

SECTION I

Time—35 minutes

26 Questions

Directions: The questions in this section are based on the reasoning contained in brief statements or passages. For some questions, more than one of the choices could conceivably answer the question. However, you are to choose the best answer; that is, the response that most accurately and completely answers the question. You should not make assumptions that are by commonsense standards implausible, superfluous, or incompatible with the passage. After you have chosen the best answer, blacken the corresponding space on your answer sheet.

1. A student has taken twelve courses and received a B in a majority of them. The student is now taking another course and will probably, given her record, receive a B in it.

Each of the following, if true, strengthens the argument EXCEPT:

- (A) The student previously studied alone but is receiving help from several outstanding students during the present course.
 - (B) The twelve courses together covered a broad range of subject matter.
 - (C) The student previously studied in the library and continues to do so.
 - (D) The student received a B in all but one of the twelve courses.
 - (E) The current course is a continuation of one of the twelve courses in which the student received a B.
2. If the government increases its funding for civilian scientific research, private patrons and industries will believe that such research has become primarily the government's responsibility. When they believe that research is no longer primarily their responsibility, private patrons and industries will decrease their contributions toward research. Therefore, in order to keep from depressing the overall level of funding for civilian scientific research, the government should not increase its own funding.

Which one of the following is an assumption on which the argument relies?

- (A) Governments should bear the majority of the financial burden of funding for civilian scientific research.
- (B) Any increase in government funding would displace more private funding for civilian scientific research than it would provide.
- (C) Private donations toward research are no longer welcomed by researchers whose work receives government funding.
- (D) Civilian scientific research cannot be conducted efficiently with more than one source of funding.
- (E) Funding for civilian scientific research is currently at the highest possible level.

3. For any given ticket in a 1000-ticket lottery, it is reasonable to believe that that ticket will lose. Hence, it is reasonable to believe that no ticket will win.

Which one of the following exhibits flawed reasoning most similar to the flawed reasoning in the argument above?

- (A) It is reasonable to believe for any randomly drawn playing card that it will not be an ace, so it is reasonable to believe that an ace will never be drawn.
- (B) When the chances of a certain horse winning the race are 999 out of 1000, it is reasonable to believe that that horse will win. So it is reasonable to believe that no one other than that horse can win.
- (C) It is unreasonable to believe that 1000 consecutive coin flips will turn up heads, so it is reasonable to believe that this never happens.
- (D) It is reasonable to believe that if the most recent flip of a given coin was tails, the next flip will be heads. So if a coin has turned up tails the last 1000 times it was flipped, it is reasonable to believe that it will turn up heads the next time it is flipped.
- (E) For any given group of five-year-old children, the average height is one meter, so it is reasonable to believe that if Pat is five years old, she is exactly one meter tall.

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