



Inference Questions

1.

The UK government wishes to increase the number of young people from poorer families entering university education. However, it has recently changed the way in which it provides financial support for students. Whereas it used to provide grants that the student did not need to repay, it now provides loans that the student must repay when he or she enters employment. Research shows that students from poorer families are more likely to be deterred from going to university by the prospect of debt.

Which **one** of the following is an inference that can be drawn from the passage above?

- A Students from poorer families are less interested in entering university.
- B Universities will not be willing to help meet the government's target.
- C The government's action is likely to deter poorer students from going to university more than richer.
- D The prospect of debt is a deterrent to all students, not just the poorer ones.
- E Maintenance grants were too expensive for the government to fund.

BMAT Q4 (2003)

2.

Many people think that if they – or 'the experts' – cannot explain something, it must therefore be truly paranormal. An amateur archaeologist declares that because he cannot figure out how the pyramids were built, they must have been constructed by aliens. Feats such as the bending of spoons, or telepathy, are often thought paranormal or mystical. But if they were explained people would respond, "Yes, of course" or "That's obvious once you see it." Fire-walking is a case in point. People speculate about the supernatural powers of fire-walkers over pain and heat, yet the simple explanation is that the conductivity of heat from the light and fluffy coals to the walker's feet is very poor. As long as you don't stand still, you will not get burned.

Which one of the following is an inference which is supported by the above passage?

- A There are no truly paranormal occurrences.
- B Everything that occurs has an explanation.
- C The lack of a simple explanation does not make an occurrence paranormal.
- D Feats such as spoon bending and telepathy do not really occur.

BMAT Q8 (2007)



Inference Questions

3.

A campaign poster on public transport vehicles recently announced that 40% of teenage girls below the age of 16 who become pregnant were found to have been under the influence of alcohol at the time they had sexual intercourse.

Which of the following can reliably be inferred from the above statistic?

- 1 Young people who are underage drinkers are more likely to be sexually active than those who do not drink.
 - 2 If there were stricter controls on the sale of alcohol to young people there would be fewer teenage pregnancies.
 - 3 At least 40% of girls have consumed alcohol by the age of 16.
- A 1 and 2 only
- B 1 and 3 only
- C 2 and 3 only
- D 1, 2 and 3
- E None of the above



BMAT Q24 (2009)

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