

NMAT 2026 Question Paper with Solutions — Memory Based

1. Evaluate the value of the following expression:

$$3^{(2+\log_3 5)} \div \log_{25} 125$$

- (A) 75
- (B) 40
- (C) 15
- (D) 60

Correct Answer: (A) 75

Solution:

Step 1: Simplify the exponent in the numerator.

$$3^{(2+\log_3 5)} = 3^2 \cdot 3^{\log_3 5}$$

Using the identity $a^{\log_a b} = b$, we get:

$$3^2 \cdot 5 = 9 \cdot 5 = 45$$

Step 2: Simplify the denominator.

$$\log_{25} 125$$

Write both numbers in terms of base 5:

$$25 = 5^2, \quad 125 = 5^3$$

$$\log_{25} 125 = \frac{\log 5^3}{\log 5^2} = \frac{3}{2}$$

Step 3: Divide the results.

$$\frac{45}{\frac{3}{2}} = 45 \times \frac{2}{3} = 30$$

Final Answer:

30

Quick Tip

Always convert logarithmic bases into the same base to simplify calculations easily.

2. What is the value of $7^{(3+\log_7 5)}$?

- (A) 1575
- (B) 3140
- (C) 1715
- (D) 3460

Correct Answer: (A) 1575

Solution:

Step 1: Split the exponent using laws of exponents.

$$7^{(3+\log_7 5)} = 7^3 \cdot 7^{\log_7 5}$$

Step 2: Apply logarithmic identity.

Using $a^{\log_a b} = b$:

$$7^{\log_7 5} = 5$$

Step 3: Multiply the terms.

$$7^3 = 343$$

$$343 \times 5 = 1715$$

Step 4: Final calculation.

$$7^{(3+\log_7 5)} = 1715$$

Final Answer:

1715

Quick Tip

Use the identity $a^{\log_a b} = b$ to quickly simplify exponential-logarithmic expressions.

3. There are 3 students from section A, 5 from section B and 4 from section C. In how many ways can they occupy 6 seats such that the leftmost seat is occupied by a student of section A and the remaining seats are occupied by 3 students of section B and 2 students of section C?

- (A) 10800
- (B) 14400
- (C) 18000
- (D) 21600

Correct Answer: (D) 21600

Solution:

Step 1: Choose the student for the leftmost seat from section A.

There are 3 students in section A, and the leftmost seat must be occupied by a student from section A.

Number of ways = 3

Step 2: Select students from section B and section C.

We need to choose 3 students from section B out of 5:

$$\binom{5}{3} = 10$$

We need to choose 2 students from section C out of 4:

$$\binom{4}{2} = 6$$

Step 3: Arrange the selected students in the remaining 5 seats.

The selected 5 students (3 from B and 2 from C) can be arranged in the remaining 5 seats in:

$$5! = 120$$

Step 4: Multiply all possible cases.

$$3 \times 10 \times 6 \times 120 = 21600$$

Final Answer:

21600

Quick Tip

In seating arrangement problems, always separate the steps of selection and arrangement to avoid overcounting.

4. A salesman gets a commission of 12% on the sales of products. He sold products worth 67000 last month. This month, the company changed the payment structure. A salesman would get a fixed pay of 5000 and 8% commission on the sales exceeding 32000. If he makes a sale of 67000, his earning from the previous month will reduce by

(A) 2%

(B) 3%

(C) 4%

(D) 5%

Correct Answer: (B) 3%

Solution:

Step 1: Calculate the earning in the previous month.

Commission rate = 12%

Sales = 67000

$$\text{Previous earning} = 12\% \text{ of } 67000 = \frac{12}{100} \times 67000 = 8040$$

Step 2: Calculate the earning in the current month.

Fixed pay = 5000

Sales exceeding 32000 = $67000 - 32000 = 35000$

Commission = 8% of 35000

$$\text{Commission} = \frac{8}{100} \times 35000 = 2800$$

$$\text{Current earning} = 5000 + 2800 = 7800$$

Step 3: Find the reduction in earnings.

$$\text{Reduction} = 8040 - 7800 = 240$$

Step 4: Calculate the percentage reduction.

$$\text{Percentage reduction} = \frac{240}{8040} \times 100 \approx 2.99\% \approx 3\%$$

Final Answer:

3%

Quick Tip

In percentage comparison problems, always calculate the original value first and then compare the change with respect to the original amount.

5. If $3a25b$ is divisible by 12, find the maximum value of $|a - b|$.

Correct Answer: 8

Solution:

Step 1: Use the divisibility rule of 12.

A number is divisible by 12 if it is divisible by both 3 and 4.

Step 2: Apply divisibility rule of 4.

For divisibility by 4, the last two digits must be divisible by 4.

The last two digits are $5b$.

Possible values of $5b$ divisible by 4 are:

52, 56

So, $b = 2$ or $b = 6$.

Step 3: Apply divisibility rule of 3.

Sum of digits of $3a25b$ is:

$$3 + a + 2 + 5 + b = 10 + a + b$$

For divisibility by 3:

$$10 + a + b \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$$

Step 4: Check valid combinations to maximize $|a - b|$.

Case 1: $b = 2$

$$10 + a + 2 = 12 + a$$

For divisibility by 3, $a = 0, 3, 6, 9$.

Maximum $|a - b| = |9 - 2| = 7$

Case 2: $b = 6$

$$10 + a + 6 = 16 + a$$

For divisibility by 3, $a = 2, 5, 8$.

Maximum $|a - b| = |8 - 6| = 2$

Step 5: Final comparison.

Maximum possible value of $|a - b|$ is obtained in Case 1.

Final Answer:

7

Quick Tip

Always break divisibility problems into individual rules and test digit combinations systematically.

6. Several travellers complain about the bland food provided to them on airlines.

Actually, airline food tastes bland due to the combination of low humidity and low cabin pressure at cruising altitude, which suppresses the senses of taste and smell. The dry air dehydrates your nasal passages, and the reduced pressure makes you less sensitive to salty and sweet flavours. Which of the following can be most reasonably inferred from the information in the passage?

- (A) The complaints about airline food arise mainly from passengers' preconceived expectations rather than actual taste experience.
- (B) If airlines were to serve spicier food, passengers would stop complaining about its blandness.
- (C) Airlines intentionally reduce humidity and cabin pressure to save costs on food preparation.

- (D) Passengers' ability to perceive sour and bitter tastes is also reduced during flight.
- (E) Passengers who consume the same meal on the ground are likely to find it more flavorful than when they eat it in-flight.

Correct Answer: (E)

Solution:

Step 1: Understand the core reason for bland taste in-flight.

The passage explains that low humidity and low cabin pressure at cruising altitude suppress the senses of taste and smell. This makes passengers less sensitive especially to salty and sweet flavours.

Step 2: Focus on what inference means.

An inference must logically follow from the given information without adding new assumptions.

Step 3: Analyze the options.

- (A) Talks about expectations, which are not mentioned in the passage.
- (B) Spicier food is suggested, but this is not discussed or implied.
- (C) Cost-saving intent is not stated anywhere.
- (D) Sour and bitter tastes are not mentioned in the passage.
- (E) If food tastes bland due to flight conditions, then the same food eaten on the ground (without those conditions) would taste more flavorful. This follows directly from the explanation.

Step 4: Final inference.

Option (E) logically follows from the given facts without introducing new ideas.

Final Answer:

Option (E)

Quick Tip

For inference questions, choose the option that is a direct logical consequence of the passage, not one that adds assumptions or extra information.

7. During his summer vacation, Ajay plans to learn a new language as a hobby. He has the option to choose between Language A and Language B. Language A is easy to learn, and even his sibling speaks it. Language B, while more challenging to master, has the potential to provide numerous professional advantages in the future. Considering these factors, which of the following arguments would persuade Ajay to select Language A over Language B?

- I.** He is learning the language solely as a hobby and is not considering it for serious purposes.
- II.** Only one-third of learners can pass the elementary tests in Language B. Ajay will also struggle to clear the elementary test.
- III.** It will be comparatively easy for him to master Language A since he can practice speaking it with his sibling.
- IV.** Language B may not offer as many career opportunities in the future.

- (A) III
- (B) I and III
- (C) II and IV
- (D) I and II
- (E) I, II, and III

Correct Answer: (E) I, II, and III

Solution:

Step 1: Identify Ajay's primary objective.

Ajay wants to learn a language as a hobby during his summer vacation, not primarily for long-term professional gains.

Step 2: Evaluate each statement.

Statement I supports Language A because it aligns with learning purely for enjoyment rather than career advancement.

Statement II highlights the difficulty of Language B and suggests Ajay may struggle, making Language A a safer choice.

Statement III strengthens the case for Language A since having a sibling to practice with makes learning easier and faster.

Statement IV contradicts the passage, as Language B is explicitly said to offer professional advantages in the future.

Step 3: Select the valid combination.

Statements I, II, and III all logically persuade Ajay to choose Language A over Language B, while Statement IV does not.

Final Answer:

Option (E)

Quick Tip

In argument-based questions, eliminate options that contradict the given facts and select combinations that directly support the stated goal.

8. Country X is rich in flora and fauna and is considered one of the most beautiful places in the world. However, its economy has been struggling in recent times due to a recession. To address this, the government is considering transforming some of its scenic destinations into tourist attractions, intending to generate revenue and improve the country's economic condition. Should the government proceed with this plan?

Arguments:

- I.** Yes, turning these destinations into tourist spots will attract more foreign visitors, leading to an economic boost.
- II.** No, it will negatively impact the environment, as heavy tourism may result in population migration and a high influx of visitors, which could harm the country's flora and fauna.
- III.** No, there are other ways to improve the country's economy without relying on tourism.
- IV.** Yes, tourism helped boost the economy of neighbouring country Y last year, which was also facing a recession.

- (A) Only argument IV is strong
- (B) Only argument II is strong
- (C) Arguments I and II are strong
- (D) Arguments I, II, and IV are strong
- (E) Arguments II and III are strong

Correct Answer: (D) Arguments I, II, and IV are strong

Solution:

Step 1: Understand the core issue.

The government is considering tourism development as a means to overcome an economic recession, but must balance economic benefits with environmental concerns.

Step 2: Evaluate each argument.

Argument I is strong because increased tourism can logically lead to higher revenue and economic improvement.

Argument II is also strong, as environmental degradation due to excessive tourism is a valid and realistic concern, especially for a country rich in flora and fauna.

Argument III is weak because it is vague and does not directly address why tourism should not be pursued in this specific case.

Argument IV is strong since it provides a relevant real-world example where tourism helped a neighbouring country recover economically.

Step 3: Identify the correct combination.

Arguments I, II, and IV are all logical, relevant, and directly related to the issue under discussion.

Final Answer:

Option (D)

Quick Tip

In strong–weak argument questions, strong arguments are practical, relevant, and directly related to the issue, while vague or generalized statements are usually weak.

9. A public library located in the heart of the city attracts a large number of visitors every day. Many people spend long hours there, with some occupying the desks continuously for 7–8 hours. The library also has a lobby area with beanbags meant for leisure reading, but most visitors prefer using the desks as the lobby often becomes noisy. The visitors frequently visit a café nearby and bring coffee or tea to their desks. This has resulted in noticeable stains and damage to the furniture due to frequent spills. As the manager of the library, what course of action would you recommend to effectively address this issue?

- (A) Restrict the study time in the library to two hours, as this would discourage visitors from taking beverage breaks.
- (B) Provide leak-proof thermosteel flasks to visitors and mandate their use inside the library.
- (C) Request the nearby café not to offer takeaway beverages to library visitors.
- (D) Restrict the consumption of beverages to the lobby area only.
- (E) Impose heavy penalties on visitors found consuming beverages inside the library.

Correct Answer: (D)

Solution:

Step 1: Identify the core problem.

The main issue is damage to library furniture caused by beverages being consumed at study desks, leading to spills and stains.

Step 2: Evaluate the practicality of each option.

Option (A) is extreme and unnecessarily restricts study time without directly addressing beverage spills.

Option (B) would be costly and difficult to implement and enforce.

Option (C) is impractical, as the library cannot control the business practices of a nearby café.

Option (D) directly addresses the issue by allowing beverages only in a designated area, thereby protecting study desks and furniture.

Option (E) is harsh and may create a hostile environment for visitors.

Step 3: Choose the most balanced and effective solution.

Restricting beverage consumption to the lobby area balances visitor comfort with the need to protect library property.

Final Answer:

Option (D)

Quick Tip

In administrative decision-making questions, the best option is usually the one that directly solves the problem with minimal inconvenience and maximum practicality.

10. Cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT) has emerged as a prominent treatment approach for depression and anxiety disorders. By focusing on identifying and modifying negative thought patterns and behaviors, CBT empowers individuals to develop healthier coping mechanisms and improve their overall well-being. This therapeutic approach emphasizes the connection between thoughts, emotions, and behaviors, enabling individuals to challenge and replace unhelpful thinking patterns with more positive and realistic perspectives. Which of the following must be true for this conclusion to be properly drawn?

- (A) CBT is effective for all mental health disorders.
- (B) CBT requires medication in conjunction with therapy.
- (C) CBT aims to change negative thought patterns and behaviors.
- (D) CBT is solely focused on past traumatic experiences.
- (E) CBT is a short-term therapy with limited long-term benefits.

Correct Answer: (C)

Solution:

Step 1: Identify the conclusion of the passage.

The passage concludes that CBT improves well-being by enabling individuals to challenge and replace unhelpful thinking patterns and behaviors with healthier ones.

Step 2: Understand what a “must be true” question requires.

A must-be-true statement is an assumption that is absolutely necessary for the conclusion to logically follow from the given information.

Step 3: Evaluate the options.

Option (A) is too extreme and is not stated or required by the passage.

Option (B) introduces medication, which is not mentioned in the passage.

Option (C) directly restates the core mechanism described in the passage and is essential for the conclusion to hold.

Option (D) is incorrect because CBT focuses on present thought patterns, not solely on past trauma.

Option (E) adds an unsupported limitation that is not required for the conclusion.

Step 4: Final logical requirement.

For CBT to improve well-being by changing perspectives and behaviors, it must aim to change negative thought patterns and behaviors.

Final Answer:

Option (C)

Quick Tip

In must-be-true questions, select the option without which the argument would collapse. Avoid extreme or additional claims not required by the passage.

11. A city council is considering the construction of a new sports stadium, arguing that it will stimulate local economic growth by creating jobs and attracting tourists. Proponents believe the stadium will revitalize the area, increase spending, and ultimately benefit the local community. Which of the following assumptions does the argument make?

- (A) The construction and operation of the new stadium will create jobs for the local population.
- (B) The local economy is currently in a recession, so adding a sports stadium is necessary to stimulate growth.
- (C) The new stadium will not harm the existing local businesses.
- (D) The residents will have more disposable income and spend more money after the stadium is built.
- (E) The construction of the stadium will be the primary factor contributing to the economic growth of the area.

Correct Answer: (C)

Solution:

Step 1: Identify the conclusion of the argument.

The argument concludes that building a new sports stadium will stimulate economic growth and benefit the local community.

Step 2: Understand what an assumption question requires.

An assumption is something that must be true for the argument's reasoning to hold; if it is false, the argument weakens.

Step 3: Analyze the options.

Option (A) is already stated in the argument and hence is not an assumption.

Option (B) introduces a recession, which is not mentioned or required.

Option (C) is necessary because if the stadium harms existing local businesses, the claimed economic benefit may not occur.

Option (D) goes beyond the argument and assumes an additional outcome not required for the conclusion.

Option (E) exaggerates the role of the stadium and is not necessary for the argument to work.

Step 4: Core underlying assumption.

The argument assumes that the new stadium will not negatively impact existing local businesses; otherwise, the net economic benefit would be questionable.

Final Answer:

Option (C)

Quick Tip

In assumption questions, look for what must remain true for the argument to succeed.
If negating an option weakens the argument, that option is the correct assumption.

12. A sports betting company argues in court that its operations are similar to those of the stock market. Like sports betting, the stock market is also unpredictable even for experts. This often results in many investors losing money. Therefore, the company contends that sports betting should also be legalized in the country. Which of the following arguments would weaken their claim?

- (A) Stock market investors consistently earn substantial profits over time.
- (B) While fewer people are familiar with the stock market, a large number of people are interested in sports.
- (C) Sports betting companies frequently use aggressive marketing tactics that target vulnerable populations.
- (D) A regulatory body exists in the country to oversee stock market operations.
- (E) Stock market investments are less addictive than sports betting.

Correct Answer: (E)

Solution:

Step 1: Identify the core argument.

The company argues by analogy that since the stock market is legal despite being unpredictable and causing losses, sports betting should also be legalized.

Step 2: Understand how to weaken an argument based on analogy.

To weaken such an argument, we must show a relevant difference between the two activities that undermines the comparison.

Step 3: Evaluate the options.

Option (A) weakens the premise slightly but does not directly address the analogy.

Option (B) is irrelevant to legality and does not affect the argument.

Option (C) criticizes marketing practices but does not directly break the comparison made.

Option (D) introduces regulation, but regulation alone does not directly address the core harm being compared.

Option (E) highlights a crucial difference: sports betting being more addictive than stock market investments makes the comparison flawed and weakens the justification for legalization.

Step 4: Final evaluation.

If sports betting is significantly more addictive than stock market investing, then treating them as equivalent activities for legal purposes is unjustified.

Final Answer:

Option (E)

Quick Tip

To weaken an argument based on analogy, identify a key difference that makes the comparison invalid or misleading.

13. A tech company has launched a new tablet designed specifically for artists, with enhanced stylus sensitivity, high-resolution displays, and a suite of professional-grade creative software. The company believes that the tablet will appeal to both professional and amateur artists looking for a versatile, portable device for digital art creation. Early reviews have praised the tablet's impressive performance and the quality of its drawing features. Which of the following may most reasonably be inferred from the statements above?

(A) The tablet has been tested by professional artists before its launch to ensure its suitability for creative work.

- (B) The tablet may be too specialized for general consumers, possibly limiting its broader market appeal.
- (C) The company's marketing strategy primarily targets professional artists, rather than casual or amateur creators.
- (D) The high praise for the tablet's drawing features suggests that the device will appeal to gamers as well as artists.
- (E) The positive early reviews of the tablet suggest that it will quickly dominate the general tech market.

Correct Answer: (B)

Solution:

Step 1: Identify the focus of the passage.

The tablet is designed specifically for artists, with features tailored to digital art creation, and early reviews praise its artistic performance.

Step 2: Understand what an inference question requires.

A valid inference must logically follow from the given information without introducing assumptions beyond what is stated.

Step 3: Evaluate the options.

Option (A) assumes pre-launch testing by professionals, which is not stated.

Option (B) reasonably follows because a device highly specialized for artists may have limited appeal among general consumers.

Option (C) contradicts the passage, which states that the tablet appeals to both professional and amateur artists.

Option (D) introduces gamers, a group not mentioned or implied.

Option (E) overgeneralizes by claiming dominance of the entire tech market, which is unsupported.

Step 4: Most reasonable inference.

Given the specialized nature of the tablet, it is reasonable to infer that its broader market appeal may be limited.

Final Answer:

Option (B)

Quick Tip

In inference questions, avoid options that add new groups, exaggerated outcomes, or unstated assumptions. Choose what logically follows from the given facts.

14. A recent report on agricultural trends highlights the growing popularity of organic farming practices, citing their benefits for both the environment and public health. Organic farming is said to reduce pesticide use, improve soil quality, and promote biodiversity. Consumers are increasingly seeking organic products due to concerns about chemical residues in conventionally grown produce and the environmental impact of industrial farming. Which of the following may most reasonably be inferred from the statements above?

- (A) Organic farming is a more profitable venture than conventional farming.
- (B) All consumers prefer organic products over conventionally grown ones.
- (C) The long-term effects of organic farming on crop yields are still uncertain.
- (D) Government policies and subsidies can significantly influence the adoption of organic farming practices.
- (E) Consumers are becoming more aware of the environmental and health implications of food production.

Correct Answer: (E)

Solution:

Step 1: Identify the key ideas in the passage.

The passage emphasizes the environmental and health benefits of organic farming and states that consumers are increasingly choosing organic products due to concerns about chemical residues and environmental harm.

Step 2: Understand the requirement of an inference question.

A reasonable inference must logically follow from the given information without introducing assumptions that are not supported.

Step 3: Evaluate the options.

Option (A) discusses profitability, which is not mentioned.

Option (B) is an extreme statement and is not supported by the passage.

Option (C) introduces uncertainty about crop yields, which is not discussed.

Option (D) talks about government policies, which are not mentioned in the passage.

Option (E) directly follows from the stated consumer concerns about health and environmental impact.

Step 4: Final inference.

Since consumers are choosing organic products due to health and environmental concerns, it can be reasonably inferred that consumer awareness about food production impacts is increasing.

Final Answer:

Option (E)

Quick Tip

In inference questions, prefer options that restate the underlying implication of the passage without adding new facts or exaggerations.

15. Statement: The school has made wearing uniforms compulsory for all students.

Assumptions:

I. Uniforms will improve the academic performance of students.

II. Students from different socio-economic backgrounds cannot be easily identified in uniforms.

III. Uniforms will help to promote a more professional and formal atmosphere within the school.

- (A) All I, II and III implicit
- (B) Only I and II are implicit
- (C) Only I and III are implicit
- (D) Only II and III are implicit
- (E) Only III is implicit

Correct Answer: (D) Only II and III are implicit

Solution:

Step 1: Understand what an implicit assumption means.

An assumption is implicit if it is taken for granted and is necessary for the decision or statement to make sense.

Step 2: Analyze each assumption individually.

Assumption I states that uniforms will improve academic performance. This is not necessary for making uniforms compulsory, as uniforms are often enforced for discipline or equality, not directly for academic improvement. Hence, it is not implicit.

Assumption II suggests that uniforms reduce visible socio-economic differences among students. This is a commonly accepted and underlying reason for enforcing uniforms, making it an implicit assumption.

Assumption III states that uniforms promote a professional and formal atmosphere in the school. This is also a common and necessary belief behind such a policy, so it is implicit.

Step 3: Identify the correct combination.

Only assumptions II and III are required for the statement to hold logically.

Final Answer:

Option (D)

Quick Tip

In assumption questions, check whether the statement can logically stand without the assumption. If it can, that assumption is not implicit.

16. A software company has released a new software update that incorporates enhanced security features to safeguard user data. The update aims to address growing concerns about data breaches and restore user trust in the company's commitment to data protection. By bolstering its security measures, the company seeks to maintain customer loyalty and prevent sensitive information from falling into unauthorized hands. Which of the following must be true for these conclusions to be properly drawn?

- (A) The enhanced security features are designed to address concerns about data breaches.
- (B) The software update will completely eliminate the risk of data breaches.
- (C) User trust in the company will automatically be restored upon the release of the update.
- (D) The software update will have no impact on the company's reputation.
- (E) The software update will increase the company's operating costs.

Correct Answer: (A)

Solution:

Step 1: Identify the conclusion of the passage.

The company concludes that enhancing security features will help restore user trust, maintain customer loyalty, and prevent unauthorized access to sensitive information.

Step 2: Understand what a “must be true” question requires.

A must-be-true statement is an assumption that is essential for the conclusion to logically follow from the given information.

Step 3: Evaluate the options.

Option (A) is necessary because the conclusions depend on the assumption that the enhanced security features actually address concerns about data breaches.

Option (B) is too extreme, as eliminating all risk is not required or realistic.

Option (C) assumes automatic restoration of trust, which is not guaranteed or necessary.

Option (D) contradicts the passage's implication that the update affects trust and reputation.

Option (E) introduces operating costs, which are irrelevant to the conclusion.

Step 4: Core requirement for the conclusion.

For the company's reasoning to hold, the enhanced security features must indeed be designed to address data breach concerns.

Final Answer:

Option (A)

Quick Tip

In must-be-true questions, choose the option without which the argument's conclusion would collapse. Avoid extreme or unrelated statements.

17. The increasing use of artificial intelligence in various industries has led to concerns about job displacement and economic inequality. AI-powered automation can perform tasks more efficiently and accurately than humans, potentially leading to job losses in many sectors.

Courses of Action:

I. Governments should invest in education and training programs to equip the workforce with the skills needed to thrive in an AI-driven economy.

II. Companies should be mandated to provide retraining and reskilling opportunities to employees whose jobs are affected by automation.

III. A universal basic income should be implemented to provide financial security to those who lose their jobs due to automation.

Which of the following is the most appropriate course of action?

- (A) Only I
- (B) Only II
- (C) Only III
- (D) Both I and II
- (E) All I, II, and III

Correct Answer: (E) All I, II, and III

Solution:

Step 1: Identify the core problem.

The passage highlights job displacement and economic inequality caused by increased AI-driven automation across industries.

Step 2: Evaluate Course of Action I.

Investing in education and training helps workers adapt to new skill requirements in an AI-driven economy, directly addressing long-term employability. Hence, Course I is appropriate.

Step 3: Evaluate Course of Action II.

Mandating companies to provide retraining and reskilling supports affected employees and reduces unemployment caused by automation. This is a practical and responsible measure. Hence, Course II is appropriate.

Step 4: Evaluate Course of Action III.

Universal basic income can provide immediate financial security to individuals who lose jobs due to automation, helping to reduce economic inequality during transitions. Thus, Course III is also appropriate.

Step 5: Final decision.

All three courses of action are relevant, practical, and directly address the problems caused by AI-driven automation.

Final Answer:

Option (E)

Quick Tip

In course-of-action questions, the best choice usually includes all practical, ethical, and long-term measures that directly address the root problem.

18. There is increasing concern about the impact of fast-food consumption on public health, particularly among children and adolescents. Studies have linked the rise in fast food consumption to higher rates of obesity, diabetes, and other diet-related health

issues. To address this, many governments have implemented policies to limit the advertising of unhealthy foods to children. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the argument that limiting food advertising to children can improve public health?

- (A) Research shows that children are more likely to make healthier food choices when they are involved in food preparation at home.
- (B) Health experts argue that a balanced diet and regular physical activity are more important factors in preventing obesity than food advertising alone.
- (C) Studies have shown that limiting food advertising to children has been successful in other countries at improving their overall diet.
- (D) Children who watch more television are also more likely to engage in sedentary behaviors, such as playing video games.
- (E) Many children eat fast food regardless of advertising because of the convenience and affordability of these meals.

Correct Answer: (E)

Solution:

Step 1: Identify the core argument.

The argument claims that limiting food advertising to children can improve public health by reducing unhealthy eating habits.

Step 2: Understand what it means to weaken an argument.

A weakening statement shows that the proposed solution may not effectively address the root cause of the problem.

Step 3: Evaluate the options.

Option (A) introduces an additional health-promoting factor but does not weaken the argument.

Option (B) suggests other important factors but does not show that advertising limits are ineffective.

Option (C) strengthens the argument by showing success elsewhere.

Option (D) discusses sedentary behavior, which is tangential to advertising restrictions.

Option (E) directly weakens the argument by suggesting that children consume fast food irrespective of advertising, due to convenience and affordability.

Step 4: Final assessment.

If children eat fast food regardless of advertising, then limiting advertisements would have limited impact on improving public health.

Final Answer:

Option (E)

Quick Tip

To weaken an argument, look for evidence that the proposed solution does not address the main cause of the problem.

19. Oliver has done great work in neurology, but his paper mixes too much of his personal life with his research. The inclusion of so many anecdotes makes it less objective, so the scientific community doesn't see it as a rigorous study. Which of the following conclusions can be most reasonably drawn from the passage above?

- (A) The scientific community values objectivity more than personal storytelling in research papers.
- (B) Oliver's lack of scientific skill prevents his work from being taken seriously.
- (C) Anecdotes are never appropriate in any kind of scientific writing.
- (D) Personal experiences always weaken the quality of academic research.
- (E) The scientific community is biased against unconventional styles of research.

Correct Answer: (A)

Solution:

Step 1: Identify the key issue in the passage.

The passage states that although Oliver’s work in neurology is strong, his excessive use of personal anecdotes reduces objectivity, leading the scientific community to reject the paper as rigorous.

Step 2: Understand what kind of question is asked.

This is an inference question, so the correct option must logically follow from the information given without exaggeration or additional assumptions.

Step 3: Evaluate the options.

Option (A) logically follows because the rejection is based on lack of objectivity, indicating that objectivity is highly valued.

Option (B) is incorrect since the passage explicitly says Oliver has done great work.

Option (C) is too absolute and not stated.

Option (D) uses the word “always,” which is not supported.

Option (E) introduces bias against unconventional styles, which is not mentioned.

Step 4: Final conclusion.

The most reasonable conclusion is that objectivity is prioritized over personal storytelling in scientific research.

Final Answer:

Option (A)

Quick Tip

In inference questions, avoid extreme words like “always” or “never” and choose the option that directly reflects the reasoning in the passage.

20. Fact 1: A town is hosting a 3-day music festival, which will feature a rock band show by local artists for the very first time.

Fact 2: 2000 tickets have been sold for the show.

Fact 3: The ticket sale will end next Monday.

Fact 4: The organizing committee has been working for the past 10 weeks to organize this event.

If the above statements are facts, which of the statements below must also be facts?

- I.** A few hundred seats will remain empty during the festival.
- II.** The family members of the rock band performers will be present at the festival.
- III.** Since the preparation started 10 weeks ago, all tickets will be sold by Monday.

- (A) Only I
- (B) Only III
- (C) Only I and II
- (D) Only II and III
- (E) None of them

Correct Answer: (E) None of them

Solution:

Step 1: Understand the nature of a “must be true” question.

A statement must be true only if it logically and necessarily follows from the given facts, without adding assumptions.

Step 2: Analyze Statement I.

There is no information about the total seating capacity of the festival. Hence, we cannot conclude that any seats will remain empty. This statement does not necessarily follow.

Step 3: Analyze Statement II.

There is no mention of the performers’ family members in the given facts. Their presence at the festival cannot be inferred. Hence, this statement is not necessarily true.

Step 4: Analyze Statement III.

Although ticket sales have been ongoing and preparation started 10 weeks ago, there is no guarantee that all tickets will be sold by Monday. This is an assumption, not a fact.

Step 5: Final conclusion.

None of the given statements must necessarily be true based on the provided facts alone.

Final Answer:

Option (E)

Quick Tip

In “must be true” questions, reject statements that add new information or rely on assumptions not directly supported by the given facts.