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## QUESTION 1

Of the many kinds of vegetables grown all over the world, which remains the favorite of young and old alike? Why, the potato, of course. Perhaps you know them as "taters," "spuds," or "Kennebees," or as "chips," "Idahoes," or even "shoestrings." No matter, a potato by any other name is still a potato- the world's most widely grown vegetable. As a matter of fact, if you are an average potato eater, you will put away at least a hundred pounds of them each year. That's only a tiny portion of the amount grown every year, however. Worldwide, the annual potato harvest is over six billion bags- each bag containing a hundred pounds of spuds, some of them as large as four pounds each. Here in the United States, farmers fill about four hundred million bags a year. That may seem like a lot of "taters," but it leaves us a distant third among world potato growers. Polish farmers dig up just over 800 million bags a year, while the Russians lead the world with nearly 1.5 billion bags. The first potatoes were grown by the Incas of South America, more than four hundred years ago. Their descendants in Ecuador and Chile continue to grow the vegetable as high as fourteen thousand feet up in the Andes Mountains. (That's higher than any other food will grow.) Early Spanish and English explorers shipped potatoes to Europe, and they found their way to North America in the early 1600s. People eat potatoes in many ways-baked, mashed, and roasted, to name just three. However, in the United States most potatoes are devoured in the form of French fries. One fast-food chain alone sells more than \$1 billion worth of fries each year. No wonder, then, that the company pays particular attention to the way its fries are prepared. Before any fry makes it to the people who eat at these popular restaurants, it must pass many separate tests. Fail any one and the spud is rejected. To start with, only russet Burbank potatoes are used. These Idaho potatoes have less water content than other kinds, which can have as much as eighty percent water. Once cut into "shoestrings" shapes, the potatoes are partly fried in a secret blend of oils, sprayed with liquid sugar to brown them, steam dried at high heat, then flash frozen for shipment to individual restaurants. Before shipping, though, every shoestring is measured. Forty percent of a batch must be between two and three inches long. Another forty percent has to be over three inches. What about the twenty percent that are left in the batch? Well, a few short fries in a bag are okay, it seems. So, now that you realize the enormous size and value of the potato crop, you can understand why most people agree that this part of the food industry is no "small potatoes."

What is the main idea of this passage?

- A. Potatoes from Ireland started the Potato Revolution.
- B. The average American eats 50 lbs of potatoes a year.
- C. French fries are made from potatoes.
- D. Potatoes are a key vegetable in America.
- E. The various terms for potatoes have a long history.

Correct Answer: D

## QUESTION 2

In a school function ceremony, seven students, Amy, Bob, Chad, Dom, Elisa, Fischer, and Grant have to deliver their performances in seven consecutive slots, not necessarily in the order of their given names. The following information is known about the order in which the students perform: Chad performs immediately before Dom Grant performs sometime after Chad There are exactly two performances made between the performances of Amy and Elisa

In which of the following slots can Grant not perform?

- A. Second
- B. Third



- C. Fourth
- D. Fifth
- E. Sixth

Correct Answer: A

We already know that G must follow both C and D. Thus, the earliest G can perform is when C is 1st, D is 2nd, and hence, G is 3rd.

Thus, G cannot be the 2nd performer.

General

Let us denote the seven slots using the numbers 1 through 7 as shown below:

<b>Slot</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Performer</b>							

We need to fill in the names of the performers in each slot depending on the information provided.

Let us name the performers Amy, Bob, Chad, Dom, Elisa, Fischer, and Grant as A, B, C, D, E, F and G.

Let us look at the information given in the question stem and see what we have got:

1.  
Since Chad performs immediately before Dom, we can write "CD" as an element implying that there is no one else performing between them.

2.  
Since Grant performs sometime after Chad, and Chad and Dom are consecutive performers, Grant must perform after Dom as well. Thus, we can represent the information as shown below:

The "..." above implies that there could be none or at least 1 performer between D and G.

3.  
There are exactly two performers between Amy and Elisa. This information can be represented as shown below:

C	D	...	G
---	---	-----	---

C			E
---	--	--	---

Thus, we see that the above information is NOT sufficient to assign even one of the performers to his/her corresponding slot number. This implies that there would possibly be multiple solutions to the arrangements of the performers. Thus, in order to solve the questions, we would need to use the information given in the questions.

**QUESTION 3**

A recent national study of the trash discarded in several representative areas confirmed that plastics constitute a smaller proportion of all trash than paper products do, whether the trash is measured by weight or by volume. The damage that a given weight or volume of trash does to the environment is roughly the same whether the trash consists of plastics or paper products. Contrary to popular opinion, therefore, the current use of plastics actually does less harm to the environment nationwide than that of paper products.

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

- A. A given weight of paper product may increase in volume after manufacture and before being discarded as trash.
- B. According to popular opinion, volume is a more important consideration than weight in predicting the impact of a given quantity of trash on the environment.
- C. The sum of damage caused to the environment by paper trash and by plastic trash is greater than that caused by any other sort of trash that was studied.
- D. The production of any paper product is more harmful to the environment than is the production of an equal weight or volume of any plastic.
- E. The proportion of plastic trash to paper trash varies from one part of the country to another.

Correct Answer: D

As noted above, the conclusion is a broad one: Environmentally speaking, the use of paper causes more harm than does the use of plastic. But all of the author's evidence concerns the environmental impact of paper trash and plastic trash. What about paper vs. plastic production, which clearly falls under the scope of general use? The only way that the argument can work is if the production issue is taken off the table, and that's what option [The production of any paper product is] does, by indicting the production of paper as causing more damage than the production of plastic.

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**QUESTION 4**

Conflict had existed between Spain and England since the 1570s. England wanted a share of the wealth that Spain had been taking from the lands it had claimed in the Americas. Elizabeth I, Queen of England, encouraged her staunch admiral of the navy, Sir Francis Drake, to raid Spanish ships and towns. Though these raids were on a small scale, Drake achieved dramatic success, adding gold and silver to England's treasury and diminishing Spain's omnipotence. Religious differences also caused conflict between the two countries. Whereas Spain was Roman Catholic, most of England had become Protestant. King Philip II of Spain wanted to claim the throne and make England a Catholic country again. To satisfy his ambition and also to retaliate against England's theft of his gold and silver, King Philip began to build his fleet of warships, the Armada, in January 1586. Philip intended his fleet to be indestructible. In addition to building new warships, he marshaled one hundred and thirty sailing vessels of all types and recruited more than nineteen thousand robust soldiers and eight thousand sailors. Although some of his ships lacked guns and others lacked ammunition, Philip was convinced that his Armada could withstand any battle with England.

The martial Armada set sail from Lisbon, Portugal, on May 9, 1588, but bad weather forced it back to port. The voyage resumed on July 22 after the weather became more stable. The Spanish fleet met the smaller, faster, and more maneuverable English ships in battle off the coast of Plymouth, England, first on July 31 and again on August 2. The two battles left Spain vulnerable, having lost several ships and with its ammunition depleted. On August 7, while the Armada lay at anchor on the French side of the Strait of Dover, England sent eight burning ships into the midst of the Spanish fleet to set it on fire. Blocked on one side, the Spanish ships could only drift away, their crews in panic and disorder. Before the Armada could regroup, the English attacked again on August 8. Although the Spaniards made a valiant effort to fight back, the fleet suffered extensive damage. During the eight hours of battle, the Armada drifted



perilously close to the rocky coastline. At the moment when it seemed that the Spanish ships would be driven onto the English shore, the wind shifted, and the Armada drifted out into the North Sea. The Spaniards recognized the superiority of the English fleet and returned home, defeated.

Sir Francis Drake added wealth to the treasury and diminished Spain's \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. unlimited power
- B. unrestricted growth
- C. territory
- D. treaties
- E. answer not available in article

Correct Answer: A

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#### QUESTION 5

A music store carries exactly ten types of CDs -- both new and used of each of jazz, opera, pop, rap, and soul. The store is having a sale on some of these types of CDs. The following conditions must apply:

Used pop is on sale; new opera is not.

If both types of pop are on sale, then all soul is.

If both types of jazz are on sale, then no rap is.

If neither type of jazz is on sale, then new pop is.

If either type of rap is on sale, then no soul is.

If new soul is not on sale, then which one of the following must be true?

- A. New rap is not on sale.
- B. New rap is on sale.
- C. Used opera is not on sale.
- D. At least one type of jazz is not on sale.
- E. At least one type of pop is not on sale.

Correct Answer: E

At least one new fact "must be true" based on the hypothetical that new soul is not on sale. This new "if" warrants a new little sketch in which S is crossed out along with the always-circled p and always-crossedout O. Scan your "if's." The moment we have crossed out either S or s (Rule 2's contrapositive), we must cross out P. Son of a gun: E. is correct.

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#### QUESTION 6



There are exactly ten stores and no other buildings on Oak Street. On the north side of the street, from west to east, are stores 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9; on the south side of the street, also from west to east, are stores 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10. The stores on the north side are located directly across the street from those on the south side, facing each other in pairs, as follows: 1 and 2; 3 and 4; 5 and 6; 7 and 8; 9 and 10. Each store is decorated with lights in exactly one of the following colors:

green, red, and yellow. The stores have been decorated with lights according to the following conditions:

No store is decorated with lights of the same color as those of any store adjacent to it.

No store is decorated with lights of the same color as those of the store directly across the street from it.

Yellow lights decorate exactly one store on each side of the street.

Red lights decorate store 4.

Yellow lights decorate store 5.

If green lights decorate store 7, then each of the following statements could be false EXCEPT:

- A. Green lights decorate store 2.
- B. Green lights decorate store 10.
- C. Red lights decorate store 8.
- D. Red lights decorate store 9.
- E. Yellow lights decorate store 2.

Correct Answer: D

A mini-sketch for this question should recopy what we know and add "G" to store 7. Store 9, which we knew was "G/R," is now definitively "R." And that's it; we cannot confirm anything more on the south side. But that's enough: store 9 has to be red, so option [Red lights decorate store 9.] cannot be false. Of options [Green lights decorate store 2.] and [Yellow lights decorate store 2.], exactly one is true -- store 2 is green or yellow -- but we don't know which. Store 8 could be red or yellow, so [Red lights decorate store 8.] can be false. And store 10 remains uncertain, so option [Green lights decorate store 10.] can be false too.

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## QUESTION 7

If relativity theory is correct, no object can travel forward in time at a speed greater than the speed of light. Yet quantum mechanics predicts that the tachyon, a hypothetical subatomic particle, travels faster than light. Thus, if relativity theory is correct, either quantum mechanics' prediction about tachyons is erroneous or tachyons travel backward in time.

The pattern of reasoning in which one of the following arguments is most similar to that in the argument above

- A. According to a magazine article, the view that present-day English is a descendant of the ancient Proto-Indo-European language is incorrect. Rather, English more likely descended from a Finno-Ugric language, judging from the similarities between English and other languages of Finno-Ugric descent.



B. If the defendant committed the crime, then either the defendant had a motive or the defendant is irrational, for only irrational persons act with no motive. If the psychologist is correct, then the defendant is not rational; on the other hand, according to the evidence, the defendant had a strong motive. Thus, since there is no reason to disbelieve the evidence, the defendant is guilty.

C. The human brain can survive without oxygen only for a few minutes, according to modern medicine. Surprisingly, a reliable witness reported that a shaman has survived for an entire week buried five feet underground. Thus, if modern medicine is not wrong, either the witness is mistaken or the shaman's brain did not suffer any lack of oxygen.

D. Alexander the Great was buried either in Alexandria or in Siwa, Egypt. However, the burial place is more likely to be Siwa. A limestone table engraved by Ptolemy, Alexander's lieutenant, was found in Siwa, attesting to Alexander's burial place.

E. If the big bang theory is correct, the universe is currently expanding: the galaxies are moving away from each other and from the center of an original explosion. The same theory also predicts that, eventually, the gravitational forces among galaxies will counterbalance the galaxies' kinetic energy. It follows that, at some point, the universe will stop expanding.

Correct Answer: C

This one is a pip, because it looks long and forbidding and yet it can be assaulted and conquered in way under a minute. The conclusion is in either/or form: if a certain concept isn't wrong, then one or the other of two phenomena must be true. Well, only option [The human brain can survive without...] is conclusion is in that form. The conclusions of options [According to a magazine article...] and [Alexander the Great was buried either in...] are assertions of that which is "likely" to be true. Option [If the defendant committed the crime...] is a flat-out statement of fact ("The defendant is guilty"), while option [If the big bang theory is correct...] is a prediction ("The universe will stop expanding"). Regardless of what else is going on in the other choices, then, [The human brain can survive without...] has to be the correct answer.

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## QUESTION 8

A music store carries exactly ten types of CDs -- both new and used of each of jazz, opera, pop, rap, and soul. The store is having a sale on some of these types of CDs. The following conditions must apply:

Used pop is on sale; new opera is not.

If both types of pop are on sale, then all soul is.

If both types of jazz are on sale, then no rap is.

If neither type of jazz is on sale, then new pop is.

If either type of rap is on sale, then no soul is.

If neither type of jazz is on sale, then each of the following must be true EXCEPT:

A. Used opera is on sale.

B. New rap is not on sale.

C. Used rap is not on sale.

D. New soul is on sale.





E. Used soul is on sale

Correct Answer: A

Crossing out J and j, as the question stem demands, means that P must be circled (Rule 4). Having circled P, Rule 2 demands that both S and s be circled; and, in turn, Rule 5's contrapositive demands that both rap CD's be crossed out. Everything's determined except the fate of our lonely floater, used opera, which stars in correct choice [Used opera is on sale.] We didn't break the flow of the logic to check [New rap is not on sale.] through [Used soul is on sale.] as we went, but indeed all four turn out to be true.

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### QUESTION 9

Most of those who enjoy music play a musical instrument; therefore, if Maria enjoys music, she probably plays a musical instrument. Which one of the following most closely parallels the reasoning in the statement above?

- A. The majority of those who voted for Smith in the last election oppose abortion; therefore, if the residents of University City all voted for Smith, they probably oppose abortion.
- B. If you appreciate portrait painting you are probably a painter yourself; therefore, your own experience is probably the cause of your appreciation.
- C. Most of those who join the army are male; therefore, if Jones did not join the army, Jones is probably female.
- D. Over 50 percent of the high school students polled admitted hating homework; therefore, a majority of high school students do not like homework.
- E. If most workers drive to work, and Sam drives to work, then Sam must be a worker.

Correct Answer: A

This choice parallels both the reasoning and the structure of the original. The original reasoning may be summarized as follows: most X → Y; therefore X → Y (probably).

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### QUESTION 10

When using a metal file, always remember to bear down on the forward stroke only. On the return stroke, lift the file clear of the surface to avoid dulling the instrument's teeth. Only when working on very soft metals is it advisable to drag the file's teeth slightly on the return stroke. This helps clear out metal pieces from between the teeth. It is best to bear down just hard enough to keep the file cutting at all times. Too little pressure uses only the tips of the teeth; too much pressure can chip the teeth. Move the file in straight lines across the surface. Use a vice to grip the work so that your hands are free to hold the file. Protect your hands by equipping the file with a handle. Buy a wooden handle and install it by inserting the pointed end of the file into the handle hole.

These directions show you how to

- A. work with a hammer
- B. use a file
- C. polish a file
- D. oil a vise





E. repair shop tools

Correct Answer: B

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### QUESTION 11

If there are any inspired musical performances in the concert, the audience will be treated to a good show. But there will not be a good show unless there are sophisticated listeners in the audience, and to be a sophisticated listener one must understand one's musical roots.

If all of the statements above are true, which one of the following must also be true?

- A. If there are no sophisticated listeners in the audience, then there will be no inspired musical performances in the concert.
- B. No people who understand their musical roots will be in the audience if the audience will not be treated to a good show.
- C. If there will be people in the audience who understand their musical roots, then at least one musical performance in the concert will be inspired.
- D. The audience will be treated to a good show unless there are people in the audience who do not understand their musical roots.
- E. If there are sophisticated listeners in the audience, then there will be inspired musical performances in the concert.

Correct Answer: A

This Inference question clearly has a formal logic feel to it, so you can bet that you'll need to know your contrapositives to find the correct answer. Here's the chain of statements: Inspired musical performances guarantee a good show. So  $IMP \rightarrow GS$ . But there won't be a good show unless there are sophisticated listeners. "X cannot be true unless Y" is logically equivalent to "X implies Y," and so the second statement means that if there is a good show, there must be sophisticated listeners. Combining this with the first sentence gives us  $IMP \rightarrow GS \rightarrow SL$ . Now, being a sophisticated listener requires one to know one's musical roots. So if there are sophisticated listeners out there, they must understand their musical roots. Throwing this in gives us  $IMP \rightarrow GS \rightarrow SL \rightarrow UMR$ . From here, many statements are deducible.

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### QUESTION 12

Medical researcher: As expected, records covering the last four years of ten major hospitals indicate that babies born prematurely were more likely to have low birth weights and to suffer from health problems than were babies not born prematurely. These records also indicate that mothers who had received adequate prenatal care were less likely to have low birth weight babies than were mothers who had received inadequate prenatal care. Adequate prenatal care, therefore, significantly decreases the risk of low birth weight babies.

Which one of the following, if true, most weakens the medical researcher's argument?

- A. The hospital records indicate that many babies that are born with normal birth weights are born to mothers who had inadequate prenatal care.
- B. Mothers giving birth prematurely are routinely classified by hospitals as having received inadequate prenatal care when the record of that care is not available.



- C. The hospital records indicate that low birth weight babies were routinely classified as having been born prematurely.
- D. Some babies not born prematurely, whose mothers received adequate prenatal care, have low birth weights.
- E. Women who receive adequate prenatal care are less likely to give birth prematurely than are women who do not receive adequate prenatal care.

Correct Answer: B

We have to weaken the medical researcher's argument, so as usual we have to identify the components of the argument. The conclusion is that adequate prenatal care significantly decreases the risk of low birth weight babies. The evidence for this is that hospital records show that mothers who had received adequate prenatal care were less likely to have low birth weight babies. The medical researcher also tells us that records show that babies born prematurely were more likely to have low birth weights than on-time babies. This is a classic correlation = causation argument: the author cites a high correlation between inadequate prenatal care and low birth weight babies, and then concludes that one must have caused the other. In most cases the best way to weaken these arguments is to find an alternative explanation, or to find a situation where the two are not correlated (you see X, but you don't see Y).

### QUESTION 13

Experts anticipate that global atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) will have doubled by the end of the twenty-first century. It is known that CO<sub>2</sub> can contribute to global warming by trapping solar energy that is being reradiated as heat from the Earth's surface. However, some research has suggested that elevated CO<sub>2</sub> levels could enhance the photosynthetic rates of plants, resulting in a lush world of agricultural abundance, and that this CO<sub>2</sub> fertilization effect might eventually decrease the rate of global warming. The increased vegetation in such an environment could be counted on to draw more CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere. The level of CO<sub>2</sub> would thus increase at a lower rate than many experts have predicted.

However, while a number of recent studies confirm that plant growth would be generally enhanced in an atmosphere rich in CO<sub>2</sub>, they also suggest that increased CO<sub>2</sub> would differentially increase the growth rate of different species of plants, which could eventually result in decreased agricultural yields. Certain important crops such as corn and sugarcane that currently have higher photosynthetic efficiencies than other plants may lose that edge in an atmosphere rich in CO<sub>2</sub>. Patterson and Flint have shown that these important crops may experience yield reductions because of the increased performance of certain weeds. Such differences in growth rates between plant species could also alter ecosystem stability. Studies have shown that within rangeland regions, for example, a weedy grass grows much better with plentiful CO<sub>2</sub> than do three other grasses. Because this weedy grass predisposes land to burning, its potential increase may lead to greater numbers of and more severe wildfires in future rangeland communities.

It is clear that the CO<sub>2</sub> fertilization effect does not guarantee the lush world of agricultural abundance that once seemed likely, but what about the potential for the increased uptake of CO<sub>2</sub> to decrease the rate of global warming? Some studies suggest that the changes accompanying global warming will not improve the ability of terrestrial ecosystems to absorb CO<sub>2</sub>. Billings' simulation of global warming conditions in wet tundra grasslands showed that the level of CO<sub>2</sub> actually increased. Plant growth did increase under these conditions because of warmer temperatures and increased CO<sub>2</sub> levels. But as the permafrost melted, more peat (accumulated dead plant material) began to decompose. This process in turn liberated more CO<sub>2</sub> to the atmosphere. Billings estimated that if summer temperatures rose four degrees Celsius, the tundra would liberate 50 percent more CO<sub>2</sub> than it does currently. In a warmer world, increased plant growth, which could absorb CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere, would not compensate for this rapid increase in decomposition rates. This observation is particularly important because high-latitude habitats such as the tundra are expected to experience the greatest temperature increase.

According to the passage, Billings' research addresses which one of the following questions?

- A. Which kind of habitat will experience the greatest temperature increase in an atmosphere high in CO<sub>2</sub>?
- B. How much will summer temperatures rise if levels of CO<sub>2</sub> double by the end of the twenty-first century?



- C. Will enhanced plant growth necessarily decrease the rate of global warming that has been predicted by experts?
- D. Would plant growth be differentially enhanced if atmospheric concentrations of CO<sub>2</sub> were to double by the end of the twenty-first century?
- E. Does peat decompose more rapidly in wet tundra grasslands than it does in other types of habitats when atmospheric concentrations of CO<sub>2</sub> increase?

Correct Answer: C

Not only is option [Will enhanced plant growth...] the issue directly addressed by Billings' tundra research, but it's the question answered by the whole of 3, and indeed by the passage overall. Billings is the major test case presented by the author of the hypothesis that increased CO<sub>2</sub> could in the end help to reverse global warming.

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#### QUESTION 14

Tony: A new kind of videocassette has just been developed. It lasts for only half as many viewings as the old kind does but costs a third as much. Therefore, video rental stores would find it significantly more economical to purchase and stock movies recorded on the new kind of videocassette than on the old kind. Anna: But the videocassette itself only accounts for 5 percent of the price a video rental store pays to buy a copy of a movie on video; most of the price consists of royalties the store pays to the studio that produced the movie. So the price that video rental stores pay per copy would decrease by considerably less than 5 percent, and royalties would have to be paid on additional copies.

Which one of the following, if true, would contribute most to a defense of Tony's position against Anna's reply?

- A. The price that video rental stores pay for movies recorded on videocassettes is considerably less than the retail price of those movies.
- B. A significant proportion of the movies on videocassette purchased by video rental stores are bought as replacements for worn-out copies of movies the stores already have in stock.
- C. The royalty fee included in the price that video rental stores pay for movies on the new kind of videocassette will be half that included in the price of movies on the old kind.
- D. Given a choice, customers are more likely to buy a movie on videocassette than to rent it if the rental fee is more than half of the purchase price.
- E. Many of the movies rented from video rental stores, particularly children's movies, average several viewings per rental fee.

Correct Answer: C

Our familiarity with Anna's argument should now help us to turn the tables on her as we rush to Tony's defense. Remember, the sticking point for Anna is royalties. If we can somehow get around that, or at least lessen the impact of the royalty fees, we'd be able to revive Tony's argument. And that's all the prephrase we need: Only one choice even mentions royalties, and it turns out to be the winner here. If, as option [The royalty fee included in the price that...] maintains, royalties on the new videocassettes are half that of the old, then the force of Anna's response would be severely weakened, and Tony's advocacy of the new tapes would once again seem reasonable.

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#### QUESTION 15

Tribal communities in North America believe that their traditional languages are valuable resources that must be maintained. However, these traditional languages can fall into disuse when some of the effects of the majority culture on



tribal life serve as barriers between a community and its traditional forms of social, economic, or spiritual interaction. In some communities the barrier has been overcome because people have recognized that language loss is serious and have taken action to prevent it, primarily through community self-teaching.

Before any community can systematically and formally teach a traditional language to its younger members, it must first document the language's grammar; for example, a group of Northern Utes spent two years conducting a thorough analysis and classification of Northern Ute linguistic structures. The grammatical information is then arranged in sequence from the simpler to the more complex types of usage, and methods are devised to present the sequence in ways that will be most useful and appropriate to the culture.

Certain obstacles can stand in the way of developing these teaching methods. One is the difficulty a community may encounter when it attempts to write down elements (particularly the spellings of words) of a language that has been primarily oral for centuries, as is often the case with traditional languages. Sometimes this difficulty can simply be a matter of the lack of acceptable written equivalents for certain sounds in the traditional language: problems arise because of an insistence that every sound in the language have a unique written equivalent—a desirable but ultimately frustrating condition that no written language has ever fully satisfied.

Another obstacle is dialect. There may be many language traditions in a particular community; which one is to be written down and taught? The Northern Utes decided not to standardize their language, agreeing that various phonetic spellings of words would be accepted as long as their meanings were clear. Although this troubled some community members who favored Western notions of standard language writing or whose training in Western-style linguistics was especially rigid, the lack of standard orthography made sense in the context of the community's needs. Within a year after the adoption of instruction in the Northern Ute language, even elementary school children could write and speak it effectively.

It has been argued that the attempt to write down traditional languages is misguided and unnecessary; after all, in many cases these languages have been transmitted in their oral form since their origins. Defenders of the practice counter that they are writing down their languages precisely because of a general decline in oral traditions, but they concede that languages could be preserved in their oral form if a community made every effort to eschew aspects of the majority culture that make this preservation difficult.

Which one of the following most accurately describes the organization of the passage?

- A. A problem is identified, followed by a list of obstacles to its solution; examples of the obstacles are discussed; a solution is proposed; methods of implementing the solution are described; an alternative to the solution is introduced and endorsed.
- B. A problem is identified, followed by solutions to the problem; methods of implementing the solutions are discussed; obstacles to implementing the solutions are described; an alternative method of implementing one of the solutions is proposed.
- C. A problem is identified, followed by a solution to the problem; a method of implementing the solution is discussed; obstacles to implementing the solution are described; a challenge to the solution is introduced and countered.
- D. A problem is identified, followed by examples of the problem; a solution is proposed; a method for implementing the solution is described; examples of successful implementation are discussed; the solution is applied to other similar problems.
- E. A problem is identified, followed by a proposal for solving the problem; benefits and drawbacks of the proposal are discussed; examples of the benefits and drawbacks are described; a challenge to the proposal is introduced and the proposal is rejected.

Correct Answer: C

If you constructed a good mental roadmap of the passage, this "Organization" question should have been eminently doable. We can accept as given that "a problem is identified," as that phrase begins every choice. There's nothing else to do but check the remainder of each choice against the passage. Option C. captures all of the elements of the



passage, and gets them in the right order. The problem is that traditional languages can fall into disuse, but by the end of 1 a solution is proposed: Some communities have taken steps to prevent language loss through community self-teaching. The "method of implementing the solution" is that stuff in 2, and the obstacles come in 3 and 4. The "challenge to the solution" is the idea in the beginning of 5 that writing down traditional languages is misguided and unnecessary, a notion that is then countered by the "defenders of the practice." All elements present and accounted for.

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