



# GMAT

## Verbal Section Test [CRITICAL REASONING] - Questions

Each of the following questions is based on a short argument, a set of statements, or a plan of action. Select the best answer choice from the five given for each

1. Prime lenses' manufacturing labs is likely to have more income from opticians than previously. This is because opticians prefer to reach people in the 13- to 60-year-old age group and the number of people in that group using Prime lenses are increasing. Furthermore, among Prime lenses users, the percentage of users 13 to 60 years old is increasing.

Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the argument that Prime lenses will receive more income from opticians?

- (A) Opticians carefully monitor the demographic characteristics of spectacle users and purchase the lenses to reach the users they prefer to reach.
- (B) Among people over 60 years old, fewer users of Prime lenses buy lenses advertised on the boards than do users of other lenses.
- (C) There will be increasingly more lenses with opticians that are directed at users who are over 60 years old.
- (D) Prime lenses plan to exchange used lenses with new lenses while other companies do not.
- (E) People 13 to 60 years old generally have less disposable income to spend than do people over 60 years old.

2. Hunter: **Hunters alone are being blamed by many people over the past eight years for the decline in Alita National Forest's reindeer population.** Yet clearly, tigers have also played an important role in this decline. In the past eight years, tiger population has risen sharply under the forest department's protection, and examination of tigers found dead in the forest during the reindeer hunting season showed that a number of them had recently fed on reindeer.

In the hunter's argument, the portion in boldface plays which of the following roles?

- (A) It is the main conclusion of the argument.
- (B) It is a finding that the argument seeks to explain.
- (C) It is an explanation that the argument concludes is correct.
- (D) It provides evidence in support of the main conclusion of the argument.
- (E) It introduces a judgment that the argument opposes.

3. Although the company would receive financial benefits if it had cold drink vending machines in the cafeteria, we should not allow them. Allowing cold drink machines there would not be in our employees' interest. If our employees start drinking more cold drinks, they will be less healthy.

The argument depends on which of the following?

- (A) If the cold drink vending machines were placed in the cafeteria, employees would consume more cold drinks as a result.
- (B) The amount of cold drinks that most employees at the office currently drink is not detrimental to their health.
- (C) Employees are apt to be healthier if they do not drink cold drinks at all than if they just drink small amounts occasionally.
- (D) Employees will not simply bring cold drinks from home if the cold drink vending machines are not placed in the cafeteria.
- (E) The company's primary concern should be to promote good health among its employees.

4. Which of the choices most logically completes the following argument?

The Small World, although still the most popular comic covering Children's events in Venice, has recently suffered a significant drop in advertising revenue because of falling circulation. Many readers have begun buying a competing comic that, at 25 euro per copy, costs less than The Small World at €1.25 per copy. In order to boost circulation and thus increase advertising revenue, The Small World's publisher has proposed making it available at no charge. However, the proposed plan has a serious drawback, since \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) those Venice residents with the greatest interest in children's events are regular readers of both comics.
- (B) one reason The Small World's circulation fell was that its competitor's reporting on children's events was superior.
- (C) the newsstands and stores that currently sell The Small World will no longer carry it if it is being given away for free.
- (D) at present, 12 percent of the total number of copies of each issue of The Small World are distributed free to students on college campuses in the Venice area.
- (E) The Small World's competitor would begin to lose large amounts of money if it were forced to lower its cover price.

5. Executive: Zeba cars use significantly less diesel per kilometer than other cars. Diesel produces air pollution, which contributes to a number of environmental problems. Drivers can save money by driving cars that are more diesel efficient, and they will be encouraged to drive Zeba cars if we create awareness about that. Therefore, we can help reduce the total amount of pollution emitted by cars in this city by highlighting this advantage of Zeba cars.

Which of the following, if true, would most indicate a vulnerability of the executive's argument?

- (A) People with more diesel-efficient cars typically drive more than do those with less diesel-efficient cars.
- (B) Not all air pollution originates from automobiles.
- (C) Zeba cars have already begun to gain popularity.
- (D) Diesel-efficient alternatives to Zeba cars will likely become available in the future.
- (E) The future cost of petrol and other fuels cannot be predicted with absolute precision or certainty.

6. Biologist: In Biology journals, the number of articles reporting the results of experiments involving the use of electron microscope was lower last year than it had been in previous years. Several of the electron microscopes at major research institutions were in need for repair the year before last, so it is likely that the low number of articles was due to the decline in availability of electron microscopes.

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

- (A) Every article based on experiments with electron microscopes that was submitted for publication last year actually was published.
  - (B) The average time biologists must wait for access to an electron microscope has declined over the last several years.
  - (C) The number of biology journals was the same last year as in previous years.
  - (D) Electron microscopes can be used for more than one group of experiments in any given year.
  - (E) Recent changes in the editorial policies of several biology journals have decreased the likelihood that articles concerning electron- microscope research will be accepted for publication.
7. Chinese-food stalls make up 35 percent of all stalls in California. Visitors at these stalls tend to be young; in fact, studies have shown that the older people get, the less likely they are to eat at Chinese-food stalls. Since the average age of the California population is gradually rising and will continue to do so, the number of Chinese-food stalls is likely to decrease.

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

- (A) Chinese-food stalls in California are getting bigger, so each one can serve more visitors.
  - (B) Some older people eat at Chinese-food stalls more frequently than the average young person.
  - (C) Many people who rarely eat in Chinese-food stalls nevertheless eat regularly in stalls.
  - (D) The overall population of California is growing steadily.
  - (E) As the population of California gets older, more people are eating at home.
8. In the last year, Eastern Airlines had thrice as many delayed flights as the year before, but the number of complaints from passengers about delayed flights went up four times. It is highly unlikely that this discrepancy in the increased number of complaints was rooted in an increase in overall dissatisfaction with the service Eastern Airlines provides, as the other aspects of its service were improved in the last year.

Which of the following, if true, most helps to explain the disproportionate increase in customer complaints?

- (A) Eastern Airlines had more flights last year than the year before.
- (B) Last year a single period of unusually bad weather caused a large number of flights to be delayed.
- (C) Some of the improvements that Eastern Airlines made in its service were required by new government regulations.
- (D) The average length of a flight delay was greater last year than it was the year before.
- (E) The average number of passengers per flight was no higher last year than the year before.

9. Physicists typically do their most creative work before the age of fifty. A common thought is that this happens because aging by itself brings about a loss of creative capacity. Although **a disproportionately large number entered their field at an older age than is usual, studies show that of physicists who produce highly creative work are beyond the age of fifty.** Since by the age of fifty a large majority of Physicists have been working in their field for at least twenty-five years, the studies' finding strongly suggests that the real reason why physicists over fifty rarely produce highly creative work is not that they have aged but rather that **physicists over fifty have generally spent too long in their field .**

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

- (A) The first is a claim, the accuracy of which is at issue in the argument; the second is a conclusion drawn on the basis of that claim.
- (B) The first is an objection that has been raised against a position defended in the argument; the second is that position.
- (C) The first is evidence that has been used to support an explanation that the argument challenges; the second is that explanation.
- (D) The first is evidence that has been used to support an explanation that the argument challenges; the second is a competing explanation that the argument favors.
- (E) The first provides evidence to support an explanation that the argument favors; the second is that explanation.
10. Country Zeta's recent stock-trading scandal should not diminish investors' confidence in the country's stock market. For one thing, **Country Zeta has a strong regulatory system is confirmed by the discovery of this scandal,** as the following considerations show. Some fraudulent activity is inevitable in any stock market. Any significant stock-trading fraud in it will very likely be discovered if a stock market is well regulated. This facilitates improvement and arrests the potential perpetrators in regulatory processes.

In the argument, the portion in boldface plays which of the following roles?

- (A) It is the argument's only conclusion.
- (B) It is a conclusion for which the argument provides support and which itself is used to support the argument's main conclusion.
- (C) It is the argument's main conclusion and is supported by another explicitly stated conclusion for which further support is provided.
- (D) It is an assumption for which no explicit support is provided and is used to support the argument's only conclusion.
- (E) It is a compound statement containing both the argument's main conclusion and an assumption used to support that conclusion.

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