

Critical Reasoning



15 out of 15 questions were new type...
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Easiest part of CET paper

Topic	Ques	Target	Yours	Source
CR	10	5		Blue Books
Syllogisms	5	5		Blue Books
Total	15	10		

1. Recent studies have highlighted the harmful effects of additives in food (colors, preservatives, flavor enhancers etc.). There are no synthetic substances in the foods we produce at MunchonFoods we use only natural ingredients. Hence you can be sure you are safeguarding your familys health when you buy our products.

Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the contention of Munchon Foods?

← New Type CR

- A. Some synthetic substances are not harmful
- B. Some natural substances found in foods can be harmful
- C. Food without additives is unlikely to taste good
- D. Munchon Foods produces only breakfast cereals
- E. Without preservatives some foods could cause harm

2. A fruit known as amla in certain parts of Asia is an excellent source of vitamin C. A small quantity of the fruit grated and added to salads provides almost all the daily requirement of this vitamin. However, the fruit is very sour. A new process designed to remove most of the sour taste will make the fruit acceptable to American tastes. We are therefore starting to grow this fruit for sale in the United States.

The argument above assumes all of the following except

- A. Americans generally wont eat very sour foods
- B. The new process does not remove a significant part of the vitamin content
- C. That a market exists for a new source of vitamin C
- D. The fruit can be used only in salads
- E. Apart from being sour there are no other objections to eating this fruit

3. Most scientists agree that new lines of interdisciplinary research are the need of the hour. Even government committees on science have stressed the need for more interdisciplinary projects. Yet, of ten proposals for new interdisciplinary projects last year, only one was successfully funded. Some have suggested that this means that as yet researchers are not coming up with sufficiently persuasive projects, or that their proposals are not of high enough quality, or even that the reputations of these researchers is not high enough. However, the real reason probably lies in the way funding is organized. Funding is still allocated according to the old categories and there are no funds specifically for research that overlaps different subject areas.

The two parts in bold-face are related to each other in which of the following ways?

- A. The first is a finding that the author finds unacceptable; the second is the authors own position
- B. The first is a finding that the author attempts to account for; the second is a finding that contradicts the authors main conclusion.
- C. The first is a fact that the author attempts to account for. The second is data that explicitly supports the authors main conclusion.
- D. The first is a position that the author opposes; the second is the authors main position.
- E. The first is a situation that the author finds paradoxical; the second is an assumption that the author uses to reinforce the paradox.

4. Anton: I sold my house on an internet site last year and was happy with the price. I got a speedy sale and the cost of advertising was insignificant. I would advise you to avoid real estate agents.

Barbie: It is in the interest of the real estate agent to get me the best price for my property because he gets a commission based on the selling price. Therefore, when selling my house I will certainly use an agent rather than trying to sell the house by word of mouth, or by advertising in newspapers or on the internet.

Barbies could strengthen her position by pointing out all of the following except

- A. Houses of comparable value often obtain a lower price when sold on the internet
- B. Very few houses are sold on the internet at the moment an so a valid comparison is difficult
- C. The agents service includes many add-on benefits in terms of legal fees, surveyors reports and advice that are not available on internet sites
- D. Some buyers pay the agent to find them a cheap house
- E. The agents commission is usually less than the difference between the internet price and the higher price the agent obtains for you

5. Early data on seat-belt use showed that seat-belt wearers were less likely to be killed in road accidents. Hence, it was initially believed that wearing a seat-belt increased survival chances in an accident. But what the early analysts had failed to see was that cautious drivers were more likely to wear the belts and were also less likely to cause big accidents, while reckless drivers were more likely to be involved in big accidents and were less likely to wear the belts.

Which of the following, if true, could an opponent of the view presented above best cite as a reason for recommending continued use of seat-belts?

- A. Careful drivers who are involved in accidents caused by reckless drivers, would be more likely to survive if wearing a belt
- B. All drivers should be required by law to wear a belt
- C. The ratio of big to small road accidents is very small
- D. In fatal accidents seat-belt wearers in the front seat are less likely to survive than those wearing seat belts in the back seat
- E. On average, careful drivers pay lower insurance premiums than do drivers who have been involved in accidents.

6. French cuisine is highly regarded all over the world. Yet in Paris there are more American restaurants selling burgers and fries (which many people now class as junk food) than there are in any

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other European capital city. Obviously the French are very fond of junk food, and are not too proud to eat it.

Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the authors contention?

- A. There are also a larger number of Lebanese restaurants in Paris than there are in other European capital cities
- B. French Cordon Bleu cuisine is very expensive
- C. The number of French tourists eating in New York burger restaurants is very low
- D. Junk food is actually has high nutritional value when eaten in moderation
- E. There are an unusually large number of American tourists in Paris who eat at burger joints

7. As a result of implementing an experimental farming system that combined aggressive new fertilization, deep irrigation, and speculative pesticides, the yield on crops at a farm in central California grew consistently and considerably over the past six years. However, yields this year unexpectedly plummeted, causing the farm's owners considerable financial difficulties.

Which of the following statements, if true, best explains the unexpected drop in yield?

- A) As a result of a serious and recent economic recession, the market for the products the farm produced shrank in size during the past year.
- B) Other farms that began using the experimental system at about the same time also reported an unexpected plummet in yields this year.
- C) The central California region where the farm in question is located experienced a drought 9 years ago, 3 years ago, and this past year.
- D) A different experimental system, used on a different crop, failed after two years at a farm in Iowa. Scientists later discovered that chemicals involved in this different system slowly poisoned the soil.
- E) Significant and sustained increases in agricultural productivity eventually lead to an exhaustion of important nutrients in land.

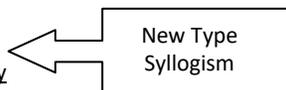
8. Scientists investigating a rare metabolic disorder hypothesized that obesity was a predisposing factor in the development of the disease. A study of twenty patients found that, on average, the patients were close to the normal weight for their height. Before concluding that obesity is not a predisposing factor, the researchers would find the answer to which of the following questions most useful?

- A. Are the patients above or below normal height?
- B. Were any of the patients underweight when the disorder was diagnosed?
- C. Does weight loss reduce the severity of the symptoms?
- D. Have the patients always been close to the normal weight for their heights?
- E. How many of the patients had obese parents?

9. Statements: All the locks are keys. All the keys are bats. Some watches are bats.

Conclusions:

- 1 Some bats are locks is a possibility
- 2 Some watches are keys.
- 3 100% of the keys are locks.
- A. Only (1) and (2) B. Only (1) C. Only (2) D. Only (1) and (3)
- E. None of these



10. Statements: Some keys are staplers. Some staplers are stickers. All the stickers are pens.

Conclusions:

- 1 Some pens are staplers is a possibility
- 2 30% of the stickers can be keys.
- 3 No sticker is key.
- 4 Some staplers are keys.
- A. Only (1) and (2) B. Only (2) and (4) C. Only (2) and (3) 4
- D. Only (1) and (4) and either (2) or (3) E. None of these

11. Statements: Some questions are answers. Some answers are writers. All the writers are poets.

Conclusions:

- 1 Some writers are answers is a possibility
- 2 Some poets are questions. 3 All the questions are poets.
- 4 Some poets are answers.
- A. Only (1) and (2) B. Only (1) and (4) C. Only (1) and (3)
- D. Only (2) and (4) E. None of these

12. Statements: Some envelopes are gums. Some gums are seals. Some seals are adhesives.

Conclusions:

- 1 Some envelopes are seals. 2 Some gums are adhesives.
- 3 Some adhesives are seals is a possibility
- 4 Some adhesives are gums.
- A. Only (3) B. Only (1) C. Only (2) D. Only (4) E. None of these

13. Statements: All the papers are books. All the bags are books. Some purses are bags.

Conclusions:

- Some papers are bags.
- Some books are papers is a possibility
- 50% of books are purses is a possibility
- A. Only (1) B. Only (2) and (3) C. Only (1) and (2) D. Only (1) and (3)
- E. None

14. Statements:

(I)Majority of the students in the college expressed their opinion against the college authority's decision to break away from the university and become autonomous.

(II)The university authorities have expressed their inability to provide grants to its constituent colleges.

- 1.Statement I is the cause and statement II is its effect
- 2.Statement II is the cause and statement I is its effect
- 3.Both the statements I and II are independent causes
- 4.Both the statements I and II are effects of independent causes
- 5.Both the statements I and II are effects of some common cause

15. Statement: Should citizens of India have the right to access information from the government?

Arguments:

I. Yes, more than twenty countries have equipped their citizens with the right to access information from their respective governments.

II. Yes, the move would provide openness in government functioning and ensure transparency and accountability in it.

- (a) If only argument I is "strong". (b) If only argument II is "strong".
- (c) If either I or II is "strong". (d) If neither I nor II is "strong".
- (e) If both I and II are "strong".

Solutions at the end of Reading Section