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QUESTION 1

Exactly five cars ?Frank\'s, Marquitta\'s, Orlando\'s, Taishah\'s, and Vinquetta\'s ?are washed, each exactly

once. The cars are washed one at a time, with each receiving exactly one kind of wash: regular, super, or

premium. The following conditions must apply:

The first car washed does not receive a super wash, though at least one car does.

Exactly one car receives a premium wash. The second and third cars washed receive the same kind of

wash as each other.

Neither Orlando\'s nor Taishah\'s is washed before Vinquetta\'s.

Marquitta\'s is washed before Frank\'s, but after Orlando\'s. Marquitta\'s and the car washed immediately

before Marquitta\'s receive regular washes.

Which one of the following could be an accurate list of the cars in the order in which they are washed,

matched with type of wash received?

A. Orlando\'s: premium; Vinquetta\'s: regular; Taishah\'s: regular; Marquitta\'s: regular; Frank\'s: super

B. Vinquetta\'s: premium; Orlando\'s: regular; Taishah\'s: regular; Marquitta\'s: regular; Frank\'s: super

C. Vinquetta\'s: regular; Marquitta\'s: regular; Taishah\'s: regular; Orlando\'s: super; Frank\'s: premium

D. Vinquetta\'s: super; Orlando\'s: regular; Marquitta\'s: regular; Frank\'s: regular; Taishah\'s: super

E. Vinquetta\'s: premium; Orlando\'s: regular; Marquitta\'s: regular; Frank\'s: regular; Taishah\'s: regular

Correct Answer: B

A standard Acceptability question; we can use either the options listed above or the traditional Method for Acceptability
questions. Since we\'ll be using the options in the rest of the questions, let\'s use the usual Training Method here for
practice. We simply match the rules against the choices, eliminating those that don\'t conform. Rule 1 kills
[Vinquetta\'s: super; Orlando\'s: regular; Marquitta\'s: regular; Frank\'s: regular; Taishah\'s: super]., which gives the
first car a super wash, and option [Vinquetta\'s: premium; Orlando\'s: regular; Marquitta\'s: regular; Frank\'s: regular;
Taishah\'s: regular], which gives no car a super wash. Option [Vinquetta\'s: super; Orlando\'s: regular; Marquitta\'s:
regular; Frank\'s: regular; Taishah\'s: super] violates Rule 2 as well, but no other choice conflicts with that one. All the
choices conform to Rule 3, but option [Orlando\'s: premium; Vinquetta\'s: regular; Taishah\'s: regular; Marquitta\'s:
regular; Frank\'s: super] disobeys Rule 4 by placing O before V. And C. places M before O, in defiance of Rule 5.
Option [Vinquetta\'s: premium; Orlando\'s: regular; Taishah\'s: regular; Marquitta\'s: regular; Frank\'s: super] remains
and is correct--and, incidentally, corresponds to Option 2 above.

QUESTION 2

Books updating the classification systems used by many libraries are not free -- in fact they are very expensive. The
only way to sell copies of them is to make the potential buyers believe they need to adopt the most recent system. Thus,
these frequent changes in the classification systems are just a ploy by the publishers to make libraries buy their

products.

The reasoning above is most vulnerable to criticism because it

A. claims without providing warrant that the books are unreasonably expensive

B. concludes that a possible ulterior motive must be the only motive

C. fails to consider that there may be potential buyers of these books other than libraries

D. concludes that there is no need ever to change classification systems

E. fails to consider that the libraries cannot afford to buy every book they want

Correct Answer: B

In this flaw question, the author errs in arguing that the only possible reason to change the library classification systems is for publishers to make money. Perhaps there are other, less suspicious reasons for doing so.

QUESTION 3

High in the Andes Mountains in Peru stands the ancient city of Machu Picchu. No one knows why this great city was built, nor is it likely that we will ever know. Nevertheless, the deserted city of Machu Picchu is important for what it reveals about the ancient Inca people of South America. The Incas once ruled a great empire that covered a large part of the South American continent. The empire was more than five hundred years old when the first Spanish explorers, looking for gold, went to that continent in the sixteenth century. The Incas were an advanced people. They were skillful engineers who paved their roads and built sturdy bridges. They plowed the land in such a way that rains would not wash away valuable soil. They dug ditches to carry water into dry areas for farming. Even though they did not know about the wheel, the Incas were able to move huge tone blocks- some as heavy as ten tons- up the sides of mountains to build walls. The blocks were fitted so tightly, without cement of any kind, that it would be impossible to slip a knife blade between them! The walls have stood firm through great storms and earthquakes that have destroyed many modern buildings. The Incas were great artists, too. Today, Incan dishes and other kinds of pottery are prized for their wonderful designs. Since both gold and silver were in great supply, the Incas created splendid objects from these precious metals. While it is true that the Incas had no written language, they kept their accounts by using a system of knotted strings of various lengths and colors. The sizes of the knots and the distances between them represented numbers. At its height, the Incan empire included as many as thirty million people. The emperor ruled them with an iron hand. He told his subjects where to live, what to plant, how long they should work-even whom they could marry. Since he owned everything, the emperor gave what he wished when he wished- and in the amount he wished -to his people. In 1533 Spanish explorers led by Francisco Pizarro murdered the emperor of the Incas. Earlier, the heir to the Incan empire had also been killed. The Incas, who had always been entirely dependent on their emperor, now had no recognized leader. The Spaniards easily conquered the empire and plundered its riches. Have the Incas disappeared from South America? Not at all. In Peru alone, once the center of that great empire, eighty percent of the twenty million people are descendants of the Inca people. Evidence of the Incan empire can be found in many other places in South America as well. You can even visit Machu Picchu. The remains of this ancient city still stand high in the mountains of Peru, an awesome tribute to this once powerful empire.

What is the main idea of this passage?

A. The Incas once inhabited the ancient city of Machu Picchu.

B. Peru was the primary country of the Incas.

C. The Incan Empire can be found in ancient cities and was plundered by the Spanish.

D. Spanish conquerors destroyed the Incan empire in the thirteenth century.

E. Machu Picchu was the capital of the Incan empire.

Correct Answer: C

QUESTION 4

Many political economists believe that the soundest indicator of the economic health of a nation is the nation\\\'s gross-national product (GNP) per capita ?a figure reached by dividing the total value of the goods produced yearly in a nation by its population and taken to be a measure of the welfare of the nation\\\'s residents. But there are many factors affecting residents\\' welfare that are not captured by per capita GNP; human indicators, while sometimes more difficult to calculate or document, provide sounder measures of a nation\\\'s progress than does the indicator championed by these economists. These human indicators include nutrition and life expectancy; birth weight and level of infant mortality; ratio of population level to availability of resources; employment opportunities; and the ability of governments to provide services such as education, clean water, medicine, public transportation, and mass communication for their residents.

The economists defend their use of per capita GNP as the sole measure of a nation\\\'s economic health by claiming that improvements in per capita GNP eventually stimulate improvements in human indicators. But, in actuality, this often fails to occur. Even in nations where economic stimulation has brought about substantial improvements in per capita GNP, economic health as measured by human indicators does not always reach a level commensurate with the per capita GNP. Nations that have achieved a relatively high per capita GNP, for example, sometimes experience levels of infant survival, literacy, nutrition, and life expectancy no greater than levels in nations where per capita GNP is relatively low. In addition, because per capita GNP is an averaged figure, it often presents a distorted picture of the wealth of a nation; for example, in a relatively sparsely populated nation where a small percentage of residents receives most of the economic benefits of production while the majority receives very little benefit, per capita GNP may nevertheless be high. The welfare of a nation\\\'s residents is a matter not merely of total economic benefit, but also of the distribution of economic benefits across the entire society. Measuring a nation\\\'s economic health only by total wealth frequently obscures a lack of distribution of wealth across the society as a whole.

In light of the potential for such imbalances in distribution of economic benefits, some nations have begun to realize that their domestic economic efforts are better directed away from attempting to raise per capita GNP and instead toward ensuring that the conditions measured by human indicators are salutary. They recognize that unless a shift in focus away from using material wealth as the sole indicator of economic success is effected, the well-being of the nation may be endangered, and that nations that do well according to human indicators may thrive even if their per capita GNP remains stable or lags behind that of other nations

The passage provides specific information about each of the following EXCEPT:

A. how per capita GNP is calculated B. what many political economists believe to be an accurate measure of a nation\\\'s economic health

C. how nations with a relatively low per capita GNP can sometimes be economically healthier than nations whose per capita GNP is higher

D. why human indicators may not provide the same picture of a nation\\\'s economic health that per capita GNP does

E. how nations can adjust their domestic economic efforts to bring about substantial improvements in per capita GNP

Correct Answer: E

Pinpointing the information mentioned in the four wrong choices may be the fastest way to identify the choice that goes undescribed. Option [how nations can adjust their...] is never discussed, and no wonder: Why would the author include information as to how to improve the very measuring factor ?per capita GNP ?that he wants nations to eschew?

QUESTION 5

If the flowers Drew received today had been sent by someone who knows Drew well, that person would have known that Drew prefers violets to roses. Yet Drew received roses. On the other hand, if the flowers had been sent by someone who does not know Drew well, then that person would have sent a signed card with the flowers. Yet Drew received no card. Therefore, the florist must have made some sort of mistake: either Drew was supposed to receive violets, or a card, or these flowers were intended for someone else.

Which one of the following statements, if true, most weakens the argument?

A. Most people send roses when they send flowers.

B. Some people send flowers for a reason other than the desire to please.

C. Someone who does not know Drew well would be unlikely to send Drew flowers.

D. The florist has never delivered the wrong flowers to Drew before.

E. Some people who know Drew well have sent Drew cards along with flowers.

Correct Answer: B

This is yet another Weaken the Argument question. The conclusion, set off by the word "therefore," is that the florist made a mistake -- Drew was supposed to receive violets, or a card, or the flowers were for someone else. The evidence involves two conditions: Someone who knows Drew well would know that he prefers violets, and a person who doesn\\'t know Drew well would have sent a card. According to the author, neither of these conditions is met: Drew got roses and no card. Well, we can\\'t argue with the second condition; it\\'s a simple formal logic statement to which we can apply the contrapositive: If a relative stranger sent the flowers, then there would be a card. If no card, then no stranger. So far so good. But what about the first condition? Did you notice the subtle scope shift? Someone well acquainted with Drew would know Drew prefers violets, but Drew actually received roses. But what one prefers and what one receives need not be the same thing; the author assumes that Drew\\'s friends will always get him the flowers he prefers. B. breaks down this central assumption and thus weakens the argument, allowing for the possibility that someone who knows Drew well may indeed be the mysterious sender.

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