
Critical Reasoning-New

Posted by thakkarvijayrajiv - 2009/07/01 22:44

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 those people who have had salt available throughout their history and those who have not.

The spacing of the four holes on a fragment of a bone flute excavated at a Neanderthal campsite is just what is required to play the third through sixth notes of the diatonic scale—the seven-note musical scale used in much of Western music since the Renaissance. Musicologists therefore hypothesize that the diatonic musical scale was developed and used thousands of years before it was adopted by Western musicians.

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

- (A) Bone flutes were probably the only musical instrument made by Neanderthals.
- (B) No musical instrument that is known to have used a diatonic scale is of an earlier date than the flute found at the Neanderthal campsite.
- (C) The flute was made from a cave-bear bone and the campsite at which the flute fragment was excavated was in a cave that also contained skeletal remains of cave bears.
- (D) Flutes are the simplest wind instrument that can be constructed to allow playing a diatonic scale.
- (E) The cave-bear leg bone used to make the Neanderthal flute would have been long enough to make a flute capable of playing a complete diatonic scale

For the past 13 years, high school guidance counselors nationwide have implemented an aggressive program to convince high school students to select careers requiring college degrees. The government reported that the percentage of last year's high school graduates who went on to college was 15 percent greater than the percentage of those who graduated 10 years ago and did so. The counselors concluded from this report that the program had been successful.

The guidance counselors' reasoning depends on which one of the following assumptions about high school graduates?

- (A) The number of graduates who went on to college remained constant each year during the 10-year period.
- (B) Any college courses that the graduates take will improve their career prospects.
- (C) Some of the graduates who went on to college never received guidance from a high school counselor.

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- (D) There has been a decrease in the number of graduates who go on to college without career plans.
- (E) Many of last year's graduates who went on to college did so in order to prepare for careers requiring college degrees

Frobisher, a sixteenth-century English explorer, had soil samples from Canada's Kodlunarn Island examined for gold content. Because high gold content was reported, Elizabeth I funded two mining expeditions. Neither expedition found any gold there. Modern analysis of the island's soil indicates a very low gold content. Thus the methods used to determine the gold content of Frobisher's samples must have been inaccurate.

Which of the following is an assumption on which the argument depends?

- (A) The gold content of the soil on Kodlunarn Island is much lower today than it was in the sixteenth century.
- (B) The two mining expeditions funded by Elizabeth I did not mine the same part of Kodlunarn Island.
- (C) The methods used to assess gold content of the soil samples provided by Frobisher were different from those generally used in the sixteenth century.
- (D) Frobisher did not have soil samples from any other Canadian island examined for gold content.
- (E) Gold was not added to the soil samples collected by Frobisher before the samples were examined.

Nearly all mail that is correctly addressed arrives at its destination within two business days of being sent. In fact, correctly addressed mail takes longer than this only when it is damaged in transit. Overall, however, most mail arrives three business days or more after being sent.

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

- A) A large proportion of the mail that is correctly addressed is damaged in transit
- B) No incorrectly addressed mail arrives within two business days of being sent
- C) Most mail that arrives within two business days of being sent is correctly addressed
- D) A large proportion of mail is incorrectly addressed.
- E) More mail arrives within two business days of being sent than arrives between two and three business days after being sent

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Re:Critical Reasoning-New

Posted by thakkarvijayrajiv - 2009/07/01 23:02

My answers are

- E
E
E
E
D

Hi Naina plz help me with correct answers.
It took me 18 minutes to answer these 5 questions :-{

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Re:Critical Reasoning-New

Posted by Samir - 2009/07/02 11:23

My answers differ significantly to yours-

1. A
2. B
3. A
4. E
5. D

Looking forward to the correct answers...

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Re:Critical Reasoning-New

Posted by anirban - 2009/07/03 12:26

ma ans are

- A
 - E
 - A
 - C
 - D
- =====

Re:Critical Reasoning-New

Posted by vignesh - 2009/07/17 08:37

My answers are

- a
- e
- c
- e
- a

please post the right answers

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Re:Critical Reasoning-New

Posted by naina.joy - 2009/07/22 11:11

Apologies for the delay in responding!

1. A

We need to strengthen the argument that high blood pressure in Westernized Blacks is a result of the interaction between their genes, which have not been exposed to a salt rich diet in the past, and a currently salt rich diet.

Choice A says that the blood pressure of those people who have always had salt available is low. This strengthens the argument by showing that there is in fact a causal link between adaptability to a salt rich diet and blood pressure

2. E

Here, we need to strengthen the argument that the diatonic musical scale was developed and used thousands of years before it was adopted by Western musicians. In other words, the creators of the flute knew about and used the diatonic scale.

Only choice E gives us useful information. If we know that the flute could have contained the entire scale, that's more

evidence that the creators knew about and used the scale, and reduces the possibility that the presence of the the third through sixth notes of the diatonic scale wasn't just a coincidence.

3. E

The argument here is that the guidance counselors' efforts to convince high schoolers to choose careers requiring college degrees have succeeded because the proportion of high school grads who go on to college is increasing.

Choice E bridges the gap between the counselor's efforts and the reason for high school graduates to go on to college; the counselors assume that a lot of those high school grads who are in college are there to prepare for careers requiring degrees — in other words, that students have taken the counselors' advice.

4. E

The argument is that the methods used to determine the gold content of Frobisher's samples must have been inaccurate because the expeditions did not find any gold on Canada's Kodlunarn Island. Besides, modern analysis of the island's soil indicates a very low gold content.

Choice E bridges the gap between Frobisher's methods and the gold content by suggesting that gold was not added to the soil samples before examining them. If gold were added to the soil samples collected by Frobisher before the samples were examined, it would imply that his methods were not inaccurate

5. D

Most mail arrives three business days or more after being sent. Since nearly all correctly addressed mail arrives at its destination within two business days of being sent, the logical conclusion is that most mail must be incorrectly addressed.

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Re:Critical Reasoning-New

Posted by Vijay - 2009/07/22 11:21

Thanks for your response

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Re:Critical Reasoning-New

Posted by RishiRaj - 2009/08/10 09:45

Hi Naina

I have still not understood why A should be correct?

A clearly says that salt was abundant in the areas in which these black lived. It does not show in any way that they did not use it in their diets. In fact chances are that they may as well have used it.

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Re:Critical Reasoning-New

Posted by harshit - 2009/08/12 11:22

hey these questions were kinda tough!!

my answers are

- 1)B
- 2)E
- 3)A
- 4)C
- 5)A

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Re:Critical Reasoning-New

You're right, Rishiraj, but that's the whole point of the argument. The argument says that Black Americans suffer these health problems because their bodies haven't adapted to the higher-salt diets common in the US.

In A, the people from Senegal and Gambia are a control group - they are the descendants of Black Africans with salt available to them, and the Black Americans are descendants of the ones with little salt available to them.

Essentially, what A is saying is that people descended from Senegal and Gambia adapted to high-salt levels over time because salt was always available to them. This means that they're more similar to White Americans in their tolerance of high salt levels than they are to Black Americans.

Hope this helps!:cheer:

Keep posting!

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Critical Reasoning-New

Posted by Vijay - 2009/12/13 21:40

Armchair anthropologists of the Victorian Era rarely visited the lands in whose cultures they proclaimed themselves experts, and were as likely as not to call the inhabitants "savages." By contrast, contemporary anthropologists, who are not taken seriously unless they have lived for a time among the people they study, are likely to use the more enlightened term "indigenous people."

The author's assertion about the superiority of contemporary anthropologists rests on which of the following assumptions about the word enlightened?

- A. Victorian Era anthropologists often considered themselves enlightened even though they had never lived among the cultures they studied.
 - B. Enlightenment comes from direct observation and experience, and is not colored by preconceptions.
 - C. To be enlightened requires living among the cultures one is studying.
 - D. A person who has been enlightened can not, by definition, be called a "savage."
 - E. Anthropologists must be enlightened before they are properly prepared to spend time among the people they study.
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