

CRITICAL REASONING – DAY : 03

INFERENCE/ MAIN POINT QUESTIONS

1. B

A. Side effects - out of scope.

B. Correct. Good choice that can be logically inferred from the given argument. Words such as 'on average' and 'likelihood of' keep the scope broad and make it difficult for us to eliminate this.

C. The study found 'on average, a 50% lower risk', not exactly 50%.

D. Over the course of adult life. DKCS.

E. Multiple calcium supplements - out of scope. We know only about Ortho Fem Plus.

2. E

Injuries can be on (1) slope or (2) grounds.

Slope injuries fell from 12/1000 to 3/1000 from 1975 to 2010.

Ground injuries rose from 17% to 45% from 1975 to 2010

A. No correlation between the number of injuries on slope and that on grounds.

B. Alcohol consumption of mountaineers. Irrelevant.

C. The technology affects only slope injuries (and not each type) as harnesses and bindings are used only on slopes/

D. We can't say this with any certainty. The technology can impact only slope injuries.

E. Correct. Let the total mountaineering injuries in 1975 and in 2010 be 500. In 1975, slope injuries would be $(12/1000)*500 = 6$. This is $(6/1000)*100 = 0.6\%$. In 2010, slope injuries would be $(3/1000)*500 = 1.5$. This is $(3/1000)*100 = 0.3\%$. Thus, slope injuries made up a smaller % of overall injuries in 2010 than in 1975.

3. D

- A. Where the microbes are more likely to be found is not mentioned anywhere in the argument.
- B. Not necessarily - we don't know if this will 'significantly reduce' the incidence of serious food poisoning.
- C. This reverses the order of events - according to the argument, preservatives are first added to the food, which are then cooked in microwaves, resulting in an increase in the chance of food poisoning, because the interior of the food doesn't get heated.
- D. Correct.
- E. We don't know if preservatives are the 'primary cause'. DKCS.

4. B

- A. The argument talks about 1 in 100 legal secretaries creating a proper PoA document; it does not indicate the probability of each of them getting it right.
- B. Correct.
- C. Not true. The argument does not indicate this anywhere. It just talks about the case: 'if at all you get a legal secretary to create a PoA document...'
- D. Not true. The study shows that 1 out of 100 legal secretaries got it right. So, we can't say that 'all' legal secretaries make mistakes.
- E. We don't know anything about the accuracy of self-made versus legal secretary-created PoAs.

5. E

- A. The argument talks only about the intellectual and ethical responsibilities of high schools, not of the readers of the magazines.
- B. The argument is not about the responsibilities of the bookstores, but of the universities.
- C. We don't know this. These magazines are the top-selling magazines - but it does not mean that most people buy these. A few people could buy multiple copies of these magazines.
- D. Again, the argument is not about the responsibilities of the students, but of the universities.
- E. Correct

6. C

By adolescence, the % of boys with lactose intolerance (p_1) is the same as that of girls with lactose intolerance (p_2). Conclusion: the number of adolescent boys with lactose intolerance (n_1) is approximately equal to the number of adolescent girls with lactose intolerance (n_2).

$P_1 = (n_1/(n_1+n_2)) \times 100$; $P_2 = (n_2/(n_1+n_2)) \times 100$; $p_1 = p_2$; Therefore, $n_1 = n_2$. This is exactly what option C says.

7. B

Natural human DNA multiplies 52 times and stops. If frozen before it multiplies less than 52 times, it will resume to reach 52 multiplications (but no more) upon thawing. The case at hand is a DNA strand in which more than 52 multiplications took place - therefore, it cannot be a natural human DNA. i.e. it is an abnormal DNA - since the question asks us to identify what it's NOT, we can eliminate options A and E (both say that this DNA strand is abnormal, which is true.) C and D say that this comes from an individual of a nonhuman species - this could very well be true, as the only thing we know for sure is that this strand is not human DNA. Thus, these two are also out. Thus, B is correct.

8. A

The argument says that the number of openings is limited and therefore, they cannot offer a position to all who want them.

A. Correct.

B. Not necessarily. The argument merely says that 'many highly qualified candidates' have to be turned down - we don't know if the receiver of this letter features among these.

C. 'Limited' just means that there is an upper limit or cap to the number of openings - this does not mean that the number is very few. There could be 5, 10 or even 1000 openings - but there is a limit. That's all.

D. DKCS.

E. DKCS. 'Most' means more than 50% - 'many' is subjective - it could mean anything.

9. B

A. Not necessarily. We are not talking about a particular set of people who possess these characteristics.

B. Correct. Since the message that the brand Ventura sends out is that its owner is vibrant, charismatic and adventurous, someone who is not any/all of these, would misrepresent himself by owning a Ventura.

C. Not necessarily. We can't say anything definitely about who buys other cars.

D. DKCS.

E. We can speak with certainty only about the brand message that a Ventura owner sends out - we don't know if others would recognize this. Secondly, 'choosing to own' a Ventura and 'owning a Ventura are two different things.

RESOLVE THE PARADOX

1. D

The paradox here is this: GreenClean is losing money because of fines and legal fees; yet, the company has become more profitable. How can this happen? The company is probably doing well and earning more money simultaneously. Choice D gives an excellent reason how this can happen - if most of its competitors have exited the field, and no new rivals have entered it, GreenClean can capture more market share.

A. So what? Doesn't help.

B. This is something positive that the company is doing - but we don't know how this will help them become more profitable.

C. This makes the paradox more apparent - it is an additional reason why the company should not be becoming more profitable.

E. So what? Doesn't help.

2. C

People of the Americas who had subsisted primarily on barley did not suffer from pellagra; but Europeans who were introduced to barley and started subsisting primarily on it, developed pellagra. We need to resolve this paradox. How can this happen?

A. So what? Irrelevant.

B. The problem is not that barley contains insufficient amounts of cytocin - the problem is that it is in a form that the body cannot absorb. So the quantity of cytocin present in the barley does not matter.

C. Correct. This shows that the people of the Americas prepared barley in a certain way, that would convert the cytocin present in it into a nutritionally useful form. But Europeans were probably not doing this, and hence, were contracting pellagra.

D. Again, the problem is not about the quantity of cytocin, but of the form in which it is present. We don't know if these other cytocin-rich foods contained an absorbable form of the vitamin. DKCS.

E. So what? Irrelevant.

3. B

Self-pollinating daffodils have the advantage of higher average seed production. They don't need to depend on insects for pollination. Yet, they are scarcer than non-self-pollinating daffodils. We need to resolve this paradox.

A. This just shows that insects treat both types similarly - doesn't help resolve the paradox.

B. Correct. Gives a good reason why, in years when insects are scarce and self-pollinating daffodils produce more seeds than non-self-pollinating daffodils do, the latter still are greater in number. The NSP daffodils produce larger (although fewer) seeds that are more likely to germinate - so they have a better chance of reproducing. In other years, both have equal chances.

C. SP daffodils are unaffected by the presence and number of insects.

D. We need to know specifically about SP and NSP daffodils.

E. Information already given in the question stem. Doesn't help resolve the paradox.

MIMIC THE REASONING

1. C

A: The company is innovating and moving on from failure. Not a parallel.

B: The company is innovating - new marketing strategy. Not a parallel.

C: Correct. The manufacturer is not innovating - trying to make his existing product better in response to a major external innovation.

D: A product designed for a certain purpose is also being used for other purposes. Not a parallel.

E: Same as D.

2. D

X = student failure; Y = bad teaching. According to the principal, $Y \rightarrow X$ (Y causes X). In some time, X disappears. So the principal has concluded that Y has become better. Let us now look at the choices:

A: X = weight gain; Y = overeating; People stopped Y. So X also disappears. This is not a parallel.

B: X = weight gain. Y = imagination. Y' was introduced (weight charts). X stopped. Not a parallel.

C: X = complaints. Y = too much work. Y was addressed (simplified tasks). So X stopped. Not a parallel.

D: X = complaints. Y = too little work. In a few months, X stops. So, the manager concludes that Y is better (people are using their time productively). This is an exact parallel. Correct.

E: X = weight gain, Y = thinking of food. Y stops. Conclusion is that X has also stopped. Incorrect parallel.