

Lecture Three

(说话类题目讲解 二)

本节课授课要点

- 说话类题目讲解
 - 支持类
 - 驳斥类

说话类题目讲解

- 支持类题目讲解
 - e.g. Which of the following, if true, most strengthens the argument above?
- 驳斥类题目讲解
 - e.g. Which of the following, if true, casts the most serious doubt on the traveler's argument?

本节课授课要点

- 说话类题目讲解
 - 支持类
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支持类

I. Because postage rates are rising, Home Decorator magazine plans to maximize its profits by reducing by one half the number of issues it publishes each year. The quality of articles, the number of articles published per year, and the subscription price will not change. Market research shows that neither subscribers nor advertisers will be lost if the magazine's plan is instituted.

Which of the following, if true, provides the strongest evidence that the magazine's profits are likely to decline if the plan is instituted?

- A. With the new postage rates, a typical issue under the proposed plan would cost about one-third more to mail than a typical current issue would.
- B. The majority of the magazine's subscribers are less concerned about a possible reduction in the quantity of the magazine's articles than about a possible loss of the current high quality of its articles.
- C. Many of the magazine's long-time subscribers would continue their subscriptions even if the subscription price were increased.
- D. Most of the advertisers that purchase advertising space in the magazine will continue to spend the same amount on advertising per issue as they have in the past.
- E. Production costs for the magazine are expected to remain stable.

支持类

2. It is true of both men and women that those who marry as young adults live longer than those who never marry. This does not show that marriage causes people to live longer, since, as compared with other people of the same age, young adults who are about to get married have fewer of the unhealthy habits that can cause a person to have a shorter life, most notably smoking and immoderate drinking of alcohol.

Which of the following, if true, most strengthens the argument above?

- A. Marriage tends to cause people to engage less regularly in sports that involve risk of bodily harm.
- B. A married person who has an unhealthy habit is more likely to give up that habit than a person with the same habit who is unmarried.
- C. A person who smokes is much more likely than a nonsmoker to marry a person who smokes at the time of marriage, and the same is true for people who drink alcohol immoderately.
- D. Among people who marry as young adults, most of those who give up an unhealthy habit after marriage do not resume the habit later in life.
- E. Among people who as young adults neither drink alcohol immoderately nor smoke, those who never marry live as long as those who marry.

支持类

3. Smithtown University's fund-raisers succeeded in getting donations from 80 percent of the potential donors they contacted. This success rate, exceptionally high for university fund-raisers, does not indicate that they were doing a good job. On the contrary, since the people most likely to donate are those who have donated in the past, good fund-raisers constantly try less-limey prospects in an effort to expand the donor base. The high success rate shows insufficient canvassing effort.

Which of the following, if true, provides more support for the argument?

- A. Smithtown University's fund-raisers were successful in their contacts with potential donors who had never given before about as frequently as were fund-raisers for other universities in their contacts with such people.
- B. This year the average size of the donations to Smithton University from new donors when the university's fund-raisers had contacted was larger than the average size of donations from donors who had given to the university before.
- C. This year most of the donations that came to Smithtown University from people who had previously donated to it were made without the university's fund-raisers having made any contact with the donors.
- D. The majority of the donations that fund-raisers succeeded in getting for Smithtown University this year were from donors who had never given to the university before.
- E. More than half of the money raised by Smithtown University's fund-raisers came from donors who had never previously donated to the university.

支持类

4. Studies in restaurants show that the tips left by customers who pay their bill in cash tend to be larger when the bill is presented on a tray that bears a credit-card logo. Consumer psychologists hypothesize that simply seeing a credit-card logo makes many credit-card holders willing to spend more because it reminds them that their spending power exceeds the cash they have immediately available.

Which of the following, if true, most strongly supports the psychologists' interpretation of the studies?

- A. The effect noted in the studies is not limited to patrons who have credit cards.
- B. Patrons who are under financial pressure from their credit-card obligations tend to tip less when presented with a restaurant bill on a tray with credit-card logo than when the tray has no logo.
- C. In virtually all of the cases in the studies, the patrons who paid bills in cash did not possess credit cards.
- D. In general, restaurant patrons who pay their bills in cash leave larger tips than do those who pay by credit card.
- E. The percentage of restaurant bills paid with given brand of credit card increases when that credit card's logo is displayed on the tray with which the bill is prepared.

支持类

5. Film Director: It is true that certain characters and plot twists in my newly released film *The Big Heist* are strikingly similar to characters and plot twists in *Thieves*, a movie that came out last year. Based on these similarities, the film studio that produced *Thieves* is now accusing me of taking ideas from that film. The accusation is clearly without merit. All production work on *The Big Heist* was actually completed months before *Thieves* was released.

Which of the following, if true, provides the strongest support for the director's rejection of the accusation?

- A. Before *Thieves* began production, its script had been circulating for several years among various film studios, including the studio that produced *The Big Heist*.
- B. The characters and plot twists that are most similar in the two films have close parallels in many earlier films of the same genre.
- C. The film studio that produced *Thieves* seldom produces films in this genre.
- D. The director of *Thieves* worked with the director of *The Big Heist* on several earlier projects.
- E. The time it took to produce *The Big Heist* was considerably shorter than the time it took to produce *Thieves*.

支持类

6. Because mining and refining nickel is costly, researchers have developed an alternative method for extracting nickel using *Streptanthus polygaloides*, a plant that absorbs and stores nickel from the soil as it grows. The researchers incinerated a crop of *Streptanthus* they grew in nickel-rich soil. By chemically extracting nickel from the ash, they produced 100 pounds of nickel per acre of land at a total cost per pound slightly above that of current mining.

Which of the following, if true, most strongly supports the conclusion that the use of *Streptanthus* to extract nickel will be commercially adopted?

A. The season in which the researchers grew *Streptanthus* was an unusually favorable one, with the right amount of precipitation to maximize the growth rate of *Streptanthus*.

B. Because lowering the concentration of nickel in the soil can make land much better for agriculture in general, a plot on which *Streptanthus* has been grown and harvested can be sold for substantially more than it cost.

C. More air pollution is generated for each pound of nickel produced by extracting it from *Streptanthus* than is generated using conventional mining and refining.

D. The land on which the researchers planted *Streptanthus* was unusually free of the various weeds that can compete with *Streptanthus* for water, nutrients, and sunlight.

E. It is extremely rare for soil to contain higher concentrations of nickel than the concentrations present in the researchers' experimental plot.

支持类

7. Although exposure to asbestos is the primary cause of mesothelioma, a slow-developing cancer, researchers believe that infection by the SV40 virus is a contributing cause, since in the United States 60 percent of tissue samples from mesotheliomas, but none from healthy tissue, contain SV40. SV40 is a monkey virus; however, in 1960 some polio vaccine was contaminated with the virus. Researchers hypothesize that this vaccine was the source of the virus found in mesotheliomas decades later.

Which of the following, if true, most strongly supports the researchers' hypothesis?

- A. SV40 is widely used as a research tool in cancer laboratories.
- B. Changes in the technique of manufacturing the vaccine now prevent contamination with SV40.
- C. Recently discovered samples of the vaccine dating from 1960 still show traces of the virus.
- D. In a small percentage of cases of mesothelioma, there is no history of exposure to asbestos.
- E. In Finland, where the polio vaccine was never contaminated, samples from mesotheliomas do not contain SV40.

支持类

8. Half of the subjects in an experiment—the experimental group—consumed large quantities of a popular artificial sweetener. Afterward, this group showed lower cognitive abilities than did the other half of the subjects—the control group—who did not consume the sweetener. The detrimental effects were attributed to an amino acid that is one of the sweetener's principal constituents.

Which of the following, if true, would best support the conclusion that some ingredient of the sweetener was responsible for the experimental results?

- A. Most consumers of the sweetener do not consume as much of it as the experimental group members did.
- B. The amino acid referred to in the conclusion is a component of all proteins, some of which must be consumed for adequate nutrition.
- C. The quantity of the sweetener consumed by individuals in the experimental group is considered safe by federal food regulators.
- D. The two groups of subjects were evenly matched with regard to cognitive abilities prior to the experiment.
- E. A second experiment in which subjects consumed large quantities of the sweetener lacked a control group of subjects who were not given the sweetener.

支持类

9. The use of radar detectors in commercial vehicles was banned because commercial truck and bus drivers were using these devices to drive faster than the posted speed limit without fear of arrest. Since drivers of noncommercial vehicles also use radar detectors and since speeding decreases safety for any vehicle, use of radar detectors should also be banned in noncommercial vehicles to increase safety.

Which of the following, if true, most strongly supports the argument above?

- A. The average noncommercial-vehicle driver is involved in less long-distance driving than is the average commercial-vehicle driver.
- B. In many places airplanes or helicopters are used rather than radar to locate vehicles traveling faster than the posted speed limit.
- C. The ban on radar detectors in commercial vehicles has been effective in deterring them from speeding.
- D. Traffic accidents involving a truck or bus generally pose a greater threat of injury or death than do other accidents.
- E. Radar detectors are sometimes set off by devices other than the law enforcement devices that the radar detectors were built to detect.

支持类

10. Editorial: The roof of Northtown Council's equipment-storage building collapsed under the weight of last week's heavy snowfall. The building was constructed recently and met local building-safety codes in every particular, except that the nails used for attaching roof supports to the building's columns were of a smaller size than the codes specify for this purpose. Clearly, this collapse exemplifies how even a single, apparently insignificant, departure from safety standards can have consequences.

Which of the following, if true, most strongly supports the editorial's argument?

- A. The only other buildings whose roofs collapsed from the weight of the snowfall were older buildings constructed according to less exacting standards than those in the safety codes.
- B. Because of the particular location of the equipment-storage building, the weight of snow on its roof was greater than the maximum weight allowed for in the safety codes.
- C. The columns of the building were no stronger than the building-safety codes required for such a building.
- D. Because the equipment-storage building was where the council kept snow-removal equipment, the building was almost completely empty when the roof collapsed.

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驳斥类

I. Start-up companies financed by venture capitalists have a much lower failure rate than companies financed by other means. Source of financing, therefore, must be a more important causative factor in the success of a start-up company than are such factors as the personal characteristics of the entrepreneur, the quality of strategic planning, or the management structure of the company.

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

- A. Venture capitalists tend to be more responsive than other sources of financing to changes in a start-up company's financial needs.
- B. The strategic planning of a start-up company is a less important factor in the long-term success of the company than are the personal characteristics of the entrepreneur.
- C. More than half of all new companies fail within five years.
- D. The management structures of start-up companies are generally less formal than the management structures of ongoing businesses.
- E. Venture capitalists base their decisions to fund start-up companies on such factors as the characteristics of the entrepreneur and quality of strategic planning of the company.

驳斥类

2. Certain messenger molecules fight damage to the lungs from noxious air by telling the muscle cells encircling the lungs' airways to contract. This partially seals off the lungs. An asthma attack occurs when the messenger molecules are activated unnecessarily, in response to harmless things like pollen or household dust.

Which of the following, if true, points to the most serious flaw of a plan to develop a medication that would prevent asthma attacks by blocking receipt of any messages sent by the messenger molecules referred to above?

- A. Researchers do not yet know how the body produces the messenger molecules that trigger asthma attacks.
- B. Researchers do not yet know what makes one person's messenger molecules more easily activated than another's.
- C. Such a medication would not become available for several years, because of long lead times in both development and manufacture.
- D. Such a medication would be unable to distinguish between messages triggered by pollen and household dust and messages triggered by noxious air.
- E. Such a medication would be a preventative only and would be unable to alleviate an asthma attack once it had started.

驳斥类

3. The recent decline in the value of the dollar was triggered by a prediction of slower economic growth in the coming year. But that prediction would not have adversely affected the dollar had it not been for the government's huge budget deficit, which must therefore be decreased to prevent future currency declines.

Which of the following, if true, would most seriously weaken the conclusion about how to prevent future currency declines?

- A. The government has made little attempt to reduce the budget deficit.
- B. The budget deficit has not caused a slowdown in economic growth.
- C. The value of the dollar declined several times in the year prior to the recent prediction of slower economic growth.
- D. Before there was a large budget deficit, predictions of slower economic growth frequently caused declines in the dollar's value.
- E. When there is a large budget deficit, other events in addition to predictions of slower economic growth sometimes trigger declines in currency value.

驳斥类

4. Traveler: Southern Airways has a far worse safety record than Air Dacentaria over the past few years, in terms of both the frequency of accidents and the severity of accidents. Therefore, although Air Dacentaria is slightly more expensive, I will choose it over Southern Airways for my flight from Pederton to Dacentia, since it is worth paying extra to have a safer flight.

Which of the following, if true, casts the most serious doubt on the traveler's argument?

- A. Air Dacentaria's flight from Pederton to Dacentia is nonstop, whereas Southern Airways' flight touches down in Gorinda on the way.
- B. Most Southern Airways flights, but not its flight from Pederton to Dacentia, use Sarmouth airport, which because of its mountainous location is one of the world's most dangerous.
- C. For its flights from Pederton to Dacentia, Southern Airways uses a different model of airplane, with a smaller capacity, than the model Air Dacentaria uses for its flights on the same route.
- D. Only in the last few years has the cost of flying from Pederton to Dacentia been more expensive on Air Dacentaria than on Southern Airways.
- E. Although the frequency of accidents is greater on Southern Airways, on both airlines the proportion of flights that have accidents is very small.

驳斥类

5. The imposition of quotas limiting imported steel will not help the big American steel mills. In fact, the quotas will help "mini-mills" flourish in the United States. Those small domestic mills will take more business from the big American steel mills than would have been taken by the foreign steel mills in the absence of quotas.

Which of the following, if true, would cast the most serious doubt on the claim made in the last sentence above?

- A. Quality rather than price is a major factor in determining the type of steel to be used for a particular application.
- B. Foreign steel mills have long produced grades of steel comparable in quality to the steel produced by the big American mills.
- C. American quotas on imported goods have often induced other countries to impose similar quotas on American goods.
- D. Domestic "mini-mills" consistently produce better grades of steel than do the big American mills.
- E. Domestic "mini-mills" produce low-volume, specialized types of steel that are not produced by the big American steel mills.

驳斥类

6. Offshore oil-drilling operations entail an unavoidable risk of an oil spill, but importing oil on tankers presently entails an even greater such risk per barrel of oil. Therefore, if we are to reduce the risk of an oil spill without curtailing our use of oil, we must invest more in offshore operations and import less oil on tankers.

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

- A. Tankers can easily be redesigned so that their use entails less risk of an oil spill.
- B. Oil spills caused by tankers have generally been more serious than those caused by offshore operations.
- C. The impact of offshore operations on the environment can be controlled by careful management.
- D. Offshore operations usually damage the ocean floor, but tankers rarely cause such damage.
- E. Importing oil on tankers is currently less expensive than drilling for it offshore.

驳斥类

7. In comparison to the standard typewriter keyboard, the EFCO keyboard, which places the most-used keys nearest the typist's strongest fingers, allows faster typing and results in less fatigue. Therefore, replacement of standard keyboards with the EFCO keyboard will result in an immediate reduction of typing costs.

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

- A. People who use both standard and EFCO keyboards report greater difficulty in the transition from the EFCO keyboard to the standard keyboard than in the transition from the standard keyboard to the EFCO keyboard.
- B. EFCO keyboards are no more expensive to manufacture than are standard keyboards and require less frequent repair than do standard keyboards.
- C. The number of businesses and government agencies that use EFCO keyboards is increasing each year.
- D. The more training and experience an employee has had with the standard keyboard, the more costly it is to train that employee to use the EFCO keyboard.
- E. Novice typists can learn to use the EFCO keyboard in about the same amount of time it takes them to learn to use the standard keyboard.

驳斥类

8. Insect infestations in certain cotton-growing regions of the world have caused dramatic increases in the price of cotton on the world market. By contrast, the price of soybeans has long remained stable. Knowing that cotton plants mature quickly, many soybean growers in Ortovia plan to cease growing soybeans and begin raising cotton instead, thereby taking advantage of the high price of cotton to increase their income significantly, at least over the next several years.

Which of the following, if true, most seriously weakens the plan's chances for success?

- A. The cost of raising soybeans has increased significantly over the past several years and is expected to continue to climb.
- B. Tests of a newly developed, inexpensive pesticide have shown it to be both environmentally safe and effective against the insects that have infested cotton crops.
- C. In the past several years, there has been no sharp increase in the demand for cotton and for goods made out of cotton.
- D. Few consumers would be willing to pay significantly higher prices for cotton goods than they are now paying.
- E. The species of insect that has infested cotton plants has never been known to attack soybean plants.

驳斥类

9. Sunflowers growing in pots were placed, with their roots submerged, in the pond contaminated with radioactive elements. The sunflowers kept growing; in the process, they absorbed radioactive elements. Within twelve days, 85 percent of the radioactive elements were removed from the water, which is no less than can be accomplished with the much more expensive conventional filtration techniques. Scientists therefore propose using sunflowers for decontamination wherever there are radioactively contaminated ponds.

Which of the following, if true, points to a limitation on the applicability of the proposed method of decontamination?

- A. Some plants other than sunflowers can also remove radioactive elements from water.
- B. The water in many ponds contaminated with radioactive elements is so cold that it would kill sunflowers whose roots were submerged in it.
- C. Sunflowers that grow with their roots submerged in water grow less well than sunflowers growing under optimal conditions on dry land.
- D. Only species of sunflowers with large leaves can have their roots submerged in water and still keep growing.
- E. In ponds in which the circulation of the water is artificially increased, sunflowers absorb radioactive elements far faster than they do in other ponds.

驳斥类

10. Kernland imposes a high tariff on the export of unprocessed cashew nuts in order to ensure that the nuts are sold to domestic processing plants. If the tariff were lifted and unprocessed cashews were sold at world market prices, more farmers could profit by growing cashews. However, since all the processing plants are in urban areas, removing the tariff would seriously hamper the government's effort to reduce urban unemployment over the next five years.

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

- A. Some of the by-products of processing cashews are used for manufacturing paints and plastics.
- B. Other countries in which cashews are processed subsidize their processing plants.
- C. More people in Kernland are engaged in farming cashews than in processing them.
- D. Buying unprocessed cashews at lower than world market prices enables cashew processors in Kernland to sell processed nuts at competitive prices.
- E. A lack of profitable crops is driving an increasing number of small farmers in Kernland off their land and into the cities.

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预告下节课授课要点

- 说话类题目讲解
 - 解释类
 - 假设类
 - 评价类

The End