

GMAT Verbal Practice Paper

CRITICAL REASONING:

Question: 1

Ciara distrusts modern medicine. She says that the drugs prescribed by doctors are just synthetic poisons that they dispense to make money. She uses only herbs and essential oils to treat her health problems, declaring that they are much safer than prescription drugs because they come directly from nature.

Which of the following, if true, most weakens Ciara's argument?

- Some doctors dispense drugs for free to needy patients.
- Some common drugs are derived from plants and other natural substances.
- Some herbs and natural substances are quite harmful if ingested.
- Sometimes the herbal remedies Ciara takes do not relieve her symptoms.
- Herbal supplements and oils are often quite expensive.

Question: 2

Recent DNA analysis shows that the majority of modern humans alive today have at least some genetic material in common with Neanderthal humans. Archaeologists believe that the first evidence of religious behavior has been found in excavations of Neanderthal dwellings in France. The presence of Neanderthal DNA in modern Europeans has led some scholars to assert that Europeans are genetically programmed for religious behavior in ways that people from other areas of the world are not.

Which of the following, if true, more seriously weakens this argument?

- The areas of the Neanderthal excavations have climates in which artifacts are exceptionally well preserved, unlike other area of early human activity,
- There is disagreement among archaeologists as to whether the artifacts found in Neanderthal excavations actually indicate religious behavior.
- Evidence of religious behavior has been found in every known human culture.
- A significant portion of modern Europeans do not practice any religion.
- It is impossible to tell by looking at someone whether he or she has Neanderthal DNA.

Question: 3

It has long been supposed that Neanderthal humans were replaced by modern humans. Most anthropologists thought that the two groups did not have contact or interbreed. However, a recent archaeological dig found Neanderthal artifacts and modern human artifacts mixed together, indicating that there was some contact between the two. The archaeologists leading this dig have published a new article asserting that, in fact, Neanderthals and modern humans did live side by side and interbreed.

Which of the following evidence would provide the strongest support for the archaeologists' claim?

- Carbon dating of the artifacts that reveals they are the same age.
- Burials in which there are Neanderthal and modern human bones.
- DNA analysis of bones that indicates the presence of Neanderthal and modern human DNA in the same individual.
- Cave paintings that depict Neanderthals and modern humans.
- Modern human villages built directly on top of Neanderthal villages.

Question: 4

A recent sociological study found that more than 40% of the members of a large conservative Christian church were the adult children of divorce. This led the researchers to conclude that growing up in a family where there is divorce leads people to become more religious.

Which of the following would be the best way to test the researchers' conclusions?

- Interview a large random sample of adult children of divorce to see if they are also very religious.
- Interview the congregants of the large conservative church to find out if they grew up in the church or converted as adults.
- Interview a local atheist group to see how many adult children of divorce are among its members.
- Gather statistics on how many marriages end in divorce each year.
- Facilitate a therapy group for adult children of divorce.

Question: 5

Breast cancer researchers found that, out of a sample of 1000 women who had been treated for breast cancer, over 60% had had a miscarriage in their lifetime. This led the researchers to conclude that there is a connection between breast cancer and miscarriages, and to encourage all women who have had miscarriages to be screened for breast cancer more frequently than women who have not had miscarriages.

Which of the following, if true, most weakens the researchers' conclusions?

- Women who have had miscarriages are also often taking birth control pills, which have a known connection to breast cancer.
- Women who have not had breast cancer also have a high rate of miscarriage after age 35.
- Women who have had previous miscarriages sometimes use fertility treatments that are thought to have connections with uterine cancer.
- In the general population, roughly 6 out of 10 women will have a miscarriage at some point in their lifetime.
- Most of the women in the study had also had at least one living child.

Question: 6

Central State College has a very progressive program for preventing sexual assault on its campus. Every incoming student has to take a 1 hour course on sexual and dating violence, and there are monthly programs about prevention and intervention. The college recently opened a 24-hour hotline for victims and survivors of sexual assault. To their dismay, in the first year of the hotline operating, reports of sexual assaults on campus went up by 10%. Administrators are confused as to why their efforts to prevent violence seem to have led to more violence on campus.

Which of the following might explain the rise in reports of sexual assault at Central State?

- Telling students about sexual violence makes them see it as an option, so more male students are committing assaults.
- Having a hotline leads more students to report assaults that in the past may have gone unreported. The actual rate of assaults is likely unchanged.
- As a result of education, students are more likely to classify troubling interactions as sexual assault than they might otherwise have been.
- The facilitators of the prevention program are not effectively conveying the information to

students.

- The programs are too infrequent to be effective.

Question: 7

According to Dr. Sean, people who consume broccoli everyday are half as likely to be diagnosed with heart diseases as compared to others. Dr. Sean stated this after he had monitored diet of 100 patients for 12 months.

Which of the following options weakens the argument stated above?

- According to a famous Science Journal, broccoli has no relation with heart diseases at all.
- People who were monitored during this study belonged to the same town.
- Everyone whose diet was being monitored was supposed to spend 30 minutes each day jogging.
- There are different kinds of broccoli available in the market these days, some of which are artificially manufactured.
- Dr. Sean doesn't hold a degree from one of the lesser known universities.

Question: 8

Mesa College has a long reputation of progressive arts education. It relies heavily on donations from its alumni for scholarships and campus improvements. Mesa College has never had an athletic program, and many current students and alumni say that they think this had led the college to put more focus and financial resources into developing first-class arts programs. This year, Mesa College instituted a football program, over the objections of many students and alumni.

Based on this passage, which of the following is likely to occur?

- Alumni donations to Mesa College will increase.
- Alumni will become very involved with boosting the football program at Mesa College.
- Alumni donations to Mesa College will decrease.
- The college will start offering more athletic scholarships than art scholarships.
- The football program will fail.

Question: 9

Educational research shows that students who attend schools with low faculty/student ratios perform better on standardized tests than students who attend schools with high ratios. Therefore, homeschooling is the best option because the student and parent can work one on one.

Which of the following, if true, most weakens this argument?

- Standardized test results for homeschooled students show that scores are highly related to the parent-teacher's level of education.
- Standardized test results from larger schools that require teachers to have a Master's degree are comparable to test results for students from smaller
- Studies show that homeschooled students struggle socially.
- Standardized test results for homeschooled students show the same range of scores as scores for students from large schools.
- Private schooling is prohibitively expensive for many families.

Question: 10

Sharla is a better chess player than Marcus.

Marcus is a better chess player than Evelyn.

Olivia routinely beats Evelyn at chess.

What is the likely outcome if Sharla and Olivia play a game of chess?

- Olivia will beat Sharla
- Sharla will beat Olivia
- The game will end in a draw
- Olivia will decide not to play Sharla because she is intimidated
- The two women will decide not to play chess at all

SENTENCE CORRECTION:

Question: 1

Firefighters and police officers risk their lives often by stepping into the way of danger physically; therefore, professionals such as doctors and lawyers have an equally significant impact on individuals' lives medically and legally.

- therefore
- but
- nevertheless
- as a result
- and

Question: 2

In many cultures they consider fish eggs a delicacy.

- In many cultures they consider fish eggs a delicacy.
- In many cultures fish eggs are considered a delicacy.
- In many cultures a delicacy is considered to be fish eggs.
- Fish eggs, a delicacy in many cultures.
- They consider fish eggs to be a delicacy in many cultures.

Question: 3

Sports are a significant part of life for people all across the world, as was demonstrated in 2006 when billions of people came together to be involved with the World Cup either through playing, watching or thru advertising.

- World Cup either through playing, watching or thru advertising.
- world cup either through playing, watching or thru advertising.
- World Cup either through playing, watching or through advertising.
- World Cup either through playing, watching or advertising.
- World Cup either through playing, watching or advertising for it.

Question: 4

The argument between Paarin and me about the dent in his car continued until the early morning.

- between Paarin and me about the dent in his car continued

- between Paarin and I about the dent in his car continued
- about the dent in his car continued for Paarin and I
- on the dent in his car between Paarin and me continued
- between Paarin and I on the dent in his car continued

Question: 5

During the summer many students go away to summer camps that teach them skills about camaraderie, perseverance and integrity.

- summer many students go away to summer camps that teach them skills about camaraderie, perseverance and integrity.
- Summer many students go away to summer camps that teach them skills about camaraderie, perseverance and integrity.
- summer many students go away to camps that teach them skills about camaraderie, perseverance and integrity.
- summer many students go away to summer camps that teach them skills about camaraderie, perseverance and maintaining integrity.
- Summer many students go away to camps that teach them skills about camaraderie, perseverance and integrity.

Question: 6

A consummate gentleman, Stefan's etiquette and social grace was unmatched.

- Stefan's etiquette and social grace was unmatched.
- Stefan's etiquette and social grace were unmatched.
- Stefan's etiquette as well as his social grace were unmatched.
- Stefan possessed unmatched etiquette and social grace.
- Stefan's social grace was matched only by his etiquette.

Question: 7

In countries such as China the government is recognizing the advantages of a capitalist market rather than communism and adjust economic policy accordingly.

- capitalist market rather than communism and adjust
- capitalist market rather than Communism and adjust
- capitalist market rather than a communist market and adjust
- capitalist market rather than a communist market and adjusting
- Capitalistic market nor a Communist market and adjusting

Question: 8

Most of my favorite movies contain slapstick humor, however physical comedy is not the only way to make me laugh.

- slapstick humor, however physical comedy is not
- slapstick humor, but physical comedy is not
- slapstick humor, and physical comedy is not
- slapstick humor; physical comedy is not
- slapstick humor, but it is not physical comedy that is

Question: 9

Learning a new language can be difficult for people after one reaches a certain age; abilities needed to retain and apply new linguistic information deteriorate with time.

- after one reaches a certain age
- after they reach a certain age
- after they reaches certain ages
- after it reaches a certain age
- after you reach a certain age

Question: 10

A growing technology trend is to merge multiple devices with complimentary functions such as a phone, music player and the scheduling features of a planner.

- the scheduling features of a planner.
- and a planner with scheduling features.
- and scheduling features.
- scheduling features.
- a planner.

READING COMPREHENSION:

Question: 1

Since the homecoming king and queen candidates had only a minute for speeches and their peers wanted to hear something meaningful, the student government advisor warned candidates that they had better keep their speeches _____ or face the wrath of an

- prolonged
- eloquent
- loquacious
- urbane
- germane

Question: 2

When autumn comes to the Southwest, the chamisa plant blooms, and this previously ----- shrub suddenly seems to be everywhere.

- Omnipresent
- Precipitous
- Flowering
- Dazzling
- Inconspicuous

Question: 3

Most of the family was disgusted when Billy proved his _____ nature at Thanksgiving dinner, when he ate the entire table full of turkey, mashed potatoes and cranberry sauce all by himself.

- selfish
- famished
- gluttonous
- altruistic
- meticulous

Question: 4

In sharp contrast to the previous night's revelry, the wedding was ----- affair.

- A fervent
- A dignified
- A chaotic
- An ingenious
- A jubilant

Question: 5

Since the ladder was rusty and _____, lending itself to an accident, everyone urged Danny to resist his natural _____ that encouraged him to recklessly climb that ladder anyway.

- safe...temerity
- precarious...audacity
- dangerous...courage
- secure...wisdom
- vulnerable...cowardice

Question: 6

The historian noted irony in the fact that developments considered ----- by people of that era are now viewed as having been -----.

- Inspirational . . Impetuous
- Bizarre . . Irrational

- Intuitive . . Uncertain
- Actual . . Grandiose
- Improbable . . Inevitable

Question: 7

Unlike his brother, who sought solitude, Kahil was extremely -----.

- Gregarious
- Amenable
- Terse
- Avaricious
- Cantankerous

Question: 8

Only ----- stress is harmful to the immune system; the effects of short-term stress may be ----- or even, in some cases, beneficial.

- Unexpected . . Salutary
- Acute . . Predictable
- Unequivocal . . Persistent
- Continuous . . Inconsequential
- Initial . . Pernicious

Question: 9

Florida Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen chose to focus on how national issues affect her own -----, those voters she represents.

- Opponents
- Constituents
- Successors
- Mentors
- Colleagues

Question: 10

In the early 1840's the Grand Duchy of Tuscany had one of the most ----- governments in its region; the grand duke's benign rule ----- both civil and religious liberty.

- Tolerant . . Sanctioned
- Despotic . . Administered
- Democratic . . Terminated
- Dictatorial . . Condoned
- Amenable . . Eliminated