

GMAT Verbal Practice Paper

Sentence Correction

1. Investigations along the Solo river in Indonesia have led some archeologists to debunk the idea of an era in which Homo Erectus had still survived in then Homo Sapiens' inhabited areas.

- in which Homo Erectus had still survived in then Homo Sapiens' inhabited areas
- in which Homo Erectus still survived in areas inhabited by Homo Sapiens
- when Homo Erectus still survived where there were areas inhabited by Homo Sapiens
- when Homo Erectus had still survived in current Homo Sapiens areas
- when Homo Erectus still survived in areas that were then Homo Sapiens'

2. Despite its being soft enough to grow, a newborn human has a skull that is not an unbroken casing with "soft spots," rather it is a series of body plates joined together by anatomical lines known as sutures.

- Despite its being soft enough to grow, a newborn human has a skull that is not an unbroken casing with "soft spots," rather it is
- Despite being soft enough to grow, a newborn human's skull is not an unbroken casing with "soft spots," but is
- Despite being soft enough to grow, a newborn human's skull is not an unbroken casing nor does it have "soft spots," but rather
- Although soft enough to grow, a newborn human's skull is not an unbroken casing with "soft spots," but rather
- Although soft enough to grow, a newborn human's skull is not an unbroken casing with "soft spots," but

3. During medieval times, Augustine monks in Scotland favored using watercress as a means to combat scurvy and administering hemlock as a painkiller, revealing a detailed knowledge of the medicinal properties of herbs.

- to combat scurvy and administering
- to combat scurvy and to administer

- of combating scurvy and of administering
- of combating scurvy and administer
- for combating scurvy and the administration of

4. Using a 64-beam laser to create a detailed 3D map of its environment, the self-driving car prototype, although already obsolete, proved as equipped for navigating any conditions roads could put in front of it.

- proved as equipped for navigating any conditions roads could put in front of it
- proved itself equipped to navigate any conditions roads could put in front of it
- proved as equipped to navigate any conditions roads could put in front of it
- prove to be as equipped to navigate any conditions roads could put in front of it
- proved to have been equipped for navigating any conditions roads could put in front of it

5. According to one biographer, Steve Jobs' passion for the details of music, philosophy and other fields in the humanities were critical to his success, influencing his sense of design as much as his technological savvy did.

- those other fields in the humanities were critical to his success, influencing his sense of design as much as
- those other fields in the humanities was critical to his success, and it influenced his sense of design as well as
- other fields in the humanities was critical to his success, influencing his sense of design as much as
- other fields in the humanities was critical to his success, as it influenced his sense of design as much as
- other fields in the humanities were critical to his success, influencing both his sense of design in addition to that which

6. Assuming that the new drug is approved, it will remain to be seen whether it decreases post-traumatic stress disorder in military veterans after it is widely administered.

- whether it decreases post-traumatic stress disorder in military veterans after it is widely administered
- whether it decreases post-traumatic stress disorder in military veterans once they widely administer it
- whether it decreases post-traumatic stress disorder in military veterans once it has been widely administered
- if it decreases post-traumatic stress disorder in military veterans once it is widely administered
- if it decreases post-traumatic stress disorder in military veterans after it has been widely administered

7. First-year sales of the film *Bridge on the River Kwai* obtained in 1957, and estimated to be 27 million dollars, made it the largest-grossing movie of the year.

- film *Bridge on the River Kwai* obtained in 1957, and estimated to be 27 million dollars, made it the largest-grossing movie
- film *Bridge on the River Kwai*, that they obtained in 1957, had been estimated to be 27 million dollars, thus making it the largest-grossing movie
- film *Bridge on the River Kwai* that were obtained in 1957, were estimated to be 27 million dollars, making this the largest-grossing movie
- film *Bridge on the River Kwai*, obtained in 1957, were estimated to be 27 million dollars, making it the largest-grossing movie
- film *Bridge on the River Kwai* which, obtained in 1957, were estimated to be 27 million dollars, made it the largest-grossing movie

8. The best way to install good habits in a dog is to condition it with short verbal commands and edible rewards before they solidify bad habits when aging takes effect.

- to condition it with short verbal commands and edible rewards before they solidify bad habits when aging takes effect
- if they are conditioned with short verbal commands and edible rewards before aging solidifies their bad habits
- for it to be conditioned with short verbal commands and edible rewards before aging takes effect and solidifies bad habits
- if the dog is conditioned with short verbal commands and edible rewards before they solidify bad habits when aging takes effect

- to have it conditioned with short verbal commands and edible rewards before aging takes effect and solidifies bad habits

9. The best way to install good habits in a dog is to condition it with short verbal commands and edible rewards before they solidify bad habits when aging takes effect.

- to condition it with short verbal commands and edible rewards before they solidify bad habits when aging takes effect
- if they are conditioned with short verbal commands and edible rewards before aging solidifies their bad habits
- for it to be conditioned with short verbal commands and edible rewards before aging takes effect and solidifies bad habits
- if the dog is conditioned with short verbal commands and edible rewards before they solidify bad habits when aging takes effect
- to have it conditioned with short verbal commands and edible rewards before aging takes effect and solidifies bad habits

10. Offering a suite of similar products at dissimilar prices is critical to ongoing profitability for the automotive industry, like in other industries.

- like in other industries
- as in other industries
- just as it is in other industries
- as other industries do
- as it is for other industries

CRITICAL REASONING

1. Recently, scientists determined that great white sharks can live over 70 years, much longer than had been previously thought. They made the discovery by examining the layers of different colors that accumulated on the shark's teeth over the years. In the 1950s, atomic bomb testing produced unusually large amounts of carbon-14, which fell from the atmosphere into the ocean and accumulated as a distinctive layer on the shark's teeth corresponding to a known period in time. Perplexingly, even though great white

sharks live longer than had been expected, some parties maintain that based on the new findings, the great white sharks must be protected from overfishing.

Which of the following, if true, best resolves the discrepancy identified above?

- Great white sharks need to be protected from overfishing because they are dying rapidly due to poisoning by carbon-14.
- Great white sharks were determined to live longer than had been previously thought based on the discovery of a carbon-14-rich layer within older sharks' teeth.
- Great white sharks are evidently endangered and therefore need to be protected from overfishing.
- Some great white sharks may have rich layers of carbon-14 from other sources, depending on their migration patterns.
- Great white sharks' longer lifespan implies that they mature more slowly and reproduce more slowly than had previously been assumed.

2. Pundit: **Many people blame the construction of retail locations by major corporations for the decline in locally owned bookstores over the past ten years.** Yet clearly, online sales of books have also played an important role in this decline. In the past ten years, sales by online retailers of books have risen sharply, and surveys of consumer behavior have indicated that many purchasers of books online, if convenient online options had not been available to them, would otherwise have purchased books at a local bookstore.

In the pundit's argument, the portion in boldface plays which of the following roles?

- It is the main conclusion of the argument.
- It is a finding that the argument seeks to explain.
- It is an explanation that the argument concludes is correct.
- It provides evidence in support of the main conclusion of the argument.
- It introduces a judgment that the argument opposes.

3. In recent years, some painters of graffiti have been winning recognition as artists. But since graffiti is vandalism, painting graffiti is inherently an act of rebellion and lawbreaking. For this reason, painting graffiti is not art.

Which of the following is an assumption that supports drawing the conclusion above from the reason given for that conclusion?

- Some graffiti is painted in remote places, where it will not be used by any law enforcer or anyone else.
- Some painters of graffiti are more concerned than others with the illegal nature of the paintings they produce.
- Painters of graffiti should be more concerned with the illegality of their paintings than they currently are.
- An object is not an art object if its maker might be motivated primarily by questions of whether or not creating that object is permissible.
- Artists are not concerned with the monetary value of their products.

4. An online media company plans to increase its share of market by deeply discounting its subscription prices for the next two months. The discounts will cut into profits, but because they will be heavily advertised, the company expects that they will attract buyers away from rival providers of similar media. The company foresees that, in the longer term, customers initially attracted by the discounts will remain loyal subscribers.

In assessing the plan's chances of achieving its aim, it would be most useful to know which of the following?

- Whether the company's competitors are likely to respond by offering deep discounts on their own subscriptions
- Whether the advertisements will be created by the company's current advertising agency
- Whether some of the company's subscription options will be more deeply discounted than others
- Whether the company will be able to cut costs sufficiently to maintain profit margins even when the discounts are in effect
- Whether an alternative strategy will enable the company to enhance its profitability while holding a constant or diminishing share of the market

5. Through Topeka airport, consumer travel by plane is just voluminous enough for the commercial airlines to make modest profits. The size of the city's population is stable and is not expected to increase much. Yet there are investors ready to double the number of flights to and from the airport within ten years, and they are predicting solid profits both for themselves and for the established airlines.

Which of the following about the city of Topeka, if true, most helps to provide a justification for the investors' prediction?

- Over the next ten years, people in their middle-aged years, the prime traveling age, will be a rapidly growing proportion of the city's population.
- As distinct from the existing flights, most of the flights being planned would be run at "very early" morning times, in hopes of stimulating interest in those schedules.
- Spending on train and bus travel to and from Topeka has been increasing modestly each year for the past ten years.
- The average number of seats per flight is lower among existing routes than it is among routes still in the planning stages.
- The sale of snacks and drinks in-flight accounts for a steadily growing share of most airlines' profits.

6. A major car company experienced a drop in sales in the month following the publication of a widely read review of the latest model, which asserted the new model was of low quality. The company also received numerous complaints from consumers who had read the review. The company, nevertheless, insists that negative reactions to the review had nothing to do with the company's subsequent drop in sales.

Which of the following, if true, most strongly supports the company's position?

- Other major car companies reported similar reductions in sales during the same month.
- The consumers who registered complaints with the network were commercial clients that remained regular buyers of the company's cars.
- Major car companies publicly attribute drops in sales to the car models' quality only when they receive complaints about quality.
- This was not the first time a model of car from this company had been negatively reviewed and had inspired consumers to complain to the company.
- Most car buyers rely on reviews of new models as their primary source of information regarding their purchase decision.

7. Consultant: Advertising in videos purchased for download has shown promise as a way to activate consumers with a specific product message. Because the long-term impact on brand perception have yet not been shown, however, I do not recommend its use at this time.

Client: Your position is inconsistent with your usual practice. You suggest many forms of advertising that have a potential negative brand impact, so concern about long-term brand impact cannot be the real reason you will not recommend this form of advertising.

The client's argument is flawed because it fails to consider that

- in the long-term, downloaded videos might have a negative effect on perceptions of a company's brand
- it is possible that the consultant does not believe that advertisements in downloaded videos have been conclusively shown to be effective
- if the client does not advertise in any medium, his product may lose its position in the market
- the long-term impact on brand perception of an advertisement can take some time to manifest itself
- known risks can be weighed against known benefits, but unknown risks cannot

8. Plan: Wishing to reduce the number of citizens without health insurance, the government of Patrio decided last year to run an extensive advertising campaign that targeted young people and which described the importance of choosing and enrolling in a health insurance plan.

Result: The percentage of young people enrolled in a health insurance plan has not increased.

Further information: Most young people in Patrio saw and remembered the advertising. Moreover, surveys revealed that more young people after the campaign believed that it was important to choose and enroll in a health insurance plan.

In light of the further information, which of the following, if true, does most to explain the result that followed implementation of the plan?

- Most young people in Patrio already were enrolled in a health insurance plan before the advertising campaign began.
- All young people found it inconvenient to have to choose a plan before enrolling in health insurance.
- Young people did not learn through the advertising campaign how to choose a plan, and they did not know where else to find that information.
- Young people increased in number proportionally to other groups in Patrio over the last year.
- Most young people found the health insurance plans available to be unaffordable.

9. An online retailer that makes its deliveries through a private shipping company has determined that, unlike before, now it can profitably begin making deliveries seven days a week, not just six days a week. Delivering a given number of shipments within a narrower window of time tends to be more cost effective, because, on average, delivery trucks will be able to exploit economies in their driving routes and will incur lower average shipping costs per dollar of delivered goods per hour. Nevertheless, the retailer expects profits to rise with the change.

Which of the following, if true, provides the best reason for the expectation?

- Due to trends in retail, the average volume occupied in a delivery truck by a single shipment has increased.
- Due to a shift in consumer sentiment, the additional purchases that customers will be inclined to make by receiving their items marginally faster will outweigh the loss of savings of spreading shipments over a greater number of days.
- Due to mismanagement at the shipping company, most of the cost savings made possible by delivering over six days rather than seven are not captured.
- The expanded delivery timetable will attract new customers to the retailer and it will drive away no customers at all.
- Due to reorganization at both the shipping company and the retailer, the trucks' delivery routes will have to be redesigned in the near future anyway, so the retailer can make the change in timetable now without incurring any one-time costs related to the change in operations.

10. At a large, popular restaurant, a reduction of 25 percent in the number of patrons each night would allow the management to get rid of the common long lines of people waiting to eat dinner. A second, partner restaurant, a 25 minute drive away, would, if refurbished, be an attractive alternative for half of the patrons who visit the first restaurant. Nevertheless, a waiter at the restaurant is confident that refurbishing the partner restaurant would not end the long lines at the original location.

Which of the following, if true, most helps to justify the waiter's position?

- Refurbishing the second restaurant would require not only redecorating and new furniture, but also the creation of a menu suitable to that location's chef, which would be a substantially different menu from that of the original location.
- A third location, next door to the first one, would be a perfectly attractive alternative to patrons of the first location, if minor adjustments to the storefront were made.
- The second restaurant is located on a relatively undeveloped property which might be home to other attractive businesses--especially if traffic to the restaurant there were to grow.

- If a patron has to wait to be seated at a given restaurant, there is an increased chance that that same person will not return again to the restaurant.
- The first restaurant is inside the same shopping mall as a popular movie theater.