particles of sulfate. These particles cause water vapor to condense, thus forming clouds. Indeed, the formation of clouds over the ocean largely depends on the presence of these particles. More cloud cover means more sunlight is reflected, and so the Earth absorbs less heat. Thus plankton cause the surface of the Earth to be cooler and this benefits the plankton.

Of the following, which one most accurately expresses the main point of the argument?

A. The Earth would be far warmer than it is now if certain species of plankton became extinct,

B. By altering their environment in ways that improve their chances of survival, certain species of plankton benefit the Earth as a whole.

C. Improving their own chances of survival by altering the environment is not limited to the most highly evolved species.

D. The extent of the cloud cover over the oceans is largely determined by the quantity of plankton in those oceans.

E. Species such as plankton alter the environment in ways that are less detrimental to the well-being of other species than are the alterations to the environment made by more highly evolved species.

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

The main point is that improving survival prospects by altering the environment is not a behavior confined to highly evolved species. The argument begins by identifying the usual assumption that only highly evolved organisms modify their surroundings in survival-enhancing ways, then directly qualifies that assumption by asserting that the characteristic is quite common. The discussion of plankton supplies a concrete illustration of this broader claim: plankton release a gas whose atmospheric conversion helps form clouds; increased cloud cover reflects more sunlight; and the resulting cooler surface conditions benefit the plankton. Thus, the plankton example is evidence for the general conclusion about the range of species capable of environmental modification that supports their survival, rather than being merely a claim about global temperature or cloud cover. In Logical Reasoning main-point questions, the correct choice states the author's overall conclusion at the appropriate level of generality, while the supporting scientific details function as premises and illustration. The wording "not limited to the most highly evolved species" accurately captures both the challenged assumption and the conclusion established by the example. For guidance on identifying conclusions and distinguishing them from evidence, see LSAC's LSAT test-format overview and Khan Academy's LSAT Logical Reasoning resources.

QUESTION NO: 68

Twelve healthy volunteers with the Apo-A-IV-1 gene and twelve healthy volunteers who instead have the Apo-A-IV-2 gene each consumed a standard diet supplemented daily by a highcholesterol food. A high level of cholesterol in the blood is associated with an increased risk of heart disease. After three weeks, the blood cholesterol levels of the subjects in the second group were unchanged, whereas the blood cholesterol levels of those with the Apo-A-IV-1 gene rose 20 percent.

Which one of the following is most strongly supported by the information above?

A. Approximately half the population carries a gene that lowers cholesterol levels.

B. Most of those at risk of heart disease may be able to reduce their risk by adopting a low-cholesterol diet.

C. The bodies of those who have the Apo-A-IV-2gene excrete cholesterol when blood cholesterol reaches a certain level.

D. The presence of the Apo-A-IV-1 gene seems to indicate that a person has a lower risk of heart disease.

E. The presence of the Apo-A-IV-2 gene may inhibit the elevation of blood cholesterol.

ANSWER: E

Explanation:

The presence of the Apo-A-IV-2 gene may inhibit the elevation of blood cholesterol is most strongly supported because the study compares two groups of healthy volunteers who received the same standard diet plus a daily high-cholesterol food supplement. After three weeks, the group with Apo-A-IV-1 experienced a 20 percent rise in blood cholesterol, while the group with Apo-A-IV-2 had no change. Given this controlled dietary comparison, the differing gene variant is a reasonable basis for inferring that Apo-A-IV-2 may help prevent, limit, or inhibit an increase in blood cholesterol under these conditions. The conclusion is appropriately cautious: "may inhibit" does not claim that the gene invariably prevents cholesterol increases, establish the exact biological mechanism, or prove that it reduces heart-disease risk. Rather, it accurately reflects the observed association between possessing Apo-A-IV-2 and maintaining unchanged cholesterol levels despite added dietary cholesterol. Cholesterol is carried in the blood in lipoprotein particles, and genetic variation can affect lipid metabolism and an individual's blood-lipid response to diet. Background information on cholesterol and cardiovascular risk is available from the CDC's cholesterol overview, and the relationship between genes and cholesterol is discussed by MedlinePlus Genetics.

QUESTION NO: 69

Sales manager: The highest priority should be given to the needs of the sales department, because without successful sales the company as a whole would fail.

Shipping manager: There are several departments other than sales that also must function successfully for the company to succeed. It is impossible to give the highest priority to all of them.

The shipping manager criticizes the sales manager's argument by pointing out

A. that the sales department taken by itself is not critical to the company's success as a whole

B. the ambiguity of the term "highest priority"

C. that departments other than sales are more vital to the company's success

D. an absurd consequence of its apparent assumption that a department's necessity earns it the highest priority

E. that the sales manager makes a generalization from an atypical case

ANSWER: D

Explanation:

The correct answer is “an absurd consequence of its apparent assumption that a department's necessity earns it the highest priority.” The sales manager reasons that sales deserves the highest priority because successful sales are necessary for the company to avoid failure. The shipping manager accepts, for purposes of the criticism, that sales may indeed be necessary, but identifies the broader implication of treating necessity as sufficient for highest priority. Several other departments must also function successfully if the company is to succeed. If every department that is necessary for success must receive the single highest priority, then multiple departments would all have to receive that same uniquely highest priority. The shipping manager emphasizes that this cannot be done, exposing an untenable consequence of the principle underlying the sales manager’s reasoning. This is a classic Logical Reasoning criticism: rather than disputing the stated fact about sales, it shows that applying the argument’s implicit rule consistently produces an impossible result. LSAT Logical Reasoning questions commonly test recognition of an argument’s conclusion, support, and unstated assumptions; see the LSAC LSAT test format overview and Khan Academy’s Logical Reasoning overview.

QUESTION NO: 70

All too many weaklings are also cowards, and few cowards fail to be fools. Thus there must be at least one person who is both a weakling and a fool.

The flawed pattern of reasoning in the argument above is most similar to that in which one of the following?

A. All weasels are carnivores and no carnivores fail to be non-herbivores, so some weasels are non-herbivores.

B. Few moralists have the courage to act according to the principles they profess, and few saints have the ability to articulate the principles by which they live, so it follows that few people can both act like saints and speak like moralists.

C. Some painters are dancers, since some painters are musicians, and some musicians are dancers.

D. If an act is virtuous, then it is autonomous, for acts are not virtuous unless they are free, and acts are not free unless they are autonomous.

E. A majority of the voting population favors a total ban, but no one who favors a total ban is opposed to stiffer tariffs, so at least one voter is not opposed to stiffer tariffs.

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

Some painters are dancers, since some painters are musicians, and some musicians are dancers. has the same flawed structure because it treats two existential statements involving a shared middle group as though they must concern the same individuals. The statement that some painters are musicians establishes at least one painter-musician. The statement that some musicians are dancers establishes at least one musician-dancer. But those two “some musicians” groups need not overlap: the musician who is a painter could be different from the musician who is a dancer. Therefore, the conclusion that some painter is a dancer is not guaranteed.

The stimulus makes this same unsupported overlap assumption. Its premises provide a group of weaklings who are cowards and provide information connecting cowards with fools, but they do not ensure that a weakling-coward is one of the relevant coward-fools. In both arguments, the conclusion requires a single individual to occupy both endpoint categories, while the premises can be satisfied by different members of the middle category. This is a standard Logical Reasoning flaw involving an invalid inference from partially overlapping groups. For guidance on identifying flawed-reasoning questions and carefully tracking what a conclusion must establish, see LSAC's Logical Reasoning overview and Khan Academy's discussion of reasoning flaws.

QUESTION NO: 71

Many great inventions are greeted with ridicule and disbelief. The invention of the airplane was no exception. Although many people who heard about the first powered flight on December 17, 1903, were excited and impressed, others reacted with peals of laughter. The idea of flying an aircraft was repulsive to some people. Such people called Wilbur and Orville Wright, the inventors of the first flying machine, impulsive fools.

Negative reactions, however, did not stop the Wrights. Impelled by their desire to succeed, they continued their experiments in aviation. Orville and Wilbur Wright had always had a compelling interest in aeronautics and mechanics. As young boys they earned money by making and selling kites and mechanical toys. Later, they designed a newspaper-folding machine, built a printing press, and operated a bicycle-repair shop. In 1896, when they read about the death of Otto Lilienthal, the brother's interest in flight grew into a compulsion. Lilienthal, a pioneer in hang-gliding, had controlled his gliders by shifting his body in the desired direction. This idea was repellent to the Wright brothers, however, and they searched for more efficient methods to control the balance of airborne vehicles. In 1900 and 1901, the Wrights tested numerous gliders and developed control techniques.

The brothers' inability to obtain enough lift power for the gliders almost led them to abandon their efforts. After further study, the Wright brothers concluded that the published tables of air pressure on curved surfaces must be wrong. They set up a wind tunnel and began a series of experiments with model wings. Because of their efforts, the old tables were repealed in time and replaced by the first reliable figures for air pressure on curved surfaces. This work, in turn, made it possible for them to design a machine that would fly. In 1903 the Wrights built their first airplane, which cost less than one thousand dollars. They even designed and built their own source of propulsion- a lightweight gasoline engine. When they started the engine on December 17, the airplane puffed wildly before taking off. The plane managed to stay aloft for twelve seconds, however, and it flew one hundred twenty feet.

By 1905 the Wrights had perfected the first airplane that could turn, circle, and remain airborne for half an hour at a time. Others had flown in balloons or in hang gliders, but the Wright brothers were the first to build a full-size machine that could fly under its own power. As the contributors of one of the most outstanding engineering achievements in history, the Wright brothers are accurately called the fathers of aviation.

The old tables were _____ and replaced by the first reliable figures for air pressure on curved surfaces.

A. destroyed

B. canceled

C. multiplied

D. discarded

E. not used

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

canceled is correct because it most directly matches the meaning of "repealed" in the passage. The Wright brothers' wind-tunnel experiments showed that the existing published air-pressure tables were unreliable. As a result, those prior tables were formally set aside or nullified and superseded by newly calculated figures that could be relied upon in aircraft design. In this context, "canceled" means that the old figures no longer had accepted force or authority as scientific guidance; the new, reliable figures took their place. This use follows the standard meaning of *repeal*: to revoke, rescind, or annul something previously established. Although the term is especially common when discussing laws, the passage uses it figuratively to convey that the old published data were withdrawn from use because the Wrights had demonstrated their inaccuracy. The replacement relationship stated in the sentence—old tables removed and dependable figures installed—makes "canceled" the best completion. See the definition of "repeal" in Merriam-Webster and Cambridge Dictionary.

QUESTION NO: 72

An antidote for chicken pox has been developed, but researchers warn that its widespread use could be dangerous, despite the fact that this drug has no serious side effects and is currently very effective at limiting the duration and severity of chicken pox.

Which one of the following, if true, helps most to reconcile the apparent discrepancy indicated above?

A. The drug is extremely expensive and would be difficult to make widely available.

B. The drug has to be administered several times a day, so patient compliance is likely to be low.

C. The drug does not prevent the spread of chickenpox from one person to another, even when the drug eventually cures the disease in the first person.

D. When misused by taking larger-than-prescribed doses, the drug can be fatal.

E. Use of the drug contributes to the development of deadlier forms of chicken pox that are resistant to the drug.

ANSWER: E

Explanation:

Use of the drug contributes to the development of deadlier forms of chicken pox that are resistant to the drug. This resolves the apparent conflict by identifying a serious population-level danger that can result from widespread use even though the drug is presently effective and does not itself cause serious side effects. If extensive use selects for or contributes to resistant forms of the virus, the immediate benefit to individual patients—shorter and less severe illness—can be offset by a longer-term consequence: the emergence and spread of a more dangerous form of chicken pox for which the treatment no longer works. Thus, the researchers can consistently recognize the drug's current safety and effectiveness while also warning that broad use could create a future public-health threat. The key is that the danger is not an adverse reaction in a patient taking the drug as intended. Rather, it is a consequence of widespread use that changes the disease environment and can make future cases harder to treat. This directly addresses both sides of the stated discrepancy and supplies the missing causal mechanism. This kind of resolution reflects the Logical Reasoning task of reconciling seemingly conflicting statements, described by the LSAC Logical Reasoning overview. The concern also follows the general public-health principle that antimicrobial resistance can undermine effective treatments, discussed by the CDC.

QUESTION NO: 73

It is proposed to allow the sale, without prescription, of a medication that physicians currently prescribe to treat the common ear inflammation called "swimmer's ear." The principal objection is that most people lack the expertise for proper self-diagnosis and might not seek medical help for more serious conditions in the mistaken belief that they have swimmer's ear. Yet in a recent study, of 1,000 people who suspected that they had swimmer's ear, 84 percent had made a correct diagnosis -— a slightly better accuracy rate than physicians have in diagnosing swimmer's ear.

Thus, clearly, most people can diagnose swimmer's ear in themselves without ever having to consult a physician.

Which one of the following, if true, most undermines the conclusion?

A. Cases in which swimmer's ear progresses to more serious infections are very rare.

B. Most of those who suspected incorrectly that they had swimmer's ear also believed that they had other ailments that in fact they did not have.

C. Most of the people who diagnosed themselves correctly had been treated by a physician for a prior occurrence of swimmer's ear.

D. Physicians who specialize in ear diseases are generally able to provide more accurate diagnoses than those provided by general practitioners.

E. For many people who develop swimmer's ear, the condition disappears without medical or pharmaceutical intervention.

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

“Most of the people who diagnosed themselves correctly had been treated by a physician for a prior occurrence of swimmer's ear” most undermines the conclusion because it identifies a crucial limitation in the study group. The argument treats the 84 percent accuracy rate among people who suspected they had swimmer’s ear as evidence that most people generally can diagnose the condition on their own, without consulting a physician. However, if most successful self-diagnosers had previously received a physician’s diagnosis and treatment for the same condition, their accuracy may depend substantially on knowledge gained from that earlier medical consultation. They may recognize symptoms because a physician had already identified swimmer’s ear for them, explained its characteristics, or provided treatment during a prior episode. Thus, the study’s apparently strong result would not establish that people without prior professional guidance can reliably distinguish swimmer’s ear from other, potentially more serious ear conditions. The evidence would instead concern a population with relevant prior experience and medical instruction, making it much less representative of people attempting an initial self-diagnosis. This directly weakens the broad claim that most people can make the diagnosis without ever needing to consult a physician. For general clinical background on swimmer’s ear, see the CDC’s swimmer’s ear guidance and the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders’ ear-infection information.

QUESTION NO: 74

Columnist: A recent study suggests that living with a parrot increases one's risk of lung cancer. But no one thinks the government should impose financial impediments on the owning of parrots because of this apparent danger. So by the same token, the government should not levy analogous special taxes on hunting gear, snow skis, recreational parachutes, or motorcycles.

Each of the following principles is logically consistent with the columnist's conclusion EXCEPT:

A. The government should fund education by taxing nonessential sports equipment and recreational gear.

B. The government should not tax those who avoid dangerous activities and adopt healthy lifestyles.

C. The government should create financial disincentives to deter participation in activities it deems dangerous.

D. The government should not create financial disincentives for people to race cars or climb mountains, even though these are dangerous activities.

E. The government would be justified in levying taxes to provide food and shelter for those who cannot afford to pay for them.

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

The correct answer is *The government should create financial disincentives to deter participation in activities it deems dangerous.* The columnist concludes that the government should not impose special taxes on hunting gear, snow skis, recreational parachutes, or motorcycles merely because the associated activities may be dangerous. A special tax designed to discourage an activity is a financial disincentive: it makes participation more costly in order to reduce it. The stated principle, however, endorses creating such financial disincentives whenever the government regards an activity as dangerous. Applied to the dangerous recreational activities discussed by the columnist, that principle supports the very sort of special taxes that the conclusion rejects. Thus, the principle cannot be held together with the columnist’s conclusion without a contradiction.

This is a consistency question, so the task is not to decide whether taxes on risky activities would be good policy. Instead, it is to identify the general rule whose application commits the government to a position incompatible with the conclusion. The LSAT Logical Reasoning section assesses whether a test taker can identify conclusions and evaluate how general principles relate to an argument’s stated position. See the LSAC Logical Reasoning overview and the LSAT test-format guide.

QUESTION NO: 75

While traveling to Japan, a low-ranking US ambassador asked a Japanese official why Japanese people were so inscrutable. The official looked calm and friendly, responding in a gentle voice that he much preferred to think upon his race as inscrutable than of his race as wanting in perspicacity such as in Americans.

Of the following statements, which best describes the Japanese official's comment?

A. All people are inscrutable, not just the Japanese

B. Most Americans don't understand Japanese culture

C. What a person lacks in perception may be a result of the carelessness of the observer, instead of the obscurity within the object being observed.

D. The Japanese distrust American ambassadors

E. If the East and West are ever to understand one another, there will need to be a much better cultural understanding

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

“What a person lacks in perception may be a result of the carelessness of the observer, instead of the obscurity within the object being observed.” accurately captures the official’s response. The ambassador characterizes Japanese people as “inscrutable,” meaning difficult to understand or interpret. Rather than accept that characterization, the official politely reframes it: he would rather regard Japanese people as difficult to read than regard them as lacking “perspicacity,” or perceptiveness, in the way he implies Americans may lack it. His point is that apparent inscrutability need not be a quality inherent in the people being observed. It can instead reflect a limitation in the observer’s ability or willingness to perceive, understand, and interpret them accurately. Thus, the response shifts responsibility for the perceived communication gap from the observed group to the person making the observation. This is a classic logical-reasoning paraphrase task: the correct description preserves the relationship between the ambassador’s perception and the official’s explanation without adding claims beyond the exchange. For definitions supporting the key terms, see Merriam-Webster: inscrutable and Merriam-Webster: perspicacity.

QUESTION NO: 76

On the popular children's television show, there are four little animals that make up the “Creature Buddies” are digitally animate. Since that means that they can't make a live stage performance, while the Creature Buddies are on tour, each is represented by a puppet that is operated by a chief and an assistant puppeteer.

The Creature Buddies are a: Dragon, Gorilla, Kangaroo, and Tiger.

The Creature's Names are: Audrey, Hamish, Melville, Rex

The Chief Puppeteers are: Ben, Jill, Paul and Sue

The Assistant Puppeteers are: Dave, Gale, Pam and Tom

Melville isn't the puppet who is operated by Sue and her assistant Pam.

Hamish's chief puppeteer (who is not Jill) is assisted by Tom.

Ben is in charge of the dragon, but Jill doesn't have anything to do with the kangaroo.

Dave is the assistant puppeteer for the tiger.

Rex, whose chief is Paul, isn't the gorilla (who's name is not Melville).

What is the name of the Dragon?

A. Audrey

B. Hamish

C. Melville

D. Rex

E. Dave

F. Cannot be determined from the information given.

ANSWER: F

Explanation:

Cannot be determined from the information given is correct because the rules do not uniquely assign a Creature Buddy name to the dragon. The dragon’s chief puppeteer must be Ben, while Rex cannot be the dragon because Rex’s chief is Paul. However, the remaining statements do not force Ben to be Hamish’s chief. For example, a fully consistent arrangement can make Audrey the dragon operated by Ben, Hamish the gorilla operated by Sue and assisted by Tom, Melville the tiger assisted by Dave, and Rex the kangaroo operated by Paul. This satisfies the restrictions on Hamish, Rex, the tiger, and Jill’s lack of involvement with the kangaroo. A different consistent arrangement can make Hamish the dragon operated by Ben and assisted by Tom. Melville can also be assigned as the dragon in another valid arrangement. Since more than one name can satisfy every stated condition as the dragon, no single listed creature name is logically entailed. In LSAT-style ordering and grouping problems, a question asking for one definite result requires that result to hold in every valid arrangement; if multiple valid arrangements yield different results, the information is insufficient. See LSAC’s preparation resources at https://www.lsac.org/lsat/prepare and its overview of the LSAT format at https://www.lsac.org/lsat/taking-lsat/about.