# GMAT

**TEST S-U**

### TEST S

30 Minutes 20 Questions

1. The country of Maravia has severe air pollution, 80 percent of which is caused by the exhaust fumes of cars. In order to reduce the number of cars on the road, the government is raising taxes on the cost of buying and running a car by 20 percent. This tax increase, therefore, will significantly reduce air pollution in Maravia.

Which of the following, if true, most seriously weakens the argument above?

(A) The government of Maravia is in the process of building a significant number of roadways.

(B) Maravia is an oil-producing country and is able to refine an amount of gasoline sufficient for the needs of its population.

(C) Maravia has had an excellent public transportation system for many years.

(D) Ninety percent of the population of Maravia is very prosperous and has a substantial amount of disposable income.（D）

(E) In Maravia, cars that emit relatively low levels of pollutants cost 10 percent less to operate, on average, than do cars that emit high levels of pollutants.

2. Consumer income reports produced by the government distinguish between households and families by means of the following definition: “A family is a household containing a householder and at least one person related to the householder.” Except for the homeless and people in group living quarters, most people live in households.

According to the definition above, which of the following must be true?

(A) All householders are members of families.

(B) All families include a householder.

(C) All of the people related to a householder form a family.

(D) Some people residing in group living quarters are members of families.（B）

(E) Some homeless people reside in group living quarters.

Questions 3-4 are based on the following.

The proportion of manufacturing companies in Alameda that use microelectronics in their manufacturing processes increased from 6 percent in 1979 to 66 percent in 1990. Many labor leaders say that the introduction of microelectronics is the principal cause of the great increase in unemployment during that period in Alameda. In actual fact, however, most of the job losses were due to organizational changes. Moreover, according to new figures released by the labor department, there were many more people employed in Alameda in the manufacturing industry in 1990 than in 1979.

3. Which of the following, if true, best reconciles the discrepancy between the increase in unemployment and the increase in jobs in the manufacturing industry of Alameda?

(A) Many products that contain microelectronic components are now assembled completely by machine.

(B) Workers involved in the various aspects of the manufacturing processes that use microelectronic technology need extensive training.

(C) It is difficult to evaluate numerically what impact on job security the introduction of microelectronics in the workplace had before 1979.

(D) In 1990 over 90 percent of the jobs in Alameda’s manufacturing companies were filled by workers who moved to Alameda because they had skills for which there was no demand in Alameda prior to the introduction of microelectronics there.（D）

(E) Many workers who have retired from the manufacturing industry in Alameda since 1979 have not been replaced by younger workers.

4. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the labor leaders’ claim concerning the manufacturing industry in Alameda?

(A) From 1979 to 1990, fewer employees of manufacturing companies in Alameda lost their jobs because of the introduction of microelectronics than did employees of manufacturing companies in the nearby community of Rockside.

(B) The figures on the use of microelectronics that were made public are the result of inquiries made of managers in the manufacturing industry in Alameda.

(C) The organizational changes that led to job losses in all sectors of the manufacturing industry in Alameda were primarily the result of the introduction of microelectronics.

(D) Figures on job losses in the manufacturing industry in Alameda for the late sixties and early seventies have not been made available.（C）

(E) A few jobs in the manufacturing industry in Alameda could have been saved if workers had been willing to become knowledgeable in microelectronics.

5. The number of musicians employed to play accompaniment for radio and television commercials has sharply decreased over the past ten years. This has occurred even though the number of commercials produced each year has not significantly changed for the last ten years.

Which of the following, if it occurred during the past ten years, would contribute LEAST to an explanation of the facts above?

(A) The type of music most popular for use in commercials has changed from a type that requires a large number of instruments to a type that requires very few instruments.

(B) There has been an increase in the number of commercials that use only the spoken word and sound effects, rather than musical accompaniment.

(C) There has been an increase in the number of commercials that use a synthesizer, an instrument on which one musician can reproduce the sound of many musicians playing together.

(D) There has been an increase in the number of commercials that use prerecorded music as their only source of music.（E）

(E) There has been an increase in the number of commercials that use musicians just starting in the music industry rather than musicians experienced in accompanying commercials.

6. Recent audits revealed that BanqueCard, a credit service, has erred in calculating the interest it charges its clients. But BanqueCard’s chief accountant reasoned that the profits that the company shows would remain unaffected by a revision of its clients’ credit statements to correct its previous billing errors, since just as many clients had been overcharged as undercharged.

Which of the following is a reasoning error that the accountant makes in concluding that correcting its clients’ statements would leave BanqueCard’s profits unaffected?

(A) Relying on the reputation of BanqueCard as a trustworthy credit service to maintain the company’s clientele after the error becomes widely known

(B) Failing to establish that BanqueCard charges the same rates of interest for all of its clients

(C) Overlooking the possibility that the amount by which BanqueCard’s clients had been overcharged might be greater than the amount by which they had been undercharged

(D) Assuming that the clients who had been overcharged by BanqueCard had not noticed the error in their credit bills（C）

(E) Presupposing that each one of BanqueCard’s clients had either been overcharged or else had been undercharged by the billing error

7. Not Scored

8. Residents of an apartment complex are considering two possible plans for collecting recyclable trash.

Plan 1 - Residents will deposit recyclable trash in municipal dumpsters located in the parking lot. The trash will be collected on the first and the fifteenth days of each month.

Plan 2 - Residents will be given individual containers for recyclable trash. The containers will be placed at the curb twice a week for trash collection.

Which of the following points raised at a meeting of the residents, if valid, would most favor one of the recycling plans over the other?

(A) Residents will be required to exercise care in separating recyclable trash from nonrecyclable trash.

(B) For trash recycling to be successful, residents must separate recyclable bottles and cans from recyclable paper products.

(C) Penalties will be levied against residents who fail to sort their trash correctly.

(D) Individual recycling containers will need to be made of a strong and durable material.（E）

(E) Recyclable trash that is allowed to accumulate for two weeks will attract rodents.

9. In 1990 all of the people who applied for a job at Evco also applied for a job at Radeco, and Evco and Radeco each offered jobs to half of these applicants. Therefore, every one of these applicants must have been offered a job in 1990.

The argument above is based on which of the following assumptions about these job applicants?

(A) All of the applicants were very well qualified for a job at either Evco or Radeco.

(B) All of the applicants accepted a job at either Evco or Radeco.

(C) None of the applicants was offered a job by both Evco and Radeco.

(D) None of the applicants had applied for jobs at places other than Evco and Radeco.（C）

(E) None of the applicants had previously worked for either Evco or Radeco.

10. The geese that gather at the pond of a large corporation create a hazard for executives who use the corporate helicopter, whose landing site is 40 feet away from the pond. To solve the problem, the corporation plans to import a large number of herding dogs to keep the geese away from the helicopter.

Which of the following, if a realistic possibility, would cast the most serious doubt on the prospects for success of the corporation’s plan?

(A) The dogs will form an uncontrollable pack.

(B) The dogs will require training to learn to herd the geese.

(C) The dogs will frighten away foxes that prey on old and sick geese.

(D) It will be necessary to keep the dogs in quarantine for 30 days after importing them.（A）

(E) Some of the geese will move to the pond of another corporation in order to avoid being herded by the dogs.

11. When a person is under intense psychological stress, his or her cardiovascular response is the same as it is during vigorous physical exercise. Psychological stress, then, must be beneficial for the heart as is vigorous physical exercise.

The argument above relies on which of the following assumptions?

(A) Exercise is an effective means of relieving psychological stress.

(B) The body’s short-term cardiovascular response to any activity indicates that activity’s long-term effect on the body.

(C) Cardiovascular response during an activity is an adequate measure of how beneficial the activity is for the heart.

(D) Psychological stress can have a positive effect on the body.（C）

(E) Vigorous exercise is the most reliable method of maintaining a healthy heart.

12. After graduating from high school, people rarely multiply fractions or discuss ancient Rome, but they are confronted daily with decisions relating to home economics. Yet whereas mathematics and history are required courses in the high school curriculum, home economics is only an elective, and few students choose to take it.

Which of the following positions would be best supported by the considerations above?

(A) If mathematics and history were not required courses, few students would choose to take them.

(B) Whereas home economics would be the most useful subject for people facing the decisions they must make in daily life, often mathematics and history can also help them face these decisions.

(C) If it is important to teach high school students subjects that relate to decisions that will confront them in their daily lives, then home economics should be made an important part of the high school curriculum.

(D) Mathematics, history, and other courses that are not directly relevant to a person’s daily life should not be a required part of the high school curriculum.（C）

(E) Unless high schools put more emphasis on nonacademic subjects like home economics, people graduating from high school will never feel comfortable about making the decisions that will confront them in their daily lives.

13. Houses built during the last ten years have been found to contain indoor air pollution at levels that are, on average, much higher than the levels found in older houses. The reason air-pollution levels are higher in the newer houses is that many such houses are built near the sites of old waste dumps or where automobile emissions are heavy.

Which of the following, if true, calls into question the explanation above?

(A) Many new houses are built with air-filtration systems that remove from the house pollutants that are generated indoors.

(B) The easing of standards for smokestack emissions has led to an increase in air-pollution levels in homes.

(C) New houses built in secluded rural areas are relatively free of air pollutants.

(D) Warm-weather conditions tend to slow down the movement of air, thus keeping pollution trapped near its source.（E）

(E) Pressboard, an inexpensive new plywood substitute now often used in the construction of houses, emits the pollutant formaldehyde into the house.

14. The most important aspect of moviemaking is conveying a scene’s rhythm. Conveying rhythm depends less on the artistic quality of the individual photographic images than on how the shots go together and the order in which they highlight different aspects of the action taking place in front of the camera.

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

(A) The artistic quality of the individual photographic image is unimportant in movie photography.

(B) Photographers known for the superb artistic quality of their photographs are seldom effective as moviemakers.

(C) Having the ability to produce photographs of superb artistic quality does not in itself guarantee having the ability to be a good moviemaker.

(D) Movie photographers who are good at their jobs rarely give serious thought to the artistic quality of the photographs they take.（C）

(E) To convey a scene’s rhythm effectively, a moviemaker must highlight many different aspects of the action taking place.

15. Human beings can see the spatial relations among objects by processing information conveyed by light. Scientists trying to build computers that can detect spatial relations by the same kind of process have so far designed and built stationary machines. However, these scientists will not achieve their goal until they produce such a machine that can move around in its environment.

Which of the following, if true, would best support the prediction above?

(A) Human beings are dependent on visual cues from motion in order to detect spatial relations.

(B) Human beings can often easily detect the spatial relations among objects, even when those objects are in motion.

(C) Detecting spatial relations among objects requires drawing inferences from the information conveyed by light.

(D) Although human beings can discern spatial relations through their sense of hearing, vision is usually the most important means of detecting spatial relations.（A）

(E) Information about the spatial relations among objects can be obtained by noticing such things as shadows and the relative sizes of objects.

16. In a study of the effect of color on productivity, 50 of 100 factory workers were moved from their drab workroom to a brightly colored workroom. Both these workers and the 50 who remained in the drab workroom increased their productivity, probably as a result of the interest taken by researchers in the work of both groups during the study.

Which of the following, if true, would cast most doubt upon the author’s interpretation of the study results given above?

(A) The 50 workers moved to the brightly colored room performed precisely the same manufacturing task as the workers who remained in the drab workroom.

(B) The drab workroom was designed to provide adequate space for at most 65 workers.

(C) The 50 workers who moved to the brightly colored workroom were matched as closely as possible in age and level of training to the 50 workers who remained in the drab work-room.

(D) Nearly all the workers in both groups had volunteered to move to the brightly colored workroom.（B）

(E) Many of the workers who moved to the brightly colored workroom reported that they liked the drab workroom as well as or better than they liked the brightly colored workroom.

17. Not Scored

18. Manager: Accounting and Billing are located right next to each other and the two departments do similar kinds of work; yet expenditures for clerical supplies charged to Billing are much higher. Is Billing wasting supplies?

Head of Billing: Not at all.

Which of the following, if true, best supports the position of the Head of Billing?

(A) There are more staff members in Accounting than in Billing.

(B) Two years ago, expenditures in Accounting for clerical supplies were the same as were expenditures that year in Billing for clerical supplies.

(C) The work of Billing now requires a wider variety of clerical supplies than it did in the past.

(D) Some of the paper-and-pencil work of both Accounting and Billing has been replaced by work done on computers.（E）

(E) Members of Accounting found the clerical supplies cabinet of Billing more convenient to go to for supplies than their own department’s cabinet.

19. Most geologists believe oil results from chemical transformations of hydrocarbons derived from organisms buried under ancient seas. Suppose, instead, that oil actually results from bacterial action on other complex hydrocarbons that are trapped within the Earth. As is well known, the volume of these hydrocarbons exceeds that of buried organisms. Therefore, our oil reserves would be greater than most geologists believe.

Which of the following, if true, gives the strongest support to the argument above about our oil reserves?

(A) Most geologists think optimistically about the Earth’s reserves of oil.

(B) Most geologists have performed accurate chemical analyses on previously discovered oil reserves.

(C) Ancient seas are buried within the Earth at many places where fossils are abundant.

(D) The only bacteria yet found in oil reserves could have leaked down drill holes from surface contaminants.（E）

(E) Chemical transformations reduce the volume of buried hydrocarbons derived from organisms by roughly the same proportion as bacterial action reduces the volume of other complex hydrocarbons.

20. The wild mouflon sheep of the island of Corsica are direct descendants of sheep that escaped from domestication on the island 8,000 years ago. They therefore provide archaeologists with a picture of what some early domesticated sheep looked like, before the deliberate selective breeding that produced modern domesticated sheep began.

The argument above makes which of the following assumptions?

(A) The domesticated sheep of 8,000 years ago were quite dissimilar from the wild sheep of the time.

(B) There are no other existing breeds of sheep that escaped from domestication at about the same time as the forebears of the mouflon.

(C) Modern domesticated sheep are direct descendants of sheep that were wild 8,000 years ago.

(D) Mouflon sheep are more similar to their forebears of 8,000 years ago than modern domesticated sheep are to theirs.（D）

(E) The climate of Corsica has not changed at all in the last 8,000 years.

### TEST S

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### TEST U

25 Minutes 16 Questions

1. Cable-television spokesperson: Subscriptions to cable television are a bargain in comparison to “free” television. Remember that “free” television is not really free. It is consumers, in the end, who pay for the costly advertising that supports “free” television.

Which of the following, if true, is most damaging to the position of the cable-television spokesperson?

(A) Consumers who do not own television sets are less likely to be influenced in their purchasing decisions by television advertising than are consumers who own television sets.

(B) Subscriptions to cable television include access to some public-television channels, which do not accept advertising.

(C) For locations with poor television reception, cable television provides picture quality superior to that provided by free television.

(D) There is as much advertising on many cable-television channels as there is on “free” television channels.（D）

(E) Cable-television subscribers can choose which channels they wish to receive, and the fees vary accordingly.

2. Woodsmoke contains dangerous toxins that cause changes in human cells. Because woodsmoke presents such a high health risk, legislation is needed to regulate the use of open-air fires and wood-burning stoves.

Which of the following, if true, provides the most support for the argument above?

(A) The amount of dangerous toxins contained in woodsmoke is much less than the amount contained in an equal volume of automobile exhaust.

(B) Within the jurisdiction covered by the proposed legislation, most heating and cooking is done with oil or natural gas.

(C) Smoke produced by coal-burning stoves is significantly more toxic than smoke from wood-burning stoves.

(D) No significant beneficial effect on air quality would result if open-air fires were banned within the jurisdiction covered by the proposed legislation.（E）

(E) In valleys where wood is used as the primary heating fuel, the concentration of smoke results in poor air quality.

3. Within 20 years it will probably be possible to identify the genetic susceptibility an individual may have toward any particular disease. Eventually, effective strategies will be discovered to counteract each such susceptibility. Once these effective strategies are found, therefore, the people who follow them will never get sick.

The argument above is based on which of the following assumptions?

(A) For every disease there is only one strategy that can prevent its occurrence.

(B) In the future, genetics will be the only medical specialty of any importance.

(C) All human sicknesses are in part the result of individuals’ genetic susceptibilities.

(D) All humans are genetically susceptible to some diseases.（C）

(E) People will follow medical advice when they are convinced that it is effective.

4. Most employees in the computer industry move from company to company, changing jobs several times in their careers. However, Summit Computers is known throughout the industry for retaining its employees. Summit credits its success in retaining employees to its informal, nonhierarchical work environment.

Which of the following, if true, most strongly supports Summit’s explanation of its success in retaining employees?

(A) Some people employed in the computer industry change jobs if they become bored with their current projects.

(B) A hierarchical work environment hinders the cooperative exchange of ideas that computer industry employees consider necessary for their work.

(C) Many of Summit’s senior employees had previously worked at only one other computer company.

(D) In a nonhierarchical work environment, people avoid behavior that might threaten group harmony and thus avoid discussing with their colleagues any dissatisfaction they might have with their jobs.（B）

(E) The cost of living near Summit is relatively low compared to areas in which some other computer companies are located.

5. Financing for a large construction project was provided by a group of banks. When the money was gone before the project was completed, the banks approved additional loans. Now, with funds used up again and completion still not at hand, the banks refuse to extend further loans, although without those loans, the project is doomed.

Which of the following, if true, best explains why the bank’s current reaction is different from their reaction in the previous instance of depletion of funds?

(A) The banks have reassessed the income potential of the completed project and have concluded that total income generable would be less than total interest due on the old plus the needed new loans.

(B) The banks have identified several other projects that offer faster repayment of the principal if loans are approved now to get those projects started.

(C) The banks had agreed with the borrowers that the construction loans would be secured by the completed project.

(D) The cost overruns were largely due to unforeseeable problems that arose in the most difficult phase of the construction work.（A）

(E) The project stimulated the development and refinement of several new construction techniques, which will make it easier and cheaper to carry out similar projects in the future.

6. Low-income families are often unable to afford as much child care as they need. One government program would award low-income families a refund on the income taxes they pay of as much as $1,000 for each child under age four. This program would make it possible for all low-income families with children under age four to obtain more child care than they otherwise would have been able to afford.

Which of the following, if true, most seriously calls into question the claim that the program would make it possible for all low-income families to obtain more child care?

(A) The average family with children under age four spends more than $1,000 a year on child care.

(B) Some low-income families in which one of the parents is usually available to care for children under age four may not want to spend their income tax refund on child care.

(C) The reduction in government revenues stemming from the income tax refund will necessitate cuts in other government programs, such as grants for higher education.

(D) Many low-income families with children under age four do not pay any income taxes because their total income is too low to be subject to such taxes.（D）

(E) Income taxes have increased substantially over the past twenty years, reducing the money that low-income families have available to spend on child care.

7. Not scored

8. Although parapsychology is often considered a pseudoscience, it is in fact a genuine scientific enterprise, for it uses scientific methods such as controlled experiments and statistical tests of clearly stated hypotheses to examine the questions it raises.

The conclusion above is properly drawn if which of the following is assumed?

(A) If a field of study can conclusively answer the questions it raises, then it is a genuine science.

(B) Since parapsychology uses scientific methods, it will produce credible results.

(C) Any enterprise that does not use controlled experiments and statistical tests is not genuine science.

(D) Any field of study that employs scientific methods is a genuine scientific enterprise.（D）

(E) Since parapsychology raises clearly statable questions, they can be tested in controlled experiments.

9. Hotco oil burners, designed to be used in asphalt plants, are so efficient that Hotco will sell one to the Clifton Asphalt plant for no payment other than the cost savings between the total amount the asphalt plant actually paid for oil using its former burner during the last two years and the total amount it will pay for oil using the Hotco burner during the next two years. On installation, the plant will make an estimated payment, which will be adjusted after two years to equal the actual cost savings.

Which of the following, if it occurred, would constitute a disadvantage for Hotco of the plan described above?

(A) Another manufacturer’s introduction to the market of a similarly efficient burner

(B) The Clifton Asphalt plant’s need for more than one new burner

(C) Very poor efficiency in the Clifton Asphalt plant’s old burner

(D) A decrease in the demand for asphalt（E）

(E) A steady increase in the price of oil beginning soon after the new burner is installed

10. Today’s low gasoline prices make consumers willing to indulge their preference for larger cars, which consume greater amounts of gasoline as fuel. So United States automakers are unwilling to pursue the development of new fuel-efficient technologies aggressively. The particular reluctance of the United States automobile industry to do so, however, could threaten the industry’s future.

Which of the following, if true, would provide the most support for the claim above about the future of the United States automobile industry?

(A) A prototype fuel-efficient vehicle, built five years ago, achieves a very high 81 miles per gallon on the highway and 63 in the city, but its materials are relatively costly.

(B) Small cars sold by manufacturers in the United States are more fuel efficient now than before the sudden jump in oil prices in 1973.

(C) Automakers elsewhere in the world have slowed the introduction of fuel-efficient technologies but have pressed ahead with research and development of them in preparation for a predicted rise in world oil prices.

(D) There are many technological opportunities for reducing the waste of energy in cars and light trucks through weight, aerodynamic drag, and braking friction.（C）

(E) The promotion of mass transit over automobiles as an alternative mode of transportation has encountered consumer resistance that is due in part to the failure of mass transit to accommodate the wide dispersal of points of origin and destinations for trips.

11. An experiment was done in which human subjects recognize a pattern within a matrix of abstract designs and then select another design that completes that pattern. The results of the experiment were surprising. The lowest expenditure of energy in neurons in the brain was found in those subjects who performed most successfully in the experiments.

Which of the following hypotheses best accounts for the findings of the experiment?

(A) The neurons of the brain react less when a subject is trying to recognize patterns than when the subject is doing other kinds of reasoning.

(B) Those who performed best in the experiment experienced more satisfaction when working with abstract patterns than did those who performed less well.

(C) People who are better at abstract pattern recognition have more energy-efficient neural connections.

(D) The energy expenditure of the subjects brains increases when a design that completes the initially recognized pattern is determined.（C）

(E) The task of completing a given design is more capably performed by athletes, whose energy expenditure is lower when they are at rest than is that of the general population.

12. A researcher studying drug addicts found that, on average, they tend to manipulate other people a great deal more than nonaddicts do. The researcher concluded that people who frequently manipulate other people are likely to become addicts.

Which of the following, if true, most seriously weakens the researcher’s conclusion?

(A) After becoming addicted to drugs, drug addicts learn to manipulate other people as a way of obtaining drugs.

(B) When they are imprisoned, drug addicts often use their ability to manipulate other people to obtain better living conditions.

(C) Some nonaddicts manipulate other people more than some addicts do.

(D) People who are likely to become addicts exhibit unusual behavior patterns other than frequent manipulation of other people.（A）

(E) The addicts that the researcher studied were often unsuccessful in obtaining what they wanted when they manipulated other people.

13. One way to judge the performance of a company is to compare it with other companies. This technique, commonly called “benchmarking,” permits the manager of a company to discover better industrial practices and can provide a justification for the adoption of good practices.

Any of the following, if true, is a valid reason for benchmarking the performance of a company against companies with which it is not in competition rather than against competitors EXCEPT:

(A) Comparisons with competitors are most likely to focus on practices that the manager making the comparisons already employs.

(B) Getting “inside” information about the unique practices of competitors is particularly difficult.

(C) Since companies that compete with each other are likely to have comparable levels of efficiency, only benchmarking against noncompetitors is likely to reveal practices that would aid in beating competitors.

(D) Managers are generally more receptive to new ideas that they find outside their own industry.（E）

(E) Much of the success of good companies is due to their adoption of practices that take advantage of the special circumstances of their products of markets.

14. Among the more effective kinds of publicity that publishers can get for a new book is to have excerpts of it published in a high-circulation magazine soon before the book is published. The benefits of such excerption include not only a sure increase in sales but also a fee paid by the magazine to the book’s publisher.

Which of the following conclusions is best supported by the information above?

(A) The number of people for whom seeing an excerpt of a book in a magazine provides an adequate substitute for reading the whole book is smaller than the number for whom the excerpt stimulates a desire to read the book.

(B) Because the financial advantage of excerpting a new book in a magazine usually accrues to the book’s publisher, magazine editors are unwilling to publish excerpts from new books.

(C) In calculating the total number of copies that a book has sold, publishers include sales of copies of magazines that featured an excerpt of the book.

(D) The effectiveness of having excerpts of a book published in a magazine, measured in terms of increased sales of a book, is proportional to the circulation of the magazine in which the excerpts are published.（A）

(E) Books that are suitable for excerpting in high-circulation magazines sell more copies than books that are not suitable for excerpting.

15. In Swartkans territory, archaeologists discovered charred bone fragments dating back 1 million years. Analysis of the fragments, which came from a variety of animals, showed that they had been heated to temperatures no higher than those produced in experimental campfires made from branches of white stinkwood, the most common tree around Swartkans.

Which of the following, if true, would, together with the information above, provide the best basis for the claim that the charred bone fragments are evidence of the use of fire by early hominids?

(A) The white stinkwood tree is used for building material by the present-day inhabitants of Swartkans.

(B) Forest fires can heat wood to a range of temperatures that occur in campfires.

(C) The bone fragments were fitted together by the archaeologists to form the complete skeletons of several animals.

(D) Apart from the Swartkans discovery, there is reliable evidence that early hominids used fire as many as 500 thousand years ago.（E）

(E) The bone fragments were found in several distinct layers of limestone that contained primitive cutting tools known to have been used by early hominids.

16. For a trade embargo against a particular country to succeed, a high degree of both international accord and ability to prevent goods from entering or leaving that country must be sustained. A total blockade of Patria’s ports is necessary to an embargo, but such an action would be likely to cause international discord over the embargo.

The claims above, if true, most strongly support which of the following conclusions?

(A) The balance of opinion is likely to favor Patria in the event of a blockade.

(B) As long as international opinion is unanimously against Patria, a trade embargo is likely to succeed.

(C) A naval blockade of Patria’s ports would ensure that no goods enter or leave Patria.

(D) Any trade embargo against Patria would be likely to fail at some time.（D）

(E) For a blockade of Patria’s ports to be successful, international opinion must be unanimous.

### TEST T

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### TEST U

25 Minutes 16 Questions

1. The local board of education found that, because the current physics curriculum has little direct relevance to today’s world, physics classes attracted few high school students. So to attract students to physics classes, the board proposed a curriculum that emphasizes principles of physics involved in producing and analyzing visual images.

Which of the following, if true, provides the strongest reason to expect that the proposed curriculum will be successful in attracting students?

(A) Several of the fundamental principles of physics are involved in producing and analyzing visual images.

(B) Knowledge of physics is becoming increasingly important in understanding the technology used in today’s world.

(C) Equipment that a large producer of photographic equipment has donated to the high school could be used in the proposed curriculum.

(D) The number of students interested in physics today is much lower than the number of students interested in physics 50 years ago.（E）

(E) In today’s world the production and analysis of visual images is of major importance in communications, business, and recreation.

2. Many companies now have employee assistance programs that enable employees, free of charge, to improve their physical fitness, reduce stress, and learn ways to stop smoking. These programs increase worker productivity, reduce absenteeism, and lessen insurance costs for employee health care. Therefore, these programs benefit the company as well as the employee.

Which of the following, if true, most significantly strengthens the conclusion above?

(A) Physical fitness programs are often the most popular services offered to employees.

(B) Studies have shown that training in stress management is not effective for many people.

(C) Regular exercise reduces people’s risk of heart disease and provides them with increased energy.

(D) Physical injuries sometimes result from entering a strenuous physical fitness program too quickly.（C）

(E) Employee assistance programs require companies to hire people to supervise the various programs offered.

3. Unlike the wholesale price of raw wool, the wholesale price of raw cotton has fallen considerably in the last year. Thus, although the retail price of cotton clothing at retail clothing stores has not yet fallen, it will inevitably fall.

Which of the following, if true, most seriously weakens the argument above?

(A) The cost of processing raw cotton for cloth has increased during the last year.

(B) The wholesale price of raw wool is typically higher than that of the same volume of raw cotton.

(C) The operating costs of the average retail clothing store have remained constant during the last year.

(D) Changes in retail prices always lag behind changes in wholesale prices.（A）

(E) The cost of harvesting raw cotton has increased in the last year.

4. Small-business groups are lobbying to defeat proposed federal legislation that would substantially raise the federal minimum wage. This opposition is surprising since the legislation they oppose would, for the first time, exempt all small businesses from paying any minimum wage.

Which of the following, if true, would best explain the opposition of small-business groups to the proposed legislation?

(A) Under the current federal minimum-wage law, most small businesses are required to pay no less than the minimum wage to their employees.

(B) In order to attract workers, small companies must match the wages offered by their larger competitors, and these competitors would not be exempt under the proposed laws.

(C) The exact number of companies that are currently required to pay no less than the minimum wage but that would be exempt under the proposed laws is unknown.

(D) Some states have set their own minimum wages—in some cases, quite a bit above the level of the minimum wage mandated by current federal law—for certain key industries.（B）

(E) Service companies make up the majority of small businesses and they generally employ more employees per dollar of revenues than do retail or manufacturing businesses.

5. Reviewer: The book *Art’s Decline* argues that European painters today lack skills that were common among European painters of preceding centuries. In this the book must be right, since its analysis of 100 paintings, 50 old and 50 contemporary, demonstrates convincingly that none of the contemporary paintings are executed as skillfully as the older paintings.

Which of the following points to the most serious logical flaw in the reviewer’s argument?

(A) The paintings chosen by the book’s author for analysis could be those that most support the book’s thesis.

(B) There could be criteria other than the technical skill of the artist by which to evaluate a painting.

(C) The title of the book could cause readers to accept the book’s thesis even before they read the analysis of the paintings that supports it.

(D) The particular methods currently used by European painters could require less artistic skill than do methods used by painters in other parts of the world.（A）

(E) A reader who was not familiar with the language of art criticism might not be convinced by the book’s analysis of the 100 paintings.

6. The pharmaceutical industry argues that because new drugs will not be developed unless heavy development costs can be recouped in later sales, the current 20 years of protection provided by patents should be extended in the case of newly developed drugs. However, in other industries new-product development continues despite high development costs, a fact that indicates that the extension is unnecessary.

Which of the following, if true, most strongly supports the pharmaceutical industry’s argument against the challenge made above?

(A) No industries other than the pharmaceutical industry have asked for an extension of the 20-year limit on patent protection.

(B) Clinical trials of new drugs, which occur after the patent is granted and before the new drug can be marketed, often now take as long as 10 years to complete.

(C) There are several industries in which the ratio of research and development costs to revenues is higher than it is in the pharmaceutical industry.

(D) An existing patent for a drug does not legally prevent pharmaceutical companies from bringing to market alternative drugs, provided they are sufficiently dissimilar to the patented drug.（B）

(E) Much recent industrial innovation has occurred in products—for example, in the computer and electronics industries—for which patent protection is often very ineffective.

Questions 7-8 are based on the following.

Bank depositors in the United States are all financially protected against bank failure because the government insures all individuals’ bank deposits. An economist argues that this insurance is partly responsible for the high rate of bank failures, since it removes from depositors any financial incentive to find out whether the bank that holds their money is secure against failure. If depositors were more selective, then banks would need to be secure in order to compete for depositors’ money.

7. The economist’s argument makes which of the following assumptions?

(A) Bank failures are caused when big borrowers default on loan repayments.

(B) A significant proportion of depositors maintain accounts at several different banks.

(C) The more a depositor has to deposit, the more careful he or she tends to be in selecting a bank.

(D) The difference in the interest rates paid to depositors by different banks is not a significant factor in bank failures.（E）

(E) Potential depositors are able to determine which banks are secure against failure.

8. Which of the following, if true, most seriously weakens the economist’s argument?

(A) Before the government started to insure depositors against bank failure, there was a lower rate of bank failure than there is now.

(B) When the government did not insure deposits, frequent bank failures occurred as a result of depositors’ fears of losing money in bank failures.

(C) Surveys show that a significant proportion of depositors are aware that their deposits are insured by the government.

(D) There is an upper limit on the amount of an individual’s deposit that the government will insure, but very few individuals’ deposits exceed this limit.（B）

(E) The security of a bank against failure depends on the percentage of its assets that are loaned out and also on how much risk its loans involve.

9. Passengers must exit airplanes swiftly after accidents, since gases released following accidents are toxic to humans and often explode soon after being released. In order to prevent passenger deaths from gas inhalation, safety officials recommend that passengers be provided with smoke hoods that prevent inhalation of the gases.

Which of the following, if true, constitutes the strongest reason not to require implementation of the safety officials’ recommendation?

(A) Test evacuations showed that putting on the smoke hoods added considerably to the overall time it took passengers to leave the cabin.

(B) Some airlines are unwilling to buy the smoke hoods because they consider them to be prohibitively expensive.

(C) Although the smoke hoods protect passengers from the toxic gases, they can do nothing to prevent the gases from igniting.

(D) Some experienced flyers fail to pay attention to the safety instructions given on every commercial flight before takeoff.（A）

(E) In many airplane accidents, passengers who were able to reach emergency exits were overcome by toxic gases before they could exit the airplane.

10. In 1960, 10 percent of every dollar paid in automobile insurance premiums went to pay costs arising from injuries incurred in car accidents. In 1990, 50 percent of every dollar paid in automobile insurance premiums went toward such costs, despite the fact that cars were much safer in 1990 than in 1960.

Which of the following, if true, best explains the discrepancy outlined above?

(A) There were fewer accidents in 1990 than in 1960.

(B) On average, people drove more slowly in 1990 than in 1960.

(C) Cars grew increasingly more expensive to repair over the period in question.

(D) The price of insurance increased more rapidly than the rate of inflation between 1960 and 1990.（E）

(E) Health-care costs rose sharply between 1960 and 1990.

11. Caterpillars of all species produce an identical hormone called “juvenile hormone” that maintains feeding behavior. Only when a caterpillar has grown to the right size for pupation to take place does a special enzyme halt the production of juvenile hormone. This enzyme can be synthesized and will, on being ingested by immature caterpillars, kill them by stopping them from feeding.

Which of the following, if true, most strongly supports the view that it would not be advisable to try to eradicate agricultural pests that go through a caterpillar stage by spraying croplands with the enzyme mentioned above?

(A) Most species of caterpillar are subject to some natural predation.

(B) Many agricultural pests do not go through a caterpillar stage.

(C) Many agriculturally beneficial insects go through a caterpillar stage.

(D) Since caterpillars of different species emerge at different times, several sprayings would be necessary.（C）

(E) Although the enzyme has been synthesized in the laboratory, no large-scale production facilities exist as yet.

12. Although aspirin has been proven to eliminate moderate fever associated with some illnesses, many doctors no longer routinely recommend its use for this purpose. A moderate fever stimulates the activity of the body’s disease-fighting white blood cells and also inhibits the growth of many strains of disease-causing bacteria.

If the statements above are true, which of the following conclusions is most strongly supported by them?

(A) Aspirin, an effective painkiller, alleviates the pain and discomfort of many illnesses.

(B) Aspirin can prolong a patient’s illness by eliminating moderate fever helpful in fighting some diseases.

(C) Aspirin inhibits the growth of white blood cells, which are necessary for fighting some illnesses.

(D) The more white blood cells a patient’s body produces, the less severe the patient’s illness will be.（B）

(E) The focus of modern medicine is on inhibiting the growth of disease-causing bacteria within the body.

13. Because postage rates are rising, *Home Decorator* magazine plans to maximize its profits by reducing by one half the number of issues it publishes each year. The quality of articles, the number of articles published per year, and the subscription price will not change. Market research shows that neither subscribers nor advertisers will be lost if the magazine’s plan is instituted.

Which of the following, if true, provides the strongest evidence that the magazine’s profits are likely to decline if the plan is instituted?

(A) With the new postage rates, a typical issue under the proposed plan would cost about one-third more to mail than a typical current issue would.

(B) The majority of the magazine’s subscribers are less concerned about a possible reduction in the quantity of the magazine’s articles than about a possible loss of the current high quality of its articles.

(C) Many of the magazine’s long-time subscribers would continue their subscriptions even if the subscription price were increased.

(D) Most of the advertisers that purchase advertising space in the magazine will continue to spend the same amount on advertising per issue as they have in the past.（D）

(E) Production costs for the magazine are expected to remain stable.

14. A study of marital relationships in which one partner’s sleeping and waking cycles differ from those of the other partner reveals that such couples share fewer activities with each other and have more violent arguments than do couples in a relationship in which both partners follow the same sleeping and waking patterns. Thus, mismatched sleeping and waking cycles can seriously jeopardize a marriage.

Which of the following, if true, most seriously weakens the argument above?

(A) Married couples in which both spouses follow the same sleeping and waking patterns also occasionally have arguments than can jeopardize the couple’s marriage.

(B) The sleeping and waking cycles of individuals tend to vary from season to season.

(C) The individuals who have sleeping and waking cycles that differ significantly from those of their spouses tend to argue little with colleagues at work.

(D) People in unhappy marriages have been found to express hostility by adopting a different sleeping and waking cycle from that of their spouses.（D）

(E) According to a recent study, most people’s sleeping and waking cycles can be controlled and modified easily.

Questions 15-16 are based on the following.

Roland: The alarming fact is that 90 percent of the people in this country now report that they know someone who is unemployed.

Sharon: But a normal, moderate level of unemployment is 5 percent, with 1 out of 20 workers unemployed. So at any given time if a person knows approximately 50 workers, 1 or more will very likely be unemployed.

15. Sharon’s argument is structured to lead to which of the following as a conclusion?

(A) The fact that 90% of the people know someone who is unemployed is not an indication that unemployment is abnormally high.

(B) The current level of unemployment is not moderate.

(C) If at least 5% of workers are unemployed, the result of questioning a representative group of people cannot be the percentage Roland cites.

(D) It is unlikely that the people whose statements Roland cites are giving accurate reports.（A）

(E) If an unemployment figure is given as a certain percent, the actual percentage of those without jobs is even higher.

16. Sharon’s argument relies on the assumption that

(A) normal levels of unemployment are rarely exceeded

(B) unemployment is not normally concentrated in geographically isolated segments of the population

(C) the number of people who each know someone who is unemployed is always higher than 90% of the population

(D) Roland is not consciously distorting the statistics he presents（B）

(E) knowledge that a personal acquaintance is unemployed generates more fear of losing one’s job than does knowledge of unemployment statistics

### TEST U

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