

## GMAT Verbal Practice Paper 28

1. In order to better differentiate its product from generic brands, the cereal company first hired a marketing firm that specializes in creating campaigns to build brand awareness and then retools its factory to produce a variety of different shapes of cereal.

- (A) then retools its factory to produce a variety of different shapes of cereal
- (B) retools its factory to produce a variety of different shapes of cereal
- (C) then retooled its factory to produce a variety of different shapes of cereal
- (D) then will retool its factory to produce a variety of different shapes of cereal
- (E) then produces a variety of different shapes of cereal through retooling its factory

2. Believed to be one of the first widely read female authors of the Western world. Christine de Pizan's masterwork *The Book of the City of the Ladies*, was written in 1405 and is a history of the Western world from the woman's point-of-view.

- (A) Believed to be one of the first widely read female authors of the Western world
- (B) Written by one of the first widely read female authors of the Western world
- (C) One of the first widely read female authors of the Western world, as some believe
- (D) Written by what some believe as one of the first widely read female authors of the Western world

3. One food writer wrote that reducing the amount of animal products in one's diet can contribute to better health and well-being. Based on this claim, some people are completely eliminating meat from their diets in order to be healthier.

The argument above relies on which of the following assumptions?

- (A) Increasing the amount of vegetables and grains in one's diet can contribute to better health.
- (B) There will be no corresponding increase in the amount of dairy products in the diets of those who are eliminating meat.
- (C) Most food writers believe that some amount of animal products is necessary to a health diet.
- (D) Not all healthy lifestyles require a vegetarian diet.
- (E) Many people who do not eat animal products make decisions for health reasons.

4. Studies reveal that a daily exercise regimen helps stroke survivors regain dexterity in their extremities. Being given an exercise routine and having a consultation with a doctor about the exercise routine have been shown to be effective mechanisms to get patients to exercise daily.

From the above information, which of the following statements can be reasonably inferred?

- (A) A stroke survivor that is given a detailed exercise plan and consults her physician about the plan will regain full dexterity in her extremities.
- (B) If a stroke survivor is not given an exercise plan and does not consult with a doctor, she will not regain dexterity in her extremities.
- (C) Stroke survivors who are given an exercise routine and consult with a doctor about that routine will sometimes regain dexterity in their extremities.
- (D) Being given an exercise routine and having a consultation with a doctor about the routine is the best way to help a stroke survivor regain dexterity in their extremities.

(E) Only being given an exercise routine is necessary to regenerate dexterity in the extremities of seniors who have suffered a stroke.

## Passage 1

Although oft-maligned in modern culture, the pigeon once stood not only for speed and reliability but also for grace and beauty. Darwin himself became a pigeon fancier after beginning to work with the humble *Columbia livia*, discovering them to be more fascinating than he had formerly believed. During the Victorian age, in fact, raising show pigeons was a popular hobby, with new breeds continuously arising as amateur (and not-so-amateur) ornithologists crossed animals in the hopes of creating ever more fantastic creatures. One of the most sought-after varieties was known as the Almond Tumbler, a name presumably derived from the color of the birds combined with the distinctive flight style. Over the course of many generations, this bird was so manipulated as to have a beak so small as to prevent the adult birds from feeding their offspring. And yet, it was wildly popular, drawing high prices at auctions and high prizes at competitions.

How then did an animal once so well-loved come to be so loathed? As recently as World War II, the military used pigeons to carry messages but today, many people would kick a pigeon before they would feed one. Perhaps it is just a problem of population density - a lack of esteem for that which is ubiquitous. Pigeons have become our constant urban companions and, as such, have been transformed from symbols of peace, plenty, and prosperity, to representatives of disease and decay.

5. The primary purpose of this passage is to

- (A) convince the reader of the nobility of the pigeon, based on its history as a symbol of virtue
- (B) dissuade the reader from mistreating a once-majestic animal that has fallen from favor
- (C) rebut claims that the pigeon carries disease any more frequently than do other domestic animals
- (D) promote a renewal of pigeon fancying and a resurgence of breeds such as the Almond Tumbler
- (E) suggest that there might be more to the story of some urban wildlife than is commonly known

6. The case of the Almond Tumbler is most analogous to which of the following?

- (A) a strain of wheat that can be grown in plentiful quantities but loses much of its nutritional value in the process
- (B) Arabian horses that are able to run at phenomenal speeds due to centuries of careful breeding designed to enhance those physical attributes
- (C) vitamins that were purported to provide all of the necessary nutrients but have since been found not to be very effective
- (D) the dachshund, a popular breed of dog that is nonetheless prone to severe back problems, due to weaknesses exacerbated by targeted breeding
- (E) the wild rock doves that are most commonly found nesting in the faces of cliffs far from human habitation

7 The passage suggests that

- (A) pigeons were once known for flying with celerity
- (B) the Almond Tumbler was the most beautiful breed of pigeon
- (C) Darwin was infatuated with his fancy pigeons
- (D) modern pigeons are dirtier than the fancy pigeons of yore
- (E) only scientists should breed new kinds of animals

8. Fonika and Kuji are world leaders in the production and distribution of color, and black and white photography films respectively, though, between the two, Fonika has a bigger market capital. To beat Fonika in terms of business volume, Kuji has planned to increase production volume by setting up a state of the art manufacturing facility which will be operational within a year. Still, analysts are of the view that Kuji's plan is not well founded.

Which of the following, if true, will strengthen the analysts' contention?

- A. Fonika uses superior technology to manufacture its films.
- B. Fonika spends more money than Kuji does on marketing and advertisement.
- C. Black and White photography is pursued almost exclusively by photography enthusiasts while color photography is what is generally opted by the general public.
- D. Fonika's customers place more orders than do Kuji's.
- E. Kuji will be pumping in huge sums of money in setting up its new facility.

9. Because scarcity of clean water has caused operational costs of businesses to escalate, many large organizations are looking to shift base to places where the resource is cheaper.

**A**

Because scarcity of clean water has caused operational costs of businesses to escalate,

**B**

Because of escalating costs of business operations, which is due to scarcity of clean water,

**C**

Because operating costs of businesses have been escalating, which resulted from scarcity of clean water,

**D**

Due to escalating operational costs of businesses from scarcity of clean water,

**E**

Due to scarcity of clean water, with the result that operational costs of businesses have escalated,

10. The capacity of embryonic stem cells to develop into most types of human tissue, which makes them potentially valuable for medical applications, but the genetic program that underlies this quality is not yet known.

- A. tissue, which makes them
- B. tissue makes them
- C. tissues, which make them
- D. tissue, making them
- E. tissue make it

11. By the mid-1700s, when it began a concerted effort to prevent famine and plague, the French government had fully realized that the success of its state building projects depended on the welfare of its people.

- A. By the mid-1700s, when it began a concerted effort to prevent famine and plague, the French government had fully realized
- B. Until the mid-1700s, when it had begun a concerted effort to prevent famine and plague, the French government had fully realized
- C. By the mid-1700s the French government began a concerted effort to prevent famine and plague, when it fully realized
- D. The French government began a concerted effort to prevent famine and plague by the mid-1700s, fully realizing
- E. When the French government began a concerted effort to prevent famine and plague, it fully realized by the mid-1700s

12. Replete with bloody revenge, disasters (both deserved and undeserved) and agonizing moral dilemmas, the plots of tragedies also involve dramatic irony, where the audience recognizes the facts before they are recognized by the play's characters themselves.

- A. they are recognized by the play's characters themselves
- B. the play's characters recognize the facts
- C. these facts are recognized by the play's characters
- D. being recognized by the play's characters
- E. the play's characters themselves do

13. Female sparrows and immatures are quite nondescript compared to the adult male sparrow's distinctive and conspicuous markings: a black bib, a gray cap, and white lines trailing down from the mouth.

- A. the adult male sparrow's
- B. those of adult males, their
- C. the adult male, which has
- D. adult male sparrows'
- E. adult males, whose

14. Perhaps the boldest and most grandiose composition in the history of Indian painting, the blossoming of that nation's classical period cannot be better represented than by the *Simhala Avadana* frieze.

- A. Perhaps the boldest and most grandiose composition in the history of Indian painting, the blossoming of that nation's classical period cannot be better represented than by the *Simhala Avadana* frieze.
- B. The *Simhala Avadana* frieze is perhaps the boldest and most grandiose composition in the history of Indian painting, the blossoming of that nation's classical period cannot be better represented than by it.
- C. Representing the blossoming of India's classical period better than any other composition, the *Simhala Avadana* frieze, which in the history of Indian painting is perhaps the boldest and most grandiose composition.
- D. The blossoming of India's classical period cannot be better represented than by the *Simhala Avadana* frieze, perhaps the boldest and most grandiose composition in the history of Indian painting.
- E. The blossoming of India's classical period cannot better represent what is perhaps the boldest and most grandiose composition in the history of Indian painting: the *Simhala Avadana* frieze.

15. Struthers College has built its reputation for academic excellence largely on significant contributions from wealthy alumni who are avid fans of the school's football team. Although the team has won more national championships over the years than any other team in its division, this year it did not even win the division title, and so Struthers College can expect to see a decline in alumni contributions next year.

The above argument relies on which of the following assumptions about Struthers College?

- A. The college's reputation for academic excellence depends on the performance of its football team.
- B. Contributions from alumni are needed for the college to produce a winning football team.
- C. Struthers alumni contributions depend to an extent on a winning record by the college's football team.
- D. The college's football team will continue its losing streak next year.
- E. As a group, the college's alumni will have at least as much discretionary money to give away next year as this year.

16. Recent dental research shows that bacteria around the gum line produces a substance that in sufficient amounts can induce preterm labor in pregnant women and can cause heart disease by clogging arteries. Both medical outcomes add to payouts by health insurers to medical-service providers. The bacteria is best removed by a dentist or trained hygienist during a routine cleaning. One health insurer has calculated that it can reduce its payouts by reimbursing subscribers who are

either pregnant or at high risk of developing heart disease for the cost of one professional dental cleaning per year.

Which of the following, if true, most strongly supports the assertion that the insurer's payouts to medical-service providers will decrease if it implements the reimbursement plan described above?

- A. Dental-hygiene regimens such as brushing or flossing can slow the accumulation of the bacteria-produced substance.
- B. Individuals are generally less likely to postpone or forego inexpensive or free dental procedures than expensive ones.
- C. Pregnant women typically crave sugary foods, which are proven to contribute to tooth decay.
- D. The risk of developing heart disease is greater for individuals with a family history of heart disease than for those with no such history.
- E. The dental health of pregnant women and heart-disease patients, as a group, is similar to that of the general population.

17. *Diane*: As we both know, the population of this country is aging. Elderly people generally prefer not to live in harsh climates characterized by extreme temperatures. Accordingly, in this country's coastal regions, where the climate is generally most temperate, the population is likely to grow, while other regions are likely to suffer population declines.

*Paul*: I disagree. With few exceptions, regions where the climate is harsh are characterized by comparatively low living costs, a compelling factor for retired people with little savings and on fixed incomes.

Which of the following is the most likely point of disagreement between Diane and Paul?

- A. the reason for the population shift toward coastal areas and away from other regions
- B. whether the country's current decline in overall population will continue into the foreseeable future
- C. why older people find certain regions where the climate is harsh attractive places to live
- D. whether regions characterized by harsh climates are likely to experience population declines in the foreseeable future
- E. the extent to which coastal regions are affordable places to live for retired people

18. An avid television viewer is statistically more likely to take sleeping pills at bedtime than a person who enjoys listening to classical music but does not watch television as a habit. Clearly, listening to classical music just before bedtime contributes to a more restful night's sleep, whereas watching television before bedtime has the opposite effect.

Which of the following, if true, most seriously weakens the above argument?

- A. Reading a book before bedtime contributes to restful sleep more than listening to music does.
- B. People who enjoy classical music typically like to read just before bedtime.
- C. Sleeplessness is more common among people who watch late-night television than among people who do not.
- D. Engaging in a bedtime activity that is mentally stimulating often interferes with a person's ability to fall asleep.
- E. A silent environment is less conducive to restful sleep than an environment with calming ambient sounds.

19. Last year, seniors at Jasper County's public high schools performed worse on standardized college-entrance exams than their peers at Nesbit County's public high schools. In recent years, more and more Jasper County residents have been enrolling their children in private high schools, where the teacher-to-student ratio is traditionally lower than in public schools, and enrollment in Jasper County's public high schools has dwindled as a result.

Based only on the information above, parents residing in Jasper County and concerned about their child's academic future should pursue which of the following courses of action?

- A. Enroll their child in one of Jasper County's public schools.
- B. Stay in Jasper County and enroll their child in a private school.
- C. Provide home schooling for their child rather than enrolling the child in either a public or private school.
- D. Move away from Jasper County and enroll their child in a private school.
- E. Move to Nesbit County and enroll their child in that county's public schools.

20. Influenced by Evangelical attitudes, art and literature of the nineteenth century were expected to contribute to moral education. Running afoul of that expectation was the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood (PRB), which invited the vituperations of reviewers of its day. Being "retrogressive" in a progressive era may be a serious fault, according to Charles Dickens' rhetoric about the art of John Millais; but being "fleshly" and "aesthetic" in an age of moral earnestness may be worse, as D. G. Rossetti, another PRB ringleader, discovered when poet and critic Robert Buchanan attacked him and his work in "The Fleshly School of Poetry" (1871).

However much the PRB had offended the establishment, most of the brothers had insisted on the importance of the arts as moral guides. Yet Rossetti had expressed doubts about art designed to be morally uplifting: the painter-hero of his short story "Hand and Soul" (1850) tries through art to inspire "moral greatness," only to witness his frescoes of Peace spattered by blood shed in a vendetta. And, privileging form at the expense of meaningful content and animal passion at the expense of conventional morality, the poems and Rossetti himself, Buchanan wrote, were "never spiritual, never tender, always self-conscious and aesthetic."

#### *Question 1*

According to the passage, Rossetti's poems

- A. were criticized by reviewers as not progressive enough
- B. violated certain aesthetic ideals through their portrayals of violence
- C. suggested that Rossetti had rejected the tenets of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood
- D. came under attack for their emphasis on form at the expense of substance
- E. advocated certain behavior which ran contrary to the prevailing morality of the time