

TSA Week 4 Series 2

Question One (01/2012)

If people go to a foreign country, they should try to learn at least some of the language of that country because, whilst it is difficult to pick up a good command of a foreign language in a short time, learning just a little of a foreign language helps you to find out more about the country itself, its people's customs and mannerisms. As well as this, it means that you can function more easily by being able to ask for directions or just by being able to order what you want at a restaurant, which is much less embarrassing than pointing and arm-waving.

Which one of the following is an expression of the main conclusion of the above argument?

- A It is easier to function in a country if you have learnt the language of that country.
- B You will find out more about a country if you learn the language of that country.
- C It is difficult to learn a foreign language in a short time.
- D When people visit a foreign country they should try to learn some of the language.
- E Speaking a foreign language is easier than having to use sign language.

Question Two (02/12)

Stewart and Michael have arranged to meet. Michael is about to set off on his bicycle, and at the same time Stewart is going to run to meet him. Michael can cycle at a steady 20 kilometres per hour and Stewart can run at a steady 12 kilometres per hour. They live 8 kilometres from each other.

How long will it be before they meet?

- A 15 minutes
- B 16 minutes
- C 20 minutes
- D 30 minutes
- E 32 minutes

Question Three

- 3** When the government issued its guidelines to the public to improve health by eating five portions of fruit and vegetables per day, it underestimated the possible negative consequences for farmers and the landscape. The reduction in the demand for meat and dairy products would impact on farmers' livelihoods from raising cattle, and without cattle grazing, the countryside would become overgrown with weeds and gorse. The government should stop telling people what to eat!

Which of the following expresses the flaw in the argument?

- A** Farmers' profits and the landscape are not necessarily less important than public health.
- B** Eating five portions of fruit and vegetables per day is not necessarily beneficial to health.
- C** The consumption of meat and dairy products is not necessarily bad for one's health.
- D** Livestock and dairy farmers could not necessarily switch to production of fruit and vegetables.
- E** The increased consumption of fruit and vegetables will not necessarily result in the decreased consumption of meat and dairy products.

Question Four

- 4** One in ten adults in the UK has had a body piercing somewhere other than the ear lobe. 28% of these experienced complications and 1% were admitted to hospital, according to a survey of 10,000 adults. Body piercing is three times more common in women than men. Navel piercings are most common amongst women, whereas men are more likely to have a nipple piercing. Swelling, infection and bleeding are common side effects and tongue piercings are the most risky. Serious complications resulting in hospital admission mostly occur with piercings performed by non specialists rather than those carried out in a tattoo parlour or specialist piercing shop. In other countries, people have been infected with hepatitis B and C and HIV.

Which one of the following can reliably be concluded from the information above?

- A** Good piercers give their clients advice about how to care for a piercing and minimise the risk of infection.
- B** No one should ever get a body piercing because the risk outweighs the benefit.
- C** Nothing can reliably be concluded because the survey sample was too small to be representative.
- D** People who want a body piercing would be well advised to go to a reputable piercer.
- E** The Government should regulate body piercers more strictly to reduce complications.

Question Five

- 5** In the UK 45% of the workforce is female, but the percentage of women in senior positions, both in the professions and in business, is considerably lower. This is unfair to women, and also bad for the economy, in that those who are promoted to senior positions may not be the most able. Women may be discouraged from seeking promotion because employers require senior employees to work long and inflexible hours. Women may also be perceived as being unwilling to subordinate the demands of family to the demands of the job. So employers must be urged to offer flexibility in working hours, and to seek to move away from the UK's culture of long working hours.

Which one of the following is an assumption underlying the above argument?

- A** Most women are not interested in seeking promotion to senior positions.
- B** Men would not object to the promotion of a higher percentage of women.
- C** Women would be better leaders than men if they were promoted to senior positions.
- D** Women are no less likely than men to have the abilities required for working in senior positions.
- E** Working hours would be more flexible if employers promoted more women to senior positions.

Question Six

- 6** Over the course of a year, Mr and Mrs Jones and their two sons spend an average of £120 a week at the local supermarket. 70% of this spending is the weekly family food bill, 20% goes on household goods and the final 10% on store-cupboard ingredients. When their daughter returns from her gap year to live at home, the weekly food bill increases by 20% and their spending on household goods goes up 5%, whilst they continue to spend the same on store-cupboard ingredients.

How much is their new average weekly supermarket spend when their daughter returns home?

- A** £136.80
- B** £138.00
- C** £144.00
- D** £145.00
- E** £150.00

Question Seven

7 **Kingsbury School Examination Schedule for the first week of June**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
History 3hrs	English Lit 3hrs	Maths 2hrs	Economics 2hrs	Maths 2hrs
English Lit 2 hrs	Physics 3hrs	Latin 2hrs	History 2hrs	Latin 2hrs
<i>lunch</i>	<i>lunch</i>	<i>lunch</i>	<i>lunch</i>	<i>lunch</i>
Geography 2hrs 30mins	Chemistry 3hrs	English Lang 2hrs 30mins	Economics 2hrs 30mins	-
Biology 1hr 30mins	French 2hrs	Spanish 2hrs	German 2hrs	-

All exams take place in the school hall. All morning exams start at 9am, all afternoon exams start at 2pm. Each session (morning or afternoon) must have at least one male and one female invigilator. Each examination must be invigilated by one teacher of that subject. Each person can only invigilate once a day.

Of the male teachers, Ian teaches Economics and German, Mike teaches French and German, and Keith teaches French and Spanish. Of the female teachers, Marjorie teaches Maths and English, Susan teaches Spanish and Latin, and Jenny teaches English and History,

Who will invigilate on Wednesday afternoon?

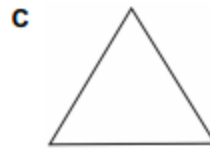
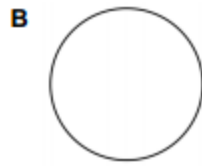
- A Ian and Marjorie
- B Jenny and Mike
- C Keith and Jenny
- D Marjorie and Keith
- E Mike and Susan

Question Eight

8 Below are pictures of three cylinders.



If a cylinder is cut into two equal halves with one straight cut, which one of the following could **not** be a view of one of the halves from any direction?



Question Nine

- 9** In some countries hunting clubs can arrange for members to hunt and kill just about anything that moves around on land. Despite the high costs of these hunts the clubs have grown in popularity as rich businessmen look for new ways to entertain their clients. Rare and endangered species of bears are often the target of the hunts and so there is a risk that these species will become extinct. The growth of these hunting clubs should be opposed.

Which one of the following, if true, would most weaken the above argument?

- A** Other popular activities such as motor sports also do considerable damage to the environment, but are not opposed.
- B** The high costs of the hunts mean that only a small number of people are taking part in this activity.
- C** The population of endangered bears has not changed significantly since the hunting clubs were formed.
- D** There are plenty of alternative ways for the rich businessmen to entertain their clients.
- E** Many hunters kill animals other than their target during the course of a hunt.

Question Ten

- 10** The battery life of laptop computers means that they cannot be used for the duration of a long haul flight without needing to be recharged from an onboard power point. Not all aeroplanes have this facility. Therefore, laptop computers should not be allowed as carry on items for long haul flights on planes that do not have onboard power points, regardless of whether they are intended for personal or business use, as they will be of limited use to their owners and take up a disproportionate amount of space in the cabin.

Which one of the following is the best statement of the flaw in the above argument?

- A** Some companies expect their employees to work on long haul flights.
- B** There is no chance of a laptop becoming damaged if it is stored in a suitcase in the hold.
- C** A laptop may run out of battery on a short haul flight, too.
- D** The passenger cannot choose whether or not they book a flight with an onboard power point.
- E** Passengers could make some use of their laptop even if the battery does run out.

Question Eleven

- 11** How long will it be before we realise that force feeding our children with junk TV is just as bad as allowing them to eat nothing but junk food? Children are impressionable, we know that, so why do parents allow them to gain their insights into life through a TV screen? I've heard so many 'concerned' mothers and fathers complaining about playground violence, petty crime and early sexual awareness in their children, yet they allow them to watch all sorts of rubbish on TV. Rather than blame outside influences over which they have no control, they should recognise they have answers closer to home - they're called common sense and a remote control.

Which one of the following best expresses the main conclusion of the above argument?

- A** Some parents should do more to regulate what their children watch on TV.
- B** Some parents are not concerned by what their children watch on TV.
- C** Some parents are not genuinely concerned about the way their children behave.
- D** Some parents do not have any influence over the way their children behave.
- E** Some parents do not believe that what their children watch on TV is causing them to behave badly.

Question Twelve

- 12** A merchant bank recently advertised for new graduates to fill positions as trainee analysts; 230 people applied. Of these, 127 had maths as a component of their degree and 89 had economics as a component of their degree. Only 45 had neither maths nor economics as a component of their degree.

How many must have had both maths and economics as a component of their degree?

- A** 14
- B** 31
- C** 59
- D** 83
- E** 171

Open Questions

1. Should the media report on the private lives of politicians?
2. Should smokers have to pay for their own healthcare?