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QUESTION 1

Leatherbacks, the largest of the sea turtles, when subjected to the conditions of captivity, are susceptible to a wide variety of fatal diseases with which they would never come in contact if they lived in the wild. It is surprising; therefore, that the likelihood that a leatherback will reach its theoretical maximum life expectancy is about the same whether that animal is living in captivity or in the wild.

Which one of the following, if true, most helps to resolve the apparent discrepancy?

- A. Fewer diseases attack leatherbacks than attack other large aquatic reptiles.
- B. The average life expectancy of sea turtles in general is longer than that of almost all other marine animals.
- C. Most leatherbacks that perish in the wild are killed by predators.
- D. Few zoologists have sufficient knowledge to establish an artificial environment that is conducive to the well-being of captive leatherbacks.
- E. The size of a leatherback is an untrustworthy indicator of its age.

Correct Answer: C

"Resolve the discrepancy" means Paradox, so let\\'s scope out the mystery and think about what might resolve it. Paraphrase: Leatherbacks in captivity are prone to deadly diseases that they would never get out in the wild. Considering this, the author finds it odd that leatherbacks in the wild don\\'t seem to have a greater chance of reaching maximum life expectancy. But just because one aspect of captivity is more life-threatening for leatherbacks doesn\\'t mean there aren\\'t other factors that make captivity actually safer for them. So we should look for a choice that, if true, would balance out the equation. C. provides an obvious solution. Predators would presumably not be a problem for turtles in captivity,but they\\'re a huge source of danger for those in the wild. So while certain diseases may kill only the captive leatherbacks, predators even the score out in the wild. If option [Most leatherbacks that perish in...] is true, then the similarity in the likelihood of reaching the maximum life expectancy between leatherbacks cooped up and those swimming free seems more understandable.

QUESTION 2

Logician: I have studied and thoroughly mastered the laws of logic. So to argue that I sometimes violate the laws of logic in ordinary conversation would be like arguing that some physicist circumvents the laws of physics in everyday life.

The reasoning in the logician\\'s argument is questionable because this argument

- A. ignores the fact that our conception of physical laws undergoes constant change
- B. presents no evidence that physics is as difficult to master as logic
- C. fails to rule out the possibility that some physicist could circumvent the laws of physics in everyday life
- D. treats two kinds of things that differ in important respects as if they do not differ
- E. has a conclusion that contradicts what is as sertedin its premise

Correct Answer: D

When we see "the logician\\'s argument is guestionable because" in the guestion stem, we think "find the logical flaw."

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And we have to admit the test makers are not without a sense of irony, beginning a Logical Flaw question with the phrase "Having mastered the laws of logic. . ." Hmm...evidently not. So, because he has supposedly mastered logic, the logician claims that for him to commit a logical flaw in conversation would be like a physicist violating the everyday laws of physics. This seems fairly silly on its face. Does the logician mean that because no physicist can simply float off into space, for example, he, a master logician, cannot make a logical mistake? We can see immediately that the two situations are not the same. Violating the laws of physics is by definition impossible, whereas the logician can easily violate the laws of logic by misspeaking. The laws of physics and the laws of logic differ in important respects. The laws of physics apply universally and cannot be violated; the so-called "laws" of logic are learned and therefore can be violated.

QUESTION 3

My family doctor said that he would be performing a blood test on me when I visit him today. I know I will feel pain today.

The above argument depends on which one of these assumptions?

- A. The use of a needle always causes pain in the patient.
- B. The doctor will have a hard time finding the patients vein.
- C. In the past, this patient has experienced pain at the family doctors.
- D. The needle will leave a bruise.
- E. The doctor will have to try different needles to perform the test.

Correct Answer: A

QUESTION 4

There has been a sharp increase in the subscription prices of many accounting school text books in the past five years. Many publishers ascribe the necessity for these increases to the easy availability of electronic books, which enable people simply to electronically copy the books they want rather than buying the printed text. Which of the following, if true, would make this explanation more plausible?

- A. The great majority of student texts have a massive backlog awaiting publication.
- B. Over the past five years there has been a substantial decline in the number of accounting school students, while electronic books have remained fairly stable.
- C. In the five years immediately preceding the price surge, there was a substantial decline in the number accounting school students requiring text books, while electronic book subscriptions remained fairly stable.
- D. Many electronic publishers have recently begun cutting back on subscription accounting school text books.
- E. In almost every publishing company, there has been an increase in the number of accounting school texts available in the past few years.

Correct Answer: C

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QUESTION 5

Experts anticipate that global atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide (CO2) will have-doubled by the end of the twenty-first century. It is known that CO2 can contribute to global warming by trapping solar energy that is being reradiated as heat from the Earth\\'s surface. However, some research has suggested that elevated CO2 levels could enhance the photosynthetic rates of plants, resulting in a lush world of agricultural abundance, and that this CO2 fertilization effect might eventually decrease the rate of global warming. The increased vegetation in such an environment could be counted on to draw more CO, from the atmosphere. The level of CO2 would thus increase at a lower rate than many experts have predicted.

However, while a number of recent studies confirm that plant growth would be generally enhanced in an atmosphere rich in CO2, they also suggest that increased CO2 would differentially increase the growth rate of different species of plants, which could eventually result in decreased agricultural yields. Certain important crops such as corn and sugarcane that currently have higher photosynthetic efficiencies than other plants may lose that edge in an atmosphere rich in CO2. Patterson and Flint have shown that these important crops may experience yield reductions because of the increased performance of certain weeds. Such differences in growth rates between plant species could also alter ecosystem stability. Studies have shown that within rangeland regions, for example, a weedy grass grows much better with plentiful CO2 than do three other grasses. Because this weedy grass predisposes land to burning, its potential increase may lead to greater numbers of and more severe wildfires in future rangeland communities.

It is clear that the CO2 fertilization effect does not guarantee the lush world of agricultural abundance that once seemed likely, but what about the potential for the increased uptake of CO2 to decrease the rate of global warming? Some studies suggest that the changes accompanying global warming will not improve the ability of terrestrial ecosystems to absorb CO2. Billings\\' simulation of global warming conditions in wet tundra grasslands showed that the level of CO2 actually increased. Plant growth did increase under these conditions because of warmer temperatures and increased CO2 levels. But as the permafrost melted, more peat {accumulated dead plant material} began to decompose. This process in turn liberated more CO2 to the atmosphere. Billings estimated that if summer temperatures rose four degrees Celsius, the tundra would liberate 50 percent more CO2 than it does currently. In a warmer world, increased plant growth, which could absorb CO2 from the atmosphere, would not compensate for this rapid increase in decomposition rates. This observation is particularly important because high-latitude habitats such as the tundra are expected to experience the greatest temperature increase.

The author would be most likely to agree with which one of the following statements about the conclusions drawn on the basis of the research on plant growth mentioned in the first paragraph of the passage?

- A. The conclusions are correct in suggesting that increased levels of CO2 will increase the photosynthetic rates of certain plants.
- B. The conclusions are correct in suggesting that increased levels of CO2 will guarantee abundances of certain important crops.
- C. The conclusions are correct in suggesting that increased plant growth will reverse the process of global warming.
- D. The conclusions are incorrect in suggesting that enhanced plant growth could lead to abundances of certain species of plants.
- E. The conclusions are incorrect in suggesting that vegetation can draw CO2 from the atmosphere.

Correct Answer: A

The major element of rosy hypothesis that the author believes to be correct, as confirmed the passage, is that through increased CO2 plants\\' rate of photosynthesis could be "enhanced," or increased, and thus enhance plant growth "generally." But [The conclusions are correct in suggesting that increased levels of CO2 will guarantee...] is wrong because based on 2 it looks as if "important crops" like corn and sugarcane will be negatively impacted, while weeds will be enhanced. option [The conclusions are correct in suggesting that increased plant...] gets the author\\'s main idea 180 degrees wrong: That\\'s the position he believes to be incorrect. option [The conclusions are incorrect in suggesting that vegetation...] finally, refers to an element, that the author seems to agree with, not dispute.



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