

Workforce Ability Test 4

Solution Booklet

Instructions

This Ability test comprises **50 questions**, and you will have **50 minutes** in which to correctly answer as many as you can. Calculators are not permitted for this test, and it is recommended you have some rough paper to work on.

The test comprises of three sections:

1. Verbal Section (15 Questions)
2. Numerical Section (15 Questions)
3. Critical Reasoning (15 Questions)
4. General Questions (5 Questions)

You will have to work quickly and accurately to perform well in this test. If you don't know the answer to a question, leave it and come back to it if you have time.

You may click Back and Next during the test to review or skip questions.

You can submit your test at any time. If the time limit is up before you click submit the test will automatically be submitted with the answers you have selected. It is recommended to keep working until the time limit is up.

Try to find a time and place where you will not be interrupted during the test.

When you are ready, begin the test.

An effective PR campaign requires precise, clear communication between the client and PR officer. The client should disclose detailed information to the PR officer, including the company's history, goals, and current business plan. It is especially important to disclose any potentially problematic issues. The company should be prepared to dedicate the necessary time and resources of its senior management, as well as sufficient finances, to the campaign.

The perfect PR message will be consistent, with each new approach reinforcing the key objectives of the company. If new developments do arise, the PR officer should be fully briefed as soon as possible. It is essential to keep to a clear schedule, leaving adequate time available for approval of copy. Seizing opportunities when they arise is key to the success of the campaign.

Q1 The best approach to PR is to be flexible, regularly changing the company's goals to keep the public interested.

True

False

Cannot say

False – while accepting that changes in approach are sometimes necessary (“If new developments do arise...”) the passage states that: “The perfect PR message will be consistent, with each new approach reinforcing the key objectives of the company.”

Q2 Not disclosing a full company history to the PR officer will result in a failed campaign.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say – while the passage states that disclosure of company history is important (“The client should disclose detailed information to the PR officer,

including the company's history”) it is not explicitly stated anywhere that failing to do this will directly and by itself result in the failure of the PR campaign. However, neither is it stated that failure will not result from no disclosure, so any definite answer to this question would rely on inferences which are not directly confirmed by the passage.

Q3 It is recommended to wait before taking advantage of any new opportunities, to make certain they would be of benefit to the campaign.

True

False

Cannot say

False – The passage states: “Seizing opportunities when they arise is key to the success of the campaign.”

A good salesperson should always learn something about the company, and even the individuals, behind the product he or she is selling. Confidence in a product depends in part on confidence in the integrity, competence, and commitment of those who manufacture and distribute that product. Salespeople should therefore familiarise themselves with the principal personalities behind a company, gaining an understanding of its personnel structure and the functions, duties, and experience of key individuals within the business. It is also useful to know something of the history and development of the company, as well as being aware of its present reputation, and to be familiar with the company's particular practices and policies. As well as providing a more thorough knowledge of the product, this information can help to form the basis of an effective sales pitch.

Q4 Knowledge of a company's reputation is not useful for salespeople.

True

False

Cannot say

False – in direct contradiction to the statement above, the passage states, “It is also useful to know something of the history and development of the company, as well as being aware of its present reputation.”

Q5 The personal traits and abilities of a company's personnel can influence the confidence people have in their product.

True

False

Cannot say

True – the passage states, “Confidence in a product depends in part on confidence in the integrity, competence, and commitment [i.e., personal traits

and abilities] of those who manufacture and distribute that product.” The statement above is therefore correct.

Q6 It is helpful to have knowledge of the background, policies and reputation of a company when developing an effective sales pitch.

True

False

Cannot say

True – the passage states that “this information”, i.e., the knowledge of company history and policies described earlier in the paragraph and referred to in the question, “can help to form the basis of an effective sales pitch.”

Levels of passive surveillance have increased recently. For example, many companies monitor their employees' use of the Internet or of any campaign group activities that may have operational implications. State surveillance now processes huge amounts of information that is collected from a variety of sources to produce profiles of individuals and groups. There are now reportedly more closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras per head of the UK population than any other country in the world. Such a rapid expansion of CCTV surveillance in particular has raised questions about whether this is economically justifiable, whether one's right to confidentiality is compromised and whether the public are in support of it. In public places it is harder to argue that video surveillance is an invasion of privacy. The sheer presence of CCTV cameras should deter some criminals when they know that police officers are surveying their actions. However, some criminologists claim that criminal activity is simply diverted elsewhere. CCTV footage may offer unbiased court evidence and so contribute towards keeping many criminals off the streets, but footage needs to be stored securely – even if most of what is filmed does not get to be seen.

Q7 CCTV surveillance is an invasion of privacy.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say - The passage raises this issue as part of a much broader debate and singles out the surveillance of public places as less invasive.

Q8 Public security, CCTV costs and an individual's right to privacy are three factors raised within the passage.

True

False

Cannot say

True - All three issues are raised in the passage.

Q9 It is difficult to justify CCTV surveillance if most of the footage remains unseen.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say - The passage raises this point but doesn't state explicitly that CCTV surveillance is therefore "difficult to justify".

Q10 The public's main concerns about increases in surveillance have been around CCTV.

True

False

Cannot say

True - This can be inferred from the fifth sentence's "in particular".

Choose a word or group of words that can replace the underlined words in the sentence

Q11. Corporal punishment is still used in some schools as a deterrent to undisciplined student

A. Remedy B. Measure C. Discouragement D. Prevention E. Hindrance

Deterrent in the context means Discouragement (C)

Q12. On crossing the bridge, the commander ordered it to be burnt, telling his soldiers that they have crossed the rubicon

- A. Reached a point of no return
- B. Attained a commendable fit
- C. Excelled in the war
- D. Gotten to an end point
- E. Passed their boundary

In the context, crossed the rubicon means to have Reached a point of no return (A)

Q13. I am sure you didn't know that the lady is light-fingered. This means that the Lady is

- A. Careless in handling things
- B. Fair-skinned
- C. Prone to stealing
- D. Skillful with her hand
- E. Swift in boxing

The Right Option is Prone to stealing (C)

Q14. After the investigation, many of the workers were given their marching orders.
This means that the workers

- A. Were dismissed
- B. Were ordered to march
- C. Received fresh instructions about their job
- D. Were given orders similar to the first one
- E. Passing-out letters

The Right option is Were dismissed (A)

Q15. To drive on through the red light is an infringement of the law

- A. A trespass
- B. An offence
- C. A breach
- D. An invasion
- E. A brute

The Right option is A breach of the law (A). To say a trespass or an offence of the law is not grammatically correct.

UK Operations of <i>Gills & Tines Ltd</i>	Full Year ended 31 December (£million)			
	2009	2008	2007	2006
Income Sources				
Net interest	325.2	309.5	319.7	313.8
Other income	64.2	51.8	52	51.7
Fair value gains	18.0	39.9	29.7	31.1
Costs				
Admin costs	277.8	231	285.9	283.5
Loan impairment costs	15.0	57.8	6.1	5.9
Profit Before Tax	114.6	112.4	109.4	107.2

Q16. What was the average annual income across the four years shown (to the nearest million)?

- A. £408 million
- B. £407 million
- C. £402 million
- D. £403 million
- E. £404 million
- F.

Step 1 – Calculate the annual income for each year

Income	2009	2008	2007	2006
Net interest	325.2	309.5	319.7	313.8
Other income	64.2	51.8	52	51.7
Fair value gains	18	39.9	29.7	31.1
TOTALS	407.4	401.2	401.4	396.6

Step 2 - Calculate the average by dividing the overall total for all 4 years by 4

$$(407.4 + 401.2 + 401.4 + 396.6)/4 = 401.65$$

Step 3 - To the nearest million = £402 million

Thus the correct answer is (C) £402 million

Q17. Gills & Tines Ltd's target has been to increase Profit Before Tax by more than 2% each year. In which year, or years, has this been achieved?

- A. 2008
- B. 2007, 2008
- C. 2007
- D. 2007, 2008, 2009
- E. None of the years shown

Step 1 – Calculate the % change in Profit Before Tax as shown in bold below;

2009	2008	2007
114.6	112.4	109.4
$100\% \times (114.6 - 112.4)/112.4$	$100\% \times (112.4 - 109.4)/109.4$	$100\% \times (109.4 - 107.2)/107.2$
= 1.96%	= 2.74%	= 2.05%

Thus the correct answer is (B) 2007, 2008

Q18. Admin costs are projected to increase by a quarter in 2010 and Net Interest to increase by 2.5%, whilst all other costs and incomes are projected to remain constant. What is the projected Profit Before Tax for 2010 (in £million)?

- A. £53.28 million
- B. £69.45 million
- C. £113.2 million
- D. £144.6 million
- E. £118.9 million

Step 1 – Calculate the increase in Admin costs $277.8 \times .25 = 69.45$

Step 2 – Calculate the increase in Net Interest $325.2 \times 2.5\%/100 = 8.13$

Step 3 – Calculate the new Profit Before Tax using the 2009 Profit Before Tax as the starting point

$$114.6 - 69.45 + 8.13 = 53.28$$

Thus the correct answer is (A) £53.28 million

Q19. In which year did the combined Admin Costs and Loan Impairment Costs decrease in value?

- A. 2006
- B. 2007
- C. 2008
- D. 2009
- E. Cannot Say

Step 1 - The total Admin Costs and Loan Impairment Costs are as follows:

	2009	2008	2007	2006
Admin costs	277.8	231	285.9	283.5
Loan impairment costs	15	57.8	6.1	5.9
TOTALS	292.8	288.8	292	289.4

Thus the correct answer is (C) 2008

Q20. If corporation tax of 21% was applied each year to the *Profit Before Tax*, what was the average net profit across 2006-2009?

- A. £110.9 million
- B. £114.6 million
- C. £115.6 million
- D. £86.4 million
- E. £87.6 million

Step 1 – Calculate the average Profit Before Tax across 2006-2009

$$(114.6 + 112.4 + 109.4 + 107.2)/4 = 110.9$$

Expenses by Department (£)	Number of staff	Quarter				Annual Expense Budget
		1	2	3	4	
HR	3	1,053	1,680	1,305	1,346	6,500
Marketing	6	4,790	3,706	3,652	4,309	16,000
Sales	12	6,825	6,021	5,091	5,245	22,500
IT	5	1,160	1,042	938	956	4,500
Finance	7	4,257	4,830	4,545	4,463	20,000
R&D	4	1,169	1,009	1,755	1,821	6,000

Q21. Which Department has the highest expense budget per member of staff?

- A. HR
- B. Marketing
- C. Sales
- D. IT
- E. Finance

Step 1 – Have a quick look at the data to see if this can be seen by inspection. In this case, it is unlikely you can ‘see’ the answer before doing some number-crunching. Calculate the expense budget per member of staff for each department.

$$6,500 / 3 = \text{£}2,167$$

$$16,000 / 6 = \text{£}2,667$$

$$22,500 / 12 = \text{£}1,875$$

$$4,500 / 5 = \text{£}900$$

$$20,000 / 7 = \text{£}2,857$$

Thus the correct answer is (E), Finance

Q22. If the annual expense budget was evenly allocated for each Quarter, which Department is under budget by the highest amount in Quarter 4?

- A. HR
- B. Marketing
- C. Sales
- D. Finance
- E. R&D

Step 1 – Calculate the quarterly expense budgets for each Department (excluding IT which is not shown in the answer options)

$$\text{HR: } 6,500 / 4 = 1,625$$

$$\text{Marketing: } 16,000 / 4 = 4,000$$

$$\text{Sales: } 22,500 / 4 = 5,625$$

$$\text{Finance: } 20,000 / 4 = 5,000$$

$$\text{R\&D: } 6,000 / 4 = 1,500$$

Step 2 – Compare to the Quarter 4 figures for each Dept.

$$\text{HR: } 1,625 - 1,346 = \text{£}279$$

Marketing is over budget

$$\text{Sales: } 5,625 - 5,245 = \text{£}380$$

$$\text{Finance: } 5,000 - 4,463 = \text{£}537$$

R&D is over budget

Thus the correct answer is (D), Finance

Q23. 60% of the Sales Department's budgets for Quarters 1 and 4 was for attending a Sales Conference. The remainder of the budget was split equally between accommodation and travel costs. What were the Sales Department's travel costs for Quarters 1 and 4 combined?

- A. £2,414
- B. £2,500
- C. £3,500
- D. £4,828
- E. Can't tell from the data

Step 1 – Although the annual expense budget is provided, we are not told what the quarterly expense budget is. The table provides data for the annual expense budget and the quarterly expenses, without any mention of what the quarterly expense budget may be, since it cannot be assumed that the annual budget is spread equally over each quarter. Therefore we cannot accurately ascertain 60% of the quarterly budget based on the data provided.

Thus the correct answer is (E), Can't tell from the data

Q24. The Finance Department has receipts for £14,476 of its annual expenses. What percentage of the Finance Department's annual expenses do not have receipts?

- A. 5%
- B. 10%
- C. 15%
- D. 20%
- E. 25%

Step 1 – Total the Finance Department's expenses for all 4 quarters $4,257 + 4,830 + 4,545 + 4,463 = 18,095$

Step 2 – Calculate the % for which there are receipts $14,476 / 18,095 = 80\%$

Step 3 - Calculate the % for which there are no receipts $100 - 80 = 20\%$

Q25. If the percentage changes in expenses that each Department exhibited between Quarters 3-4 continued into the first quarter of the next year, what would be that quarter's total expenses (to the nearest £100)?

- A. £17,100
- B. £19,100
- C. £19,600
- D. £20,600
- E. None of these

Step 1 – Calculate the % change by Department between Quarters 3-4

HR: $(1,346 - 1,305) / 1,305 = 3.14\%$

Note: some people find it quicker to calculate $1,346 / 1,305 = 1.0314$

Marketing: $(4,309 - 3,652) / 4,309 = 17.99\%$

Sales: $(5,245 - 5,091) / 5,245 = 3.02\%$

IT: $(956 - 938) / 956 = 1.92\%$

R&D: $(1,821 - 1,755) / 1,821 = 3.76\%$

Step 2 – Calculate the next quarter's expenses for each department

HR: $103.14\% \times 1,346 = 1,388$

Marketing: $4,309 \times 117.99\% = 5,084$

Sales: $5,245 \times 103.02\% = 5,403.7$

IT: $956 \times 101.92\% = 974$

Finance: $4,463 \times 98.2\% = 4,383$

R&D: $1,821 \times 103.76\% = 1,889$

Step 3 - Calculate the next quarter's total

expenses $1,388 + 5,084 +$

$5,404 + 974 + 4,383 +$

$1,889 = £19,122$

Thus the correct answer is (B), £19,100

Q26. Judy is now twice as old as Adam but 6 years ago she was 5 times as old as he was. How old is Judy now?

- A. 10 B. 16 C. 20 D. 24 E. 32

Represent Adam with A

Represent Judy with J

Judy now is twice as old as Adam $J = 2A$

Six years ago $J-6 = 5(A-6)$

Therefore, $J-6 = 5A - 30$

$$J-6 = 5(J/2) - 30$$

Multiply through by 2

$$2(J-6) = 5J-60$$

$$2J-12 = 5J-60$$

$$-12+60 = 5J-60$$

$$48 = 3J$$

$$J = 48/3$$

$$J = 16 \text{ (B)}$$

Q27. Sharon read 24 pages of her book in 15 minutes. At this rate, how many pages can she read in 40 minutes?

- A. 64 B. 66 C. 72 D. 74 E. 76

The Rate = Pages/Minutes = $24/15 = X/40$

$$15X = 24 \times 40$$

$$X = 960/15$$

$$X = 64 \text{ pages (A)}$$

Q28. If 4 boys can shovel a driveway in 2 hours, how many minutes will 5 boys take to do the job?

- A. 86 B. 96 C. 106 D. 116 E. 126

Logic: More boys will shovel the driveway in less time.

Therefore: Boys is inversely proportional to Time (Boys $\propto 1/\text{Time}$)

Let B = Boys

Let T = Time

Boys $\propto 1/\text{Time}$. Insert your constant

$$B = K/T$$

$$4 = K/2$$

$$K = 4 \times 2 = 8$$

Therefore for 5 boys you will have $5 = 8/T$

$$T = 8/5 \text{ hours}$$

$$\text{In Minutes} = 8/5 \times 60 = 96 \text{ (B)}$$

Q29. Of the 410 students at Kennedy High School, 240 study Spanish and 180 study French. If 25 students study neither language, how many students study both?

- A. 25 B. 30 C. 35 D. 40 E. 45

Let T = Total

S = Spanish

F = French

$$N(T) = N(S)\text{only} + N(S\&F)\text{only} + N(F) + N(S\&F)\text{neither}$$

$$410 = (240-x) + x + 180-x + 25$$

$$410 = 445 - x$$

$$X = 445 - 410$$

$$X = 35 \text{ (C)}$$

Q30. Brian gave 20% of his baseball cards to Scott and 15% to Adam. If he still had 520 cards, how many did he have originally

- A. 720 B. 750 C. 780 D. 800 E. 840

Let T = Total number of cards he had originally

Before Brian gave out any card, he had 100%

He gave out 20% to Scott --- So Brian is left with 80%

He gave out 15% to Adams --- Brian is left with 65%

65% represents 520 Cards

Therefore $65/100 \times T = 520$

$$0.65 \times T = 520$$

$$X = 520/0.65$$

$$X = 800$$

He had 800 cards before he started sharing

The following 5 Questions are General Knowledge Questions:

Q31. Mr Peter went to the the withdrawal counter to withdraw, the Banker at the counter on receiving his slip wrote on it D.A.R. What is D.A.R in banking tenants?

- A. Depositor's Attention Required
- B. Direct Attention Required
- C. Delayed Access Remittances
- D. Deduct Applied Rate
- E. Drawer's Attention Required

Right Option is Depositor's Attention Required (A)

Q32. The Governor of Central Bank of Nigeria, Mallam Sanusi Lamido Sanusi resumed office at what date?

- A. June 4, 2009
- B. June 14, 2009
- C. July 4, 2009
- D. July 14, 2009
- E. August 14, 2009

The Right Option is July 4, 2009 (A)

Q33. Capitalisation of the Banking sector resulted to the reduction of the total number of operating commercial banks from what number to 24

- A. 87
- B. 88
- C. 89
- D. 98
- E. 99

They were 89 banks before the capitalization program (C)

Q34. Nigeria Foreign Exchange Reserve Value fell to what range in April/June 2013 before it was seriously looked into

- A. \$56.40 - \$52.60Billion
- B. \$46.40 - \$44.60 Billion
- C. \$44.60 - \$42.40 Billion
- D. \$42.40 - \$40.60 Billion
- E. \$36.93 - \$36.40 Billion

The Right Option is E

Q35. How many litres make a baron of crude oil?

- A. 159 Litres
- B. 155 Litres
- C. 150 Litres
- D. 148 Litres
- E. 145 Litres

159 Litres is equivalent to one baron of crude oil(A)

The next 15 Questions deal with Critical Reasoning:

Q36 Olu runs faster than Kunle, Kunle runs faster than Tayo, Simbi runs faster than Tayo. Which of the option would be right

- A. Olu runs faster than Simbi
- B. Tayo runs faster than Olu
- C. Kunle and Simbi run at the same speed
- D. Simbi is the fastest runner
- E. Kunle has two running speed

To get a clearer picture, let's represents the names with alphabet Olu = O, Tayo = T, Kunle = K and Simbi = S

O>K>T also S>T. The two options that meets the eye as correct are option A and C. But C is wrong because we cannot say for sure if Kunle and Simbi run at the same speed even if they both have speeds that are greater than that of Tayo.

Therefore, the right option is Olu runs faster than Simbi (A)

Q37 Mary: Mr Shola's children are not okay because they have sickle cell anemia

Martha: No, Mr Shola's children are okay

If anybody that has sickle cell anemia is considered as not being okay, which of the option would be correct

- A. Mary is correct because she sounds clearer
- B. Martha is correct because she is succinct
- C. Neither of them is correct
- D. We cannot say for sure without further information
- E. Both of them are correct based on their view

The Right Option is D. We need more clarification to their views.

Q38 If there is an oil-supply disruption resulting in higher international oil prices, domestic oil prices in open-market countries such as the United States will rise as well, whether such countries import all or none of their oil.

If the statement in the passage concerning oil-supply disruptions is true, which of the following policies in an open-market nation is most likely to reduce the long-term economic impact on that nation of sharp and unexpected increases in international oil prices?

- A. Maintaining the quantity of oil imported at constant yearly levels
- B. Increasing the number of oil tankers in its fleet
- C. Suspending diplomatic relations with major oil-producing nations
- D. Decreasing oil consumption through conservation
- E. Decreasing domestic production of oil

The Best Option is D

If the statement about oil-supply disruption is true, domestic oil prices in an open-market country will rise when an oil-supply disruption causes increased international oil prices. A reduction in the amount of oil an open-market country consumes could reduce the economic impact of these increases. D gives a way to reduce oil consumption and is thus the best answer. A and E describe policies that could actually increase the long-term impact of international oil prices, so neither of these choices is appropriate. No relationship is established between the economic impact and either the number of oil tankers or diplomatic relations in B and C, so neither of these choices is appropriate.

Q39 Which of the following best completes the passage below?

People buy prestige when they buy a premium product. They want to be associated with something special. Mass-marketing techniques and price-reduction strategies should not be used because_____.

- A. Affluent purchasers currently represent a shrinking portion of the population of all purchasers

-
- B. Continued sales depend directly on the maintenance of an aura of exclusivity
 - C. Purchasers of premium products are concerned with the quality as well as with the price of the products
 - D. Expansion of the market niche to include a broader spectrum of consumers will increase profits
 - E. Manufacturing a premium brand is not necessarily more costly than manufacturing a standard brand of the same product

B is the best option.

The incomplete passage calls for an explanation of why price-reduction and mass-marketing methods should not be used for premium products. B, which states that sales of these products require that they appear specials, provides such an explanation. Therefore, B is the best answer. No other choice offers an appropriate explanation. The diminishing proportion of affluent buyers cited in A argues for using price reductions to attract buyers of lesser means. C suggests that purchasers of premium products find reduced prices attractive, and it has not been established that the methods affect quality or perception of quality. D argues for, rather than against, using mass marketing. E is inappropriate, since there is no indication that manufacturing costs are relevant.

Q40 When limitations were in effect on nuclear-arms testing, people tended to save more of their money, but when nuclear-arms testing increased, people tended to spend more of their money. The perceived threat of nuclear catastrophe, therefore, decreases the willingness of people to postpone consumption for the sake of saving money.

The argument above assumes that

- A. The perceived threat of nuclear catastrophe has increased over the years.
 - B. Most people supported the development of nuclear arms
 - C. People's perception of the threat of nuclear catastrophe depends on the amount of nuclear-arms testing being done
 - D. The people who saved the most money when nuclear-arms testing was limited were the ones who supported such limitations
 - E. There are more consumer goods available when nuclear-arms testing increases
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C is the best Option

On the basis of an observed correlation between arms testing and people's tendency to save money, the argument concludes that there is a causal connection between a perception of threat and the tendency not to save. That connection cannot be made unless C, linking the perception of threat to the amount of testing being done, is assumed to be true. Therefore, C is the best answer. The conclusion does not depend on there having been an increase in the perceived threat over time or on how many people supported the development of nuclear arms. Hence, neither of A and B is assumed. The argument does not deal with those who supported arms limitations or with the availability of consumer goods. Thus, D and E are not assumed.

Q42 Increase in the level of high-density lipoprotein (HDL) in the human bloodstream lower bloodstream-cholesterol levels by increasing the body's capacity to rid itself of excess cholesterol. Levels of HDL in the bloodstream of some individuals are significantly increased by a program of regular exercise and weight reduction.

Which of the following can be correctly inferred from the statements above?

- A. Individuals who are underweight do not run any risk of developing high levels of cholesterol in the bloodstream.
- B. Individuals who do not exercise regularly have a high risk of developing high levels of cholesterol in the bloodstream late in life.
- C. Exercise and weight reduction are the most effective methods of lowering bloodstream cholesterol levels in humans.
- D. A program of regular exercise and weight reduction lowers cholesterol levels in the bloodstream of some individuals
- E. Only regular exercise is necessary to decrease cholesterol levels in the bloodstream of individuals of average weight.

The Best Option is D

If increased HDL levels cause reduced cholesterol levels and if a certain program increases HDL levels in some individuals, it follows that some individuals who undertake that program achieve reduced cholesterol levels. D is thus correctly

inferable and the best answer. A cannot be correctly inferred because the statements do not establish any connection between being underweight and levels of cholesterol. Neither of B and E is inferable, since there is no indication that exercise alone is either necessary or sufficient to increase HDL levels or to decrease cholesterol levels. C is inappropriate because other methods of cholesterol reduction are not addressed.

Q43 A proposed ordinance requires the installation in new homes of sprinklers automatically triggered by the presence of a fire. However, a home builder argued that because more than ninety percent of residential fires are extinguished by a household member, residential sprinklers would only marginally decrease property damage caused by residential fires.

Which of the following, if true, would most seriously weaken the home builder's argument?

- A. most individuals have no formal training in how to extinguish fires.
- B. Since new homes are only a tiny percentage of available housing in the city, the new ordinance would be extremely narrow in scope.
- C. The installation of smoke detectors in new residences costs significantly less than the installation of sprinklers.
- D. In the city where the ordinance was proposed, the average time required by the fire department to respond to a fire was less than the national average.
- E. The largest proportion of property damage that results from residential fires is caused by fires that start when no household member is present.

The Best Option is E

The home builder reasons from evidence about most residential fires to a conclusion about the effectiveness of sprinklers in preventing property damage. But this reasoning is faulty because of the possibility that most of the property damage results from the minority of fires excluded from the builder's evidence. That possibility is realized if E is true. Thus, E is the best answer.

Q44 CROSS8 + TRIANGLE10 = CIRCLE2
TRIANGLE20 + CROSS14 = SQUARE6
SQUARE4 + CIRCLE2 = DIAMOND48

CIRCLE6 + SQUARE4 = DIAMOND?

The Value of DIAMOND is

- A. 2 B. 4 C. 6 D. 8 E. 10

The Bolden figure are the answers of each equation

$$-8 + 10 = 2$$

$$20 - 14 = 6$$

$$4 + 2 = 6$$

The Value of DIAMOND is 6

- Q45 Sue: Commercial flights currently contribute more carbon dioxide to the atmosphere in one year than does the whole of Africa. If we want to reduce global warming we need to restrict the number of flights we take.

Dave: Did you know that by taking one inter-continental flight you cause more pollution than you would in twelve months of car travel?

Dave's response to Sue's comment serves to

- A. Reinforce Sue's contention that flights are a major contributor to increased carbon dioxide levels
- B. Add more weight to her contention that we should reduce the number of flights we take
- C. Mitigate the force of her argument by suggesting that there is an alternative approach

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- D. Suggest an alternative that will reduce the effect of pollution
 - E. Question whether she really understands the severity of global warming

B is the best option

Since Dave's comments don't challenge what Sue says, we can eliminate answers E and C (mitigate = lessen). His comments reinforce what she says and so A sounds tempting but is wrong since Dave talks about pollution in general and doesn't mention carbon dioxide. Of the remaining choices, B is best since Dave does give information that suggests, like Sue, that we should take fewer flights. (D is incorrect mainly because Dave is not talking about the 'effect' of pollution. Note how careful you have to be that all the words in an answer are exactly right.

Q46 It is not unusual to see the ball fall into a black slot on a roulette wheel four times in a row. But for it to fall five or six times in a row into the same color is very unusual. Therefore you can win money by waiting for a run of five of the same color and then betting against that color.

If the roulette wheel in question is a fair wheel, which of the following observations or facts, if it were true, would best reveal a fallacy in the logic?

- A. If there were a reliable way to win at roulette it would be well-known by now.
 - B. It is hard for a player to keep track of what went before for the time required.
 - C. The probability of getting a particular color decreases with the number of times the color has appeared.
 - D. The probability of getting a particular color is always the same no matter what has gone before.
 - E. A person who makes money this way once or twice, will carry on to lose that money after a few more times.
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The Best Option is D

In critical reasoning questions many of the answer choices can be factually correct or reasonable sounding, and so eliminating without understanding the question is not possible. Your job is to find the best answer to the specific question, so read carefully. A fallacy in the logic is an error in the thinking behind the proposal. The person concludes that if you wait for a run of five of the same color and then bet against the color, you WILL win. Now the logic behind that suggests that the probability of getting that same color again is low. But just as tossing a fair coin always gives an even chance of a head or tail no matter what has gone before, the probability of getting a color is always the same no matter what has gone before.

Q47 The committee on sexual discrimination in the workplace has highlighted Supremo Company as a chief offender. Of the twenty senior executives in the firm, only one is a woman. And of the forty junior executives, only five are female.

Supremo could best defend itself against the charges by showing that

- A. Male and female executives at the same level have the same qualifications
- B. They pay the same salary to senior men and senior women
- C. Ten times more men than women apply for jobs with the company
- D. The work pressures and long hours make jobs with the company unattractive to married women
- E. All job applicants who were rejected had fewer qualifications than those Accepted

The Best Option is E

To defend itself against a charge of discrimination the company will have to show its selections were made on the basis of merit not sex. The best way to do that is to show that none of the women who were rejected had better qualifications than the men who were appointed. Answer E implies just that but without specifying the sex of the rejected applicants

Q48 Josh has twenty years of typing experience behind him; therefore, if you are looking for an efficient typist to enter your data into the new system, you need look no further.

The speaker assumes that

- A. Twenty years of practice ensures typing efficiency
- B. The type of typing required for the new system is identical to what Josh has been doing
- C. Josh's job profile is the best that the new employer is going to get
- D. Josh is an outstandingly fast and accurate typist
- E. Josh will fit well into the new office

The Best Option is A

An assumption is an unstated premise. So we are looking for something that is implied in the argument, and if wrong, will undermine the argument. All that the speaker implies is that Josh is efficient because he has twenty years of practice, and so answer A is correct. Eliminate B because the word 'identical' is not implied. Eliminate C because we are talking about typing not the whole 'job profile'. The argument claims that Josh is efficient but without defining efficiency we cannot assume that it involves both speed and accuracy, and certainly 'outstandingly' is not warranted. Nothing is implied about fitting into the office.

Q49 It has been suggested that long-term prisoners, on release from jail, be given a reasonable state pension to reduce the likelihood of their resorting to crime. Most people instinctively reject the suggestion as they feel it would be like rewarding criminal activity.

The supporters of the prisoners' pension scheme have criticized those who reject this possibility, by claiming that for the critics.....

Which of the following is the most logical completion of the sentence above?

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- A. emotion is more important than justice
 - B. punishment for criminals is more important than crime prevention
 - C. crime prevention is not an important issue
 - D. money has too high a value
 - E. the law should not be concerned with what happens after jail

Those critics who reject the idea of pensions for ex-prisoners are rejecting the scheme 'instinctively' because they do not want to 'reward' crime. So for these people it is more important to be seen to oppose crime than it is to be seen to reduce the chances of the offenders committing a crime. This does not mean that they do not attach importance to crime prevention (eliminate C), nor that they are too concerned with money (eliminate D). The issue is more about punishing criminals, and so punishment is more important than crime prevention (correct answer B). 'Emotion' is not the issue so A is incorrect, and so is E which does not follow from anything in the argument.

Q50 Recent studies have highlighted the harmful effects of additives in food (colors, preservatives, flavor enhancers etc.). There are no synthetic substances in the foods we produce at Munchon Foods – we use only natural ingredients. Hence you can be sure you are safeguarding your family's health when you buy our products.

Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the contention of Munchon Foods?

- A. Some synthetic substances are not harmful
- B. Some natural substances found in foods can be harmful
- C. Food without additives is unlikely to taste good
- D. Munchon Foods produces only breakfast cereals
- E. Without preservatives some foods could cause harm

The Best option is B

Munchon's contention is that buying their products safeguards health. To weaken that argument we can show that, for some reason, their foods might not be healthy. Munchon claims that the products are healthy because they contain only 'natural ingredients'. But bacteria and molds are 'natural' as are certain poisons derived from plants! Hence the word 'natural' is no guarantee of healthful properties

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