



Law School Admission Test: Logical Reasoning, Reading Comprehension, Analytical Reasoning

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QUESTION 1

A favorable biography of a politician omits certain incriminating facts about the politician that were available to anyone when the book was written. The book\\'s author claims that, because he was unaware of these facts when he wrote the book, he is not accountable for the fact that readers were misled by this omission. In a biographer, however, ignorance of this kind cannot be used to evade blame for misleading readers.

Which one of the following principles, if established, does most to justify the position advanced by the passage?

A. An author of a biography should not be blamed for whether the book is perceived to be favorable or unfavorable by readers of the biography.

B. An author of a biography should be blamed for readers\\' misperceptions only when facts are omitted deliberately in order to mislead the readers.

C. An author of a biography should not be blamed for omitting facts if those facts would have supported the author\\'s view,

D. An author of a biography should be blamed for misleading readers only if facts are omitted to which the author alone had access when the biography was written.

E. An author of a biography should be blamed for readers\\' misperceptions caused by omitting facts that were widely available when the biography was written.

Correct Answer: E

Here we need to locate a principle that would help justify the conclusion of the argument, so we\\'re essentially looking fora strengthener stated in general terms. The final sentence provides the conclusion: A biographer\\'s ignorance of well- known facts can\\'t be used to escape blame for misleading readers. The second sentence is the key: "The book\\'s author claims that, because he was unaware of these facts when he wrote the book, he is not accountable for the fact that readers were misled by this omission." The author feels that exactly the opposite is true; something like "A biographer is accountable for misleading readers if he is unaware of well-known facts." This is what choice E expresses.

QUESTION 2

Tony: Most web-pages on the internet have numerous enticing and hard-to-ignore hyperlinks, with each hyperlink leading to further hyperlinks and so on. Regularly falling into this bottomless hole of distracting and mostly trivial information on the internet decreases the ability of heavy internet users to do complex reasoning that requires focus and attention.

James: A research study has found that heavy internet users did better than infrequent users on tests for focus and attention and also had stronger muscles in the brain areas associated with complex reasoning, which suggests a higher usage of these muscles. The dialogue most strongly supports the claim that Tony and James disagree with each other about whether

- A. focus and attention are necessary to do complex reasoning
- B. most web-pages on the internet require internet users to do complex reasoning
- C. most web-pages on the internet have hard-to-ignore hyperlinks
- D. heavy internet usage decreases a person\\'s ability to do complex reasoning



E. heavy internet users are more knowledgeable than infrequent internet users

Correct Answer: D

Argument construction

Tony says that most web-pages on the internet have multiple enticing and hard-to-ignore hyperlinks. Each

of these links leads to further hyperlinks and so on. This chain of \\'link 1 leading to link 2 leading to link 3...\\'

creates, in Tony\\'s words, a "bottomless hole of distracting and mostly trivial information." He says that

regularly falling into this hole decreases the ability of heavy internet users to do complex reasoning that

requires focus and attention.

James responds by citing a research study that found that heavy internet users did better than infrequent

users on tests for attention and also had higher levels of activation in the brain areas associated with

complex reasoning.

Understanding the point at issue

We need to understand each person\\'s stance clearly to understand the point at issue.

Tony\\'s stance essentially is: Heavy internet usage decreases the ability to do complex reasoning that

requires focus and attention.

1.

Prior to declaring this stance, he explains how the internet is full of enticing links that lead you to tons of distracting information.

2.

He implies that regularly falling into the temptations of internet would decrease a heavy internet user\\'s attention span and ability to focus, and since these two are required to do complex reasoning, these user\\'s ability to do complex reasoning would decrease. James\\' stance essentially is: Heavy internet users have better ability to focus and attention and also seem to be more actively doing complex reasoning than infrequent internet users.

1. He cites a research study\\'s findings to support his claim.

Therefore, the point at issue between Tony and James is whether heavy internet usage decreases a person\\'s ability to do complex reasoning or not. Tony says \\'Yes\\' and James says \\'No.\\' Let\\'s analyze each option one by one.

Answer choices explanation

[focus and attention are necessary to do complex reasoning] This is incorrect. Tony explicitly states that focus and attention are necessary to do complex reasoning. As far as James is concerned, the research finding cited by him shows better \\'focus and attention\\' and also more frequent complex reasoning in heavy internet users. Therefore, James too seems to believe that there is at least a correlation between \\'focus and attention\\' and \\'complex reasoning.\\' Since he does not actively rebut Tony on this matter, this is certainly not a bone of contention ?the point at issue ?between the two.

[most web-pages on the internet require internet users to do complex reasoning] This is incorrect. Tony implies that



most web-pages on the internet offer distracting information. Since he believes that complex reasoning requires focus and attention (the opposites of distraction), he might also believe that most web-pages on the internet do not require users to do complex reasoning. James\\' argument is that heavy internet users do complex reasoning more frequently than infrequent users. We cannot infer from this that James believes that most web-pages on the internet require such skills. James might believe, for example, that heavy internet users are more likely than infrequent users to visit certain specific web-pages that require users to do complex reasoning. Therefore, we cannot infer whether James supports or opposes this option statement. Since we don\\'t even know for sure what James thinks about it, this option certainly is not the point at issue between him and Tony.

[most web-pages on the internet have hard-to-ignore hyperlinks] This is incorrect. Tony explicitly supports this statement. However, nothing that Tony says commits him to a particular view on this statement. There is certainly no indication that the two hold opposing views on this matter.

[heavy internet usage decreases a person\\'s ability to do complex reasoning] This is correct. It is in-line with our discussion in the \\'Argument Construction\\' section.

[heavy internet users are more knowledgeable than infrequent internet users] This is incorrect. \\'Knowledge\\' and \\'information\\' are two distinct entities. While Tony does seem to imply that heavy internet users access more information on the internet than infrequent users, he does not touch at all the question of how much, if at all, this extra information improves the knowledge of heavy internet users. James is silent on both the relative information consumption and the relative knowledge of heavy and infrequent users. Therefore, it is not possible to deduce the stance of either Tony or James on this option statement.

QUESTION 3

A new bank has decided to stay open only on weekends - all day Saturday and Sunday - and no other

days. The bank has hired two managers (U and V), Four tellers (W,X,Y, and Z), and two operation officers

(S and T), for a total of exactly eight full-time employees.

No part-time employees are hired.

Each employee works a complete day when working.

A manager must be on duty each day.

The managers cannot work on the same day.

At least two tellers must be working on the same day.

W and X will not work on the same day.

S and Z will only work on Saturday.

No employee can work on consecutive days, but each employee must work on Saturday or Sunday.

If W works on Sunday, then which one of the following must be true?

A. X works on Saturday

- B. Y works on Saturday
- C. T works on Sunday



- D. Z works on Sunday
- E. U works on Sunday

Correct Answer: A

Since W and X will not work on the same day, choice [X works on Saturday] must be true. Choice [Y works on Saturday] is false since Y must work on Sunday. Choice [T works on Sunday] could be true. Since W\\'s schedule has no effect on Z and U, choices [Z works on Sunday] and [U works on Sunday] may be true or false.

QUESTION 4

Seven friends, Abe, Bob, Chad, Dolly, Elisa, Frank, and Gregory sit in a VIP enclosure of a stadium to watch a football match. The seats in the enclosure form a 3 x 3 matrix, i.e. 3 rows (front, middle and last) with 3 seats in each row. The following information is known: Chad sits immediately beside Dolly Dolly sits in a row immediately behind the row in which Abe is sitting There is no one sitting on one side of Chad None of Elisa or Gregory sits immediately beside Abe Bob sits in the last row

If the row in which Frank sits has only 2 persons sitting, which of the following must be true?

- A. Frank sits in the last row
- B. Frank sits in the front row
- C. Bob and Elisa sit beside one another
- D. Bob and Frank sit beside one another
- E. Elisa and Gregory sit beside one another
- Correct Answer: B

We know that the row in which Frank sits has only 2 persons sitting.

Working with the options:

Option [Frank sits in the last row] If F sits in the last row along with B (who is already sitting in the last row as well), there cannot be anyone else sitting in the last row; since there should be exactly 2 people in that row. Thus, A, G and E must sit in the front row, which is not possible. – False Option [Frank sits in the front row] If only F sits in the front row along with A, all among B, E and G must be in the last row. Since there is no contradiction for B, E and G in sitting together, this seating arrangement is correct. – True

Though we have got the correct answer, let us still verify why the remaining choices are incorrect

Option [Bob and Elisa sit beside one another] With B, E and G sitting together, we can have different arrangements in the last row: B-E-G or B-G-E or G-B-E, etc. Thus, B and E may or may not sit beside one another. Note that this is a \\'must be true question,\\' not a \\'may be true\\' question. – False Option [Bob and Frank sit beside one another] Since F sits in the front row and B is in the last row, they cannot sit beside one another. – False Option [Elisa and Gregory sit beside one another] From the same reasoning used for \\'option C,\\' E and G may or may not sit beside one another. So, this option is not necessarily be true. – False

General Let us name the people Abe, Bob, Chad, Dolly, Elisa, Frank, and Gregory as A, B, C, D, E, F, and G, respectively. We can see that there are $3 \times 3 = 9$ seats, but there are only 7 people. Thus, the only possible way of distributing the 7 people across the 3 rows is that 2 rows would have 2 members each and one row would have 3 members. However, the exact number of people in a particular row is not yet known and further analysis of the



statements needs to be done.

1st statement: C and D sit beside each other ... (i)

3rd statement: The row in which C and D are sitting, has exactly 2 people sitting in it (since there is no one sitting on the other side of C) \dots (ii)

2nd statement: Since D sits in the row just behind A\\'s row, the row where D (and C) sits must be either the middle or the last row

5th statement: Since B sits in the last row and the row where C and D sits has only 2 people, C and D

must be in the middle row ... (iii) Thus, it also follows that A must be in the front row ... (iv)

4th statement: We know that neither E nor G sits beside A. Thus, there are 2 possible scenarios:

If A is in the middle of the front row, none of E or G can sit in the front row; thus, they would sit in the last

row ... (v)

If A is at either end of the front row, only in that scenario can one of E or G also sits in the front row ... (vi)

Thus, we have:

Front row	A is sitting
Middle row	Only C and D are sitting
Last row	B is sitting

Also, in the middle row, since C has D on one side and a vacant seat on the other, C must be in the middle position. Thus, we finally have:

Front row				A is sitting
Middle row	Empty/D	с	D/Empty	Only C and D are sitting
Last row				B is sitting

This is all that can be deduced from the main stem.

To answer the questions, we need to use the additional information contained in each question.

QUESTION 5

Seven friends, Abe, Bob, Chad, Dolly, Elisa, Frank, and Gregory sit in a VIP enclosure of a stadium to watch a football match. The seats in the enclosure form a 3 x 3 matrix, i.e. 3 rows (front, middle and last) with 3 seats in each row. The following information is known: Chad sits immediately beside Dolly Dolly sits in a row immediately behind the row in



which Abe is sitting There is no one sitting on one side of Chad None of Elisa or Gregory sits immediately beside Abe Bob sits in the last row

Which of the following statements is/are necessary to uniquely determine the seating arrangement of the seven friends?

A. Abe sits in the same column as Chad and Bob with no one to his right

B. There is no person sitting in front of Dolly

C. There is no person sitting in front of Elisa

D. Abe sits in the same column as Chad and Bob with no one to his right and Elisa has no person sitting in front of her

E. Abe sits in the same column as Chad and Bob with no one to the right of Abe or Dolly

Correct Answer: D

Working with the options, we have:

Option: Abe sits in the same column as Chad and Bob with no one to his right

Since A is in the middle of the front row, E and G must be sitting in the last row. Thus, F must be sitting in

the front row, to the left of A.

Thus, we have the following arrangement:

Front row	F	A	Empty D/Empty G/E	
Middle row	Empty/D	С		
Last row	E/G	В		

However, the position of D, E and G are not fixed. ?Insufficient Option: There is no person sitting in front of Dolly There is no information about the seating positions of A, B, E, G or F. ?Insufficient Option: There is no person sitting in front of Elisa This is possible if either E sits in the front row, or, E sits in the last row with no one in front of her. ?

Insufficient

Option: Abe sits in the same column as Chad and Bob with no one to his right and Elisa has no person sitting in front of her We observe that this is essentially the combination of \\'Option Abe sits in the same column as Chad and

Bob with no one to his right \\' and \\'Option There is no person sitting in front of Elisa\\'. Abe sits in the same column as Chad and Bob with no one to his right \\' we already have:



Front row	F	A	Empty	
Middle row	Empty/D	С	D/Empty G/E	
Last row	E/G	В		

Since A has no one to his right, E must be sitting at the right end of the last row so that no one sits in front of her. Also, as a result, D must be sitting to the left of C.

Front row	F	A	Empty
Middle row	D	С	Empty
Last row	G	В	E

Thus, the seating arrangement can be completely defined. ?Sufficient

Though we have the answer, let us still verify Option: Abe sits in the same column as Chad and Bob with

no one to the right of Abe or Dolly.

Since A is in the middle of the front row, E and G must be sitting in the last row. Thus, F must be sitting in

the front row, to the left of A.

Also, since there is no one sitting to the right of D, D must be on the extreme right of the middle row.

Thus, we have the following arrangement:

Front row	F A		Empty	
Middle row	Empty	С	D	
Last row	E/G	В	G/E	

However, the position of E and G are not fixed. ?Insufficient

General

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respectively. We can see that there are 3 ?3 = 9 seats, but there are only 7 people. Thus, the only possible

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