

Quick Practice!



XAT CRITICAL REASONING



Read the following paragraph and answer the question that follows:

1. Empirical observation told us years ago that goats were slowly becoming the new dog, and according to a new study, they are truly qualified to be man's best friend. The Royal Society released heart-warming research showing that just like humans, goats have no desire to interact with people who come off as angry or upset, and that they're much more attracted to those with big smiles plastered across their faces. When 12 males and 8 females were released into a pen decorated with images of happy and angry humans, the scientists learned that goats can "distinguish between happy and angry images of the same person," and in general, they prefer their humans to be happy. [XAT 2019]

Which of the following statements is definitely true according to the passage?

1. When they look at a smiling person, the goats are happy.
2. When they look at a straight-faced person, goats remain passive.
3. When they look at a frowning person, goats are afraid of him.
4. When they look at a frowning person, the goats are sad.
5. When they look at a smiling person, goats run towards him.

2. An accurate measure of drug efficacy would require comparing the response of patients taking it with that of patients taking placebos; the drug effect could then be calculated by subtracting the placebo response from the overall response, much as a deli-counter worker subtracts the weight of the container to determine how much lobster salad you're getting. In the last half of the 1950s, this calculus gave rise to a new way to evaluate drugs: the double-blind, placebo-controlled clinical trial, in which neither patient nor clinician knew who was getting the active drug and who the placebo. [XAT 2019]

Which of the options is a **wrong answer** to this question: How does a double blind ensure a better trial of a new drug?

1. It gives rise to an unbiased testing of drugs.
2. The clinician cannot pick and choose patients to whom placebos can be administered.
3. It reflects the calculus exemplified by the deli-counter episode.
4. It increases the overall response to the drug.
5. The patient does not know whether he/she is getting a placebo.

3. Alligators are freshwater reptiles. However, people have come face to face with them in mud in a salt marsh in Georgia. Finding alligators in the salt marsh is not a mystery or a miracle. At least 23 species of predator have been spotted living in surprising habitats. Predators such as alligators, otters, mountain lions, wolves and raptors are thriving in places they shouldn't, revealing some serious misunderstandings about their behavior and how to protect them. Scientific literature divulges that these creatures are actually returning to places they once occupied. It gives us astonishing insights into the lives of animals and helps conservationists improve the old stomping grounds of these creatures. [XAT 2019]

Which of the following statements provides the most plausible explanation of the predators' behavior?

1. Predators are fully aware of where they were born.
2. Predators prefer to occupy different habitats, depending on the season and prevailing weather.
3. Predators have a genetic memory of their traditional stomping grounds.
4. Predators have no awareness of where they were born.
5. Predators migrate to a habitat different from where they were born.

4. Dense, dirty air laced with grease best describes the atmosphere of most Lagos streets. Drive from one corner of this great west African city to another and in no time you will find surfaces lightly dusted, like a soft sprinkling of icing on cakes. Under the half-moons of fingernails, thick grime settles. It's a scene taken as typically African: polluted, bedraggled, unhealthy. This has only ever been made possible by the exploitation of Africa's people. This week five west African countries, Nigeria included, announced plans to end the practice of European oil companies and traders exporting "African quality" diesel. "Dirty fuel" has earned the name because it is imported diesel with sulphur levels as high as 3,000 parts per million when the European maximum is 10ppm. To be clear, "African quality" fuel, is fuel not fit for European humans. [XAT 2019]

Which of the options is not necessarily the underlying **assumption** of the author in the paragraph above?

1. Economic exploitation, until challenged runs smoothly.
2. European oil companies dump their fuel on African countries.
3. Typically, African cities today are not fit for human habitation.
4. African nations had accepted 'dirty fuel' as the norm.
5. Racism makes it easy for Europeans to justify the exploitation of inferior races.

5. The size of oceanic waves is a function of the velocity of the wind and of fetch, the length of the surface of the water subject to those winds. The average impact of waves against a coastline is a function of the size of the waves and the shape of the sea bottom. The degree of erosion on coastline is a function of the average impact of waves and the geologic composition of the coastline. [XAT 2018]

According to the above paragraph, which of the following options will be true?

1. The fetch of wind is related to the shape of the sea bottom.
2. The size of oceanic waves will not fluctuate far from average.
3. The size of oceanic wave is correlated with the shape of the sea bottom.
4. Degree of erosion on coastline is not related with the velocity of wind.
5. Degree of erosion on coastline is related to shape of the sea-bottom.

6. Indian religious & ethical space is different from that of the western countries. The Vedas, the Upanishads, the Bhagavad Gita, the Ramayana, & the Mahabharata etc. enrich Indian religious & social space. Details of the treatment of human values & Dharmas have a long tradition. They are often compared, contrasted & debated by the characters in the Ramayana & the Mahabharata. In the process, it has given birth to a tradition of dharma, which has been transferred from generation to generation. Ethical discourse was not one-time affair. From time to time, religious leaders from various regions of India nourished & strengthened Indian ethical arena. Tiruvalluvar (2nd century B.C.), Kabir from Uttar Pradesh (15th century A.D.), Nanak from Punjab (15th century A.D), Alvars and Nayanmars of Tamil Nadu (8th century A.D.), Basaveswara of Karnataka (12th century A.D.), Sri Chaitanya (16th century) were prominent.

Which of the following assumptions will make the above paragraph **redundant**? [XAT 2018]

1. All religious leaders, mentioned in the paragraph, preach the same message and it is transferred from one generation to the next.
2. Western religious spaces do not have details of treatment of principle of Dharma.
3. Ramayana & Mahabharata have made it possible for religious leaders to build the tradition.
4. Western civilizations have been traversed by a different kind of religious leaders.
5. Western ethical & religious space has long tradition of treatment of values & Dharma.

7. Worldwide, tomato is one of the most important crops. Because this crop can be adapted for cultivation in various environments ranging from tropical to alpine regions, its cultivation area is now expanding worldwide into not so productive regions. On the other hand, traditional cultivation areas, the most favorable for tomato cultivation with warm and dry climate, are contracting. Every year, traditional cultivation areas lose 2 million hectares (ha) of land to environmental factors such as salinity, drought, and soil erosion.

Which of the following is the correct inference?

[XAT 2017]

1. In recent years, per hectare production of tomato has increased worldwide.
2. In recent years, per hectare wastage of tomato has increased worldwide.
3. In recent years, per hectare production of tomato has decreased worldwide.
4. In recent years, per hectare wastage of tomato has decreased worldwide.
5. In recent years, per hectare production of tomato has remained the same worldwide.

8. This season will pass. The Prime Minister may not win Lok Sabha elections, or she may; she may not continue as Prime Minister, or she may. The country will survive whatever the texture of politics in this decade or the next.

Which of the following, IF TRUE, will BEST reinforce the author's view? [XAT 2016]

1. The survival of any Prime Minister is dependent on the country's economics growth.
2. The country has a vibrant young working population.
3. The survival of the country depends on a dynamic, growth-oriented Prime Minister, not on the texture of politics.
4. The previous season had also witnessed similar political uncertainty.
5. The survival of the Prime Minister is dependent on the political texture of the country.

Thanks a lot for watching!



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