

INFERENCE QUESTIONS

06 2017

Q544

Neuroscientist: Memory evolved to help animals react appropriately to situations they encounter by drawing on the past experience of similar situations. But this does not require that animals perfectly recall every detail of all their experiences. Instead, to function well, memory should generalize from past experiences that are similar to the current one.

The neuroscientist's statements, if true, most strongly support which of the following conclusions?

- (A) At least some animals perfectly recall every detail of at least some past experiences.
- (B) Perfectly recalling every detail of all their past experiences could help at least some animals react more appropriately than they otherwise would to new situations they encounter.
- (C) Generalizing from past experiences requires clear memories of most if not all the details of those experiences.
- (D) Recalling every detail of all past experiences would be incompatible with any ability to generalize from those experiences.
- (E) Animals can often react more appropriately than they otherwise would to situations they encounter if they draw on generalizations from past experiences of similar situations.

Q582

Many athletes inhale pure oxygen after exercise in an attempt to increase muscular reabsorption of oxygen. Measured continuously after exercise, however, the blood lactate levels of athletes who inhale pure oxygen are practically identical, on average, to those of athletes who breathe normal air. The lower the blood lactate level is, the higher the muscular reabsorption of oxygen is.

If the statements above are all true, they most strongly support which of the following conclusions?

- (A) Athletes' muscular reabsorption of oxygen is not increased when they inhale pure oxygen instead of normal air.
- (B) High blood lactate levels cannot be reduced.
- (C) Blood lactate levels are a poor measure of oxygen reabsorption by muscles.
- (D) The amount of oxygen reabsorbed by an athlete's muscles always remains constant.
- (E) The inhaling of pure oxygen has no legitimate role in athletics.

Q591

Humans get Lyme disease from infected ticks. Ticks get infected by feeding on animals with Lyme disease, but the ease of transmission from host animal to tick varies. With most species of host animal, transmission of Lyme disease to ticks is extremely rare, but white-footed mice are an exception, readily passing Lyme disease to ticks. And white-footed mouse populations greatly expand, becoming the main food source for ticks, in areas where biodiversity is in decline.

The information in the passage most strongly supports which of the following?

- (A) In areas where many humans are infected with Lyme disease, the proportion of ticks infected with Lyme disease is especially high.
- (B) Very few animals that live in areas where there are no white-footed mice are infected with Lyme disease.
- (C) Humans are less at risk of contracting Lyme disease in areas where biodiversity is high.
- (D) Ticks feed on white-footed mice only when other host species are not available to them.
- (E) The greater the biodiversity of an area, the more likely any given host animal in that area is to pass Lyme disease to ticks.

Q619

Transportation expenses accounted for a large portion of the total dollar amount spent on trips for pleasure by residents of the United States in 1997, and about half of the total dollar amount spent on the transportation was airfare. However, the large majority of United States residents who took trips for pleasure in 1997 did not travel by airplane but used other means of transportation.

If the statements above are true, which of the following must also be true about United States residents who took trips for pleasure in 1997?

- (A) Most of those who traveled by airplane did so because the airfare to their destination was lower than the cost of other available means of transportation.
- (B) Most of those who traveled by airplane did so because other means of transportation to their destinations were unavailable.
- (C) Per mile traveled, those who traveled by airplane tended to spend more on transportation to their destination than did those who used other means of transportation.
- (D) Overall, people who did not travel by airplane had lower average transportation expenses than people who did.
- (E) Those who traveled by airplane spent about as much, on average, on other means of transportation as they did on airfare.

Q645

Environmentalist: The commissioner of the Fish and Game Authority would have the public believe that increases in the number of marine fish caught demonstrate that this resource is no longer endangered. This is a specious argument, as unsound as it would be to assert that the ever-increasing rate at which rain forests are being cut down demonstrates a lack of danger to that resource. The real cause of the increased fish-catch is a greater efficiency in using technologies that deplete resources.

The environmentalist's statements, if true, best support which of the following as a conclusion?

- (A) The use of technology is the reason for the increasing encroachment of people on nature.
- (B) It is possible to determine how many fish are in the sea in some way other than by catching sh.
- (C) The proportion of marine fish that are caught is as high as the proportion of rain forest trees that are cut down each year.
- (D) Modern technologies waste resources by catching inedible sh.
- (E) Marine fish continue to be an endangered resource.

OG 2016

Q80

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 conclusions about Country Z's adversely affected export-dependent industries is best supported by the passage?

- (A) Profit margins in those industries were not high enough to absorb the rise in costs mentioned above.
- (B) Those industries had to contend with the fact that other countries banned imports from Country Z.
- (C) Those industries succeeded in expanding the domestic market for their products.
- (D) Steps to offset rising materials costs by decreasing labor costs were taken in those industries.
- (E) Those industries started to move into export markets that they had previously judged unprofitable.

Q6 2015

Q26

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.

Q54

The fewer restrictions there are on the advertising of legal services, the more lawyers there are who advertise their services, and the lawyers who advertise a specific service usually charge less for that service than the lawyers who do not advertise. Therefore, if the state removes any of its current restrictions, such as the one against advertisements that do not specify fee arrangements, overall consumer legal costs will be lower than if the state retains its current restrictions.

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

- (A) Some lawyers who now advertise will charge more for specific services if they do not have specify fee arrangements in the advertisements.
- (B) More consumers will use legal services if there are fewer restrictions on the advertising of legal services.
- (C) If the restriction against advertisements that do not specify fee arrangements is removed, more lawyers will advertise their services.
- (D) If more lawyers advertise lower prices for specific services, some lawyers who do not advertise will also charge less than they currently charge for those services.
- (E) If the only restrictions on the advertising of legal services were those that apply to every type of advertising, most lawyers would advertise their services.

Q103

For a trade embargo against a particular country to succeed, a high degree of both international accord and ability to prevent goods from entering or leaving that country must be sustained. A total blockade of Patria's ports is necessary to an embargo, but such an action would be likely to cause international discord over the embargo.

The claims above, if true, most strongly support which of the following conclusions?

- (A) The balance of opinion is likely to favor Patria in the event of a blockade.
- (B) As long as international opinion is unanimously against Patria, a trade embargo is likely to succeed.
- (C) A naval blockade of Patria's ports would ensure that no goods enter or leave Patria.
- (D) Any trade embargo against Patria would be likely to fail at some time.
- (E) For a blockade of Patria's ports to be successful, international opinion must be unanimous.

Q105

The cost of producing radios in Country Q is 10 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 10 percent below those in Country Y.
- (B) Importing radios from Country Q to Country Y will eliminate 10 percent of the manufacturing jobs in Country Y.
- (C) The tariff on a radio imported from Country Q to Country Y is less than 10 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 10 percent of the cost of manufacturing the radio in Country Q.
- (E) It takes 10 percent less time to manufacture a radio in Country Q than it does in Country Y.