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Multiple Choice 5 points

Consider this passage:

“Since the campus has no reliable overnight shelter, students who lose housing mid-semester almost always withdraw. So the university should fund emergency housing, for a student’s education shouldn’t end because of a landlord’s decision.”

What is the conclusion?

- ☐ The university should fund emergency housing.
- ☐ The campus has no reliable overnight shelter for its students.
- ☒ A student’s education should not end because of a landlord’s decision.
- ☐ Students who lose housing mid-semester almost always withdraw.

Read this argument:

“Approval by one’s own culture cannot be what makes an action right. For if it were, no culture could ever be mistaken about a moral question — its approval would settle the matter automatically. And cultures plainly have been mistaken. The societies that approved of chattel slavery were not thereby made correct.”

Now consider these five claims:

1. If cultural approval makes actions right, then no culture can be morally mistaken.
2. Cultural approval does not make actions right.
3. Some cultures have been morally mistaken.
4. Societies that approved of chattel slavery were not thereby made correct.
5. Every culture ought to tolerate the moral practices of other cultures.

Which two are the premises of the argument?

- ☐ 1 and 2
- ☒ 1 and 3
- ☐ 2 and 3
- ☐ 3 and 4

An argument concludes with the line, "Therefore, Socrates is mortal." What do we call the word "therefore"?

- ☒ A conclusion indicator
- ☐ A premise indicator
- ☐ And explanatory signal
- ☐ A subconclusion

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Multiple Choice 5 points

You're handed an unfamiliar passage and asked to analyze the argument in it. In what order should you work?

- ☐ Identify the premises, assess each one, then work out what they show
- ☐ Decide whether the passage convinced you, then identify its parts
- ☐ Identify the premises, then the conclusion, then assess the support
- ☒ Identify the conclusion, then the premises, then assess the support

5

True or False 5 points

We must understand an argument before we can evaluate it.

- ☒ True
- ☐ False

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