

TYPE 4: STRENGTHEN

Q.1) The United States government uses only a household's cash income before taxes to determine whether that household falls below the poverty line in a given year; capital gains, non-cash government benefits, and tax credits are not included. However, yearly cash income is not a fool-proof measure of a given household's disposable income. For example, retirees who live off of capital gains from an extensive portfolio could earn hundreds of thousands of dollars, yet be classified by the government as living in "poverty" because this income is not included in the calculation. **Which of the following, if true, validates the contention that the government's calculation methods must be altered in order to provide statistics that measure true poverty?**

- A. For more than 99% of those classified as living in poverty, yearly cash income comprises the vast majority of each household's disposable income.
- B. While the government's calculation method indicated a 12.5% poverty rate in 2003, the same calculation method indicated anywhere from a 9% to a 16% poverty rate during the preceding decade.
- C. Most established research studies conducted by the private sector indicate that the number of people truly living in poverty in the U.S. is less than that indicated by the government's calculation method.
- D. Several prominent economists endorse an alternate calculation method which incorporates all income, not just cash income, and adjusts for taxes paid and other core expenses.
- E. The government's calculation method also erroneously counts those who do not earn income in a given year but who have substantial assets on which to live during that year.

Q.2) Historically, the drug industry promoted its products to physicians by educating them in their offices or at industry conferences. In the last 10 years, it has become much more commonplace for drug companies to advertise prescription drugs directly to consumers, via television advertising and other media. Some public health advocates have become concerned that patients, encouraged by advertising, may pursue the use of prescription drugs that may be inappropriate for the individual patient or situation. However, since physicians must prescribe these medications, there is no reason for such concern. **Which of the following pieces of information would be most helpful in addressing the concern articulated by the public health advocates?**

- A. Certain over-the-counter medications are as effective for many common medical conditions as more powerful non-prescription medications.
- B. Prescription medication television advertisements directed at the general public only appear on certain programs and are not seen by many potential consumers.
- C. Physicians are also subject to prescription drug advertisements that are directed toward consumers.
- D. Physicians are not susceptible to pressure from patients in determining appropriate courses of treatment, including drug prescriptions.
- E. Prescription medicines have been proven to be safe and effective treatments for many patient conditions.

Q.3) Studies in restaurants show that the tips left by customers who pay their bill tend to be larger when the bill is presented with the server's name hand-written on the bill.

Psychologists hypothesize that simply seeing a handwritten name makes many consumers feel more of a personal identification with the server, encouraging larger tips. **Which of the following, if true, most strongly supports the psychologists' interpretation of the studies?**

- A. The effect noted in the studies applies to patrons paying with either credit cards or cash.
- B. Nametags for servers have not been shown to have any effect on the size of the bill.
- C. Greeting card companies have found that charities which send holiday cards with handwritten signatures are more likely to receive donations than those which send cards with printed signatures.
- D. The studies indicated much larger average tips if the customer ordered alcoholic beverages with his or her meal.
- E. Many of the restaurants in which the studies were conducted are located in tourist areas, where people are travelling for leisure activities.

Q.4) Analyst: The pace of technological development brings a constant stream of new devices to the market, and many of them enjoy commercial success. But announcing new technology too soon after the introduction of a successful device can backfire. Once consumers hear about the new device, they may stop buying the one currently on sale. So, if a company wishes to announce the upcoming sale of a new device, it should wait until purchases of the old device have begun to decline. **Which of the following, if true, would best support the analyst's main assertion?**

- A. New technology often becomes less expensive after an initial surge in sales.
- B. Media outlets, such as television programs and magazines, often report on the planned introduction of new devices while the sales of old devices are still strong.
- C. Many consumers are unable to determine whether new technology is superior to current technology.
- D. Surveys have shown that some consumers make only one or two technology purchases per year, whereas others make more frequent purchases.
- E. Consumers tend to be loyal to technology companies whose products they enjoy using.

Q.5) More and more companies have begun to consume less energy by making themselves more efficient. Over time, these efforts could place the United States at the forefront of an emerging global market for cleaner technologies. Such efforts are also essential to tackling the two big energy-related issues of the age: global warming and the dependence on precarious supplies of oil. The federal government should encourage these efforts by providing the necessary incentives, whether as loans, direct grants or targeted tax breaks. **Which of the following, if true, provides the most effective support for the argument?**

- A. On the average, Canadian companies are more energy efficient than those in the United States.
- B. Experts believe that energy efficiency could lower the energy use of the United States to the level of 1995.
- C. In the past, government incentives have made advances in energy conservation feasible, especially in the auto industry.
- D. The dependence on foreign oil is a greater problem in the present than global warming.
- E. The market for cleaner technologies is currently relatively small because of the infrastructure requirements.

Q.6) State X recently decided to cut state funding for the public library system in County X. To help counteract this cut in funding, the county library system has increased library late fees from \$.10 per day to \$.12 per day. Since the fee increase, library administrators have seen no decline in the number of overdue books. The director of the county library system concludes that the fee hike has helped to counteract the cut in state funding. **Which of the following statements, if true, most strengthens the director's claim?**

- A. Since the fee increase, library administrators have noted a significant decrease in the number of books borrowed each day.
- B. The library system incurred minor costs to make its visitors aware of the late fee increase.
- C. Since the fee increase, there has been no significant change in the average number of days that books are overdue before they are returned.
- D. The library system in County X tracks its books through a very advanced database system, allowing library administrators to have access to very accurate statistics on the number of overdue books at any given time.
- E. Since the reduction in state funding, the library system in County X has eliminated 10% of its staff, creating a 2% reduction in costs.

Q.7) In the 18th and 19th centuries, it was believed in many coastal American cities that the waterfront was an undesirable location for residential buildings. As a result, much of the waterfront in these cities was never developed aesthetically and instead was left to industry and commerce. Today, however, waterfront properties are generally seen as prestigious, as evidenced by the large sums paid for homes along the beach front. A developer who wishes to make a large profit would be wise to buy urban waterfront lots and erect residential buildings on them. **Which of the following, if true, most strongly supports the claim made about urban waterfront properties?**

- A. People today have more money, relatively speaking, to spend on real estate than they did in previous centuries.
- B. Homeowners will be willing to spend large sums on residential properties in traditionally industrial or commercial districts.
- C. Many urban waterfront lots are available for purchase.
- D. Many coastal American cities are encouraging developers to rehabilitate the waterfront through tax incentives.
- E. Properties in interior residential districts in coastal American cities are significantly more expensive than those along the waterfront.

Q.8) Charter schools are independent public schools that are given greater autonomy in exchange for increased accountability. Charter school operators are freed from many of the regulations of the traditional public school bureaucracy, thereby allowing them to pursue more innovative educational ideas than non-charter public schools can pursue. At the same time, charter schools are held accountable for achieving specific educational outcomes and are closed down if those outcomes are not met. **Which of the following, if true, best supports the assertion that students attending charter schools will, on average, perform better on assessments of writing ability than students attending traditional public schools?**

- A. Students who attend schools that emphasize order and discipline perform worse on assessments of writing ability than students who attend schools that do not emphasize order and discipline.
- B. The majority of students who score in the 99th percentile on assessments of writing ability attend charter schools.
- C. Public schools that operate outside of the traditional public school bureaucracy spend more time teaching

students writing than do traditional public schools.

- D. Students who attend schools that are allowed to experiment with their writing curricula perform better on assessments of writing ability than students who attend schools that have less flexible curricula.
- E. There are far more students attending non-charter public schools than students attending charter schools.

Q.9) Officials of the Youth Hockey League and parents of players in the league have become concerned with the number of flagrant fouls occurring during league games. This past season, the number of flagrant fouls was double the number from the season before. League officials plan to reduce the number of such fouls during the coming season by implementing mandatory suspensions for players who commit flagrant fouls. **Which of the following statements, if true, provides the best evidence that the officials' plan will be effective?**

- A. Most serious injuries occurring during league games are a direct result of flagrant fouls.
- B. League referees have been trained to recognize flagrant fouls and to report incidents involving such fouls.
- C. Parents of players in the league are in support of mandatory suspensions for flagrant fouls.
- D. A similar league suspends players for committing flagrant fouls; this league has a relatively low incidence of flagrant fouls when compared with the Youth Hockey League.
- E. Most players in the league strive to be selected for the All-Star team, and league rules state that no player with a record of suspension shall be selected for the All-Star team.

Q.10) Almost every modern kitchen today is equipped with a microwave oven, mainly because microwave ovens offer a fast and convenient way of cooking and reheating food. Indeed, it has become a standard appliance in most households. Studies have shown, however, that microwave ovens are not completely safe and their use has occasionally resulted in serious injury. Because of this, some consumer advocates argue that microwave ovens should not be so readily accepted as a standard appliance until they can be certified to be completely safe. **Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the argument of the consumer advocates?**

- A. Microwave ovens have taken much of the joy out of cooking.
- B. There have been many reported incidences of people who have been scalded by liquids superheated in microwave ovens.
- C. Absolute safety is the only criterion by which an appliance should be judged to be acceptable as "standard."
- D. There is no such thing as a completely safe appliance.
- E. Stoves and ovens that use natural gas consume energy much more efficiently than microwave ovens.

TYPE 5: EVALUATE

Q.11) A certain pharmaceutical firm claims that its dietary supplement, Dietol, is highly effective in helping obese people lose weight and improve physical endurance. The company supports this claim by providing the results of a recent experiment that involved over 800 subjects suffering from obesity. During the 9-week experiment, each of the subjects was required to take a regular dose of Dietol every day immediately after their daily 2-hour workouts supervised by a professional fitness instructor. As a result of the experiment, the subjects lost an average of 12 pounds of weight per person, and over 95% of all participants demonstrated higher physical endurance. **The answer to which of the following questions would be most helpful in evaluating the conclusion of the pharmaceutical company?**

- A. What was the daily dose of Dietol that the subjects were required to take?
- B. What was the maximum weight lost by any participant during the 9-week program?
- C. What would be the average weight loss and the improvement in endurance in a group of subjects with similar characteristics involved in the same physical fitness program but not taking Dietol?
- D. What was the average age among the subjects participating in the experiment?
- E. Did the majority of subjects experience a significant improvement in physical strength?

Q.12) The recording industry is fighting a losing battle: it simply does not have the resources to prosecute all of the individuals who illegally download music from the Internet. Because the number of individuals who will be charged with a crime is so limited, the actions of the recording industry will have a minimal impact on the number of people who illegally download music. **The answer to which of the following questions would best help evaluate the accuracy of the conclusion above?**

- A. Will recording industry lawyers dedicate the majority of their time to prosecuting those who illegally download music?
- B. Is a small minority of individuals responsible for the majority of illegal song downloads?
- C. Do many individuals who illegally download songs share their music files with other Internet users?
- D. Will new Internet security technology permit the recording industry to more quickly and easily identify individuals who illegally download music?
- E. Will the threat of prosecution alter the behavior of those who illegally download music?

Q.13) While political discourse and the media in the United States have focused on the rise of job outsourcing, few have mentioned the sharp fall of talent "insourcing," or the drop in enrollment of foreign-born graduate students since 2001, and its dire results. The decrease in such insourcing will hurt America's competitiveness in basic research and applied technology, with serious consequences for years to come. The de-internationalization of graduate programs across the country will also negatively affect the global outlook and experience of the American students remaining in those programs; they will not have the opportunity to learn about foreign cultures directly from members of those cultures. What distinguishes the decline of talent insourcing from the rise of job outsourcing is that the former can be easily rectified by a policy change of the United States government. **The answer to which of the following questions would be most useful in evaluating the author's claim regarding the impact of decreased insourcing in America?**

- A. What is the cost to reverse the trend of insourcing in America?
- B. How does insourcing replace domestic jobs lost from outsourcing?
- C. Since 2001, what has been the decrease in the number of foreign-born students in America?
- D. What opportunities do American graduate students have to interact regularly with foreigners who are not students?
- E. What effect would a government policy have on the number of foreign graduate students?

Q.14) Profits for one of Company X's flagship products have been declining slowly for several years. The CFO investigated and determined that inflation has raised the cost of producing the product but consumers who were surveyed reported that they weren't willing to pay more than the current price. As a result, the CFO recommended

that the company stop producing this product because the CEO only wants products whose profit margins are increasing. **The answer to which of the following questions would be most useful in evaluating whether the CFO's decision to divest the company of its flagship product is warranted?**

- A. Does the company have new and profitable products available with which to replace the flagship product?
- B. Will the rest of Company X's management team agree with the CFO's recommendation?
- C. Are there additional features which could be added to the product and for which consumers might be willing to pay a higher price?
- D. Is there a way to alter the manufacturing or distribution processes in order to reduce the cost to produce the flagship product?
- E. What percentage of Company X's revenues is represented by sales of the flagship product in question?

Q.15) The Civil Service Act of 1883, also known as the Pendleton Act, which created a professional corps of administrators, was passed after a disappointed office-seeker assassinated President James A. Garfield. For a hundred years, this system has anchored American government service to competence rather than corruption. The best way to preserve this state in the new millennium is to maintain the Pendleton Act as it is. **Which of the following would be most useful to evaluate the argument's conclusion?**

- A. The methods that the Swiss and British governments have used to prevent corruption in government service for the past one hundred years
- B. The current level of job satisfaction among government office-seekers and office-holders
- C. The levels of competence and corruption in American government service between 1950 and the present
- D. The number of Presidents assassinated since the passage of the Pendleton Act
- E. The percentage of office-holders fired or convicted on charges stemming from corruption during the first hundred years of the Pendleton Act

Q.16) Zoologists warn of an imminent surge in the number of bird species that will become extinct within this century. Nevertheless, these zoologists are wrong. One need only consider the information gathered on native North American raptors, such as bald eagles and peregrine falcons. Several of these species came close to vanishing between 1900 and 1970, but since 1970, the local populations of these raptors have rebounded. **The answer to which of the following questions provides information that would be most helpful in evaluating the argument above?**

- A. How many species of non-native raptors have been introduced into North America since 1970?
- B. What special efforts, if any, have been made to rescue native North American raptors since 1970?
- C. How many years' experience do the zoologists have in evaluating patterns of extinction among animals?
- D. To what degree have native North American raptors migrated to other parts of the world?
- E. How many acres of woodland are set aside each year as bird refuges?

Q.17) Most cable television companies currently require customers to subscribe to packages of channels, but consumer groups have recently proposed legislation that would force the companies to offer a la carte pricing. Subscribers would pay less, argue the consumer groups, because they could purchase only the desired channels. However, the cable industry argues that under the current package pricing, popular channels subsidize less-popular

ones, providing more options for viewers. For this reason, the industry claims that it is always cheaper for the consumer to purchase many bundled channels than to buy them individually. **Which of the following would be most important for the government to determine before deciding whether to require cable television companies to offer a la carte pricing in order to reduce consumer costs?**

- A. Whether the total number of channels offered to consumers would decrease, along with programming diversity, as a result of the a la carte pricing structure
- B. Whether advertising revenue for the cable television companies would decrease as a result of the a la carte pricing structure
- C. Whether the vast majority of consumers would greatly reduce the number of channels purchased if given the option of purchasing them individually
- D. Whether cable and satellite companies currently have the ability to buy channels individually from programmers and content providers
- E. Whether a la carte subscribers would be required to have new television set-top boxes

Q.18) The director of programming at NNN, the National News Network, proclaimed that, despite charges to the contrary, the Network does not have a conservative bias. The director acknowledged that, when a liberal news personality was recently added to the Network, an additional conservative news program was also established. However, the director argued that far from demonstrating any bias, these actions reflect a commitment to presenting a balanced perspective in interpreting current events. **Which of the following pieces of information would be most useful in evaluating the validity of the programming director's argument?**

- A. The Network has established an additional liberal news program whenever an additional conservative news personality has been added.
- B. The Network airs a program focused largely on the opinions of its viewers on contemporary issues.
- C. The newly added liberal news personality came from a rival network with an acknowledged liberal bias.
- D. The newly added liberal news personality has indicated that he has not felt any editorial pressure in his new environment.
- E. The viewer ratings of the Network have been lower this past year than in previous years.

Q.19) Child development specialists have observed that adolescents who receive large weekly allowances tend to spend money on items considered frivolous by their parents whereas adolescents who receive small weekly allowances do not. Thus, in order to ensure that their children do not spend money on frivolous items, parents should not give their children large weekly allowances. **Which of the following pieces of information would be most useful in evaluating the validity of the conclusion above?**

- A. The average amount of money received by adolescents who receive large weekly allowances
- B. Any differences among parents in the standard used to judge an item as frivolous
- C. The educational background of the child development specialists who made this observation
- D. The difference between the average annual income of families in which the parents give their children large weekly allowances and that of families in which the parents give their children small weekly allowances
- E. The percentage of adolescents who receive no weekly allowance

Q.20) The downturn in the economy last year has prompted

many companies to make widely publicized layoffs, resulting in thousands of lost jobs. Economists predicted that these layoffs would cause people generally to cut back on their discretionary spending even if their jobs were secure, in anticipation of coming hard times. However, this prediction has not come to pass, since there has been no increase in the amount of money set aside by the general public in savings accounts. **The answer to which of the following questions would be most useful in evaluating the significance of the savings patterns described above?**

- A. What business sectors were most affected by the layoffs?
- B. How much of their savings, on average, do laid-off employees deplete before finding new employment?
- C. What has been the percent increase in the cost of necessities such as food, housing, and utilities during the period since the layoffs?
- D. What percentage of people laid off have savings accounts?
- E. What has been the average salary during the period since the layoffs?

TYPE 6: PARADOX

Q.21) Greek tragedy, one of the enduring pillars of our belief system, dramatized the concept that the misfortune a person suffers is not an accident, but rather a logical outcome of flaws in that person's nature; the misfortune is thus that person's "fault." Nonetheless, today the public broadly supports bankruptcy protection, family welfare and other "social safety net" programs that shield the destitute in the face of their hardships, at taxpayer expense. **Which of the following, if true, would best resolve the paradox in the statements above?**

- A. The ancient Greeks had few, if any, such social safety net programs in their society.
- B. The majority of the public is more familiar with the works of Shakespeare than those of Greek tragedy.
- C. Some people insist that society, not the individual, is to blame for most accidents.
- D. Many people in financial difficulties feel too ashamed to declare bankruptcy or to take advantage of other social safety net programs.
- E. The religions practiced by most people today strongly encourage people to contribute to charities that assist innocent people injured in natural disasters, such as hurricanes.

Q.22) A certain pharmaceutical firm recently developed a new medicine, Dendadrine, that provides highly effective treatment of severe stomach disorders that were previously thought to be incurable. However, to develop the new medicine, the company spent nearly \$5 billion in research and development costs. Given the size of the market for Dendadrine and the amount of the initial investment in its development, the company would need to sell Dendadrine at a price that is at least 5 times greater than its variable costs just to break even. Yet the company's management claims that Dendadrine will soon become the major driver of the firm's profits. **Which of the following statements best reconciles the management's claim with the evidence on the expenditures associated with the development of Dendadrine?**

- A. The pharmaceutical firm has been granted a patent to become the sole producer and distributor of Dendadrine, and drugs under patent protection typically sell at prices that are at least 10 times greater than their variable costs.
- B. Development of some pharmaceutical products involves substantial initial expenditures on research, testing, and approval.
- C. In issues related to personal health, corporate profits should not become the primary consideration.

D. Several other pharmaceutical companies are working on new medicines that may become effective substitutes for Dendadrine.

E. While Dendadrine can be highly effective in treating stomach disorders, it may also result in serious side effects such as dizziness and hallucinations.

Q.23) Small community hospitals in poor urban areas almost always operate at a loss due to an unfortunate cycle of factors. High revenue specialists, such as surgeons, flock to hospitals that are more prestigious and can afford to pay higher salaries. Aware of this, local residents patronize the more affluent nearby hospitals when they need specialty care or forgo care entirely, while only utilizing the local hospital for low-margin routine care. Further, a significant majority of the community uses government health plans, which reimburse poorly for routine care, or lacks insurance entirely and cannot pay. The local hospital then loses money and cannot afford to hire specialists to conduct the higher-margin specialty care. **Which of the following, if it could be accomplished, would best help small community hospitals to break the pattern described above?**

A. Negotiate higher reimbursement rates for specialty care with both government health plans and private insurers.

B. Advertise the hospital's specialty care services in the local community as well as nearby communities to attract more business.

C. Partner with a nearby affluent hospital to contract its specialists on a part-time, as-needed basis, which is more affordable than hiring these specialists full time.

D. Launch a community outreach campaign to educate the public about the low reimbursement rates of government health plans compared with the high rates paid by private insurers.

E. Negotiate with private insurers for higher reimbursement rates for routine care.

Q.24) The climbing season of 2006 was the deadliest on record for those attempting to conquer Mount Everest, the world's tallest mountain, as more people perished attempting to reach the summit in 2006 than in any other year. Interestingly, most mountaineering experts attribute the high number of fatalities, almost all of which occurred in the unforgiving "death-zone" above 26,000 feet, directly to the exceptionally good weather prevalent during the 2006 climbing season. **Which of the following, if true, best helps to explain the conclusion of the mountaineering experts?**

A. All of the forecasts were for extremely bad weather; the good weather was a significant surprise to all of the climbers.

B. The good weather prompted significantly more people than ever to try to reach the summit and enter the "death zone," many of whom would have turned back at a lower altitude in poorer weather.

C. The good weather caused the "death-zone" to have warmer temperatures and less intense winds than in recent years.

D. Modern equipment is particularly effective in protecting climbers from the elements in bad weather.

E. Many accomplished climbers don't attempt Mt. Everest during good weather because they feel it is not a challenge.

Q.25) The exchange rate between the currency of Country X and that of Country Y has historically favored the currency of Country Y. Because of this, citizens of Country Y often take their vacations in Country X, where the exchange rate makes hotels and restaurants more affordable. Yet, citizens of Country Y rarely purchase clothing or electronics in Country X, despite the fact that those items are more expensive in their home country, even when sales taxes are

taken into account. **Which of the following, if true, would best explain the buying habits of the citizens of Country Y?**

A. Citizens of Country Y prefer the fashions available in their own country.

B. Stores in Country X receive the latest fashions and technology several months after they are available in Country Y.

C. The citizens of Country X resent the buying power of the currency of Country Y.

D. The government of Country Y imposes tariffs on imported goods.

E. The currencies of Country X and Country Y are both weak compared to the currency of Country Z.

Q.26) When Bob's Bistro opened in the town of Montrose last year, the proprietors of Andrew's Eatery, the only other restaurant in town, feared that their business would suffer. Surprisingly though, in the past year the average number of meals per day served at Andrew's Eatery has actually increased significantly. **Which of the following, if true, provides the best explanation for this occurrence?**

A. The meals at Andrew's Eatery are substantially lower in price than those offered at Bob's Bistro.

B. Bob's Bistro is closed on Sundays, and so for Sunday brunch residents of Montrose would either go to Andrew's Eatery or venture to a neighboring town.

C. The profit per meal is higher, on average, at Bob's Bistro than it is at Andrew's Eatery.

D. Bob's Bistro attracts a large number of patrons that had never dined in Montrose before, and on many days Bob's Bistro attracts more customers than it can seat.

E. Andrew's Eatery serves considerably more meals on weekends than it does on weekdays, which is not the case at Bob's Bistro.

Q.27) On average, residents of City X devote a greater percentage of their yearly incomes to housing costs than do residents of City Y, though the costs of insurance and fuel generally are exorbitant in both commuter-heavy cities. Yet in Wealth Magazine's annual list of the country's least affordable cities, City Y is deemed less affordable than City X. **Which of the following, if true, best explains the contrast described above?**

A. A greater percentage of residents of City Y send their children to private schools than is the case in City X.

B. Unlike City Y, City X has an efficient and inexpensive public transportation system.

C. The average price of a new house is higher in City X than in City Y.

D. A number of high-priced restaurants and boutiques have recently opened in City Y.

E. Several large businesses have recently relocated from City Y to City X.

Q.28) Certain oil companies have been called poor corporate citizens because they have opposed government action to limit global warming by undermining scientific research that characterizes the issue as severe. However, these same oil companies have also invested millions of dollars in scientific research to address the long term effects of climate change. **Which of the following best explains the apparent discrepancy in the situation described above?**

A. The oil companies only recently began investing in scientific research to address climate change issues.

B. The research dollars invested by the oil companies are specifically earmarked for developing practical technologies that might be used to combat global warming.

C. The government action opposed by the oil companies would negatively impact their profits.

D. The scientific research that characterizes global warming as a severe problem has not been definitively proven.

E. The oil companies don't believe that any scientific research related to climate change will ultimately serve their interests.

Q.29) Country X contains many rivers that flow down from its high mountains. These rivers have been dammed to harness the hydroelectric power that can be derived from this resource. More than enough power is generated from these dams to meet the country's energy needs. Yet, citizens of Country X often experience power shortages or even outages. **Which of the following, if true, best explains the situation described above?**

A. The flow of the rivers is heavier in the spring than at other times of year.

B. Citizens of Country X rely heavily on electronic appliances in their homes.

C. Country X has not invested in alternate sources of energy.

D. Most of the electricity generated in Country X is sold to other countries.

E. Some of the most powerful rivers in Country X have yet to be dammed.

Q.30) As a result of consumers' increased awareness of the health risks associated with heavy consumption of red meat, the meat of the ostrich has become increasingly popular as a low-fat, low-cholesterol alternative to beef. Accordingly, the number of ostrich farms in the United States has nearly quadrupled since 1980, flooding markets with ostrich products. However, the price-per-pound of ostrich meat, adjusted for inflation, has not decreased at all over the past several years. **Which of the following, if true, would best explain the steady price-per-pound of ostrich meat?**

A. The demand for ostrich products has outpaced the supply.

B. Ostriches are especially difficult to breed in captivity.

C. Other types of meat, such as pork and poultry, have decreased in price over the past several years.

D. Purveyors of beef have not attempted to counter beef's poor public image.

E. The number of supermarkets that carry ostrich meat has increased steadily since 1980.

TYPE 7: MISCELLANEOUS

Q.31) If, in a tennis tournament, a match reaches a fifth-set tiebreak, the lower-ranked player always loses the tiebreak (and, therefore, the match). If Rafael, the second-ranked player, wins a tournament by beating Roger, the top ranked player, then the match must not have included a fifth-set tiebreak. **Which of the following arguments most closely mimics the reasoning used in the above argument?**

A. If a woman with a family history of twins gets pregnant three times, she will have one set of twins. Jennifer, who falls into this category, had two sets of twins, so she must not have gotten pregnant exactly three times.

B. If a salesman sells more product than anyone else in a calendar year, then he will earn an all-expenses-paid vacation. Joe earned an all-expense-paid vacation, so he must have sold more product than anyone else for the year.

C. A newspaper can charge a 50% premium for ads if its circulation surpasses 100,000; if the circulation does not pass 100,000, therefore, the newspaper can't charge any kind of premium for ads.

D. If a student is in the top 10% of her class, she will earn a college scholarship. Anna is not in the top 10% of her class, so she will not earn a scholarship.

E. All of the players on a football team receive a cash bonus if the team wins the Super Bowl. If quarterback Tom Brady earned a cash bonus last year, he must have been a member of the winning Super Bowl team.

Q.32) Studies show that repeated exposure to an allergen can trigger an allergic person's defense mechanisms to the extent that eventually, even minimal exposure to the allergen can provoke a stronger than normal, even life threatening reaction. **Which of the following is the best analogy for the process by which minimal contact with an allergen can cause a major reaction?**

A. People with unhealthy diets are more susceptible to diabetes and high blood pressure.

B. Because minor earthquakes can weaken the existing infrastructure in an area, a series of minor earthquakes can sometimes lead to more damage than a single major earthquake.

C. Peanut allergy sufferers should avoid all potential contact with peanuts.

D. A student who fails a test can still earn a good grade if she works hard for the rest of the semester.

E. Drivers who speed regularly are more likely to be caught than those who speed only occasionally.

Q.33) The "Doppler effect" refers to the perceived change in pitch that occurs when the source of a sound is in motion relative to the observer. For example, the siren on a passing police car will sound higher than its true pitch as the car approaches, sound the same as its true pitch as the car passes, and sound lower than its true pitch as the car travels away from the observer. **If two trains pass each other going opposite directions on parallel east-west tracks, which of the following observations provides another illustration of the effect described above?**

A. If the eastbound train blows its horn as they pass, passengers on the westbound train will hear a sound that decreases in pitch.

B. If the eastbound train blows its horn as they pass, passengers on the westbound train will hear a sound that increases in pitch.

C. If the eastbound train blows its horn as they pass, passengers on the eastbound train will hear a sound that decreases in pitch.

D. If the eastbound train blows its horn as they pass, passengers on the eastbound train will hear a sound that increases in pitch.

E. If the eastbound train blows its horn as they pass, passengers on the eastbound train will hear a sound that is steady in pitch.

Q.34) Jim: The United States Mint has recently announced that the rising cost of raw copper, nickel, and zinc has pushed the cost of manufacturing each penny and nickel to more than 1 cent and 5 cents respectively. In addition, there are very few, if any, items that can be purchased for 5 cents, and virtually none that can be purchased for a penny. Since it appears that both the penny and the nickel no longer provide a necessary function in today's economy, I propose that the government simply stop minting the coins at a loss and declare the base unit of U.S. currency to be the dime.

Mary: Don't be silly. This would mean that all prices would round up to the nearest dime and nobody would go for that. There is simply no way that Congress would approve, much less consider, such an unpopular measure.

In her response to Jim, Mary does all of the following EXCEPT:

A. Makes an assumption about how Jim's proposal would affect prices.

- B. Implies that Congressional approval is necessary for Jim's proposal to take effect.
- C. Provides a reason why Jim's proposal would be difficult to implement, regardless of its justification.
- D. Assumes that Congress will never approve a policy that has little public support.
- E. Attempts to undermine all or some of the premises upon which Jim justifies his proposal.

Q.35) Owner of JavaJoint: Over the past year, the coffee store has become a daily hang-out for more and more teenagers. Many of our adult customers do not appear comfortable with this kind of crowd and some of them have told me that they will no longer stop here for a coffee drink. Since my goal is to maximize our revenue, I want you to discourage teenagers from coming here and start cultivating a more adult crowd.

Store manager: Are you sure? On average, each teenager spends just as much as the average adult does, and we have far more new customers than we have lost over the past year.

The store manager responds to the owner by _____

- A. questioning the veracity of owner's evidence
- B. arguing that it would be difficult to implement the owner's directive
- C. offering new evidence implying that the status quo is not incompatible with the owner's goal
- D. demonstrating that the average teenage customer is as profitable as the average adult customer
- E. offering new evidence refuting that presented by the owner

Q.36) Garbage in this neighborhood probably will not be collected until Thursday this week. Garbage is usually collected here on Wednesdays, and the garbage collectors in this city are extremely reliable. However, Monday was a public holiday, and after a public holiday that falls on a Monday, garbage throughout the city is supposed to be collected one day later than usual. **The argument proceeds by**

- A. treating several pieces of irrelevant evidence as though they provide support for the conclusion
- B. indirectly establishing that one thing is likely to occur by directly ruling out all of the alternative possibilities
- C. providing information that allows application of a general rule to a specific case
- D. generalizing about all actions of a certain kind on the basis of a description of one such action
- E. treating something that is probable as though it were inevitable

Q.37) Jane: Professor Harper's ideas for modifying the design of guitars are of no value because there is no general agreement among musicians as to what a guitar should sound like and, consequently, no widely accepted basis for evaluating the merits of a guitar's sound.

Mark: What's more, Harper's ideas have had enough time to be adopted if they really resulted in superior sound. It took only ten years for the Torres design for guitars to be almost universally adopted because of the improvement it makes in tonal quality. **Which one of the following most accurately describes the relationship between Jane's argument and Mark's argument?**

- A. Mark's argument shows how a weakness in Jane's argument can be overcome.
- B. Mark's argument has a premise in common with Jane's argument.
- C. Mark and Jane use similar techniques to argue for different conclusions.
- D. Mark's argument restates Jane's argument in other terms.

E. Mark's argument and Jane's argument are based on conflicting suppositions.

Q.38) Jorge: You won't be able to write well about the rock music of the 1960s, since you were just an infant then. Rock music of the 1960s was created by and for people who were then in their teens and early twenties.

Ruth: Your reasoning is absurd. There are living writers who write well about ancient Roman culture, even though those writers are obviously not a part of ancient Roman culture. Why should my youth alone prevent me from writing well about the music of a period as recent as the 1960s?

Ruth responds to Jorge's criticism by

- A. challenging his claim that she was not in her teens or early twenties during the 1960s
- B. clarifying a definition of popular culture that is left implicit in Jorge's argument
- C. using the example of classical culture in order to legitimize contemporary culture as an object worthy of serious consideration
- D. offering an analogy to counter an unstated assumption of Jorge's argument
- E. casting doubt on her opponent's qualification to make judgments about popular culture

Q.39) Anne: Halley's Comet, now in a part of its orbit relatively far from the Sun, recently flared brightly enough to be seen by telescope. No comet has ever been observed to flare so far from the Sun before, so such a flare must be highly unusual.

Sue: Nonsense. Usually no one bothers to try to observe comets when they are so far from the Sun. This flare was observed only because an observatory was tracking Halley's Comet very carefully.

Sue challenges Anne's reasoning by

- A. pointing out that Anne's use of the term "observed" is excessively vague
- B. drawing attention to an inconsistency between two of Anne's claims
- C. presenting evidence that directly contradicts Anne's evidence
- D. offering an alternative explanation for the evidence Anne cites
- E. undermining some of Anne's evidence while agreeing with her conclusion

Q.40) Ingrid: Rock music has produced no songs as durable as the songs of the 1940s, which continue to be recorded by numerous performers.

Jerome: True, rock songs are usually recorded only once. If the original recording continues to be popular, however, that fact can indicate durability, and the best rock songs will prove to be durable.

Jerome responds to Ingrid's claim by

- A. intentionally misinterpreting the claim
- B. showing that the claim necessarily leads to a contradiction
- C. undermining the truth of the evidence that Ingrid presents
- D. suggesting an alternative standard for judging the point at issue
- E. claiming that Ingrid's knowledge of the period under discussion is incomplete

PRACTICE SET: CHALLENGE QUESTIONS

Q.41) The importance of the ozone layer to terrestrial animals is that it entirely filters out some wavelengths of light but lets others through. Holes in the ozone layer and the dangers associated with these holes are well documented. However, one danger that has not been given

sufficient attention is that these holes could lead to severe eye damage for animals of many species. **Which one of the following is most strongly supported by the statements above, if they are true?**

- A. All wavelengths of sunlight that can cause eye damage are filtered out by the ozone layer where it is intact.
- B. Few species of animals live on a part of the earth's surface that is not threatened by holes in the ozone layer.
- C. Some species of animals have eyes that will not suffer any damage when exposed to unfiltered sunlight.
- D. A single wavelength of sunlight can cause severe damage to the eyes of most species of animals.
- E. Some wavelengths of sunlight that cause eye damage are more likely to reach the earth's surface where there are holes in the ozone layer than where there are not.

Q.42) One of the most vexing problems in historiography is dating an event when the usual sources offer conflicting chronologies of the event. Historians should attempt to minimize the number of competing sources, perhaps by eliminating the less credible ones. Once this is achieved and several sources are left, as often happens, historians may try, though on occasion unsuccessfully, to determine independently of the usual sources which date is more likely to be right. **Which one of the following inferences is most strongly supported by the information above?**

- A. We have no plausible chronology of most of the events for which attempts have been made by historians to determine the right date.
- B. Some of the events for which there are conflicting chronologies and for which attempts have been made by historians to determine the right date cannot be dated reliably by historians.
- C. Attaching a reliable date to any event requires determining which of several conflicting chronologies is most likely to be true.
- D. Determining independently of the usual sources which of several conflicting chronologies is more likely to be right is an ineffective way of dating events.
- E. The soundest approach to dating an event for which the usual sources give conflicting chronologies is to undermine the credibility of as many of these sources as possible.

Q.43) In an experiment, two-year-old boys and their fathers made pie dough together using rolling pins and other utensils. Each father-son pair used a rolling pin that was distinctively different from those used by the other father-son pairs, and each father repeated the phrase "rolling pin" each time his son used it. But when the children were asked to identify all of the rolling pins among a group of kitchen utensils that included several rolling pins, each child picked only the one that he had used. **Which one of the following inferences is most supported by the information above?**

- A. The children did not grasp the function of a rolling pin.
- B. No two children understood the name "rolling pin" to apply to the same object.
- C. The children understood that all rolling pins have the same general shape.
- D. Each child was able to identify correctly only the utensils that he had used.
- E. The children were not able to distinguish the rolling pins they used from other rolling pins.

Q.44) The increasing complexity of scientific inquiry has led to a proliferation of multi-authored technical articles. Reports of clinical trials involving patients from several hospitals are usually co-authored by physicians from each participating hospital. Likewise, physics papers reporting results from experiments using subsystems developed at various laboratories generally have authors from each

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

- A. Clinical trials involving patients from several hospitals are never conducted solely by physicians from just one hospital.
- B. Most reports of clinical trials involving patients from several hospitals have multiple authors.
- C. When a technical article has multiple authors, they are usually from different institutions.
- D. Physics papers authored by researchers from multiple laboratories usually report results from experiments using subsystems developed at each laboratory.
- E. Most technical articles are authored solely by the researchers who conducted the experiments these articles report.

Q.45) Some environmentalists question the prudence of exploiting features of the environment, arguing that there are no economic benefits to be gained from forests, mountains, or wetlands that no longer exist. Many environmentalists claim that because nature has intrinsic value it would be wrong to destroy such features of the environment, even if the economic costs of doing so were outweighed by the economic costs of not doing so. **Which one of the following can be logically inferred from the passage?**

- A. It is economically imprudent to exploit features of the environment.
- B. Some environmentalists appeal to a non-economic justification in questioning the defensibility of exploiting features of the environment.
- C. Most environmentalists appeal to economic reasons in questioning the defensibility of exploiting features of the environment.
- D. Many environmentalists provide only a non-economic justification in questioning the defensibility of exploiting features of the environment.
- E. Even if there is no economic reason for protecting the environment, there is a sound non-economic justification for doing so.

Q.46) Some argue that laws are instituted at least in part to help establish a particular moral fabric in society. But the primary function of law is surely to help order society so that its institutions, organizations, and citizenry can work together harmoniously, regardless of any further moral aims of the law. Indeed, the highest courts have on occasion treated moral beliefs based on conscience or religious faith as grounds for making exceptions in the application of laws. **The statements above, if true, most strongly support which one of the following?**

- A. The manner in which laws are applied sometimes takes into account the beliefs of the people governed by those laws.
- B. The law has as one of its functions the ordering of society but is devoid of moral aims.
- C. Actions based on religious belief or on moral conviction tend to receive the protection of the highest courts.
- D. The way a society is ordered by law should not reflect any moral convictions about the way society ought to be ordered.
- E. The best way to promote cooperation among a society's institutions, organizations, and citizenry is to institute order in that society by means of law.

Q.47) Newtonian physics dominated science for over two centuries. It found consistently successful application, becoming one of the most highly substantiated and accepted theories in the history of science. Nevertheless, Einstein's theories came to show the fundamental limits of Newtonian physics and to surpass the Newtonian view in the early

1900s, giving rise once again to a physics that has so far enjoyed wide success. **Which one of the following logically follows from the statements above?**

- A. The history of physics is characterized by a pattern of one successful theory subsequently surpassed by another.
- B. Long-standing success or substantiation of a theory of physics is no guarantee that the theory will continue to be dominant indefinitely.
- C. Every theory of physics, no matter how successful, is eventually surpassed by one that is more successful.
- D. Once a theory of physics is accepted, it will remain dominant for centuries.
- E. If a long-accepted theory of physics is surpassed, it must be surpassed by a theory that is equally successful.

Q.48) The solidity of bridge piers built on pilings depends largely on how deep the pilings are driven. Prior to 1700, pilings were driven to "refusal," that is, to the point at which they refused to go any deeper. In a 1588 inquiry into the solidity of piers for Venice's Rialto Bridge, it was determined that the bridge's builder, Antonio Da Ponte, had met the contemporary standard for refusal: he had caused the pilings to be driven until additional penetration into the ground was no greater than two inches after twenty-four hammer blows. **Which one of the following can properly be inferred from the passage?**

- A. The Rialto Bridge was built on unsafe pilings.
- B. The standard of refusal was not sufficient to ensure the safety of a bridge.
- C. Da Ponte's standard of refusal was less strict than that of other bridge builders of his day.
- D. After 1588, no bridges were built on pilings that were driven to the point of refusal.
- E. It is possible that the pilings of the Rialto Bridge could have been driven deeper even after the standard of refusal had been met.

Q.49) Every moral theory developed in the Western tradition purports to tell us what a good life is. However, most people would judge someone who perfectly embodied the ideals of any one of these theories not to be living a good life—the kind of life they would want for themselves and their children. **The statements above, if true, most strongly support which one of the following?**

- A. Most people desire a life for themselves and their children that is better than a merely good life.
- B. A person who fits the ideals of one moral theory in the Western tradition would not necessarily fit the ideals of another.
- C. Most people have a conception of a good life that does not match that of any moral theory in the Western tradition.
- D. A good life as described by moral theories in the Western tradition cannot be realized.
- E. It is impossible to develop a theory that accurately describes what a good life is.

Q.50) Mystery stories often feature a brilliant detective and the detective's dull companion. Clues are presented in the story, and the companion wrongly infers an inaccurate solution to the mystery using the same clues that the detective uses to deduce the correct solution. Thus, the author's strategy of including the dull companion gives readers a chance to solve the mystery while also diverting them from the correct solution. **Which one of the following is most strongly supported by the information above?**

- A. Most mystery stories feature a brilliant detective who solves the mystery presented in the story.
- B. Mystery readers often solve the mystery in a story simply by spotting the mistakes in the reasoning of the detective's dull companion in that story.

C. Some mystery stories give readers enough clues to infer the correct solution to the mystery.

D. The actions of the brilliant detective in a mystery story rarely divert readers from the actions of the detective's dull companion.

E. The detective's dull companion in a mystery story generally uncovers the misleading clues that divert readers from the mystery's correct solution.

Q.51) Cézanne's art inspired the next generation of artists, twentieth-century modernist creators of abstract art. While most experts rank Cézanne as an early modernist, a small few reject this idea. Françoise Cachin, for example, bluntly states that such an ascription is "overplayed," and says that Cézanne's work is "too often observed from a modern point of view." **Which one of the following statements is most strongly supported by the information above?**

- A. Cézanne's work is highly controversial.
- B. Cézanne was an early creator of abstract art.
- C. Cézanne's work helped to develop modernism.
- D. Modern art owes less to Cézanne than many experts believe.
- E. Cézanne's work tends to be misinterpreted as modernist.

SOLUTIONS

Q.1)(C) CORRECT. If this statement is true, then the government's calculation method seems to overstate the number of people living in poverty, while the various private sector studies generally agree with each other that the number of people is lower. Thus, the methods used in the private sector are likely to be more valid than the government's method, lending credence to the author's contention that the government's method should change.

Q.2)(D) CORRECT. This answer choice directly addresses the public health advocates' concern by establishing that physicians are not susceptible to patient pressure in prescribing inappropriate drugs. As a result, drugs will be prescribed according to the objective clinical judgment of the prescribing physician, mitigating the danger of inappropriate use.

Q.3) (C) CORRECT. This answer choice provides further evidence that a handwritten name or signature generates a greater form of personalization and emotional connection among recipients, leading to more donations.

Q.4)(B) CORRECT. This choice states that media outlets such as television and magazines often report on the planned introduction of new devices while sales of old devices are still strong. The argument requires that consumers "hear about the new device"; stories in the media provide a means for consumers to do so.

Q.5)(C) CORRECT. This choice provides evidence that government incentives are effective. Thus, this choice confirms an assumption that the conclusion is feasible.

Q.6)(C) CORRECT. This statement rules out the possibility that the library system is losing revenue as a result of borrowers returning overdue books earlier than they would otherwise.

Q.7)(B) CORRECT. This choice states that homeowners will be willing to spend large sums of money on residential properties in traditionally industrial or commercial districts. Since we know from the argument that urban waterfronts have traditionally been industrial, this fact strengthens the claim that a developer can make a profit on urban waterfront properties.

Q.8)(D) CORRECT. The passage specifies that charter schools have more freedom to pursue innovative educational ideas than non-charter public schools. It follows that charter schools are allowed to experiment with their curricula to a greater degree than non-charter public schools. This choice links this difference to higher student achievement on assessments of writing ability.

Q.9) (E) CORRECT. If players want to make the All-Star team, and if a record of suspension precludes these players from being selected for the team, then players are less likely to commit fouls that will lead to suspensions.

Q.10)(C) CORRECT. This choice best strengthens the argument by making explicit the assumption upon which the consumer advocates' argument was based.

Q.11)(C) CORRECT. This answer choice underscores the importance of separating the effects of the physical program from those resulting from Dietol in evaluating the overall result of the experiment. For example, if a group of subjects with similar characteristics would be able to achieve comparable results just by repeating the fitness program over the 9-week experiment, this outcome would cast serious doubts on the claim of the pharmaceutical company about the effectiveness of Dietol.

Q.12)(E) CORRECT. The argument concludes that the prosecution of a small number of people who download music illegally will have a minimal impact on the overall number of people who engage in illegal downloading. However, if the threat of prosecution were enough to "alter the behavior" of others (i.e., deter them from illegally downloading music), the actions of the recording industry could have a significant impact on the number of people who illegally download music.

Q.13)(D) CORRECT. The argument assumes that the students will not have contact with foreigners through channels other than school. This choice asks whether the students have such contact elsewhere. If the answer to this question is "yes", the author's claims carry less weight.

Q.14)(D) CORRECT. If the costs for the existing product can be reduced, then the profit margin will increase (again, recall that $\text{Profits} = \text{Revenues} - \text{Costs}$). If the costs cannot be reduced, then the profit margins will not increase.

Q.15)(C) CORRECT. This would confirm or deny the assumption that American government service is currently not corrupt. The argument only claims that this was so for the first hundred years after the passage of the Pendleton Act. There is no information about the level of corruption for the past twenty-some years.

Q.16)(B) CORRECT. This question points to an unwarranted assumption on the author's part. The author assumes that the rebound in native North American raptor populations since 1970 was not due to any special effort to save these species. If special efforts have been made to save these raptor species, then one might not be able to generalize this evidence to other bird species or to make predictions about population trends in the next century, using this evidence.

Q.17)(C) CORRECT. If consumers would not choose to order all of the channels they currently buy as part of a package subscription, then the cable television industries' claim that a la carte costs always would increase is faulty. If most consumers only watch and wish to pay for a few of their favorite channels, a la carte pricing could very well result in lower cable bills for those consumers. Consumers who want

to purchase more channels could still choose the package subscriptions, so a la carte pricing would not harm them.

Q.18) (A) CORRECT. If the Network responds to the addition of a liberal news personality in the same way that it does the addition of a conservative news personality, then the argument presented by the director is valid. An identical response to the hiring of a personality from either side of the political spectrum suggests that the Network does act in a fair and balanced manner, at least in this regard.

Q.19)(B) CORRECT. One alternative to the conclusion of the passage is that the standard used to judge an item as frivolous was much lower for parents who gave their children large weekly allowances than for parents who gave their children small weekly allowances. If for example, the former group of parents considered all movie tickets to be frivolous, while the latter did not, then this fact (and not the difference in allowance money) might explain the difference observed by the child development specialists. Thus, information about any differences among parents in the standard used to judge an item as frivolous would be extremely relevant in evaluating the validity of the conclusion of the passage.

Q.20)(C) CORRECT. This question asks about the prices of necessities such as food and utilities. If people have not been saving their money, perhaps they have been spending it on necessities (as opposed to spending it on discretionary items). If these items have become more expensive, then perhaps people have not been able to save money despite curtailing their discretionary spending.

Q.21)(E) CORRECT. This statement undermines the author's assumption that the ethos of the ancient Greeks is the only operative component of the public's belief system. If most people believe in helping innocent victims of natural disasters, then they must believe that there can be "innocent victims" and that not all misfortune is due to the actions and flaws of the individual in question.

Q.22)(A) CORRECT. This statement demonstrates that the patent protection is likely to allow the pharmaceutical company to charge the unusually high prices that will more than compensate for the initial research and development costs. Note that the patent protection is likely to result in prices that are at least double the level necessary for the company to recoup its costs, thus leading to substantial profits.

Q.23)(C) CORRECT. Since the local residents choose to patronize the nearby affluent hospitals due to the presence of specialists, they will also begin to patronize the community hospital, which is using these same specialists. The amount of high margin specialty care will increase and the hospital will make more money, thus enabling it to continue using specialists.

Q.24)(B) CORRECT. While it may be reasonable to assume that good weather would cause a lower percentage of people attempting to reach the summit to perish because bad weather typically creates complications which have fatal consequences, the absolute number of fatalities could increase if a much higher number of people attempt to reach the summit. This answer choice states that there was a significant increase in the number of people entering the "death zone," the area of the mountain where "almost all" of fatalities took place. Hence, this provides a reasonable explanation of how the good weather was a cause of the record number of fatalities.

Q.25) (D) CORRECT. This choice states that the government of Country Y imposes tariffs on imported goods. This suggests that perhaps items that are purchased in Country X and brought into Country Y become prohibitively expensive because of the tariffs and could explain the spending habits of the citizens of Country Y.

Q.26) (D) CORRECT. This statement explains that the number of diners in the town of Montrose as a whole has increased due to the opening of Bob's Bistro, and also explains why the patronage at Andrew's Eatery has increased. Bob's Bistro has apparently brought in many out-of-towners to eat at Montrose, and many of these first-time diners, when turned away from Bob's Bistro, arrive at Andrew's Eatery as the only alternative in town.

Q.27) (B) CORRECT. If City Y has no effective public transportation system, its residents will need to provide their own means of transportation. Since insurance and fuel costs are exorbitant in both cities, we know that residents of City Y will likely be forced to spend significant amounts on car insurance and gasoline. Because City X has an inexpensive public transportation system, its residents may be able to avoid these specific expenses.

Q.28) (B) CORRECT. This choice provides a motive for companies to invest in global warming research. If the research is specifically geared at developing technologies used to combat global warming, this research represents a long term strategy for finding new ways for the companies to profit. This is in contrast with the research that the oil companies oppose - research focused on the severity and immediacy of the issue, a focus which might lead to government action that could have a negative impact on the profitability of the oil companies in the short term.

Q.29) (D) CORRECT. If the electricity produced is sold to other countries, then there may not be enough left unsold to accommodate the needs of Country X citizens.

Q.30) (A) CORRECT. If the demand has outpaced the supply, even if the supply is abundant, it is likely that the price will remain steady, at the very least.

Q.31) (A) CORRECT. If A (a woman with a family history of twins gets pregnant 3 times), then B (she will have 1 set of twins). Note that these numbers are precise: if she gets pregnant exactly three times, she will have exactly one set of twins. If not B (a woman with a family history of twins has 2 sets of twins - that is, not 1), then not A (she must have gotten pregnant either fewer than 3 times or more than 3 times - that is, not exactly 3 times).

Q.32) (B) CORRECT. A series of minor earthquakes (minor events) weaken the existing infrastructure. The weakened infrastructure then allows a minor earthquake to do greater damage (an extreme response) than would a single major earthquake.

Q.33) (A) CORRECT. The passengers on the westbound train see the eastbound train approaching, passing, then traveling away from them. The sound of the horn, therefore, will decrease in pitch for the westbound passengers.

Q.34) (E) CORRECT. Mary's response is based on her assumption that Congress would not approve Jim's proposal because she assumes that it would be extremely unpopular. She does not attack or even mention any of Jim's premises underlying his proposal.

Q.35) (C) CORRECT. By asserting that the average teenager spends just as much money as the average adult and that there are more new customers than former customers, the manager is presenting new evidence that implies that the current situation is actually helping the owner achieve his goal more than his directive would.

Q.36) (C): This is the correct answer. Consider each piece of the argument: "providing information"—a variety of information about the garbage situation is provided. "application of a general rule"—the general rule is that "After a public holiday that falls on a Monday, garbage throughout the city is supposed to be collected one day later than usual." "to a specific case"—the specific case is the pickup of garbage this week in this neighborhood. Given that all elements occurred and the answer presents an accurate description of the way the author made his or her argument, this answer is correct.

Q.37) Answer choice (E): This is the correct answer. As discussed in the argument analysis, Jane believes that there is no way to evaluate the merit of a guitar's sounds. On the opposite side, Mark's response indicates he believes that there is a way to evaluate the merit of a guitar's sound ("because of the improvement it makes in tonal quality") and thus the two have conflicting positions.

Q.38) Answer choice (D): This is the correct answer. An analogy is a comparison between two items. As referenced in this answer choice, Ruth analogizes writing about Roman culture to writing about the 1960s to show that it is not unreasonable that someone who was an infant can write about that time period. Jorge's assumption is that if a person was not a teen or older during the 1960s, then they cannot write well about the music of that period. Since all elements described in the answer choice occur and the answer describes the method used by Ruth, this is the correct answer.

Q.39) The correct answer choice is (D). In this answer, the alternate cause is described as an "alternative explanation." In most cases, a causal counterargument can be described as offering an alternative explanation.

Q.40) The correct answer choice is (D). Jerome's standard for judging durability is the popularity of the original. This contrasts with Ingrid's standard, which is the re-recording of the song. The point at issue is the definition of durability.

Q.41) (E): This is the correct answer. We can follow the chain of connections in the stimulus to prove this answer: the ozone layer filters some wavelengths of light; holes in the ozone layer are dangerous, but one previously overlooked danger of the holes is possible eye damage for many species. From these two statements we can infer that the holes must be letting some damaging

Q.42) The correct answer choice is (B). As stated in the last sentence, historians are on occasion unsuccessful in determining independently the date of an event. If the usual sources offered are in conflict about the date of a particular event and an analysis independent of the usual sources fails to confirm a date, then a date cannot be reliably determined for the event.

Q.43) Answer choice (D) looks perfect at first glance, but the author never indicated that the children could identify only the utensils that they used. Rolling pins, yes; utensils, no. The correct answer choice is (B), which many test takers quickly pass over. The answer must be true because we know that despite being asked to identify all the rolling pins,

each child selected only the rolling pin he had used. No two children picked the same rolling pin and therefore no two children understood the name "rolling pin" to apply to the same object.

Q.44) Answer (B). This answer choice is a direct paraphrase of the second sentence. The second sentence states, "Reports of clinical trials involving patients from several hospitals are usually co-authored by physicians from each participating hospital." Answer choice (B) translates "usually" into "most," and "co-authored by physicians from each participating hospital" into "multiple authors." Thus, the answer choice passes the Fact Test and is correct.

Q.45) Answer (B). This is the correct answer. The second sentence references the views of many environmentalists, who claim that "nature has intrinsic value" (for example, beauty). This view is the non-economic justification cited by the answer choice. This answer can be a bit tricky because of the convoluted language the test makers use. "Questioning the defensibility of exploiting features of the environment" is a needlessly complex phrase. A more direct manner of writing that phrase would be "attacking the exploitation of the environment."

Q.46) Answer (A). This correct answer is largely a paraphrase of the last sentence.

Q.47) The correct answer choice is (B). As shown by the case of Newtonian physics, success and substantiation is no guarantee of dominance.

Q.48) The correct answer choice is (E). As stated in the stimulus, "he had caused the pilings to be driven until additional penetration into the ground was no greater than two inches after twenty-four hammer blows." The statement indicates that additional penetration was possible with a sufficient number of hammer blows.

Q.49) The correct answer choice is (C). At first glance, this answer choice may seem a bit strong in saying the conception would not match that of any moral theory. But, as discussed above, we can support this because the stimulus uses very strong language, specifically stating "most people would judge someone who perfectly embodied the ideals of any one of these theories not to be living a good life."

Q.50) The correct answer choice is (C). The second sentence indicates that "clues are presented in the story...the detective uses to deduce the correct solution." Combined with the last sentence, which states "the author's strategy...gives readers a chance to solve the mystery," this answer choice is proven by facts.

Q.51) The correct answer choice is (C). The deceptiveness of this answer lies in two areas: 1. The substitution of "develop" for "inspire." Some students feel the word "develop" is too strong, but if Cézanne inspired the creators of the next generation of art then he helped develop it. 2. The use of the word "modernism." Some students are thrown off by "modernism" because they expect to see "abstract" instead. The stimulus is careful about saying "twentieth-century modernist creators of abstract art." Notice how the test makers use answer choice (B)—which mentions "abstract"—to subtly prepare you to make this error.