

新东方在线
GMAT 批判推理教程

主讲教师：刘晋升

龙腾教育微信号: LTJY2888

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第一部分 引入

1.1 做题原则

1.1.1 If true 原则 (1)

The skulls and pelvic bones of some species of dinosaur share characteristics with the skulls and pelvic bones of all modern birds. Even though not all dinosaurs have these characteristics, there are scientists who claim that all animals that do have these characteristics are dinosaurs.

If the statements above and the claim of the scientists are true, which of the following must also be true?

- A. Birds share more characteristics with dinosaurs than they do with other animal.
- B. Some ancient dinosaurs were indistinguishable from modern birds.
- C. All animals whose skulls share the characteristics of those of modern birds also have pelvic bones that are similar to those of modern birds.
- D. Modern birds are dinosaurs.
- E. All dinosaurs are birds.

1.1.2 If true 原则 (2)

Pandas are rapidly disappearing from the wild. Therefore, in order to preserve the species, existing pandas should be captured and placed in zoos around the world.

Which of the following, if true, casts doubt on the conclusion drawn above?

- A. When in captivity, pandas typically produce more young than they do in their native habitat.
- B. Newborn pandas in zoos are not likely to die from infectious diseases, whereas newborn pandas in the wild are likely to die from these diseases.
- C. Sufficient quantities of bamboo, the panda's only food cannot be made available outside the panda's native habitat.
- D. Many zoos are eager to increase their stock of rare and exotic animals, but there are not enough pandas for all the zoos that want one.
- E. Pandas in zoos have as many offspring that survive to adulthood as do pandas in the wild.

1.1.3 不当哲学家原则

Popular culture in the United States has become Europeanized to an extent unimaginable twenty-five years ago. Not many people then drank wine with meals, and no one drank imported mineral water. No idea would have been more astonishing than that Americans would pay to watch soccer games. Such thoughts arise because of a report that the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials has just adopted a proposal to develop the country's first comprehensive interstate system of routes for bicycles.

Which of the following inferences is best supported by the passage?

- A. Long-distance bicycle routes are used in Europe.
- B. Drinking imported mineral water is a greater luxury than drinking imported wine.
- C. United States culture has benefited from exposure to foreign ideas.
- D. Most Europeans make regular use of bicycles.
- E. The influence of the United States on European culture has assumed unprecedented proportions in the last twenty-five years.

1.2 题目与文章分类

1.2.1 前提-结论型 (Premise-Conclusion)

1. Because no employee wants to be associated with bad news in the eyes of a superior, information about serious problems at lower levels is progressively softened and distorted as it goes up each step in the management hierarchy. The chief executive is, therefore, less well informed about problems at lower levels than are his or her subordinates at those levels.

2. Of the countries that were the world's twenty largest exporters in 1953, four had the same share of total world exports in 1984 as in 1953. These countries can therefore serve as models for those countries that wish to keep their share of the global export trade stable over the years.

3. A private bus company gained greater profits and provided bus service to the area at lower fares by running buses more frequently and stimulating greater rider-ship. Hoping to continue these financial trends, the company plans to replace all older buses with new, larger buses, including some double-decker buses.

4. When limitations were in effect on nuclear-arms testing, people tended to save more of their money, but when nuclear-arms testing increased, people tended to spend more of their money. The perceived threat of nuclear catastrophe, therefore, decreases the willingness of people to postpone consumption for the sake of saving money.

1.2.2 现象-解释型 (Fact-Explanation)

5. The recent decline in numbers of the Tennessee warbler, a North American songbird that migrates each fall to coffee plantations in South America, is due to the elimination of the dense tree cover that formerly was a feature of most South American coffee plantations,

6. The number of people diagnosed as having a certain intestinal disease has dropped significantly in a rural county this year, as compared to last year. Health officials attribute this decrease entirely to improved sanitary conditions at water-treatment plants, which made for cleaner water this year and thus reduced the incidence of the disease.

*. Companies O and P each has the same number of employees who work the same number of hours per week. According to records maintained by each company, the employees of Company O had fewer job-related accidents last year than did the employees of Company P. Therefore, employees of Company O are less likely to have job-related accidents than are employees of Company P.

第二部分 论证有效性评估

2.1 削弱

标志词: **weaken, cast doubt, argue against, counter, challenge, refute, undermine, drawback, flaw, criticism, reasoning error**

2.1.1 前提结论型削弱

例 1. Scientists now believe that artificial-hip implants, previously thought to be safe, may actually increase the risk of cancer in recipients after about 45 years of use. Though these implants do improve the quality of recipient's lives, the increased risk of cancer is an unacceptable price to pay for these improvements. Therefore, they should be banned.

Which of the following, if true, is the strongest counterargument to the argument above?

- A. Artificial-hip implant surgery can severe complications, such as infection, chronic fever, and bone degeneration, and these complications can themselves be crippling or even fatal.
- B. Almost all artificial-hip implant recipients receive their implants at an age when they are unlikely to live more than an additional 30 years.
- C. Although artificial-hip implants increase the risk of cancer after about 45 year of use, a few of the cancers they induce are not fatal.
- D. Since artificial-hip implants are not very common, banning them would cause little hardship.
- E. Although the benefits of artificial-hip implant surgery have remained substantially the same over the past decade, the price of the surgery has risen considerably.

例 2. Metropolis regulation limiting to four days the period during which milk can be sold to consumers after pasteurization is unreasonable. Under optimal conditions, pasteurized milk kept at 40 degrees Fahrenheit remains unspoiled for at least 14 days. If Metropolis current limitation were changed to eight days, milk prices would drop, but product quality would be unaffected.

Which of the following, if true, would most seriously weaken the conclusion drawn above?

- A. Most consumers keep milk no more than three days after purchase.
- B. A recent survey showed that 20 percent of Metropolis consumers favored extending the current limitation on the sale of milk to 8 days.
- C. Metropolis' grocery-store owners would prefer small, frequent deliveries of milk to larger, infrequent deliveries.
- D. Milk kept longer than 14 days after pasteurization generally presents no medical dangers if consumed.
- E. In Metropolis, conditions for handling and storing milk after pasteurization are seldom close to optimum.

例 3. The country of Maravia has severe air pollution, 80 percent of which is caused by the exhaust fumes of cars. In order to reduce the number of cars on the road, the government is raising taxes on the cost of buying and running a car by 20 percent. This tax increase, therefore will significantly reduce air pollution in Maravia.

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

- A. The government of Maravia is in the process of building a significant number of roadways.
- B. Maravia is an oil-producing country and is able to refine an amount of gasoline sufficient for the needs of its pollution.
- C. Maravia has had an excellent public transportation system for many years.
- D. Ninety percent of the population of Maravia is very prosperous and has a substantial amount of disposable income.
- E. In Maravia, cars that emit relatively low levels of pollutions cost 10 percent less to operate, on average, than do cars that emit high levels of pollutions.

例 4. The average life expectancy for the United States population as a whole is 73.9 years, but children born in Hawaii will live an average of 77 years, and those born in Louisiana, 71.7 years. If a newlywed couple from Louisiana were to beg in their family in Hawaii, therefore, their children would be expected to live longer than would be the case if the family remained in Louisiana.

Which of the following, if true, would most seriously weaken the conclusion drawn in the passage?

- A. Insurance company statisticians do not believe that moving to Hawaii will significantly lengthen the average Louisianan's life.
- B. The governor of Louisiana has falsely alleged that statistics are inaccurate.
- C. The longevity ascribed to Hawaii's current population attributable mostly to genetically determined factors.
- D. Thirty percent of all Louisianans can expect to live longer than 77 years.
- E. Most of the Hawaiian Islands have levels of air pollution well below the national average for the United States.

例 5. The excessive number of safety regulations that the federal government has placed on industry poses more serious hardships for big businesses than for small ones. Since large companies do everything on a more massive scale, they must alter more complex operations and spend much more money to meet government requirements.

Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the argument above?

- A. Small companies are less likely than large companies to have the capital reserve for improvements.
- B. The operations of small companies frequently rely on the same technologies as the operations of large companies.
- C. Safety regulation codes are uniform, established without reference to size of company.
- D. Large companies typically have more of their profits invested in other business than do small companies.
- E. Large companies are in general more likely than small companies to diversify the markets and products.

2.1.2 现象解释型削弱

例 6. The price of maple syrup has jumped from 22 dollars a gallon three years ago to 40 dollars a gallon today. It can be concluded that maple-syrup harvesters have been artificially inflating prices and that governmental price regulations are necessary to control rising prices.

Which of the following, if true, casts the most doubt on the conclusion drawn above?

- A. The government already requires maple-syrup harvesters to submit their facilities to licensing by the health department.
- B. Insect infestation and drought have stunted the growth of syrup-producing maple trees and caused less-abundant syrup harvests.
- C. Maple syrup is produced in rural areas that suffer from high unemployment.
- D. Technological improvements in maple-syrup harvesting have reduced production costs.
- E. Maple-syrup prices have risen many times in the past, though never before at the rate recently observed.

例 7. Since the mayor's publicity campaign for Greenville's bus service began six months ago, morning automobile traffic into the midtown area of the city has decreased seven percent. During the same period, there has been an equivalent rise in the number of persons riding buses into the midtown area. Obviously, the mayor's publicity campaign has convinced many people to leave their cars at home and ride the bus to work.

Which of the following, if true, casts the most serious doubt on the conclusion drawn above?

- A. Fares for all bus routes in Greenville have risen an average of five percent during the past six months.
- B. The mayor of Greenville rides the bus to City Hall in the city's mid town area.
- C. Road reconstruction has greatly reduced the number of lanes available to commuters in major streets leading to the midtown area during the past six months.

- D. The number of buses entering the midtown area of Greenville during the morning hours is exactly the same now as it was one year ago.
- E. Surveys show that longtime bus riders are no more satisfied with the Greenville bus service than they were before the mayor's publicity campaign began.

例 8. Companies O and P each has the same number of employees who work the same number of hours per week. According to records maintained by each company, the employees of Company O had fewer job-related accidents last year than did the employees of Company P. Therefore, employees of Company O are less likely to have job-related accidents than are employees of Company P.

Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the conclusion above?

- A. The employees of Company P lost more time at work due to job-related accidents than did the employees of Company O.
- B. Company P considered more types of accidents to be job-related than did Company O.
- C. The employees of Company P were sick more often than were the employees of Company O.
- D. Several employees of Company O each had more than one job-related accident.
- E. The majority of job-related accidents at Company O involved a single machine.

例 9. The ice on the front windshield of the car had formed when moisture condensed during the night. The ice melted quickly after the car was warmed up the next morning because the defrosting vent, which blows on the front windshield, was turned on full force.

Which of the following, if true, most seriously jeopardizes the validity of the explanation for the speed with which the ice melted?

- A. The side windows had no ice condensation on them.
- B. Even though no attempt was made to defrost the back window, the ice there melted at the same rate as did the ice on the front windshield.
- C. The speed at which ice on a window melts increases as the temperature of the air blown on the window increases
- D. The warm air from the defrosting vent for the front windshield cools rapidly as it dissipates throughout the rest of the car.
- E. The defrosting vent operates efficiently even when the heater, which blows warm air toward the feet or faces of the driver and passengers, is on.

例 10. Since 1945 there have been numerous international confrontations as tense as those that precipitated the Second World War, and yet no large-scale conflict has resulted. To explain this, some argue that fear of enormous destruction such as the Second War produced has had a dramatic deterrent effect.

Which of the following, if true, most seriously weakens the deterrent theory mentioned above?

- A. After the First World War, the fear of great future destruction was as intense as it was after the Second World War.
- B. Psychologists have determined that the fear of retaliation tends to temper aggressiveness among human beings.
- C. The Second World War was far less distractive than most people believe.
- D. Fear of repeating the levels of destruction that the Second World War produced is as pervasive today as it was forty years ago.
- E. Many of the international confrontations that have occurred since 1945 have involved countries that participated in the Second World War.

2.1.3 练习题

1. A conservation group in the United States is trying to change the long-standing image of bats as frightening creatures. The group contends that bats are feared and persecuted solely because they are shy animals that are active only at night.

Which of the following, if true, would cast the most serious doubt on the accuracy of the group's contention?

- A. Bats are steadily losing natural roosting places such as caves and hollow trees and are thus turning to more developed areas for roosting.
- B. Bats are the chief consumers of nocturnal insects and thus can help make their hunting territory more pleasant for humans.
- C. Bats are regarded as frightening creatures not only in the United States but also in Europe, Africa, and South America.
- D. Raccoons and owls are shy and active only at night; yet they are not generally feared and persecuted.
- E. People know more about the behavior of other greatly feared animal species, such as lions, alligators, and tigers, than they do about the behavior of bats.

2. The average normal infant born in the United States weighs between twelve and fourteen pounds at the age of three months. Therefore, if a three-month-old child weighs only ten pounds, its weight gain has been below the United States average.

Which of the following indicates a flaw in the reasoning above?

- A. Weight is only one measure of normal infant development.
- B. Some three-month-old children weigh as much as seventeen pounds.
- C. It is possible for a normal child to weigh ten pounds at birth.
- D. The phrase "below average" does not necessarily mean insufficient.
- E. Average weight gain is not the same as average weight.

3. Red blood cells in which the malarial-fever parasite resides are eliminated from a person's body after 120 days. Because the parasite cannot travel to a new generation of red blood cells, any fever that develops in a person more than 120 days after that person has moved to a malaria-free region is not due to the malarial parasite.

Which of the following, if true, most seriously weakens the conclusion above?

- A. The fever caused by the malarial parasite may resemble the fever caused by flu viruses.
- B. The anopheles mosquito, which is the principal insect carrier of the malarial parasite, has been eradicated in many parts of the world.
- C. Many malarial symptoms other than the fever, which can be suppressed with anti-malarial medication, can reappear within 120 days after the medication is discontinued.
- D. In some cases, the parasite that causes malarial fever travels to cells of the spleen, which are less frequently eliminated from a person's body than are red blood cells.
- E. In any region infested with malaria-carrying mosquitoes, there are individuals who appear to be immune to malaria.

4. A proposed ordinance requires the installation in new homes of sprinklers automatically triggered by the presence of a fire. However, a homebuilder argued that because more than ninety percent of residential fires are extinguished by a household member, residential sprinklers would only marginally decrease property damage caused by residential fires.

Which of the following, if true, would most seriously weaken the home builder's argument?

- A. most individuals have no formal training in how to extinguish fires.
- B. Since new homes are only a tiny percentage of available housing in the city, the new ordinance would be extremely narrow in scope.

- C. The installation of smoke detectors in new residences costs significantly less than the installation of sprinklers.
- D. In the city where the ordinance was proposed, the average time required by the fire department to respond to a fire was less than the national average.
- E. The largest proportion of property damage that results from residential fires is caused by fires that start when no household member is present.

5. Some people have questioned the judge's objectivity in cases of sex discrimination against women. But the record shows that in sixty percent of such cases, the judge has decided in favor of the women. This record demonstrates that the judge has not discriminated against women in cases of sex discrimination against women.

The argument above is flawed in that it ignores the possibility that

- A. a large number of the judge's cases arose out of allegations of sex discrimination against women
- B. many judges find it difficult to be objective in cases of sex discrimination against women
- C. the judge is biased against women defendants or plaintiffs in cases that do not involve sex discrimination
- D. the majority of the cases of sex discrimination against women that have reached the judge's court have been appealed from a lower court
- E. the evidence shows that the women should have won in more than sixty percent of the judge's cases involving sex discrimination against women

6. Opponents of laws that require automobile drivers and passengers to wear seat belts argue that in a free society people have the right to take risks as long as the people do not harm other as a result of taking the risks. As a result, they conclude that it should be each person's decision whether or not to wear a seat belt.

Which of the following, if true, most seriously weakens the conclusion drawn above?

- A. Many new cars are built with seat belts that automatically fasten when someone sits in the front seat.
- B. Automobile insurance rates for all automobile owners are higher because of the need to pay for the increased injuries or deaths of people not wearing seat belts.
- C. Passengers in airplanes are required to wear seat belts during takeoffs and landings.
- D. The rate of automobile fatalities in states that do not have mandatory seat belt laws is greater than the rate of fatalities in states that do have such laws.
- E. In automobile accidents, a greater number of passengers who do not wear seat belts are injured than are passengers who do wear seat belts.

7. The presence of microorganisms that produce a toxin cause seawater to turn brownish red, phenomenon known as a red tide. Sea otters do not feed in areas where clams, their main source of food, have become contaminated with this toxin. According to a proposed explanation of the otter's behavior, the otters sample the clams in a potential feeding area and can taste any toxin in them.

Which of the following, if true, would most strongly indicate that the hypothesis described in the last sentence of the passage is not correct?

- A. In some of the area where red tides occur, neither clams nor sea otters are indigenous species.
- B. The presence of sea otters in a given area has a significant effect on which other marine organisms are to be found in that area.
- C. When seawater in an area unaffected by red tide is artificially dyed brownish red, sea otters do not feed on the clams in that area.
- D. If the clams in a given areas are contaminated with toxin, sea otters move to other areas in search of food.
- E. Although very small amounts of the toxin produced during a red tide are not harmful, large doses can be fatal to animals the size of sea otters.

8. The number of people diagnosed as having a certain intestinal disease has dropped significantly in a rural

county this year, as compared to last year. Health officials attribute this decrease entirely to improved sanitary conditions at water-treatment plants, which made for cleaner water this year and thus reduced the incidence of the disease.

Which of the following, if true, would most seriously weaken the health officials' explanation for the lower incidence of the disease?

- A. Many new water-treatment plants have been built in the last five years in the rural county.
- B. Bottled spring water has not been consumed in significantly different quantities by people diagnosed as having the intestinal disease, as compared to people who did not contract the disease.
- C. Because of a new diagnostic technique, many people who until this year would have been diagnosed as having the intestinal disease are now correctly diagnosed as suffering from intestinal ulcers.
- D. Because of medical advances this year, far fewer people who contract the intestinal disease will develop severe cases of the disease.
- E. The water in the rural county was brought up to the sanitary standards of the water in neighboring counties ten years ago.

9. Throughout the 1950's, there were increases in the numbers of dead birds found in agricultural areas after pesticide sprayings. Pesticide manufacturers claimed that the publicity given to bird deaths stimulated volunteers to look for dead birds, and that the increase in numbers reported was attributable to the increase in the number of people looking.

Which of the following statements, if true, would help to refute the claim of the pesticide manufacturers?

- A. The publicity given to bird deaths was largely regional and never reached national proportions.
- B. Pesticide sprayings were timed to coincide with various phases of the life cycles of the insects they destroyed.
- C. No provision was made to ensure that a dead bird would not be reported by more than one observer.
- D. Initial increases in bird deaths had been noticed by agricultural workers long before any publicity had been given to the matter.
- E. Dead birds of the same species as those found in agricultural areas had been found along coastal areas where no farming took place.

10. The cities with the densest population have the highest ratio of police officers to citizens. Such cities also have the lowest rates of property crime without contact between perpetrator and victim. Thus maintaining a high ratio of police officers to citizens can serve as an effective deterrent to at least certain kinds of property crime.

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

- A. The quality of training that police receive varies from city to city.
- B. High population density itself makes it difficult to commit a property crime that involves no contact between perpetrator and victim.
- C. Many nonviolent crimes in large cities are drug-related.
- D. A majority of the perpetrators of property crimes in densely populated cities are not apprehended by the police.
- E. Property crimes without contact between perpetrator and victim represent only a small proportion of overall crime.

11. In the past, teachers, bank tellers, and secretaries were predominantly men; these occupations slipped in pay and status when they became largely occupied by women. Therefore, if women become the majority in currently male-dominated professions like accounting, law, and medicine, the income and prestige of these professions will also drop.

Which of the following, if true, would most likely be part of the evidence used to refute the conclusion above?

- A. Accountants, lawyers, and physicians attained their current relatively high levels of income and prestige at about the same time that the pay and status of teachers, bank tellers, and secretaries slipped.
- B. When large numbers of men join a female-dominated occupation, such as airline flight attendant, the status and pay of the occupation tend not to change.
- C. The demand for teachers and secretaries has increased significantly in recent years, while the demand for bank tellers has remained relatively stable.
- D. If present trends in the awarding of law degrees to women continue, it will be at least two decades before the majority of lawyers are women.
- E. The pay and status of female accountants, lawyers, and physicians today are governed by significantly different economic and sociological forces than were the pay and status of female teachers, bank tellers, and secretaries in the past.

12. The average age of chief executive officers (CEO's) in a large sample of companies is 57. The average age of CEO's in those same companies 20 years ago was approximately eight years younger. On the basis of those data, it can be concluded that CEO's in general tend to be older now.

Which of the following casts the most doubt on the conclusion drawn above?

- A. The dates when the CEO's assumed their current positions have not been specified.
- B. No information is given concerning the average number of years that CEO's remain in office.
- C. The information is based only on companies that have been operating for at least 20 years.
- D. Only approximate information is given concerning the average age of the CEO's 20 years ago.
- E. Information about exact number of companies in the sample hasn't been given.

13. Tocqueville, a nineteenth-century writer known for his study of democracy in the United States, believed that a government that centralizes power in one individual or institution is dangerous to its citizens. Biographers claim that Tocqueville disliked centralized government because he blamed Napoleon's rule for the poverty of his childhood in Normandy.

Which of the following, if true, would cast the most serious doubt on the biographers' claim?

- A. Although Napoleon was popularly blamed at the time for the terrible living conditions in Normandy, historians now know that bad harvests were really to blame for the poor economic conditions.
- B. Napoleon was notorious for refusing to share power with any of his political associates.
- C. Tocqueville said he knew that if his father had not suffered ill health, his family would have had a steady income and a comfortable standard of living.
- D. Although Tocqueville asserted that United States political life was democratic, the United States of the nineteenth century allowed political power to be concentrated in a few institutions.
- E. Tocqueville once wrote in a letter that, although his childhood was terribly impoverished, it was not different from the experience of his friends and neighbors in Normandy.

14. The lobbyists argued that because there is no statistical evidence that breathing other people's tobacco smoke increases the incidence of heart disease or lung cancer in healthy nonsmokers, legislation banning smoking in workplaces cannot be justified on health grounds.

The argument reported above would be most seriously weakened if it were true that

- A. breathing smoke-filled air increases the incidence of headaches and coughs in healthy nonsmokers.
- B. Most nonsmokers dislike the odor of smoke-filled air
- C. Smoke-filled air is a major source of the dirt that damages computers and other sensitive equipment
- D. Most workers would prefer to have smoking banned in workplaces
- E. Legislation banning smoking in workplaces decreases friction between smoking and nonsmoking workers and is easy to enforce

15. Most consumers do not get much use out of the sports equipment they purchase. For example, 17 percent of the adults in the United States own jogging shoes, but only 45 percent of the owners jog more than once a year, and only 17 percent jog more than once a week.

Which of the following, if true, casts the most doubt on the claim that most consumers get little use out of the sports equipment they purchase?

- A. Joggers are most susceptible to sports injuries during the first six months in which they jog.
- B. In surveys designed to elicit such information, joggers often exaggerate the frequency with which they jog.
- C. Many consumers purchase jogging shoes for use in activities other than jogging.
- D. Consumers who take up jogging often purchase athletic shoes that can be used in other sports.
- E. Joggers who jog more than once a week are often active participants in other sports as well.

16. Sales of telephones have increased dramatically over the last year. In order to take advantage of this increase, Mammoth Industries plans to expand production of its own model of telephone, while continuing its already very extensive advertising of this product.

Which of the following, if true, provides most support for the view that Mammoth Industries cannot increase its sales of telephones by adopting the plan outlined above?

- A. Although it sells all the telephones that it produces, Mammoth Industries share of all telephone sales has declined over the last year.
- B. Mammoth Industries' average inventory of telephones awaiting shipment to retailers has declined slightly over the last year.
- C. Advertising has made the brand name of Mammoth Industries' telephones widely known, but few consumers know that Mammoth Industries owns this brand.
- D. Mammoth Industries' telephone is one of three brands of telephone that have together accounted for the bulk of the last year's increase in sales.
- E. Despite a slight decline in the retail price, sales of Mammoth Industries' telephones have fallen in the last year.

17. A researcher discovered that people who have low levels of immune-system activity tend to score much lower on tests of mental health than do people with normal or high immune-system activity. The researcher concluded from this experiment that the immune system protects against mental illness as well as against physical disease.

The researchers conclusion would be most seriously weakened if it were true that

- A. there was a one-year delay between the completion of a pilot study for the experiment and the initiation of the experiment itself
- B. people's levels of immune-system activity are not affected by their use of medications
- C. a few people with high immune-system activity had scores on the test of mental health that were similar to the scores of people who had normal immune-system activity
- D. people who have low immune-system activity tend to contract more viral infections than do people with normal or high immune-system activity
- E. high levels of stress first cause mental illness and then cause decreased immune-system activity in normal individuals

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2.2 加强

标志词: **strengthen, support**

2.2.1 现象解释型

例 1. The population of peregrine falcons declined rapidly during the 1950's and 1960's and reached an all-time low in the early 1970's. The decline was attributed by scientists to the widespread use of the pesticide DDT, in rural areas.

Which of the following, if true, gives the strongest support to the scientists' claim?

- A. DDT was not generally in use in areas devoted to heavy industry.
- B. In the time since the use of DDT was banned in 1972, the population of peregrine falcons has been steadily increasing.
- C. Peregrine falcons, like other birds of prey, abandon eggs that fallen out of the nest, even if the eggs remain intact.
- D. Starling, house sparrows, and blue jays-birds the peregrine falcon prey on were not adversely affected by DDT in their habitats.
- E. Other birds of prey, such as the osprey, the bald eagle, and the brown pelican, are found in the same area as is the peregrine falcon.

2.2.2 前提结论型

例 2. Mr. Lawson: We should adopt a national family policy that includes legislation requiring employers to provide paid parental leave and establishing government-sponsored day care. Such laws would decrease the stress levels of employees who have responsibility for small children. Thus, such laws would lead to happier, better-adjusted families.

Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the conclusion above?

- A. An employee's high stress level can be a cause of unhappiness and poor adjustment for his or her family.
- B. People who have responsibility for small children and who work outside the home have higher stress levels than those who do not.
- C. The goal of a national family policy is to lower the stress levels of parents.
- D. Any national family policy that is adopted would include legislation requiring employers to provide paid parental leave and establishing government-sponsored day care.
- E. Most children who have been cared for in daycare centers are happy and well adjusted.

例 3. Recent surveys show that many people who seek medical help are under a great deal of stress. Medical research also shows that stress can adversely affect an individual's immune system, which is responsible for combating many infections. Thus when a person is under stress, he or she is more likely to become ill.

Which of the following, if true, would most strength the conclusion above?

- A. Many businesses that provide health insurance for their employees also provide seminars on stress management.
- B. Many businesses report a significant decrease in absenteeism during periods when employees feel pressured by management.
- C. There is a marked decrease in the number of complaints presented at college infirmaries during vacation time.
- D. There is a marked increase in the number of illness treated at college infirmaries around the time of examinations.
- E. Most people report that being in a hospital or an infirmary is a stressful situation.

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2.2.3 练习题

1. The town of Stavanger, Norway, was quiet and peaceful until early 1960's, when Stavanger became Norway's center for offshore oil exploration. Between then and now, violent crime and vandalism in Stavanger have greatly increased. Clearly, these social problems are among the results of Stavanger's oil boom.

Which of the following, if it occurred between the early 1960's and now, gives the strongest support to the argument above?

- A. The people of Stavanger rarely regret that their town was chosen to be Norway's center for offshore oil exploration.
- B. Norwegian sociologists expressed grave concern about the increase in violent crime and vandalism in Stavanger.
- C. Violent crime and vandalism have remained low in Norwegian that had no oil boom.
- D. Nonviolent crime, drug addiction, and divorce in Stavanger increased approximately as much as violent crime and vandalism did.
- E. The oil boom necessitated the building of wider roads for the increased traffic in Stavanger.

2. Black Americans are, on the whole, about twice as likely as White Americans to develop high blood pressure. This likelihood also holds for westernized Black Africans when compared to White Africans. Researchers have hypothesized that this predisposition in westernized Blacks may reflect an interaction between western high-salt diets and genes that adapted to an environmental scarcity of salt.

Which of the following statements about present-day, westernized Black Africans, if true, would most tend to confirm the researchers' hypothesis?

- A. The blood pressures of those descended from peoples situated throughout their history in Senegal and Gambia, where salt was always available, are low.
- B. The unusually high salt consumption in certain areas of Africa represents a serious health problem.
- C. Because of their blood pressure levels, most White Africans have markedly decreased their salt consumption.
- D. Blood pressures are low among the Yoruba, who, throughout their history, have been situated far inland from sources of sea salt and far south of Saharan salt mines.
- E. No significant differences in salt metabolism have been found between people who have had salt available throughout their history and those who have not.

3. Affirmative action is good business. So asserted the National Association of Manufacturers while urging retention of an executive order requiring some federal contractors to set numerical goals for hiring minorities and women. "Diversity in work force participation has produced new ideas in management, product development, and marketing," the association claimed.

The association's argument assert is presented in the passage above would be most strengthened if which of the following were true?

- A. The percentage of minority and women workers in business has increased more slowly than many minority and women groups would prefer.
- B. Those businesses with the highest percentages of minority and women workers are those that have been the most innovative and profitable.
- C. Disposable income has been rising as fast among minorities and women as among the population as a whole.
- D. The biggest growth in sales in the manufacturing sector has come in industries that market the most innovative products.
- E. Recent improvements in management practices have allowed many manufacturers to experience enormous gains in worker productivity.

4. Manufacturers of mechanical pencils make most of their profit on pencil leads rather than on the pencils themselves. The Write Company, which cannot sell its leads as cheaply as other manufacturers can, plans to alter the design of its mechanical pencil so that it will accept only a newly designed Write Company lead, which will be sold at the same price as the Write Company's current lead.

Which of the following, if true, most strongly supports the Write Company's projection that its plan will lead to an increase in its sales of pencil leads?

- A. First-time buyers of mechanical pencils tend to buy the least expensive mechanical pencils available.
- B. Annual sales of mechanical pencils are expected to triple over the next 5 years.
- C. A Write Company executive is studying ways to reduce the cost of manufacturing pencil leads.
- D. A rival manufacturer recently announced similar plans to introduce a mechanical pencil that would accept only the leads produced by that manufacturer.
- E. In extensive test marketing, mechanical-pencil users found the new Write Company pencil markedly superior to other mechanical pencils they had used.

5. The local board of education found that, because the current physics curriculum has little direct relevance to today's world, physics classes attracted few high school students. So to attract students to physics classes, the board proposed a curriculum that emphasizes principles of physics involved in producing and analyzing visual images.

Which of the following, if true, provides the strongest reason to expect that the proposed curriculum will be successful in attracting students?

- A. Several of the fundamental principles of physics are involved in producing and analyzing visual images.
- B. Knowledge of physics is becoming increasingly important in understanding the technology used in today's world.
- C. Equipment that a large producer of photographic equipment has donated to the high school could be used in the proposed curriculum.
- D. The number of students interested in physics today is much lower than the number of students interested in physics 50 years ago.
- E. In today's world the production and analysis of visual images is of major importance in communications, business, and recreation.

6. There were far fewer children available for adoption than there are people who want to adopt. Two million couples were waiting to adopt, but in 1982, the last year for which figures exist, there were only some 50,000 adoptions.

Which of the following statements, if true, most strengthens the author's claim that there were far fewer children available for adoption than there were people who want to adopt?

- A. The number of couples waiting to adopt has increased significantly in the last decade.
- B. The number of adoptions in the current year is greater than the number of adoptions in any preceding year.
- C. The number of adoptions in a year is approximately equal to the number of children available for adoption in that period.
- D. People who seek to adopt children often go through a long process of interviews and investigation by adoption agencies.
- E. People who seek to adopt children generally make very good parents.

7. Caterpillars of all species produce an identical hormone called "juvenile hormone" that maintains feeding behavior. Only when a caterpillar has grown to the right size for pupation to take place does a special enzyme halt the production of juvenile hormone. This enzyme can be synthesized and will, on being ingested by immature caterpillars, kill them by stopping them from feeding.

Which of the following, if true, most strongly supports the view that it would NOT be advisable to try

to eradicate agricultural pests that go through a caterpillar stage by spraying croplands with the enzyme mentioned above?

- A. Most species of caterpillar are subject to some natural predation.
- B. Many agricultural pests do not go through a caterpillar stage.
- C. Many agriculturally beneficial insects go through a caterpillar stage.
- D. Since caterpillars of different species emerge at different times, several sprayings would be necessary.
- E. Although the enzyme has been synthesized in the laboratory, no large-scale production facilities exist as yet.

8. In tests for pironoma, a serious disease, a false positive result indicates that people have pironoma when, in fact, they do not; a false-negative result indicates that people do not have pironoma when, in fact, they do. To detect pironoma most accurately, physicians should use the laboratory test that has the lowest proportion of false positive results.

Which of the following, if true, gives the most support to the recommendation above?

- A. The accepted treatment for pironoma does not have damaging side effects.
- B. The laboratory test that has the lowest proportion of false positive results causes the same minor side effects as do the other laboratory tests used to detect pironoma.
- C. In treating pironoma patients, it is essential to begin treatment as early as possible, since even a week of delay can result in loss of life.
- D. The proportion of inconclusive test results is equal for all laboratory tests used to detect pironoma.
- E. All laboratory tests to detect pironoma have the same proportion of false negative

2.3 假设

标志词: **assume, presuppose, additional premise, not true unless, depend on**

2.3.1 现象解释型 (Not Weaken)

例 1. Statistics over four consecutive years showed that four percent more automobile accidents happened in California during the week following the switch to daylight saving time and during the week following the switch back to standard time than occurred the week before each event. These statistics show that these time changes adversely affect the alertness of California drivers.

The conclusion in the argument above is based on which of the following assumptions?

- A. Drivers in California as well as those in the rest of the United States have similar driving patterns.
- B. The observed increases in accident rates are due almost entirely to an increase in the number of minor accidents.
- C. Four years is not a sufficiently long period of time over which to judge the phenomenon described.
- D. There are no other factors such as school vacations or holiday celebrations that cause accident rates to rise during these weeks.
- E. A time change at any other time of year would not produce a similar increase in accident

2.3.2 前提结论型 (GAP)

例 2. The federal government expects hospitals to perform 10,000 organ transplants next year. But it is doubtful that this many donor organs will be available, since the number of fatalities resulting from car and motorcycle accidents has been dropping steadily over the past decade.

The argument above makes which of the following assumptions?

- A. A significant number of the organs used in transplants come from people who die in car and motorcycle accidents.
- B. The number of car and motorcycle accidents will increase significantly during the next year.
- C. No more than 10,000 people will be in need of organ transplants during the next year.
- D. In the past the federal government's estimates of the number of organ transplants needed during a given year have been very unreliable.
- E. For any given fatality resulting from a car or motorcycle accident, there is a hospital in the vicinity in need of an organ for a transplant.

2.3.3 前提结论型 (Not Weaken)

例 3. The government should stop permitting tobacco companies to subtract advertising expenses from their revenues in calculating taxable income. Tobacco companies would then have to pay more taxes. As a consequence, they would raise the prices of their products and this price increase would discourage tobacco use.

Which of the following is an additional premise required by the argument above?

- A. Tobacco companies would not offset the payment of extra taxes by reducing costs in other areas.
- B. Tobacco companies would not continue to advertise if they were forced to pay higher taxes.
- C. People would not continue to buy tobacco products if these products were no longer advertised.
- D. The money the government would gain as a result of the increase in the tobacco companies taxable

- income would be used to educate the public about the dangers of tobacco use.
- E. The increase in taxes paid by tobacco companies would be equal to the additional income generated by raising prices.

2.3.4 练习题

1. Twenty percent of all energy consumed in the United States is consumed by home appliances. If appliances that are twice as energy-efficient as those currently available are produced, this figure will eventually be reduced to about ten percent.

The argument above requires which of the following assumption?

- A. Home-appliance usage would not increase along with the energy efficiency of the appliances.
- B. It wouldn't be expensive to produce home appliances that are energy-efficient.
- C. Home-appliance manufacturers now have the technology to produce appliances that are twice as energy-efficient as those currently available.
- D. The cost of energy to the consumer would rise with increase in the energy efficiency of home appliances.
- E. The percentage of energy consumed by home appliances will increase if existing appliances are not replaced by more energy-efficient models.

2. In the 1960's long-term studies of primate behavior often used as subjects tamaris, small monkeys that were thought ideal because they require only small cages, breed frequently, and grow quickly. Field studies were not used because they were costly and difficult. Tamarinds were kept caged in male-female pairs, because otherwise, serious fights erupted between unrelated females. On the basis of the fact that breeding occurred, tamarinds were viewed as monogamous.

The view taken by the researchers concerning the monogamy of tamarinds depended on a questionable assumption. Which of the following could have served as that assumption?

- A. The suppression of fighting between related females serves to protect their common genetic inheritance.
- B. Adult male tamarinds contribute to the care of tamarind infants.
- C. The social system of tamarinds requires monogamous pairing.
- D. Male tamarind monkeys do not display aggressive behavior in the wild.
- E. The way the tamarinds were kept in cages did not affect their mating behavior.

3. Inspection system X and inspection system Y, though based on different principles, each detect all product flaws but they each also erroneously reject three percent of flawless products. Since false rejections are very costly, money will be saved by installing both systems, instead of either one or the other, and rejecting only products found flawed by both.

The argument above requires which of the following assumption?

- A. The three percent of flawless products that system X rejects are not all the same products, piece for piece, which system Y erroneously rejects.
- B. It is less costly to accept a flawed product than to reject a flawless one.
- C. In their price range, system X and Y are the least error-prone inspection systems on the market.
- D. Whichever system performs the second inspection needs to inspect only products not rejected by the first system.
- E. Any way of detecting flaws, other than by using either system X or system Y, requires complete disassembly of the products.

4. A recent report determined that although only 3 percent of drivers on Maryland highways equipped their vehicles with radar detectors, 33 percent of all vehicles ticketed for exceeding the speed limit were equipped with them. Clearly, drivers who equip their vehicles with radar detectors are more likely to exceed the speed limit regularly than are drivers who do not.

The conclusion drawn above depends on which of the following assumptions?

- A. Drivers who equip their vehicles with radar detectors are less likely to be ticketed for exceeding the speed limit than are drivers who do not.
- B. Drivers who are ticketed for exceeding the speed limit are more likely to exceed the speed limit regularly than are drivers who are not ticketed.
- C. The number of vehicles that were ticketed for exceeding the speed limit was greater than the number of vehicles that were equipped with radar detectors.
- D. Many of the vehicles that were ticketed for exceeding the speed limit were ticketed more than once in the time period covered by the report.

- E. Drivers on Maryland highways exceeded the speed limit more often than did drivers on other state highways not covered in the report.

5. New Jersey has one of the lowest motor vehicle fatality rates in the country, and it is one of the few states that require extensive annual automobile safety inspections. Therefore, all states should adopt similar safety inspection procedures.

The argument above is based on which of the following assumptions?

- A. Most states tend to impose few rules and regulations on the automobile drivers operating within those states.
- B. Most states are skeptical that annual automobile safety inspections can reduce fatality rates.
- C. Annual automobile safety inspections contribute significantly to holding down New Jersey's fatality rate.
- D. Drivers in New Jersey are more safety conscious than are drivers in other parts of the country.
- E. A smaller number of people die on the roads in New Jersey than in most others.

6. Although the ratio of physicians to total population is about the same in the United State and Canada, the United States has 33 percent more surgeons per capita. Clearly, this is the reason people in the United States undergo 40 percent more operations per capita than do Canadians.

The explanation given above rests on an assumption that

- A. patients in the United States do not have a greater need for surgery than do patients in Canada.
- B. the population of the United States is not larger than that of Canada.
- C. United States patients sometimes travel to Canada for certain kinds of surgery.
- D. general practitioners in the United States do not as a rule examine a patient who is a candidate for surgery before sending the patient to a surgeon.
- E. there are no unnecessary surgical operations performed in Canada.

7. Because no employee wants to be associated with bad news in the eyes of a superior, information about serious problems at lower levels is progressively softened and distorted as it goes up each step in the management hierarchy. The chief executive is, therefore, less well informed about problems at lower levels than are his or her subordinates at those levels.

The conclusion drawn above is based on the assumption that

- A. problems should be solved at the level in the management hierarchy at which they occur
- B. employees should be rewarded for accurately reporting problems to their superiors
- C. problem-solving ability is more important at higher levels than it is at lower levels of the management hierarchy
- D. chief executives obtain information about problems at lower levels from no source other than their subordinates
- E. some employees are more concerned about truth than about the way they are perceived by their superiors

8. A private bus company gained greater profits and provided bus service to the area at lower fares by running buses more frequently and stimulating greater rider-ship. Hoping to continue these financial trends, the company plans to replace all older buses with new, larger buses, including some double-decker buses.

The plan of the bus company as described above assumes all of the following EXCEPT

- A. the demand for bus service in the company's area of service will increase in the future
- B. increased efficiency and revenues will compensate for any new expenses the company incurs
- C. the new buses will be sufficiently reliable to ensure the company a net financial gain once they are in place
- D. driving the new buses will be no more difficult than driving the buses they are to replace

- E. the larger, double-decker buses will not face obstacles such as height and weight restrictions in the bus company's area of service

9. A recent survey of all auto accident victims in Dole County found that, of the severely injured drivers and front-seat passengers, 80 percent were not wearing seat belts at the time of their accidents. This indicates that, by wearing seat belts, drivers and front-seat passengers can greatly reduce their risk of being severely injured if they are in an auto accident.

The conclusion above is not properly drawn unless which of the following is true?

- A. Of all the drivers and front-seat passengers in the survey, more than 20 percent were wearing seat belts at the time of their accidents.
- B. Considerably more than 20 percent of drivers and front-seat passengers in Dole County always wear seat belts when traveling by car.
- C. More drivers and front-seat passengers in the survey than rear-seat passengers were very severely injured.
- D. More than half of the drivers and front-seat passengers in the survey were not wearing seat belts at the time of their accidents.
- E. Most of the auto accidents reported to police in Dole County do not involve any serious injury.

10. Even though most universities retain the royalties from faculty members' inventions, the faculty members retain the royalties from books and articles they write. Therefore, faculty members should retain the royalties from the educational computer software they develop.

The conclusion above would be more reasonably drawn if which of the following were inserted into the argument as an additional premise?

- A. Royalties from inventions are higher than royalties from educational software programs.
- B. Faculty members are more likely to produce educational software programs than inventions.
- C. Inventions bring more prestige to universities that do books and articles.
- D. In the experience of most universities, educational software programs are more marketable than are books and articles.
- E. In terms of the criteria used to award royalties, educational software programs are more nearly comparable to books and articles than to inventions.

11. Child's World, a chain of toy stores, has relied on a "supermarket concept" of computerized inventory control and customer self-service to eliminate the category of sales clerks from its force of employees. It now plans to employ the same concept in selling children clothes.

The plan of Child's World assumes that

- A. supermarkets will not also be selling children clothes in the same manner.
- B. personal service by sales personnel is not required for selling children clothes successfully.
- C. the same kind of computers will be used in inventory control for both clothes and toys at Child's World.
- D. a self-service plan cannot be employed without computerized inventory control.
- E. sales clerks are the only employees of Child's World who could be assigned tasks related to inventory control.

12. An electric-power company gained greater profits and provided electricity to consumers at lower rates per unit of electricity by building larger-capacity more efficient plants and by stimulating greater use of electricity within its area. To continue these financial trends, the company planned to replace an old plant by a plant with triple the capacity of its largest plant.

The company's plans described above assumed each of the following EXCEPT:

- A. Demand for electricity within the company's area of service would increase in the future.
- B. Expense would not rise beyond the level that could be compensated for by efficiency or volume of operation, or both.
- C. The planned plant would be sufficiently reliable in service to contribute a net financial benefit to the

company as a whole.

- D. Safety measures to be instituted for the new plant would be the same as those for the plant it would replace.
- E. The tripling of capacity would not result in insuperable Technological obstacles to efficiency.

13. One state adds a 7 percent sales tax to the price of most products purchased within its jurisdiction. This tax, therefore, if viewed as tax on income, has the reverse effect of the federal income tax: the lower the income, the higher the annual percentage rate at which the income is taxed.

The conclusion above would be properly drawn if which of the following were assumed as a premise?

- A. The amount of money citizens spend on products subject to the state tax tends to be equal across income levels.
- B. The federal income tax favors citizens with high incomes, whereas the state sales tax favors citizens with low incomes.
- C. Citizens with low annual incomes can afford to pay a relatively higher percentage of their incomes in state sales tax, since their federal income tax is relatively low.
- D. The lower a state's sales tax, the more it will tend to redistribute income from the more affluent citizens to the rest of society.
- E. Citizens who fail to earn federally taxable income are also exempt from the state sales tax.

14. Blood banks will shortly start to screen all donors for NANB hepatitis. Although the new screening tests are estimated to disqualify up to 5 percent of all prospective blood donors, they will still miss two-thirds of donors carrying NANB hepatitis. Therefore, about 10 percent of actual donors will still supply NANB-contaminated blood.

The argument above depends on which of the following assumptions?

- A. Donors carrying NANB hepatitis do not, in a large percentage of cases, carry other infections for which reliable screening tests are routinely performed.
- B. Donors carrying NANB hepatitis do not, in a large percentage of cases, develop the disease themselves at any point.
- C. The estimate of the number of donors who would be disqualified by tests for NANB hepatitis is an underestimate.
- D. The incidence of NANB hepatitis is lower among the potential blood donors than it is in the population at large.
- E. The donors who will still supply NANB-contaminated blood will donate blood at the average frequency for all donors.

15. A researcher discovered that people who have low levels of immune-system activity tend to score much lower on tests of mental health than do people with normal or high immune-system activity. The researcher concluded from this experiment that the immune system protects against mental illness as well as against physical disease.

The researcher's conclusion depends on which of the following assumptions?

- A. High immune-system activity protects against mental illness better than normal immune-system activity does.
- B. Mental illness is similar to physical disease in its effects on body systems.
- C. People with high immune-system activity cannot develop mental illness.
- D. Mental illness does not cause people's immune-system activity to decrease.
- E. Psychological treatment of mental illness is not as effective as is medical treatment.

2.4 评价

标志词: evaluate, appraisal

2.4.1 例题

例: According to a recent survey, marriage is fattening. Cited as evidence is the survey's finding that the average woman gains 23 pounds and the average man gains 18 pounds during 13 years of marriage.

The answer to which of the following questions would be most relevant in evaluating the reasoning presented in the survey?

- A. Why was the period of time studied in the survey 13 years, rather than 12 or 14?
- B. Did some of the men surveyed gain less than 18 pounds during the time they were married?
- C. How much weight is gained or lost in 13 years by single people of comparable age to those surveyed?
- D. Were the woman surveyed as active as the men surveyed, at the time survey was made?
- E. Will the reported gains be maintained over lifetimes of the persons surveyed?

2.4.2 练习题

In the aftermath of a worldwide stock-market crash, Country T claimed that the severity of the stock-market crash it experienced resulted from the accelerated process of denationalization many of its industries underwent shortly before the crash.

Which of the following, if it could be carried out, would be most useful in an evaluation of Country T's assessment of the causes of the severity of its stock-market crash?

- A. calculating the average loss experienced by individual traders in Country T
- B. using economic theory to predict the date of the next crash in Country T
- C. comparing the total number of shares sold during the worst days of the crash in Country T to the total number of shares sold in Country T just prior to the crash
- D. comparing the severity of the crash in Country T to the severity of the crash in countries otherwise economically similar to Country T that have not experienced recent denationalization
- E. comparing the long-term effects of the crash on the purchasing power of the currency of Country T to the immediate, more severe short-term effects of the crash on the purchasing power of the currency of Country T.

第三部分 信息可能性探讨

3.1 解释

标志词: **explain, reason, account for, provide a rationale for reconcile the discrepancy/paradox.**

3.1.1 解释结果

例 1. The population of elephant seals, reduced by hunting to perhaps a few dozen animals early in this century, has soared under federal protection during the last few decades. However, because the species repopulated itself through extensive inbreeding, it now exhibits a genetic uniformity that is almost unparalleled in other species of mammals, and thus it is in far greater danger of becoming extinct than are most other species.

Given the information in the passage above, which of the following is most likely the reason that other species of mammals are less likely than elephant seals to become extinct?

- A. Other species of mammals have large populations, so the loss of a few members of the species is not significant.
- B. Other species of mammals have increased their knowledge of dangers through the experience of generation after generation of animals.
- C. In other species of mammals, hunters can readily distinguish between males and females or between young animals and adults.
- D. In other species of mammals, some members of the species are genetically better equipped to withstand a disease or event that destroys other members of the species.
- E. Other species of mammals have retained habits of caution and alertness because they have not been protected as endangered species.

例 2. Fact 1: Television advertising is becoming less effective: the proportion of brand names promoted on television that viewers of the advertising can recall is slowly decreasing.

Fact 2: Television viewers recall commercials aired first or last in a cluster of consecutive commercials far better than they recall commercials aired somewhere in the middle.

Fact 2 would be most likely to contribute to an explanation of Fact 1 if which of the following were also true?

- A. The average television viewer currently recalls fewer than half the brand names promoted in commercials he or she saw.
- B. The total time allotted to the average cluster of consecutive television commercials is decreasing.
- C. The average number of hours per day that people spend watching television is decreasing.
- D. The average number of clusters of consecutive commercials per hour of television is increasing.
- E. The average number of television commercials in a cluster of consecutive commercials is increasing.

3.1.2 解释矛盾

例 3. During the day in Lake Constance, the zoo-plankton D. hyaline departs for the depths where food is scarce and the water cold. D. galeata remains near the warm surface where food is abundant. Even though D. galeata grows and reprocess much faster, its population is often outnumbered by D. hyaline.

Which of the following, if true, would help resolve the apparent paradox presented above?

- A. The number of species of zooplankton living at the lakes is twice that of species living at the surface.
- B. Predators of zooplankton, such as white-fish and perch, live and feed near the surface of the lake during the day.
- C. In order to make the most of scarce food resources, D. hyaline matures more slowly than D. galeata.
- D. D. galeata clusters under vegetation during the hottest part of the day to avoid the sun's rays.
- E. D. galeata produces twice as many offspring per individual in any period of time does D. hyaline.

例 4. For the United States meat industry, there is good news and bad news. The bad news is that over the last three years people in the United States have been eating less meat. The good news is that during this same time period meat producer's profits have risen steadily.

Which of the following, if true during the last three years, contributes most to a resolution of the apparent discrepancy above?

- A. People have been eating less meat because they are more health conscious than in the past.
- B. In the United States many new restaurants that specialize in vegetarian meals have opened.
- C. Competition from the growing fish industry has forced meat producers to sell meat at bargain prices in an attempt to attract more consumers.
- D. Countries that are unable to produce enough meat for their populations have become a new and lucrative market for United States meat producers.
- E. Meat producers have invested large amount of money on advertising in order to win back consumers who have decreased their meat consumption.

3.1.3 练习题

1. In Asia, where palm trees are non-native, the trees' flowers have traditionally been pollinated by hand, which has kept palm fruit productivity unnaturally low. When weevils known to be efficient pollinators of palm flowers were introduced into Asia in 1980, palm fruit productivity increased-by up to fifty percent in some areas-but then decreased sharply in 1984.

Which of the following statements, if true, would best explain the 1984 decrease in productivity?

- A. Prices for palm fruit fell between 1980 and 1984 following the rise in production and a concurrent fall in demand.
- B. Imported trees are often more productive than native trees because the imported ones have left behind their pests and diseases in their native lands.
- C. Rapid increases in productivity tend to deplete trees of nutrients needed for the development of the fruit-producing female flowers.
- D. The weevil population in Asia remained at approximately the same level between 1980 and 1984.
- E. Prior to 1980 another species of insect pollinated the Asian palm trees, but not as efficiently as the species of weevil that was introduced in 1980.

2. The tobacco industry is still profitable and projections are that it will remain so. In the United States this year, the total amount of tobacco sold by tobacco-farmers has increased, even though the number of adults who smoke has decreased.

Each of the following, if true, could explain the simultaneous increase in tobacco sales and decrease in the number of adults who smoke EXCEPT:

- A. During this year, the number of women who have begun to smoke is greater than the number of men

- who have quit smoking
- B. The number of teen-age children who have begun to smoke this year is greater than the number of adults who have quit smoking during the same period
 - C. During this year, the number of nonsmokers who have begun to use chewing tobacco or snuff is greater than the number of people who have quit smoking
 - D. The people who have continued to smoke consume more tobacco per person than they did in the past
 - E. More of the cigarettes made in the United States this year were exported to other countries than was the case last year.

3. In January there was a large drop in the number of new houses sold, because interest rates for mortgages were falling and many consumers were waiting to see how low the rates would go. This large sales drop was accompanied by a sharp rise in the average price of new houses sold.

Which of the following, if true, best explains the sharp rise in the average price of new houses?

- A. Sales of higher-priced houses were unaffected by the sales drop because their purchasers have fewer constraints limiting the total amount they pay.
- B. Labor agreements of builders with construction unions are not due to expire until the next January.
- C. The prices of new houses have been rising slowly over the past three years because there is an increasing shortage of housing.
- D. There was a greater amount of moderate-priced housing available for resale by owners during January than in the preceding three months.
- E. Interest rates for home mortgages are expected to rise sharply later in the year if predictions of increased business activity in general prove to be accurate.

4. In 1984 Exco, which sells its products only through mail-order catalogs, began distributing its catalog to people who had never purchased Exco's products, while it continued to distribute the catalog to previous customers. Total dollar sales increased in 1984, but Exco's profits that year were smaller than in 1983.

Which of the following, if true, contributes most to an explanation of Exco's smaller profits in 1984, as compared to 1983?

- A. There was a two percent increase in 1984 in the sales tax that consumers had to pay on all purchases from the catalog.
- B. A greater number of catalogs were sent to previous customers than to people who never purchased products from Exco.
- C. In 1984 Exco's product-manufacturing costs increased by a smaller amount than the products' selling prices increased.
- D. Customers who never previously purchased products from Exco purchased, on the average, fewer products in 1984 than did previous customers.
- E. The increase between 1983 and 1984 in the cost of mailing the catalogs was greater than the increase in sales from 1983 to 1984.

5. Defense Department analysts worry that the ability of the United States to wage a prolonged war would be seriously endangered if the machine-tool manufacturing base shrinks further. Before the Defense Department publicly connected this security issue with the import quota issue, however, the machine-tool industry raised the national security issue in its petition for import quotas.

Which of the following, if true, contributes most to an explanation of the machine-tool industry's raising the issue above regarding national security?

- A. When the aircraft industries retooled, they provided a large amount of work for too builders.
- B. The Defense Department is only marginally concerned with the effects of foreign competition on the machine-tool industry.

- C. The machine-tool industry encountered difficulty in obtaining governmental protection against imports on grounds other than defense.
- D. A few weapons important for defense consist of parts that do not require extensive machining.
- E. Several federal government programs have been designed which will enable domestic machine-tool manufacturing firms to compete successfully with foreign toolmakers.

3.2 填空

标志词：_____和 **complete the sentence**。

3.2.1 例题

例 Which of the following best completes the passage below?

People buy prestige when they buy a premium product. They want to be associated with something special. Mass-marketing techniques and price-reduction strategies should not be used because_____.

- A. affluent purchasers currently represent a shrinking portion of the population of all purchasers
- B. continued sales depend directly on the maintenance of an aura of exclusivity
- C. purchasers of premium products are concerned with the quality as well as with the price of the products
- D. expansion of the market niche to include a broader spectrum of consumers will increase profits
- E. manufacturing a premium brand is not necessarily more costly than manufacturing a standard brand of the same product

3.2.3 练习题

1. Which of the following best completes the passage below?

The computer industry's estimate that it loses millions of dollars when users illegally copy programs without paying for them is greatly exaggerated. Most of the illegal copying is done by people with no serious interest in the programs. Thus, the loss to the industry is much smaller than estimated because_____.

- A. many users who illegally copy programs never find any use for them
- B. most of the illegally copied programs would not be purchased even if purchasing them were the only way to obtain them
- C. even if the computer industry received all the revenue it claims to be losing, it would still be experiencing financial difficulties
- D. the total market value of all illegal copies is low in comparison to the total revenue of the computer industry
- E. the number of programs that are frequently copied illegally is low in comparison to the number of programs available for sale

2. Which of the following best completes the passage below?

Sales campaigns aimed at the faltering personal computer market have strongly emphasized ease of use, called user-friendliness. This emphasis is oddly premature and irrelevant in the eyes of most potential buyers, who are trying to address the logically prior issue of whether_____.

- A. user-friendliness also implies that owners can service their own computers
- B. personal computers cost more the more user-friendly they are
- C. currently available models are user-friendly enough to suit them
- D. the people promoting personal computers use them in their own homes
- E. they have enough sensible uses for a personal computer to justify the expense of buying one

3. Which of the following best completes the passage below?

"Government" does not exist as an independent entity defining policy. Instead there exists a group of democratically elected pragmatists sensitive to the electorate, who establish policies that will result in their own reelection. Therefore, if public policy is hostile to, say, environmental concerns, it is not because of governmental perversity but because elected officials believe that_____.

- A. environmentalists would be extremely difficult to satisfy with any policy, however environmentally sound
- B. environmental concerns are being accommodated as well as public funds permit
- C. the public is overly anxious about environmental deterioration
- D. the majority of voters vote for certain politicians' idiosyncratic positions on policy issues
- E. the majority of voters do not strongly wish for a different policy

3.3 句子作用题

标志词: **boldface**, **play roles**.

3.3.1 例题

例 1. The use of nets at beach resorts to protect swimming areas from sharks has been criticized by environmentalists because the nets needlessly kill thousands of marine animals annually. However, environmentalists have recently discovered that **an electrified cable buried beneath the periphery of swimming areas causes sharks to swim away while harming neither humans nor marine life**. Hence, by installing such cables, resort communities will be able to maintain tourism while satisfying environmentalists concerns.

The statement concerning what the environmentalists recently discovered plays which of the following roles in the argument?

- A. A premise of the argument
- B. The conclusion of a key term in the argument
- C. A clarification of a key term in the argument
- D. A reiteration of the conclusion for the sake of emphasis
- E. A statement of the position that is being argued against

例 2. Hunter: Hunters alone are blamed for the decline in Greenrock National Forest's deer population over the past ten years. Yet clearly, **black bears have also played an important role in this decline**. In the past ten years, the forest's protected black bear population has risen sharply, and examination of black bears found dead in the forest during the deer-hunting season showed that a number of them had recently fed on deer.

The statement in bold plays which of the following roles' in the argument?

- A. It is the main conclusion of the argument.
- B. It is an objection that has been raised against the main conclusion.
- C. It is a judgment that the argument opposes.
- D. It is a finding that the argument seeks to explain.
- E. It provides evidence in support of the main conclusion of the argument

3.3.2 练习题

1. Last year a record number of new manufacturing jobs were created. Will this year bring another record? Well, **any new manufacturing job is created either with in an existing company or by the start-up of a new company**. Within existing firms, new jobs have been created this year at well below last year's record pace. At the same time, there is considerable evidence that the number of new companies starting up this year will be no higher than it was last year and **there is no reason to think that the new companies starting up this year will create more jobs per company than did last year's start-ups**. So clearly, the number of new jobs created this year will fall short of last year's record.

The two statements in bold play which of the following roles in the argument?

- A. The first provides evidence in support of the main conclusion of the argument; the second is a claim that argument challenges
- B. The first is a generalization of the argument seeks to establish; the second is a conclusion that the argument draws in order to support that generalization
- C. The first is a generalization that the argument seeks to establish; the second is a judgment the has been advanced in order to challenge that generalization
- D. The first is presented as obvious truth on which the argument is based; the second is a claim that has been advanced in support of a position that the argument opposes
- E. The first is presented as obvious truth on which the argument is based; the second is a judgment advanced in support of the main conclusion of the argument

2. **In countries where automobile insurance includes compensation for whiplash injuries sustained automobile accidents, reports of having suffered such injuries are twice as frequent as they are in countries where whiplash is not covered**. Some commentators have argued, correctly, that since there is presently no objective test for whiplash, **spurious reports of whiplash injuries cannot be readily identified**. These commentators are, however, wrong to draw the further conclusion that in the countries with the higher rates of reported whiplash injuries, half of the reported cases are spurious: clearly, in countries where automobile insurance does not include compensation for whiplash, people of have little incentive to

report whiplash injuries that they actually have suffered.

In the argument, the two boldfaced portions play which of the following roles?

- A. The first is a finding whose accuracy is evaluated in the argument; the second is an intermediate conclusion drawn to support the judgment reached by the argument on the accuracy of that finding.
- B. The first is a finding whose accuracy is evaluated in the argument; the second is evidence that has been used to challenge the accuracy of that finding.
- C. The first is a finding whose implications are at issue in the argument; the second is an intermediate conclusion that has been used to support a conclusion that the argument criticizes.
- D. The first is a claim that the argument disputes; the second is a narrower claim that the argument accepts.
- E. The first is a claim that has been used to support a conclusion that the argument accepts; the second is that conclusion.

第四部分 归纳

4.1 归纳题

标志词: **conclusion; inferred; implied; if above true, then it is also true.**

特殊词: *supported*

4.1.1 问题问法总结:

1. It can be concluded from the statements above that...
2. Which one of the following statements most accurately expresses the author's main point?
3. Which one of the following statements CANNOT be true?
4. Which one of the following inferences can be most reliably drawn from the passage above?
5. The passage as a whole is structured to lead to which one of the following conclusions?
6. Which one of the following is the best statement of the primary point of the passage?
7. Each of the following can be inferred from his argument EXCEPT...
8. If the statements above are true, then which one of the following must also be true?

4.1.2 例题

例 1. To be mentally healthy, people must have self-respect. People can maintain self-respect only by continually earning the respect of others they esteem. They can earn this respect only by treating these others morally.

Which of the following conclusions can be properly drawn from the statements above?

- A. People who are mentally healthy will be treated morally by others.
- B. People who are mentally healthy will have treated morally those they esteem.
- C. People who are mentally healthy must have self-respect in order to be treated morally by others.
- D. People can expect to be treated morally by others only if they esteem these others.
- E. People who have self-respect seldom treat morally those esteem.

例 2. Meteorite explosions in the Earth's atmosphere as large as the one that destroyed forests in Siberia, with approximately the force of a twelve-megaton nuclear blast, occur about once a century. The response of highly automated systems controlled by complex computer programs to unexpected circumstances is unpredictable.

Which of the following conclusions can most properly be drawn, if the statements above are true, about a highly automated nuclear-missile defense system controlled by a complex computer program?

- A. Within a century after its construction, the system would react inappropriately and might accidentally start a nuclear war.
- B. The system would be destroyed if an explosion of a large meteorite occurred in the Earth's atmosphere.
- C. It would be impossible for the system to distinguish the explosion of a large meteorite from the explosion of a nuclear weapon.
- D. Whether the system would respond inappropriately to the explosion of a large meteorite would depend on the location of the blast.

- E. It is not certain what the system's response to the explosion of a large meteorite would be, if its designers did not plan for such a contingency.

例 3. Television programming experts maintain that with each 1% increase in the prime-time ratings of a television station there is a 3.5% increase in the number of people who watch its evening news program. However, in the last ten years at Channel NTR, there was only one year of extremely high prime-time ratings- and during that year, fewer people than ever watched Channel NTR's evening news program.

Which of the following conclusions can properly be drawn from the statements above?

- A. When a news program has good ratings, the channel as a whole will have good ratings.
- B. The programming experts neglected to consider daytime news programs.
- C. The year of high ratings at NTR was a result of two hit shows which were subsequently canceled because of contractual problems.
- D. The ten-year period in question is not representative of normal viewing patterns.
- E. Prime-time ratings are not the only factor affecting how many people watch an evening news program.

例 4. Increase in the level of high-density lipoprotein (HDL) in the human bloodstream lower bloodstream-cholesterol levels by increasing the body's capacity to rid itself of excess cholesterol. Levels of HDL in the bloodstream of some individuals are significantly increased by a program of regular exercise and weight reduction.

Which of the following can be correctly inferred from the statements above?

- A. Individuals who are underweight do not run any risk of developing high levels of cholesterol in the bloodstream.
- B. Individuals who do not exercise regularly have a high risk of developing high levels of cholesterol in the bloodstream late in life.
- C. Exercise and weight reduction are the most effective methods of lowering bloodstream cholesterol levels in humans.
- D. A program of regular exercise and weight reduction lowers cholesterol levels in the bloodstream of some individuals.
- E. Only regular exercise is necessary to decrease cholesterol levels in the bloodstream of individuals of average weight.

4.1.3 练习题

1. The cost of producing radios in Country Q is ten percent less than the cost of producing radios in Country Y. even after transportation fees and tariff charges are added, it is still cheaper for a company to import radios from Country Q to Country Y than to produce radios in Country Y.

The statements above, if true, best support which of the following assertions?

- A. labor costs in Country Q are ten percent below those in Country Y.
- B. importing radios from Country Q to Country Y will eliminate ten percent of the manufacturing jobs in Country Y.
- C. the tariff on a radio imported from Country Q to Country Y is less than ten percent of the cost of manufacturing the radio in Country Y.
- D. the fee for transporting a radio from Country Q to Country Y is more than ten percent of the cost of manufacturing the radio in Country Q.
- E. it takes ten percent less time to manufacture a radios in Country Q than it does in Country Y.

2. The city's public transportation system should be removed from the jurisdiction of the municipal government, which finds it politically impossible either to raise fares or to institute cost-saving reductions

in service. If public transportation were handled by a private firm, profits would be vigorously pursued, thereby eliminating the necessity for covering operating costs with government funds.

The statements above best support the conclusion that

- A. the private firms that would handle public transportation would have experience in the transportation industry.
- B. political consideration would not prevent private firm from ensuring that revenues cover operating costs.
- C. private firms would receive government funding if it were needed to cover operating costs.
- D. the public would approve the cost-cutting actions taken by the private firm.
- E. the municipal government would not be resigned to accumulating merely enough income to cover costs.

3. People tend to estimate the likelihood of an event's occurrence according to its salience; that is, according to how strongly and how often it comes to their attention. By placement and headlines, newspapers emphasize stories about local crime over stories about crime elsewhere and about many other major events.

It can be concluded on the basis of the statements above, if they are true, which of the following is most probably also true?

- A. The language used in newspaper headlines about local crime is inflammatory and fails to respect the rights of suspects.
- B. The coverage of international events in newspapers is neglected in favor of the coverage of local events.
- C. Readers of local news in newspapers tend to overestimate the amount of crime in their own localities relative to the amount of crime in other places.
- D. None of the events concerning other people that are reported in newspapers is so salient in people's minds as their own personal experiences.
- E. The press is the news medium that focuses people's attention most strongly on local crimes.

4. By analyzing the garbage of a large number of average-sized households, a group of modern urban anthropologists has found that a household discards less food the more standardized- made up of canned and prepackaged foods- its diet is. The more standardized a household's diet is, however, the greater the quantities of fresh produce the household throws away.

Which of the following can be properly inferred from the passage?

- A. An increasing number of households rely on a highly standardized diet.
- B. The less standardized a household's diet is, the more nonfood waste the household discards.
- C. The less standardized a household's diet is, the smaller is the proportion of fresh produce in the household's food waste.
- D. The less standardized a household's diet is, the more canned and prepackaged foods the household discards as waste.
- E. The more fresh produce a household buys, the more fresh produce it throws away.

5. Radio interferometry is a technique for studying details of celestial objects that combines signals intercepted by widely spaced radio telescopes. This technique requires ultra-precise timing, exact knowledge of the locations of the telescopes, and sophisticated computer programs. The successful interferometric linking of an Earth-based radio telescope with a radio telescope on an orbiting satellite was therefore a significant technological accomplishment.

Which of the following can be correctly inferred from the statements above?

- A. Special care was taken in the launching of the satellite so that the calculations of its orbit would be facilitated.

- B. The signal received on the satellite are stronger than those received by a terrestrial telescope.
- C. The resolution of detail achieved by the satellite-Earth interferometer system is inferior to that achieved by exclusively terrestrial systems.
- D. The computer programs required for making use of the signals received by the satellite required a long time for development.
- E. The beat on of an orbiting satellite relative to locations on Earth can be well enough known for interferometric purpose.

6. Informed people generally assimilate information from several divergent sources before coming to an opinion. However, most popular news organizations view foreign affairs solely through the eyes of our State Department. In reporting the political crisis in foreign country B, news organizations must endeavor to find alternative sources of information.

Which of the following inferences can be drawn from the argument above?

- A. To the degree that a news source gives an account of another country that mirrors that of our State Department, that reporting is suspect.
- B. To protect their integrity, news media should avoid the influence of State Department releases in their coverage of foreign affairs.
- C. Reporting that is not influenced by the State Department is usually more accurate than are other accounts.
- D. The alternative sources of information mentioned in the passage would probably not share the same views as the State Department.
- E. A report cannot be seen as influenced by the State Department if it accurately depicts the events in a foreign country.

7. A violin constructed to have improved sound would sound different from the best-sounding existing violins. To professional violinists, a violin that sounds different from the best-sounding existing violins sounds less like a violin and therefore worse than the best-sounding existing violins. Professional violinists are the only accepted judges of the sound quality of violins.

Which of the following would be best supported by those statements?

- A. Only amateur violinists should be asked to judge the sound quality of newly constructed violins.
- B. Professional violinists supervise the construction of violins.
- C. The best-sounding existing violins have been in existence for several centuries.
- D. It is currently impossible to construct a violin that the only accepted judges will evaluate as having improved sound.
- E. It is possible to construct a violin that sounds better than the best-sounding existing violins to everyone but professions violinists.

8. When a polygraph test is judged inconclusive, this is no reflection on the examinee. Rather, such a judgment means that the test has failed to show whether the examinee was truthful or untruthful. Nevertheless, employers will sometimes refuse to hire a job applicant because of an inconclusive polygraph test result.

Which of the following conclusions can most properly be drawn from the information above?

- A. Most examinees with inconclusive polygraph test results are in fact untruthful.
- B. Polygraph tests should not be used by employers in the consideration of job applicants.
- C. An inconclusive polygraph test result is sometimes unfairly held against the examinee.
- D. A polygraph test indicating that an examinee is untruthful can sometimes be mistaken.
- E. Some employers have refused to consider the results of polygraph tests when evaluating job applicants.

9. A company's two divisions performed with remarkable consistency over the past three years: in each of those years, the pharmaceuticals division has accounted for roughly 20 percent of dollar sales and 40 percent of profits, and the chemicals division for the balance.

Regarding the past three years, which of the following can properly be inferred from the statement above?

- A. Total dollar sales for each of the company's divisions have remained roughly constant
- B. The pharmaceuticals division has faced stiffer competition in its markets than has the chemicals division.
- C. The chemicals division has realized lower profits per dollar of sales than has the pharmaceuticals division.
- D. The product mix offered by each of the company's divisions has remained unchanged.
- E. Highly profitable products accounted for a higher percentage of the chemicals division's sales than of the pharmaceuticals division's.

10. To protect certain fledgling industries, the government of Country Z banned imports of the types of products those industries were starting to make. As a direct result, the cost of those products to the buyers, several export-dependent industries in Z, went up, sharply limiting the ability of those industries to compete effectively in their export markets.

Which of the following can be most properly inferred from the passage about the products whose importation was banned?

- A. Those products had been cheaper to import than they were to make within country Z's fledgling industries.
- B. Those products were ones that Country Z was hoping to export in its turn, once the fledgling industries matured.
- C. Those products used to be imported from just those countries to which Country Z's exports went.
- D. Those products had become more and more expensive to import, which resulted in a foreign trade deficit just before the ban.
- E. Those products used to be imported in very small quantities, but they were essential to Country Z's economy.

11. Although aspirin has been proven to eliminate moderate fever associated with some illnesses, many doctors no longer routinely recommend its use for this purpose. A moderate fever stimulates the activity of the body's disease-fighting white blood cells and also inhibits the growth of many strains of disease-causing bacteria.

If the statements above are true, which of the following conclusions is most strongly supported by them?

- A. Aspirin, an effective painkiller, alleviates the pain and discomfort of many illnesses.
- B. Aspirin can prolong a patient's illness by eliminating moderate fever helpful in fighting some diseases.
- C. Aspirin inhibits the growth of white blood cells, which are necessary for fighting some illnesses.
- D. The more white blood cells a patient's body produces, the less severe the patient's illness will be.
- E. The focus of modern medicine is on inhibiting the growth of disease-causing bacteria within the body.

龙腾教育微信号: LTJY2888