

The logical reasoning question below presents you with two different speakers talking about the same issue. Sometimes, the speakers' arguments overlap; in other words, they support each other. Sometimes, the speakers are presenting opposing viewpoints. For these items, make sure you understand the conclusion of both speakers before you attempt to answer the questions.

Adapted from Challenging Logic and Reasoning Problems, LLC, 2005.

Answer questions 1 and 2 on the basis of the information below.

Frances: Studies show that eating a healthy breakfast improves young children's ability to learn. However, it is not the responsibility of the schools to provide this meal; it is the responsibility of each child's parents.

Lars: Although it would be nice if the schools could provide each child with a healthy breakfast, the cost of doing that takes money away from other, more important learning resources, such as the purchase of new computers. In the long run, children learn more when the schools concentrate on the services they traditionally provide and the parents do what they are supposed to do.

QUESTIONS

1. In what way does Lars's comment relate to Frances's?
 - a. It weakens Frances's argument by changing the focus of the discussion.
 - b. It strengthens Frances's argument by providing support for her premise.
 - c. It states the logical outcome of Frances's views.
 - d. It cannot be true if Frances's assertion about parental responsibility is true.
 - e. It provides an argument that is the opposite of Frances's views.

2. What main assumption underlies each statement?
 - a. As teachers become scarcer, schools will have to learn to be more cost-effective in recruiting new teachers.
 - b. In the information age, the equipment schools must purchase for their students is getting more expensive.
 - c. The study about students and breakfast is inconclusive at best, and more studies should be conducted to find out if school breakfasts are healthy.
 - d. Schools have never had the responsibility for supplying students with breakfast; rather, they spend their money on teachers, books, and other tangibles of education.
 - e. Parents are not assuming enough responsibility for their children's education and should become more involved in school issues.

Answer questions 3 through 5 on the basis of the information below.

Quinn: Our state is considering raising the age at which a person can get a driver's license to eighteen. This is unfair because the age has been sixteen for many years and sixteen-year-olds today are no less responsible than their parents and grandparents were at sixteen. Many young people today who are fourteen and fifteen years old are preparing to receive their licenses by driving with a learner's permit and a licensed driver, usually one of their parents. It would not be fair to suddenly say they have to wait two more years.

Dakota: It is true that people have been allowed to receive a driver's license at sixteen for generations. However, in recent years, the increase in traffic means drivers face more dangers than ever and must be ready to respond to a variety of situations. The fact that schools can no longer afford to teach drivers' education results in too many young drivers who are not prepared to face the traffic conditions of today.

QUESTIONS

3. What is the point at issue between Quinn and Dakota?
 - a. whether sixteen-year-olds should be required to take drivers' education before being issued a license
 - b. whether schools ought to provide drivers' education to fourteen- and fifteen-year-old students
 - c. whether the standards for issuing drivers' licenses should become more stringent
 - d. whether sixteen-year-olds are prepared to drive in today's traffic conditions
 - e. whether parents are able to do a good job teaching their children to drive

4. On what does Quinn rely in making her argument?
 - a. statistics
 - b. emotion
 - c. fairness
 - d. anecdotes
 - e. actualities

5. On what does Dakota rely in making her argument?
 - a. statistics
 - b. emotion
 - c. fairness
 - d. anecdotes
 - e. actualities

=====

Choose the antonym for each of the words in italics.

QUESTIONS

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none">6. Which word means the opposite of <i>distress</i>?<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. comfortb. rewardc. troubled. compromise
8. Which word means the opposite of <i>clarify</i>?<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. explainb. dismayc. obscured. provide
10. Which word means the opposite of <i>impartial</i>?<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. completeb. prejudicedc. unbiasedd. erudite | <ol style="list-style-type: none">7. Which word means the opposite of <i>unity</i>?<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. discordb. stimulationc. consentd. neglect
9. Which word means the opposite of <i>grant</i>?<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. denyb. consumec. allocated. provoke
11. Which word means the opposite of <i>prompt</i>?<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. punctualb. slackc. tardyd. regular |
|--|---|

12. Which word is the opposite of *delay*?

- a. slow
- b. hasten
- c. pause
- d. desist

13. Which word is the opposite of *soothe*?

- a. increase
- b. comfort
- c. aggravate
- d. delight

14. Which word means the opposite of *moderate*?

- a. original
- b. average
- c. final
- d. excessive

15. Which word means the opposite of *reveal*?

- a. disclose
- b. achieve
- c. retreat
- d. conceal

16. Which word means the opposite of *initial*?

- a. first
- b. crisis
- c. final
- d. right

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Read each question carefully and select the word that is most similar or most dissimilar in meaning to the word provided.

17. *Succinct* is most dissimilar to

- a. distinct.
- b. laconic.
- c. feeble.
- d. verbose.

18. *Enthusiastic* is most similar to

- a. adamant.
- b. available.
- c. cheerful.
- d. eager.

19. *Adequate* is most similar to

- a. sufficient.
- b. mediocre.
- c. proficient.
- d. average.

20. *Uniform* is most dissimilar to

- a. dissembling.
- b. diverse.
- c. bizarre.
- d. slovenly.

21. *Ecstatic* is most similar to

- a. inconsistent.
- b. positive.
- c. wild.
- d. thrilled.

22. *Affect* is most similar to

- a. accomplish.
- b. cause.
- c. sicken.
- d. influence.

24. *Novel* is most dissimilar to

- a. dangerous.
- b. unsettled.
- c. suitable.
- d. old

25. *Continuous* is most similar to

- a. intermittent.
- b. adjacent.
- c. uninterrupted.
- d. contiguous.

26. *Courtesy* is most similar to

- a. civility.
- b. congruity.
- c. conviviality.
- d. rudeness.

27. *Fallacy* is most dissimilar to

- a. truth.
- b. blessing.
- c. weakness.
- d. fable.

Answer question 28–30 on the basis of the following passage.

In space flight there are the obvious (28) _____ of meteors—debris and radiation. However, astronauts must also deal with two *vexing physiological foes*—muscle *atrophy* and bone loss.

28. Which word, if inserted in the blank, makes the most sense in the context of the passage?
- thrills
 - ages
 - hazards
 - speed
29. The phrase *vexing physiological foes* as used in the paragraph refers to
- physical deterioration.
 - serious illness.
 - nervous disorder.
 - contagious disease.
30. The word *atrophy* as used in the paragraph most nearly means
- pain.
 - wasting.
 - aches.
 - cramping.

Answer questions 31–33 on the basis of the following passage.

There are as many types of business correspondence as there are kinds of corporate *atmospheres*. Office environments come in all sizes and can be ordinary and traditional or *quirky* entrepreneurial offices; some of them actually started in garages. Others can be very formal, multinational *behemoths*.

31. What is the meaning of the word *atmospheres* as it is used in the passage?
- commodities
 - ambiance
 - elements
 - resources
32. What is the meaning of the word *quirky* as it is used in the passage?
- idiosyncratic
 - engaging
 - quaint
 - exceptional
33. Which of the following words is a synonym for *behemoth*?
- conglomerate
 - millionaire
 - scandal
 - chain

Answer questions 34–36 on the basis of the following passage.

A few species of birds are *parasitic*. The glossy cowbird, for example, lays five or six eggs a season, each in a different nest and then abandons them. The old world cuckoo lays her *clutch* in the nest of the host that reared her, her young *ejecting* the host's offspring as soon as they are able.

34. In the context of the passage, what does *parasitic* mean?
- to take advantage of another without contributing anything
 - to devour a member of one's own species
 - to abandon one's offspring very early in life
 - to kill the offspring of another member of one's own species
35. As used in the context of this passage, a *clutch* consists of
- eggs.
 - chicks.
 - feathers.
 - nests.
36. What is the meaning of the word *ejecting* as used in the passage?
- fighting
 - killing
 - combating
 - expelling

Answer questions 37–38 on the basis of the following passage.

When we were learning to read, most of us learned to sound out words by syllables in order to pronounce them. Syllables are parts of words that carry separate sounds, though those sounds may be *comprised* of several letters. Every syllable must have a vowel sound. That vowel sound may be made up of more than one vowel letter. For instance, in the word *arraignment*, the *a* and *i* together make the long *a* sound. The *g* is silent. Breaking words into syllables is one of the best (38) _____ to divide and conquer longer words.

37. Based on the context of this passage, what is the best synonym for *comprised*?
- excluded
 - composed
 - fashioned
 - produced
38. Which word, if inserted in the blank, makes the most sense in the context of the passage?
- mediums
 - markers
 - strategies
 - caveats

Answer questions 39–40 on the basis of the following passage.

Martin Luther King was in Ghana when Ghana gained its independence. He said that the experience was an emotional one for him. As he watched the lowering of the old flag, (39) _____ British rule, and the raising of the new flag of the *sovereign* nation, he wept.

39. Which word, if inserted into the blank, makes the most sense in the context of the passage?
- a. symbolizing
 - b. regaling
 - c. incorporating
 - d. demanding
40. What is the meaning of the word *sovereign* as it is used in the passage?
- a. isolated
 - b. autonomous
 - c. dominant
 - d. commanding

Read the story. Use context clues to figure out the possible meanings of the words in bold. Then write them next to their meanings below.

Last month we took a trip to Queensland for my cousin's wedding. By the **scowl** on my face when Mom told us we were going, she knew I was less than thrilled. So the next **declaration** out of her mouth was that, besides going to the wedding (**drudge**, drudge), we would also be going to the Wild Animal Park AND the water park. OK! I decided I could sit through the wedding and even be **hospitable** for a few hours. During the ceremony I was **catatonic**, but the reception wasn't too bad. There were **copious** amounts of food and their choice of music was **palatable**. It was over in a flash and the next day we were on to better things. The Wild Animal Park was awesome. No cages or enclosures—just open **range** for giraffes, zebras, and other creatures to roam. The **docent** said as long as we adhered to the rules, everyone (us and the animals) would be safe. The next day we **donned** our swimsuits for a day at the water park. Mom was a **trifle** tired, so she just **reclined** under a shady tree and read a book. The rest of us did the slides, the tubes, the wave machine...stopped for a snack...then did it all again. That night I wrote a thank-you note to my cousin Irene for the great time we had (at her wedding, of course).

41. hard, tedious work: _____
42. tour guide: _____
43. abundant; plentiful: _____
44. a small amount; a bit: _____
45. leaned or lay back to rest: _____
46. put on or dressed in: _____
47. open area of land for grazing: _____
48. statement; announcement: _____
49. a frowning facial expression: _____
50. friendly, sociable toward guests: _____

51. Here are some words translated from an artificial language.

jalkamofti means happy birthday

mofthoze means birthday party

mentogunn means goodness

Which word could mean "happiness"?

- a. jalkagunn
- b. mentohoze
- c. mofthoze
- d. hozemento

52. Here are some words translated from an artificial language.

mallonpiml means blue light

mallontifl means blueberry

arpantifl means raspberry

Which word could mean "lighthouse"?

- a. tiflmallon
- b. pimlarpan
- c. mallonarpan
- d. pimldoken

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Identify the correct sentence

Identify the correct sentence from a series of suggested answers.

53.

- A. As soon as he suggested a weekend away she flew up the passage, jumped in the car and sped off down to the country.
- B. As soon as he suggested a weekend away she flew up the passage, jumped in the car and sped off up to the country.
- C. As soon as he suggested a weekend away she flew down the passage, jumped in the car and sped off down to the country.
- D. As soon as he suggested a weekend away she flew down the passage, jumped in the car and sped off up to the country.

54.

- A. When fishing you can always tell when you lose a fish because the line feels loose.
- B. When fishing you can always tell when you loose a fish because the line feels lose.
- C. When fishing you can always tell when you loose a fish because the line feels loose.
- D. When fishing you can always tell when you lose a fish because the line feels lose.

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Sentence sequence

Each question comprises four sentences, A to D, but the order in which they were originally written has been lost and the sentences are now in the wrong order. Your task is to put the sentences into the correct order or original order.

55.

A. The body of the common African civet is about 90 cm long, a little less than the length of its bushy tail. B. The coarse grey fur is tinged with yellow and marked with black spots and bands. C. As a rule the civet lives in a hole in the ground, coming out mostly at night to search for rodents, birds and insects; it will also eat fruit. D. The civets of India and other parts of Asia, of which there are several kinds, are usually smaller and their fur is striped rather than spotted. _____

56.

A. These include, for example, the use of diamonds in a dentist's drill. B. The remainder are used for industrial purposes, that is for useful as distinct from decorative purposes. C. Other applications of industrial diamonds are found in engineering, where tools with very hard surfaces are needed for cutting and grinding other hard surfaces. D. Less than 50 per cent of rough diamonds are suitable for cutting and turning into jewellery. _____

The passage below is followed by three questions. Your task is to answer the questions by referring to the passage. You must determine if the correct answer is true, false or that you cannot tell (i.e you cannot tell from the information given if the answer is true or false). The questions require you, for example, to comprehend meaning and significance, assess logical strength, identify valid inference, distinguish between a main idea and a subordinate one, recognize the writer's intention and identify a valid summary, interpretation or conclusion.

Cholera, typhoid, diphtheria and tuberculosis cause huge numbers of deaths. Drinking water has always been the world's greatest single vector of sickness. Disease is transmitted when sewage and drinking water come into contact. Children are particularly vulnerable. In the 19th century half of all children died before the age of 5. In some of the poorest countries the infant mortality rate still stands as high as one in eight. This compares with a rate of 1 in 100 in countries where drinking water is safe. The separation of sewage and the supply of clean drinking water are the domain of civil engineers, and their work makes a significant contribution to public health. That contribution was at last recognized when public sanitation was voted the greatest medical breakthrough, beating discoveries including antibiotics, vaccines and anaesthesia in a poll organized by the World Health Organisation.

British Medical Journal.

57. The passage states that cholera is a water-borne disease.

true

false

cannot tell

58. The safe disposal of sewage and the supply of clean drinking water are not medical advances.

true

false

cannot tell

59. The first two sentences are sufficient to draw the conclusion that water-borne disease is still the greatest transmitter of sickness.

true

false

cannot tell

=====

Word swap

In the question below, two words have been interchanged so that the first word has been moved to the place in the sentence of the second, and the second moved to the location in the sentence of the first word. No other change to the sentence has occurred. It is your task to identify the two words that have been swapped. You should record your answer by writing the two words on the line below. Be sure to record the words in the order that they occur in the question (that is, the incorrect order).

60. It is a fact that good news is always much more newsworthy than bad news and so we hear a constant stream of numerical 'facts' purporting to show that life is indeed grim.

Adapted from Challenging Logic and Reasoning Problems, LLC, 2005.

Creative Writing: Write creatively on the topic below, using appropriate voice and tone. Structure your writing in well-organised cohesive paragraphs. Use imagery, similes, metaphors and other figurative language devices to provide detailed descriptions. The essay should have an interesting beginning, elaborative middle and effective end.



There is a saying that you should be careful what you wish for, because you just might get it. Describe a time when you wished for something and got it—and then wished you hadn't.

Use the organiser below to plan your writing.

Introduction: _____

Body: _____

Conclusion: _____

Write your essay. Give a suitable title.

ANSWERS

1.b. Lars provides information that supports Frances's more general statements. Both agree that schools should spend money on educating children, not on providing breakfast. Choices a, d, and e are incorrect because they all imply that Frances and Lars are arguing in opposition to each other. Choice c can be ruled out because Lars's position does not give any outcomes.

2.d. Both speakers rely on the fact that schools do not traditionally have the responsibility for providing students with breakfast.

3.d. The speakers support their arguments in different ways, but both are concerned with whether sixteen-year-olds should continue to be allowed to receive drivers' licenses.

4. c. Quinn discusses the fairness of changing the law and raising the age at which one can receive a driver's license. Emotion (choice b) may be involved, but the argument relies on the fairness issue.

5. e. Dakota discusses the actualities of increased traffic and the decline in the teaching of drivers' education. She doesn't use statistics (choice a). Her argument is not emotion-filled, which rules out choice b. She doesn't mention fairness (choice c) and doesn't tell stories about specific situations (choice d).

6. a. *Distress* means great strain, upset; *comfort* means calmness and peace.

7. a. *Unity* means harmony or compatibility; *discord* means a lack of harmony.

8. c. *Clarify* means to make clear; *obscure* means to make dark, dim, or indistinct.

9. a. To *grant* is to permit; to *deny* is to refuse to permit.

10. b. *Impartial* means not partial or biased; *prejudiced* means biased.

11. c. *Prompt* means punctual; *tardy* means late.

12. b. To *delay* is to slow; to *hasten* is to hurry.

13. c. To *soothe* is to comfort; to *aggravate* is to irritate.

14. d. *Moderate* means average; *excessive* means extreme.

15. d. To *reveal* is to disclose; to *conceal* is to hide.

16. c. *Initial* means first; *final* means last.

17. d. To be *succinct* is to be concise; to be *verbose* is to use excessive words, to be wordy.

18. d. *Enthusiastic* means eager, to show keen interest or desire.

19. a. If something is *adequate*, it is *sufficient*, or as much as needed.

20. b. To be *uniform* is to be consistent or the same as others; to be *diverse* is to have variety.

21. d. A person who is *ecstatic* has great pleasure or delight or is thrilled.

22. d. To *affect* means to influence a person, thing, or course of events.

23. d. To be *wary* is to be on guard or watchful; to be *careless* is to have lack of forethought.

24. d. To be *novel* is to be new; the opposite is *old*, existing for a long time.
25. c. *Continuous* means to be marked by uninterrupted extension in space and time.
26. a. Both *courtesy* and *civility* imply being polite, considerate, or mannerly.
27. a. A *fallacy* is a false or mistaken idea, trickery; a *truth* is something which conforms to the facts.
28. c. Debris and radiation are both *hazards*; choice c is the only possible answer.
29. a. Muscle atrophy and bone loss are examples of physical deterioration.
30. b. Although a muscle that atrophies may be weakened (choice c), the primary meaning of the word *atrophy* is to waste away.
31. b. The word *ambiance* refers to the distinctive atmosphere surrounding a person or place.
32. a. The conjunction *or* tells you that you are looking for the opposite of ordinary or traditional. To be *quirky* is to have a peculiarity of behaviour.
33. a. A *conglomerate* is a commercial corporation formed by merging a number of different enterprises.
34. a. To be *parasitic* means to be living on or dependent on a live animal or plant.
35. a. The word *lays* is the key here. The only thing a bird would lay would be a collection of eggs.
36. d. To *eject* something is to throw it out forcefully or to *expel* it.
37. b. *Composed* is synonymous with *comprised*.
38. c. Breaking words into syllables is a type of *strategy* that could be used to understand longer words.
39. a. The old flag is *symbolizing* something that represents something else by association, in this case that of British rule.
40. b. The passage is about the day Ghana gained its independence. To be independent is to be *autonomous*.
41. drudge
42. docent
43. copious
44. trifle
45. reclined
46. donned
47. range
48. declaration
49. scowl
50. hospitable
51. a. *Jalka* means happy; *mofti* means birthday; *hoze* means party; *mento* means good; and *gunn* means the suffix *-ness*. We know the answer must include the suffix *-ness*. The only choice that uses that suffix is choice a.

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52.d. *Mallon* means blue; *piml* means light; *tifl* means berry; and *arpan* means "rasp" in raspberry. The word *piml*, which means light, is required for the word lighthouse. That rules out choices a and c. *Arpan* in choice b means "rasp," so that rules out choice b. That leaves choice d the only possible answer.

53.

- A. As soon as he suggested a weekend away she flew up the passage, jumped in the car and sped off down to the country.
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- C. As soon as he suggested a weekend away she flew down the passage, jumped in the car and sped off down to the country.
- D. As soon as he suggested a weekend away she flew down the passage, jumped in the car and sped off up to the country.

54.

- A. When fishing you can always tell when you lose a fish because the line feels loose.
- B. When fishing you can always tell when you loose a fish because the line feels lose.
- C. When fishing you can always tell when you loose a fish because the line feels loose.
- D. When fishing you can always tell when you lose a fish because the line feels lose.

55. ABDC

56. DBAC

57. False *Explanation:* the passage states that cholera and the other identified diseases cause a great many deaths but not that cholera is a water-borne disease.

58. False *Explanation:* the passage states that they make a significant contribution towards public health and that in the *British Medical Journal* they were voted the greatest medical breakthrough.

59. False *Explanation:* the second sentence states that water had always been the greatest vector of disease but not that it still is the greatest.

60. Bad and good