

Please mark your answers with against the option. Time to complete the test is 25 minutes.

All the best!

1. Photography is no longer an art form. Nowadays everyone has access to digital cameras that only need to be pointed at the subject in order to generate a perfect image.

The writer of this argument apparently assumes that:

- (A) The selection of the subject is not an important artistic factor in photography
 - (B) Digital cameras will continue to improve in quality
 - (C) Digital cameras can never go wrong
 - (D) Photography with all other types of camera is an art form
 - (E) Art is not perfect
2. The number of people diagnosed with dengue fever (which is contracted from the bite of an infected mosquito) in North India this year is twice the number diagnosed last year. The authorities have concluded that measures to control the mosquito population have failed in this region.

All of the following, if true, would cast the most serious doubt on authorities' conclusion except:

- (A) More cases are now reported because of increases in administrative efficiency
 - (B) A very high proportion of the cases were in people who had recently returned from neighboring countries
 - (C) An effective diagnostic test was introduced about nine months ago
 - (D) The disease is prevalent only in some industrialized areas which have shown a dramatic increase in population due to migration
 - (E) The incidence (number of cases per thousand) of malaria, also contracted from mosquito bites, has increased
3. Red is a color which has powerful effects on human beings as well as animals. A group of psychologists carried out an experiment which confirms the subconscious effects of this color on human behavior. They provided selected sports teams at school and college level with either red or blue shorts and recorded the outcome of the games. The teams wearing red won in a disproportionate number of matches. The psychologists suggested that either the teams wearing red subconsciously felt themselves more powerful, or that the non-red teams were subconsciously intimidated by the red color.

Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the psychologists' suggestion?

- (A) Each team wore red in some matches and blue in others
- (B) The color blue has the subconscious effect of making human beings less competitive
- (C) The effect was only observed if all the team members wore white shirts
- (D) Red signifies danger in some cultures whereas it signifies happiness in others
- (E) In a subsequent study, teams with all-red outfits were more likely to report that they thought they would win no matter what color the opponents wore

4. A marriage counselor noted that couples who have occasional violent arguments are less likely to divorce within the next six months than those who have frequent but less violent arguments. He concluded that frequent arguing is a major factor in the causation of severe marital disharmony. The counselor's conclusion is most weakened by which of the following observations?

- (A) Couples who have already come to the point of divorce argue continuously over small matters
- (B) People who have recently divorced are more likely to argue violently when they meet
- (C) Many people in happy marriages have occasional violent arguments
- (D) Recently divorced people rarely cite frequent arguments as a cause of marital disharmony
- (E) A significant fraction of couples close to divorce do not talk to each other

5. Many people report that exposure to certain foods such as cheese, red wine, and chocolate, are associated with the onset of migraine headaches. Other people report that exposure to certain smells (especially strong perfumes) seems to trigger a migraine headache, and some note that exposure to bright and flickering lights can be followed by a migraine. It would seem that a person with a tendency to get migraines should try to find which of these situations is associated with the onset of the headache and then avoid this stimulus.

All of the following, if true, would indicate potential problems with the recommendation above, except:

- (A) The time delay between the trigger and the onset of the headache can make it exceptionally difficult to identify the trigger
 - (B) The presence of a known trigger doesn't always cause a migraine
 - (C) In many cases, an internal hormonal change triggers a migraine
 - (D) In a high proportion of cases, the patients report multiple triggers for their headache
 - (E) Most of the known triggers are common and almost unavoidable features of modern life
6. It is strange that in New York there are so many corner shops selling food items. After all there are many supermarkets in the city which sell food at cheaper prices, and many of these supermarkets are open 24-hours.
- Which of the following, if true, would be of least help in explaining the paradoxical observation?
- (A) The corner shops are selling specialist food items not available in the supermarkets
 - (B) The supermarkets are mostly located on the outskirts of the city and require residents to use cars or public transport to reach them
 - (C) The main business of the local shops is newspaper distribution and food items represent a small part of their turnover
 - (D) The corner shops are mainly family owned businesses and have been there for much longer than the supermarkets and are perceived as an important feature of the community
 - (E) The corner shops are willing to make home deliveries

7. 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 ABC Foods

– we use only natural ingredients. Hence you can be sure you are safeguarding your family’s health when you buy our products.

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

- (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) ABC Foods produces only breakfast cereals
- (E) Without preservatives some foods could cause harm

8. 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 won’t 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

9. 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 best
- (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

10. 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 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 author’s 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 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
11. Thousands of people have tonsillectomies every year and all live normal lives after the operation. We can conclude, from this observation, that the tonsils have no function in the body. The argument would be most weakened by which of the following, if it were true?
- (A) People live normal lives after appendectomies but the appendix is known to be part of the digestive system
- (B) Another part of the body can take over the function of the tonsils if they are removed
- (C) The tonsils have been shown to have a vital role to play in the physiology of laboratory rabbits and guinea pigs
- (D) The human tonsil develops as part of the immune system, a system of vital importance in defense against diseases
- (E) Tonsillectomies are performed only when the tonsils become seriously infected
12. Political commentator: In order for a democracy to flourish, it is essential that political and journalistic freedom of expression exist. Even if commentators voice ideas that do not support the current government, a society is strengthened by the variety of views expressed. Yet, our government continuous to exercise a stranglehold on certain forms of speech. It is essential that the government loosens its control on the media. Despite the potential short term instability this may cause the country, it will strengthen the long term health of the country. Which of the following expresses the conclusion of the argument?
- (A) The government is exercising too much control over the media
- (B) The government needs to open the media and release its hold on certain forms of speech
- (C) Democracy requires a strong and free press
- (D) Even ideas not supportive of democracy can strengthen a government
- (E) The future of the media lies in the hands of the government
13. Authors writing detective stories frequently include a brilliant detective and an incompetent investigator who embark on separate paths in an attempt to solve a crime. The separate accounts frequently consist of the incompetent investigator becoming distracted by the criminals' well-planned attempts and the competent detective solving the case after a violent confrontation. Many literary analysts believe authors often choose this storyline in an attempt to provide readers additional complexity and challenge in solving the investigation. Which of the following most logically follows from the statements above?
- (A) A well written detective story consists of an investigation being undertaken by a competent and incompetent investigator

- (B) Some authors use an incompetent investigator to show the complexities of an investigation
 - (C) Authors never write stories with incompetent investigators who solve a case correctly
 - (D) Authors can use the separate investigative accounts to make predicting the correct outcome of the investigation more difficult
 - (E) Authors write stories with competent and incompetent investigators to show the complexity of real life
14. As a result of changes in cultural norms and dynamics, a boutique financial research company is considering implementing flex-time, which enables employees to work during any time of the day from any location as long as they are present at the office from 12:30pm to 3:30pm on weekdays. By comparison, workers currently must be in the office from 8am to 5pm. Firm management believes this change will help meet three key goals: decrease total costs, increase productivity, and improve product quality.
- Which of the following, if true, most weakens the argument of firm's managements?
- (A) Some new costs will arise as a result of telecommuting
 - (B) A similar firm tried a version of flex time and abandoned it after a month for unknown reasons
 - (C) The firm in question performs work that requires frequent and extensive in-person collaboration
 - (D) The firm in question recently lost its most experienced research analyst due to his perception of the firm's poor work-life balance
 - (E) The firm in question works on projects that often take weeks to complete
15. A political party considered by many citizens extreme and incompetent is working hard at overcoming what it perceives as an unfair and prejudiced public image. The group believes it is stereotyped simply because it opposes any preemptive military action, which is unpopular, and calls for a 50% reduction in carbon emissions, a cut far more severe than most citizens want.
- Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the party's belief about the source of its poor public image?
- (A) The current ruling political party, whose popularity is at near record levels, launched a preemptive military strike against a neighboring country three weeks ago
 - (B) A neighboring country recently suffered a surprise attack that devastated its country and polluted its environment
 - (C) A popular rival party bans unilateral attacks to defend the homeland and unconditionally supports a 60% reduction in carbon emissions
 - (D) A recent poll showed that a party whose most prominent candidate supports preemptive war and minimal carbon restrictions is quite popular
 - (E) Twenty years ago, a pacifist party successfully and popularly ruled the country