

Sufficient Assumption

1. An oligarchy is a government run by a small, conservative faction. Often, oligarchies consist of families such as the Royal Family in Saudi Arabia. Like the Royal Family in Saudi Arabia, no one person in an oligarchy has the power to make a particular investment. Therefore, risky investments are never made by oligarchies.

The conclusion of the argument is valid if which one of the following is assumed?

- (A) Not all oligarchies are run by families.
- (B) The Royal Family in Saudi Arabia has never made a risky investment.
- (C) Conservative governments rarely make risky investments.
- (D) Only liberal governments make risky investments.
- (E) Only individuals make risky investments.

2. American attitudes tend to be rather insular, but there is much we can learn from other countries. In Japan, for example, workers set aside some time each day to exercise, and many corporations provide elaborate exercise facilities for their employees. Few American corporations have such exercise programs. Studies have shown that the Japanese worker is more productive than the American worker. Thus, it must be concluded that the productivity of American workers will lag behind their Japanese counterparts, until mandatory exercise programs are introduced.

The conclusion of the argument is valid if which one of the following is assumed?

- (A) Even if exercise programs do not increase productivity, they will improve the American worker's health.
- (B) The productivity of all workers can be increased by exercise.
- (C) Exercise is an essential factor in the Japanese worker's superior productivity.
- (D) American workers can adapt to the longer Japanese workweek.
- (E) American corporations don't have the funds to build elaborate exercise facilities.

3. Plants that exhibit certain leaf diseases tend to measure extremely high in the amount of zinc in their leaf and stem tissue. Botanists have discovered that phosphorus of the type typically used in a phosphorus-high fertilizer reacts with the zinc in such a way as to prevent treated plants from exhibiting the leaf diseases. Thus, plants can be cured from these leaf diseases by the use of a fertilizer high in phosphorus.

The passage's conclusion is based upon which one of the following premises?

- (A) Plants with certain leaf diseases contain the same high level of zinc in their leaf and stem tissue.
- (B) Zinc is the cause and not merely an effect of the leaf diseases.
- (C) Treating the plants with a fertilizer high in phosphorus will have no negative effect on the plants.
- (D) The amount of phosphorus-high fertilizer which should be used depends upon the size and location of the plants.
- (E) Normal plant tissue does not contain zinc.

4. Explorers of the northern regions in the early 1700s observed the natives playing an instrument similar to the mandolin. The instrument was strung with horse hair. Horses were not introduced into the New World until the 1500s. Thus, we can conclude that natives developed the instrument sometime between the introduction of horses to the New World and the time of the explorers in the early 1700s.

Which one of the following assumptions is critical to the passage's conclusion?

- (A) Natives used the mandolin-like instrument in all their religious events.
 - (B) Using horse hair in the mandolin-like instrument was one of the natives' earliest uses of horse hair.
 - (C) This instrument was used by natives throughout North America.
 - (D) Since it was first developed, the instrument was made with horse hair.
 - (E) Explorers in the 1700s were the first to document natives' use of horse hair.
5. It is certain that at least as many migratory birds fly through Hilden every fall as fly through Paluska. The conclusion above follows logically from which one of the following statements?
- (A) Paluska's average snowfall exceeds Hilden's by eight inches.
 - (B) Residents of Paluska have been warned not to use bird feeders this fall to avoid spreading a disease diagnosed in dead birds found at a few feeders in Paluska.
 - (C) Hilden is the county in which Paluska is located.
 - (D) More natural predators have been reported in Hilden than in Paluska.

(E) Hilden's population exceeds Paluska's population by 25,000.

6. County building inspectors report that almost fifty percent of the homes they inspect are equipped with gauges that monitor carbon monoxide levels. Fifteen years ago, only twenty-five percent of inspected homes were equipped with these gauges. However, even though more homes are now monitored for poisonous carbon monoxide fumes, the total number of homes with confirmed dangerous fume levels is no higher now than it was fifteen years ago because a large proportion of gauges produce false readings.

Which one of the following assumptions must be made in order for the author to be correct in drawing the conclusion stated in the passage?

- (A) Thirty percent of the residential carbon monoxide gauges have been installed within the last fifteen years.
- (B) The number of confirmed dangerous fume readings per year in homes with carbon monoxide gauges has increased in recent years.
- (C) Not all carbon monoxide gauges report false carbon monoxide fume levels.
- (D) The percentage of malfunctioning carbon monoxide gauges has increased in the last fifteen years.
- (E) Properly functioning gauges do not, in themselves, decrease the risk that dangerous carbon monoxide fumes will enter people's homes.

7. The government provides insurance for individuals' bank deposits, but requires the banks to pay the premiums for this insurance. Since it is depositors who primarily benefit from the security this insurance provides, the government should take steps to ensure that depositors who want this security bear the cost of it and thus should make depositors pay the premiums for insuring their own accounts.

Which one of the following principles, if established, would do most to justify drawing the conclusion of the argument on the basis of the reasons offered in its support?

- (A) The people who stand to benefit from an economic service should

always be made to bear the costs of that service.

- (B) Any rational system of insurance must base the size of premiums on the degree of risk involved.
- (C) Government-backed security for investors, such as bank depositors, should be provided only when it does not reduce incentives for investors to make responsible investments.
- (D) The choice of not accepting an offered service should always be available, even if there is no charge for the service.
- (E) The government should avoid any actions that might alter the behavior of corporations and individuals in the market.