

CSS General Abilities Topic 4 Logical Reasoning

Sr	Questions	Answers Choice
1	<p>Many of the convenience foods on the market today, like dry cereals, have less nutrients than natural foods, which were dominant a decade or two ago. Many nutritionists claim that dry cereal gives less nourishment than natural foods like eggs or bacon. Opponents of the nutritionists views state that examination of grade-school students show less nutritional deficiency than in their parents time.</p> <p>Which of the following, if true, would tend to strengthen the opponents view ?</p>	<p>A. Grade-school children reported eating no breakfast at all.</p> <p>B. Fewer convenience foods were available to the parents.</p> <p>C. Adults claim to eat convenience foods as well as natural foods.</p> <p>D. Convenience foods can be digested just as quickly as natural foods.</p> <p>E. Consumers are not likely to sacrifice convenience for nutrition.</p>
2	<p>During the incumbent president's term of office he succeeded in limiting annual increases in the defense budget by an average of 5 percent. His predecessors experienced annual increases of 8 percent. Therefore, the incumbent president should be given credit for the downturn in defense outlays.</p> <p>Which of the following statements, if true would most seriously weaken the above conclusion ?</p>	<p>A. Some generals have claimed that the country's defense has weakened in the past year.</p> <p>B. More soldiers were drafted during the former president's term of office.</p> <p>C. The incumbent president advocates peaceful resolution of international disputes.</p> <p>D. The average annual inflation rate during the incumbent president's term was 4 percent, while during his predecessor's term it was 10 percent</p> <p>E. A disarmament treaty with a major adversary was signed by the incumbent president.</p>
3	<p>The Monopoly is characterized by absence of or decline in competition. The ABC Company realizes that its operations are in competitive industries.</p> <p>Which of the following conclusions may be inferred from the above ?</p>	<p>A. ABC market is not monopolistic.</p> <p>B. Monopoly is defined as one seller in a market.</p> <p>C. The ABC Company has no domestic competitors.</p> <p>D. The ABC company is publicly owned.</p> <p>E. The ABC Company is in a service industry.</p>
4	<p>You have three boxes, each containing two balls, one containing a black pair; one, a white pair; and third, one white ball and one black ball. On each box are pictures of two balls - either two black ones, two white ones, or one white and one black. You are told that the markings on the boxes are all wrong. You are asked to ascertain the colors of the balls contained in each box.</p> <p>Which of the following statements can be inferred from the above ?</p>	<p>A. You can take out one ball from the box marked with two black balls and, without looking at the second ball, know that each box actually contains.</p> <p>B. You can take out one ball from the box marked with two white balls and, without looking at the second ball, know what each box actually contains.</p> <p>C. You can take out one ball from the box marked with one white ball and one black ball and, without looking at the second ball, know what each box contains.</p> <p>D. You cannot know which balls are contained in which box until you take a ball out of more than one box.</p> <p>E. You cannot know which boxes contain which color balls until you take a ball out of all three boxes.</p>
5	<p>Professor Bilal had the task of giving grades (ranging from A - D in descending value) to her 100 students, based upon the marks they received in three examinations in which the passing mark was 50%. She was instructed to follow the following criteria:</p> <p>i. All students that scored between 90 and 100% in any two examinations could receive an A grade.</p> <p>ii. Students that came in the top decile overall were to be awarded an A.</p> <p>iii. Notwithstanding I and II, if any student failed an exam, the highest he or she could get was a b.</p> <p>iv. The top 20 students in the whole year, when the overall exam percentages were averaged, could receive an A.</p> <p>Given the above criteria, which of the following in the absence of further information, would definitely not be permissible ?</p>	<p>A. A. Brown, who got 95% in Chemistry and 95% in Biology, received a B grade.</p> <p>B. White, who was first in Physics and got 96% in History, received a B grade.</p> <p>C. C. Green failed English, but because he ranked ninth overall out of the 100 students, he was awarded an A grade.</p> <p>D. D. Black was given an A after she came twentieth out of the 100 students and failed to get above 90% in any of the three examinations.</p> <p>E. E. Gray failed his Math exam, but</p>

		came top in his other two tests and was awarded a B.
6	<p>Prompted by proposal to convert a shipyard into a complex of condominiums with full-service marina and boat repair center and by concern about the proposal from local residents, baymen, and environmentalists, the town is considering a one-year building moratorium for the water front area.</p> <p>Which of the following, if true, would most seriously weaken opposition to the complex?</p>	<p>A. Condominiums would sell for \$350,000 each.</p> <p>B. There is a large demand for boat repair services.</p> <p>C. A growing population results in the closure of shellfish.</p> <p>D. There are already 1,200 moorings on the waterfront.</p> <p>E. The shipyard may be sold for another commercial use.</p>
7	<p>In August 1980, according to a new year Times/CBS news poll, 36 percent of the voters called themselves Republicans or said they were independents leaning toward being Republicans. In November 1984, the Republican figure rose to 47 percent. But in the latest Times/CBS survey, the Republicans were down to 38 percent. Therefore, the Democrats are likely to win the next election.</p> <p>Which of the following, if true, would most seriously weaken the above conclusion?</p>	<p>A. Republicans were a minority in 1984, but a Republican president was elected.</p> <p>B. People tend to switch their votes at the last minute.</p> <p>C. People vote for the best candidate, not for a political party.</p> <p>D. No one can predict how people will vote.</p> <p>E. It has been shown that 85 percent of Republicans vote in an election, compared to 50 percent of the Democrats.</p>
8	<p>Farmers in the North have observed that heavy frost is usually preceded by a full moon somehow generates the frost.</p> <p>Which of the following, if true, would weaken the farmers conviction?</p>	<p>A. The temperature must fall below 10 degrees Celsius (50 degrees Fahrenheit) for frost to occur.</p> <p>B. Absence of a cloud cover cools the ground which causes frost.</p> <p>C. Farmers are superstitious.</p> <p>D. No one has proven that the moon causes frost.</p> <p>E. Farmers are not experts in meteorology.</p>
9	<p>A local garbage disposal company increased its profitability even though it reduced its prices in order to attract new customers. This was made possible through the use of automated trucks, thereby reducing the number of workers needed per truck. The company also switched from a concentration on household hauling to a concentration on commercial hauling. As a result of its experience, company management planned to replace all their old trucks and increase the overall size of the truck fleet, doubling hauling capacity.</p> <p>The company's plan as outlined above, takes into consideration each of the following except:</p>	<p>A. Commercial clients have more potential than household customers.</p> <p>B. The demand for garbage removal services is sensitive to price.</p> <p>C. Demand for garbage removal services would increase in the future.</p> <p>D. Doubling of capacity would not necessitate a substantial increase in the work force.</p> <p>E. Doubling of capacity would not cause bottlenecks, leading to a decrease in productivity.</p>
10	<p>Ali is a terrible driver. He has had at least five traffic violations, in the past year.</p> <p>Which of the following can be said about the above claim?</p>	<p>A. This is an example of an argument that is directed against the source of the claim rather than the claim itself.</p> <p>B. The statement is fallacious because it contains an illegitimate appeal to authority.</p> <p>C. The above argument obtains its strength from a similarity of two compared situations.</p> <p>D. The argument is built upon an assumption that is not stated but rather is concealed.</p> <p>E. In the above statements, there is a shifting in the meaning of terms, causing a fallacy of ambiguity.</p>
11	<p>Inflation rose by 5.1 % over the second quarter, up from 4.1 % during the first quarter of the year and higher than the 3.3% record during the same time last year. However, the higher price index did not seem to alarm Wall street, as stock prices remained steady.</p> <p>Which of the following, if true, could explain the reaction of Wall Street?</p>	<p>A. Stock prices were steady because of a fear that inflation would continue.</p> <p>B. The President announced that he was concerned about rising inflation.</p> <p>C. Economists warned that inflation would persist.</p> <p>D. Much of the quarterly increase in the price level was due to a summer drought's effect on food prices.</p>
12	<p>In winning its bitter, protracted battle to acquire Blue Industries, Inc., Belle Industries has fulfilled its goal to lessen its reliance on tobacco holdings, while the \$5.2 billion deal may spur more takeover activity in the insurance industry, analysts said.</p> <p>Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?</p>	<p>A. Blue Industries is in the tobacco industry.</p> <p>B. Belle Industries is in the insurance business.</p> <p>C. Blue Industries is in the insurance business.</p> <p>D. More divestment takes place in the tobacco industry than in the insurance industry.</p> <p>E. More divestment takes place in the insurance industry than in the</p>

13 Ever since I arrived at the college last week, I've been shocked by the poor behavior of students and the unfriendly attitude of the towns-people, but the professors are very erudite and genuinely helpful. Still, I wonder if I should have come here in the first place. Which of the following, if true, would weaken the above conclusion ?

14 Every town with a pool hall has its share of unsavory characters. This is because the pool hall attracts gamblers and all gamblers are unsavory. Which of the following, if true, cannot be inferred from the above ?

15 Professor Akram told his class that the method of student evaluation of teachers is not a valid measure of teaching quality. Students should fill out questionnaires at the end of the semester when courses have been completed. Which of the following, if true, provides support for Professor Akram proposal ?

16 Many countries are facing a potential crisis in 20 to 30 years time. The ratio of pensioners to workers will be changing drastically with a declining birth rate, with more lengthy education of the young, and with a reduced working life. In general, the number of people paying into pension schemes is decreasing all the time. Meanwhile, with increased health care and living standards, more people are living long enough to draw their pension funds. A controversial solution to this problem has been proposed in Germany-changing the age of retirement, for both men and women, from the current qualifying age of 63 for men and 60 for women. A radical, but socially acceptable, solution to this problem must be found. If this is not done, it is predicted that by the year 2050, one person in three will be 65 or over and the projected work force will be unable to support pensions. Assuming the following were all socially acceptable, which one would not improve the situation in the future ?

17 In a world of many trading countries, the trade between two countries need not be balanced for the trade of each to be in global balance. Differing demands and productive capabilities among countries will cause a specific country to have trade deficits with some countries and surpluses with other countries. Which of the following conclusions best summarizes the passage above ?

18 Average family income is right where it was 20 years ago, even though in most families these days, husbands and wives are working. The above statement implies all of the following, except:

19 During 1999, advertising expenditures on canned food products increased by 20 percent, while canned food consumption rose by 25 percent. Each of the following, if true, could help explain the increase in food consumption except:

tobacco industry.

A. Professors are not always helpful to students.
B. The college numbers over 50,000 students.
C. The college is far from the student's home.
D. Not all professors have doctorates.
E. The narrator was unsure of staying at the college.

A. All gamblers are unsavory.
B. All pool halls attract gamblers.
C. Every town has unsavory characters.
D. All gamblers are attracted by pool halls.
E. An explanation of what attracts gamblers.

A. Professor Akram received low ratings from his students.
B. Students filled out questionnaires after the midterm exam.
C. Students are interested in teacher evaluation.
D. Teachers are not obligated to use the survey results.
E. Student evaluation of teachers is voluntary.

A. Lower the retirement age.
B. Decrease the school-leaving age.
C. Impose larger contributions on employees and employers.
D. Cut pensions in half.
E. Only give state pensions to retired persons whose income is below a certain level.

A. A country trade will always be in balance even though it runs a deficit with a single country.
B. A country trade deficits and surpluses with other countries always balance out.
C. A country global trade balance is a sign of strength or weakness.
D. Countries should not be concerned if they have trade deficits because they will balance out in the long run.
E. A country global trade balance is determined by relative demand and productive capabilities.

A. Even though nominal family income may have increased, inflation has risen at an equal rate.
B. More husbands and wives are working today than 20 years ago.
C. It was more prevalent for one spouse-to-work 20 years ago than today.
D. Wives earn more than husbands today.
E. The price level was lower 20 years ago.

A. Advertising effectiveness increased.
B. Canned food prices decreased relative to substitutes.
C. Canned food products were available in more stores.
D. Can opener production doubled.
E. Per-capita consumption of frozen foods declined.

A. Many areas of the world are cold

The burning of coal, oil, and other combustible energy sources produces carbon dioxide, a natural constituent of the atmosphere. Elevated levels of carbon dioxide are thought to be responsible for half the greenhouse effect. Enough carbon dioxide has been sent into the atmosphere already to cause a significant temperature increase. Growth in industrial production must be slowed, or production processes must be changed.

Which of the following, if true, would tend to weaken the strength of the above conclusion?

anyway, so a small rise in temperature would be welcome.

B. Carbon dioxide is bad for the health.

C. Most carbon dioxide is emitted by automobiles.

D. Industry is switching over to synthetic liquid fuel extracted from coal.

E. A shift to other energy sources would be too costly.