

Verbal Reasoning

Test 2



Solutions Booklet

Instructions

This practice test contains **9 questions**, and you will have **10 minutes** to answer them.

You will be presented with a passage to read, and a statement about that passage. For each statement you must select one of the following answers:

True: The statement follows logically from the information contained in the passage.

False: The statement is logically false from the information contained in the passage.

Cannot Say: It is not possible to determine whether the statement is true or false without further information.

Read the passage of information thoroughly and select the correct answer from the four options. Read the question thoroughly to ensure you know what the question entails.

Try to find a time and place where you will not be interrupted during the test. When you are ready, turn to the next page and begin.

The United Nations' Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) recently reaffirmed a 1989 ban on trading ivory, despite calls from Tanzania and Zambia to lift it. Only 470,000 elephants remain in Africa today – compared to 1.3 million in 1979. While natural habitat loss was a significant factor in dwindling elephant populations, poaching for ivory was the main cause. Since the ban's implementation, elephant populations have recovered in many African countries, but an estimated 38,000 elephants are still killed annually. CITES permitted one-off sales in 1999 and in 2008, allowing approved countries to dispose of their government stockpiles of ivory. Ivory from these sales was exported to Japan and China, where demand for carved ivory is high. Conservation groups vehemently oppose further one-off sales, because much of the ivory sold is of unknown origin. Furthermore, the sales have fuelled far-Eastern demand for ivory. In central and western African countries, where organized crime rings operate lucrative ivory smuggling operations, poaching remains rife. Those in favour of allowing one-off sales argue that elephants are no longer endangered, and that maintaining the ban will simply inflate the price of illegal ivory, making poaching more tempting. Though the CITES decision is viewed as a victory by conservationists, the African elephant's future relies on governments' commitment to enforcing the ban.

Q1 No legal sales of Ivory have occurred since 1989.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: False

Explanation:

The passage states that two permitted one-off Ivory sales occurred in 1999 and 2008.

Q2 Conservationists question the provenance of the ivory sold at one-off sales.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: True

Explanation:

The seventh sentence states that conservation groups oppose further sales because "much of the ivory sold is of unknown origin".

Q3 Increased demand from Japan and China is driving up the price of ivory.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: Cannot Say

Explanation:

The sixth and eight sentences state that there is demand for ivory from China and Japan, the tenth sentence suggests it is the ban – rather than the demand—that is inflating prices. Either way, the passage does not unequivocally state this is or is not the case, therefore we cannot say.

In biology, the term mutualism refers to a mutually beneficial relationship between two species. The later economic theory of mutualism is based on the labour theory of value, which states that the true cost of an item is the amount of labour that was required to produce it. Hence, goods should not be sold for more than the cost of acquiring them. Mutualism is closely associated with anarchism, because its principles were set forth in the mid- nineteenth century by the French politician and philosopher Pierre-Joseph Proudhon – the first person to define himself as an “anarchist”. The main tenets of mutualism are free association and free credit. In a mutualist workplace, workers with different skills form an association to create a product or service. Though dependent on each other, the workers are not subordinated as in a capitalist enterprise. Mutual banks, also called credit unions, operate on the belief that free credit enables profit to be generated for the benefit of the union’s members rather than bankers. Modern-day mutualism is sometimes described as free-market socialism. Proponents of mutualism support a free market economy, but object to capitalism because of the inequalities created by government intervention. Many mutual businesses and banking establishments exist today, espousing Proudhon’s Co-operative model.

Q4 Proudhon’s economic theory of mutualism was influenced by biological mutualism.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: Cannot Say

Explanation:

The passage does not state whether the economic theory was influenced by biology, although it did come later.

Q5 Mutual banking establishments do not operate on a for-profit basis.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: False

Explanation:

Sentence eight tells us that the belief of “free credit” enables profits to be generated by mutual banking establishments, but this profit is shared between union members

rather than the bankers. So regardless of who it goes to, we are told the banks do indeed operate on a for-profit basis.

Q6 In common with socialism, the economic doctrine of mutualism advocates state control over production.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: False

Explanation:

The passage explains that free association is when workers form an association to create a product, thus production is controlled by the workers rather than the state. And while the ninth sentence refers to mutualism as free-market socialism, the tenth sentence states that proponents of mutualism object to the “inequalities created by government intervention”.

Stem cells are cells that can self-renew and differentiate into specialised cell types. Because of their potential to replace diseased or defective human tissue, stem cells are seen by scientists as key to developing new therapies for a wide range of conditions, including degenerative illnesses and genetic diseases. Treatments based on adult stem cells – from sources such as umbilical cord blood – have been successfully developed, but what makes stem cell research controversial is the use of embryonic stem cells. Not only do embryonic stem cells reproduce more quickly than adult stem cells, they also have wider differentiation potential. The main opponents to stem cell research are pro-life supporters, who believe that human life should not be destroyed for science. Advocates of stem cell research counter this crucial point by saying that an embryo cannot be viewed as a human life, and that medical advances justify the destruction of embryos. Furthermore, stem cell research utilises the thousands of surplus embryos created for in vitro fertilisation treatment. The issue is particularly divisive in the United States, where federal funding is not available for the creation of new embryonic stem cell lines, although recent legislation has opened up government funding to further research on embryonic stem cells created through private funding. Whereas many governments prohibit the production of embryonic stem cells, it is allowed in countries including the UK, Sweden and the Netherlands.

Q7 Stem cells are at the forefront of medical research because of their ability to grow indefinitely.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: Cannot Say

Explanation:

The passage does not tell us if stem cells can grow "indefinitely". Also, the second sentence tells us that stem cells are seen as "key to developing new therapies". It would be a stretch to interpret this as meaning they are at the forefront of medical research, especially as we are not told about their significance compared with other areas of research.

Q8 The United States government does not supply funding for projects using embryonic stem cell lines.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: False

Explanation:

The 8th sentence states that federal funding is now available for further research into stem cells lines that have been created using private funding.

Q9 One advantage of embryonic stem cells over adult stem cells is their greater ability to be converted into specialised cell types.

True

False

Cannot say

Answer: True

Explanation:

The first sentence defines cell differentiation as changing into specialised cell types. The fourth sentence states that embryonic stem cells have a “wider differentiation potential” than adult stem cells. Therefore, the statement is true.

End of test