



1. 87% of the world population are right-handed. The human world is organised to make success in life easier for the majority. Left-handed people should therefore be considered as having a disability and receive appropriate support.

Which one of the following, if true, weakens this argument?

- A Amongst top scientists, sportsmen, actors, musicians and politicians the percentage of left-handed people is much higher than 13%.
- B Left-handed people have poorer spatial skills which makes them more likely to have car crashes and other serious accidents.
- C Left-handed people are more likely to have health problems such as allergies, depression, epilepsy and sleeping disorders.
- D Hand tools, musical instruments and scissors are designed for use by the majority.
- E Many left-handed people were forced to write with their right hand when they were at school.

IMAT Q20 (2011)

2. Recent research suggests that people are becoming less inclined to follow medical advice about how to prevent ill-health. They say that there is too much advice and it is often contradictory. However the general population is living longer and is healthier. This suggests that people are more aware of what is good for their own health and wellbeing than the medical profession is.

Which one of the following, if true, weakens this argument?

- A Advances in medicine have meant that doctors give advice on a wider range of issues.
- B People now have easy access to websites giving information on health.
- C People believe that they know better than doctors how to improve their own health and wellbeing.
- D The health improvements are in areas that exactly match the medical advice given by doctors.
- E Doctors prefer to give advice rather than medication.

IMAT Q32 (2011)



3.

Rating figures for music are now much more difficult to calculate compared to a decade ago. The introduction of new formats for selling music means that figures have to be calculated based on more methods such as downloads, in addition to the sales of CDs in shops. Additionally, the availability of more formats means that there is more potential for copies of works to be shared with other fans, who do not pay for them. These fans do not show up in the ratings, so the official ratings do not reflect the relative popularity of a work.

Which one of the following, if true, would most strengthen the above argument?

- A The calculation of ratings based on downloads and sales together is not difficult.
- B Sharing copies of purchased works with others is against the law.
- C Artists are not interested in the popularity of their work, just the sales figures.
- D The sharing of works with other fans is more widespread for certain types of music.
- E Official ratings have never reflected popularity very well.



IMAT Q12 (2012)

4.

According to the Food Standards Agency, film goers should be told how many calories there are in the popcorn, ice cream and fizzy drinks that they buy in cinemas and smaller portions of popcorn and drinks should also be available. As two thirds of adults and a third of children are already obese or overweight, with serious risk of heart disease, diabetes and cancer, the need for proper labelling to warn people about the calorie content of these items is urgent.

Which one of the following, if true, most strengthens the argument in the passage above?

- A People who are overweight are sometimes more concerned with their looks than the long term health risks.
- B A large box of salted popcorn contains as many calories as a three course meal.
- C Cinemas rely on sales of food and drink to boost their profits.
- D Trials show that consumers alter their eating habits when food is calorie-labelled.
- E Many people think that the food and drink consumed at the cinema is as important to the visit as the film.

IMAT Q23 (2012)



5. After Northern Europe experienced the coldest weather for several years last winter, people are claiming that the theories of global warming are incorrect. This is not a conclusion that can be drawn from the information as it is only based on a single year's data. Global warming is based on long term changes in average temperature. It therefore does not mean that the temperature will increase every year. The extreme weather last winter was caused by cold air from the Arctic which is normally kept there by strong winds around the pole. Last winter those winds were not as strong.

Which one of the following, if true, would most strengthen the above argument?

- A Some of the people claiming that the theories of global warming are incorrect do not come from areas that had very cold weather last winter.
- B Although the weather was very cold last winter, the winter before was of average temperature.
- C Other regions of the Northern Hemisphere were hotter last winter than in previous years.
- D All the people claiming that theories of global warming are incorrect come from areas that had very cold weather last winter.
- E The claims that theories of global warming are incorrect are supported by further evidence.

IMAT Q34 (2012)

6. Hundreds of miles of motorways are lit by unnecessary street lights. There is a need to save energy usage in all public services and it is time that the government considered turning off street lighting. Modern cars have powerful headlights which provide a clear view of the road ahead even without overhead lighting. There is also evidence to suggest that when drivers move from an area with lighting to an area without they are more likely to have an accident than those drivers who have driven exclusively on roads without lighting.

Which one of the following, if true, would most strengthen the above argument?

- A There is evidence that there are fewer daytime accidents on those motorways without lighting.
- B Driving in well-lit areas at night can lead to a lack of concentration.
- C Research suggests that older drivers find driving without lighting more difficult.
- D Many drivers find driving on unlit roads difficult.
- E Street lighting costs less than other types of road maintenance.

IMAT Q36 (2012)



7.

Any company that wishes to sell a new drug must provide the government with details of research about its safety and possible side effects. At present, this information is confidential, but there are plans to make it available to the public. While patients are surely entitled to more information about the drugs they are prescribed, this will also inevitably make public vital details about the ingredients of certain drugs and how they are manufactured. Drug companies are naturally reluctant to release this information to their competitors. Therefore, through fear of imitators, drug companies will no longer introduce new and important drugs into the country.

Which one of the following, if true, would most weaken the above argument?

- A There are sufficient drugs already on the market and so there is no necessity to introduce new ones.
- B The drug industry is a very competitive business and secrecy is vital if companies are to survive.
- C People may be reluctant to use certain drugs when they have fuller information about them.
- D People are better informed about the side effects of drugs abroad than they are in this country.
- E Strong patent laws prevent companies from using the information to create rival drugs.

IMAT Q2 (2013)

8.

After Northern Europe experienced the coldest weather for several years last winter, people are claiming that the theories of global warming are incorrect. This is not a conclusion that can be drawn from the information as it is only based on a single year's data. Global warming is based on long term changes in average temperature. It therefore does not mean that the temperature will increase every year. The extreme weather last winter was caused by cold air from the Arctic which is normally kept there by strong winds around the pole. Last winter those winds were not as strong.

Which one of the following, if true, would most strengthen the above argument?

- A Some of the people claiming that the theories of global warming are incorrect do not come from areas that had very cold weather last winter.
- B Although the weather was very cold last winter, the winter before was of average temperature.
- C Other regions of the Northern Hemisphere were hotter last winter than in previous years.
- D All the people claiming that theories of global warming are incorrect come from areas that had very cold weather last winter.
- E The claims that theories of global warming are incorrect are supported by further evidence.

IMAT Q34 (2012)



9.

There is concern at the moment about the way in which football referees are treated by players during games. The Football Association and the Referees' Association feel that there is too much verbal (and physical) abuse directed at referees. Various solutions have been suggested such as only allowing the captain of each team to approach and talk to the referee. The major difficulty is how such new rules should be introduced. The preferred suggestion seems to be that the rules should be changed first in the amateur game, the aim being to improve discipline in the game from the bottom upwards, until the whole game is improved.

Which one of the following, if true, would most weaken the argument above?

- A By introducing it first to amateur players, it reaches those who spend the least time playing football.
- B Not many professional players start out in the amateur leagues.
- C Amateur players are more likely to abuse referees than are professionals.
- D Referees should use their existing powers to control abusive players.
- E Referees in the amateur game are less proficient than those in the professional games.

IMAT Q10 (2014)

10.

In many countries shocking images of the damage smoking can do to the body are displayed on cigarette packets. Images of rotting teeth, mouth tumours and cancerous lungs are among the grim pictures. A review concluded that shocking pictures of the damage smoking can do are a cost effective way to help smokers to quit and discourage others from starting. All countries should introduce these kinds of images to discourage smoking.

Which one of the following, if true, most weakens the above argument?

- A Pictures that arouse emotions are especially effective.
- B Smokers are likely to die younger than non-smokers.
- C The USA is planning to display shocking images on cigarette packets.
- D Governments receive a significant amount of revenue from taxes on tobacco products.
- E In countries using the images there are high taxes on tobacco and a ban on advertising.

IMAT Q13 (2014)



11.

Although the Earth supports life, it has a mysterious carbon deficit. Compared with other bodies in the solar system the Earth has far less carbon than would be expected for a planet that supports life. Originally it was thought that in the inner region of the dust disc where the Earth formed, temperatures soared high enough for the carbon to boil away. However, observations of developing solar systems have now suggested that the temperature would not have been high enough. It is more likely that fire is to blame. Hot oxygen atoms would have readily combined with carbon, burning to produce carbon dioxide. There would have been fewer of these oxygen atoms further away from the Sun.

Which one of the following, if true, would most strengthen the above argument?

- A The carbon that is present on the Earth could have arrived at a later date from an asteroid.
- B The abundance of carbon in the asteroid belt surrounding the inner planets increases the further away you get from the Sun.
- C There is no theoretical reason why life has to be carbon-based.
- D There are other solar systems with Earth-like planets that have an abundance of carbon on them.
- E At temperatures that are high enough for carbon to boil away, oxygen would also have boiled away.

IMAT Q1 (2015)

12.

Children are being encouraged to take up gardening through special events at shows and activities in schools. It is hoped that an interest in gardening, and particularly growing one's own food, will make children more interested in learning about their food and they will therefore be deterred from eating junk food. The initiative should be supported and spread to more schools as quickly as possible.

Which one of the following, if true, would most weaken the above argument?

- A The practical experience of gardening is not a traditional academic subject.
- B The events to encourage children to garden also included stands where junk food was for sale.
- C Some schools do not have a garden.
- D It tends to be older people who are interested in gardening and growing their own food.
- E Most children have enjoyed the events provided, but have not gained an interest in gardening itself.

IMAT Q5 (2015)



13.

Children born in Japan today can expect to live five years longer than their American counterparts. Life expectancy has been rising in all countries, but the slowest rate of increase has been in the USA. What could account for this, given that the percentage of people who smoke is roughly the same in all rich countries? Of course, the USA is the birthplace of fast food restaurants that sell unhealthy food. Moreover, a recent survey of American lifestyles has found that overeating and failure to exercise are widespread amongst the population. So we must assume that obesity and lack of exercise have caused the USA to lag behind in the increase in life expectancy.

Which one of the following, if true, most weakens the above argument?

- A Most rich countries have the same standard of medical expertise.
- B The USA spends more money on fast food than any other nation.
- C Japanese children had a healthier diet in the 1960s than they do today.
- D In the 1960s and 1970s the USA had the highest percentage of smokers.
- E American fast food restaurants are now found in most rich countries.

IMAT Q14 (2016)

14.

While some animal rights activists have long accepted that there is a link between bovine tuberculosis (TB in cattle) and badgers, others have argued that it was not proven. They felt that the culling of badgers to stop the spread of TB in cattle was not justified if a link was unproven. But direct evidence of the transmission of TB between badgers and cattle has now been found. DNA sequencing of the TB bacteria in cattle and in badgers has shown that the disease crosses species barriers. This latest discovery completely undermines the case of those who have opposed badger culling. To protect farmers from severe loss of their cattle and hence their livelihoods – and to protect one of our primary sources of meat and milk – the badger population should be culled.

Which one of the following, if true, would most weaken the argument in the passage above?

- A Animal rights activists are interested in the protection of badgers per se, whatever risk they pose.
- B There may be factors other than badgers, such as the movement of cattle, which contribute to the spread of TB in cattle.
- C It is too expensive and logistically difficult to vaccinate all cattle against TB.
- D Badger culling would be unpopular with a substantial number of people.
- E Not all farmers are convinced that the culling of badgers would stop the spread of TB.

IMAT Q15 (2016)



15.

The government is considering changing the law to assume consent for the donation of organs after death. People opposed to the idea would have to deliberately 'opt out' of the scheme, although relatives would still be consulted. The supply of healthy organs available for transplant would be vastly increased under this scheme. If the government really wants to improve the lives of people with long-term health problems, this is a measure it must take.

Which one of the following, if true, would most strengthen the argument in the passage above?

- A Bereaved relatives find donation decisions very distressing.
- B The number of voluntary organ donors is small and not increasing.
- C Not all of the organs donated are suitable for transplant.
- D There would be opposition by civil liberties groups to this measure.
- E It is not known how many people would 'opt out' of the compulsory scheme.

16.

In recent years there has been increased concern that fashion models reflect an unrealistic and unattainable image of femininity and that this has a negative effect on the self-esteem of many young women. Many major designers continue to design for an exceptionally tall and flat-chested female frame. It should be no surprise therefore that there have been several cases recently when designers have favoured male models on their catwalks to model their womenswear. Rather than being a cause of surprise or concern, this should be welcomed as a recognition of the fact that these designs are unsuitable for most women and it draws attention to the major differences between catwalk fashion and clothing for the real world.

Which one of the following statements, if true, would most strengthen the argument above?

- A Some designers have favoured male models simply to generate more media attention for their collections.
- B Some female models struggle to maintain the necessary physique for catwalk modelling.
- C Some designers are recognising that the physique of many catwalk models represents an unhealthy ideal for most women.
- D Very few observers noticed initially that the male models were not in fact women.
- E Surveys of young women have suggested that the use of male models makes the typical model physique less desirable to attain.

IMAT Q18 (2016)

IMAT Q19 (2016)





17. Next week the European Parliament will vote on whether to ban trawling, a method of fishing that involves pulling large fishing nets behind boats. The fishing industry is opposed to a ban and has argued strongly against it. Trawling is not as damaging to ecosystems as environmentalists claim. Trawling the seabed doesn't always create 'dead zones' in the ocean. It can boost fish numbers, since the species that are more resistant to the effects of trawling can proliferate. So trawling on flat sandy beds in shallow areas can benefit marine life.

Which one of the following, if true, most weakens the above argument?

- A Trawling creates new habitats by making parts of the sea more habitable.
- B Trawling in deep waters is expensive and an ineffective use of fishing resources.
- C Trawling in shallow waters can damage the bottom of fishermen's boats.
- D Trawling in shallow waters can alter the ecology in beneficial ways.
- E Trawling nets have a destructive impact on many endangered species.

IMAT Q11 (2017)

18.

Over the last ten years there has been a huge increase in the number of television programmes involving the work of forensic scientists. This media attention has been matched by a massive increase in the number of courses and qualifications available in this field. Although this new attention has led to greater public awareness, it has not led to the creation of more jobs in this field. The work of forensics professionals has continued unchanged. Therefore, those who choose to study these courses will find that there is fierce competition for difficult and unpleasant work.

Which one of the following, if true, would most weaken the above argument?

- A Each year around 1500 graduates in forensic science compete for 200 jobs in the sector.
- B Many students of forensic science go on to pursue careers in other areas.
- C New technologies have brought about a decrease in the number of forensics staff required in laboratories.
- D The number of university courses in forensic science has grown at an unprecedented rate.
- E Salaries for forensic scientists compare well with those in other scientific fields.

IMAT Q14 (2017)



19.

Action has to be taken now to stop the spread of bovine tuberculosis (TB). Experts agree that reducing the number of badgers in the most heavily infected areas will help to break the cycle of infection between badgers and cattle and begin to reduce TB in both species. Although badgers can be vaccinated, there is no vaccine available to protect our cattle, and best estimates suggest it will be ten years before one is available. The only way to stop bovine TB spreading is to kill badgers.

Which one of the following, if true, most strengthens the above argument?

- A Five annual vaccinations are necessary to protect a badger fully against bovine TB.
- B Less than ten per cent of the dairy cows destroyed each year are destroyed because of bovine TB.
- C In a trial, killing ten thousand badgers reduced the TB rate in cattle by only fifteen per cent.
- D Shooting large numbers of badgers is more expensive than vaccinating them.
- E When efforts are made to remove badgers, many are injured rather than killed outright.

IMAT Q8 (2018)

20.

A leaking undersea oil well in the USA caused massive damage to wildlife and was extremely expensive to clear up. Worst of all, it destroyed the livelihoods of poor people living in the area. Despite this, in the developed world we still don't take seriously the risks of deepwater drilling. Until we can be satisfied that regulation is effective and that oil companies are operating safely, deepwater drilling should be banned.

Which one of the following, if true, most weakens the above argument?

- A The risks of deepwater drilling were known prior to the accident in the USA.
- B Oil companies involved in the accident in the USA paid money to compensate the victims.
- C A ban on deepwater drilling would cause oil prices to rise, which would affect poor people most.
- D Oil companies will operate more safely in future than they did before the accident in the USA.
- E Alternatives to fossil fuels may eventually be able to meet our energy needs.

IMAT Q16 (2018)



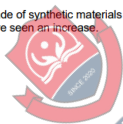
21.

Once again it has become fashionable for householders to replace their carpets with wooden floors. Sales of laminate and solid floors, such as oak, have seen a massive increase in the last ten years. This trend seems more in tune with our eco-friendly aspirations: carpets are often plastic-based and use vast quantities of underlying material, or underlay, made from petrochemicals. For this reason, it seems unlikely that wooden floors will go out of fashion in the near future.

Which one of the following, if true, most weakens the above argument?

- A Carpets can harbour dust mites and allergens.
- B Not all wooden floors need a layer of underlay.
- C Most types of laminate and wood floors use petrochemicals in their manufacture.
- D Wooden floors may look longer-lasting but can be more easily damaged than carpets.
- E Sales of carpets made of synthetic materials have decreased in the last ten years while woollen carpets have seen an increase.

IMAT Q4 (2019)



4Uadmission