

# GMAT Verbal Practise Question Paper 7 with Solutions

Time Allowed : 2 hours 15 minutes

Maximum Marks : 100

## General Instructions

**Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:**

1. The GMAT exam is 2 hours and 15 minutes long (with one optional 10-minute break) and consists of 64 questions in total.
2. The GMAT exam is comprised of three sections:
3. Quantitative Reasoning: 21 questions, 45 minutes
4. Verbal Reasoning: 23 questions, 45 minutes
5. Data Insights: 20 questions, 45 minutes
6. You can answer the three sections in any order. As you move through a section, you can bookmark questions that you would like to review later.
7. When you have answered all questions in a section, you will proceed to the Question Review & Edit screen for that section.
8. If there is no time remaining in the section, you will NOT proceed to the Question Review & Edit screen and you will automatically be moved to your optional break screen or the next section (if you have already taken your optional break).
9. Each Question Review & Edit screen includes a numbered list of the questions in that section and indicates the questions you bookmarked.
10. Clicking a question number will take you to that specific question. You can review as many questions as you would like and can edit up to three (3) answers.

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While hotels have traditionally held a firm grip on the market of vacation-goers, the emergence of companies fostering short-term rentals are dramatically changing the landscape of the travel industry. Before the advent of the modern online forum, short-term rentals were an arrangement limited by sheer logistics. Information about the availability of (and desire for) a short-term rental was difficult to transmit and share. However, with the current explosion of social media and cyber enterprise, the business model of short-term rentals has blossomed.

In 2011, 40% of travelers reported that they would be staying in a short-term rental during the year, as opposed to a traditional hotel. By 2013, this figure had jumped up to a staggering 49%. The short-term rental business is a \$24 billion market, holding 8% of the total market of U.S. travel. Rapidly expanding and growing with the innovations of creative renters, the question that hangs in the air is what this means for communities. Short-term rentals have had a polarizing effect in many ways, becoming a source of joy for venturists and cause of dismay

for many homeowners.

In recent news, there have been incredible scandals in which short-term renters have abused the property loaned to them, causing thousands of dollars' worth of property damage. Other accusations include disturbing the peace and the commission of criminal acts. Homeowners' Associations (HOAs) have been up in arms, and the legal backlash has been significant. New York enacted firm restrictions on short-term renters, and many HOAs now embed limits on the purposes that a space may be used for, barring short-term rentals.

However, this reaction is an over-reaction, and a detrimental one at that. Cities and towns that set hard limits against short-term rentals are halting the economic growth that would otherwise accompany them. Vacationers are likely to be deterred from venturing out to towns that have banned more affordable short-term rentals. While some vacationers might opt to stay at a hotel in desirable locations, as the short-term rental industry continues to grow, it will become more and more likely that vacation-goers will simply choose alternative destinations that actually allow for short-term rentals.

This is not to say, however, that short-term rentals should be completely unregulated. The key is imposing useful regulations that are mutually beneficial to both communities and to the proprietors of short-term rentals. One potential solution would be to impose reasonable taxes on visitors that use short-term rentals; having requirements for minimum stays could also ensure more consistency for the communities. This also has the added benefit of generating income for towns and cities. There is no reason why communities should see the short-term rental industry as an adversary, when it can just as easily be made into an ally.

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**1. The purpose of this passage is to \_\_\_\_\_.**

- (A) explain the intersection of community and business
- (B) point out the weaknesses in a widely accepted point of view
- (C) advocate for a particular position
- (D) provide an objective and unbiased point of view on a complex topic
- (E) rationalize a negative phenomenon

**Correct Answer:** (C) advocate for a particular position

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

This question asks for the primary purpose of the passage. To determine the purpose, we need to analyze the author's tone, arguments, and overall message. Does the author simply present facts, or do they argue for a specific viewpoint or course of action?

**Step 2: Detailed Explanation:**

Let's break down the passage's structure and argument:

- **Paragraphs 1 & 2:** Introduce the topic of short-term rentals and establish their significant growth and economic impact using statistics.
- **Paragraph 3:** Describes the negative consequences and the backlash from communities and

HOAs, including "firm restrictions" and bans.

- **Paragraph 4:** The author introduces their own viewpoint, calling the backlash an "over-reaction" and "detrimental." They argue that banning rentals harms economic growth. This is a clear shift from description to persuasion.

- **Paragraph 5:** The author explicitly proposes a solution: not complete deregulation, but "imposing useful regulations that are mutually beneficial." They suggest specific measures like taxes and minimum stays. The final sentence, "There is no reason why communities should see the short-term rental industry as an adversary, when it can just as easily be made into an ally," is a strong concluding statement that reinforces their position.

The author is not merely explaining (A) or being unbiased (D). They are actively arguing against one approach (bans) and in favor of another (regulation). Therefore, the main purpose is to advocate for a particular position.

### Step 3: Final Answer:

The passage builds an argument against banning short-term rentals and in favor of sensible regulation. This is a form of advocacy for a specific policy stance. Thus, the correct option is (C).

#### Quick Tip

To identify the purpose of a passage, look for opinionated language (e.g., "over-reaction," "detrimental," "the key is") and calls to action or proposed solutions. These are strong indicators that the author is advocating for a position rather than just informing the reader.

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**2. The use of the underlined phrase "hard limits" in the context of the fourth paragraph most closely means -----.**

- (A) unfair rules
- (B) impractical barriers
- (C) overbearing restrictions
- (D) useful regulations
- (E) restrictions that are uncompromising

**Correct Answer:** (E) restrictions that are uncompromising

#### Solution:

##### Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

This is a vocabulary-in-context question. We need to determine the meaning of the phrase "hard limits" by examining how it's used in the fourth paragraph and its relationship to other ideas in the passage.

### Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The fourth paragraph states: "Cities and towns that set **hard limits** against short-term rentals are halting the economic growth..."

To understand this, let's look at the preceding paragraph (Paragraph 3), which gives examples of these limits: "New York enacted **firm restrictions** on short-term renters, and many HOAs now embed limits on the purposes that a space may be used for, **barring** short-term rentals." The word "barring" means to prohibit or ban entirely. "Firm restrictions" suggests strict, inflexible rules. These actions represent a complete stop or an absolute boundary with no room for negotiation or exceptions.

Now let's evaluate the options:

- (A) unfair rules: The author may believe they are unfair, but "hard" describes the nature of the limit, not its fairness.
- (B) impractical barriers: The passage suggests they are detrimental, but not necessarily impractical to enforce.
- (C) overbearing restrictions: This is close, but "overbearing" implies an element of excessive force or authority, while "hard" focuses more on the inflexibility of the rule itself.
- (D) useful regulations: This is what the author advocates for in the final paragraph, in direct contrast to "hard limits."
- (E) restrictions that are uncompromising: This option perfectly captures the idea of a fixed, absolute, and inflexible rule, like a complete ban. It aligns with the context of "barring" rentals and "firm restrictions."

### Step 3: Final Answer:

The phrase "hard limits" refers to strict, inflexible rules like outright bans. The best synonym for this concept among the choices is "restrictions that are uncompromising." Therefore, option (E) is correct.

#### Quick Tip

When a question asks for the meaning of a word or phrase in context, look for synonyms, antonyms, and examples in the surrounding sentences and paragraphs. The author often defines a term by contrasting it with another idea. Here, "hard limits" is contrasted with "useful regulations."

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### 3. The author would most likely agree with which of the following statements?

- (A) While short-term rentals and communities would mutually benefit from regulations, a hard ban against them would be counterproductive.
- (B) Hotels and short-term rentals complement each other and can contribute to one another's mutual development.
- (C) In general, regulations have proven to do a disservice to travel industry, as the red tape prevents commerce from moving freely, and discourages travel as a whole.
- (D) Communities should see short-term rentals as an adversary, when they can just as easily be made an ally.

(E) Although short-term rentals are popular right now, it is likely that they will diminish in value as more restrictions are enacted against them.

**Correct Answer:** (A) While short-term rentals and communities would mutually benefit from regulations, a hard ban against them would be counterproductive.

### Solution:

#### Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

This question requires identifying the statement that best summarizes the author's central argument throughout the passage. We need to find the option that aligns most closely with the author's overall thesis.

#### Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

Let's analyze the author's main points:

- The author argues against "hard limits" and bans, calling them an "over-reaction" and "detrimental" because they "halt economic growth." This means a hard ban is counterproductive.
- The author explicitly argues for regulation in the final paragraph: "The key is imposing useful regulations that are mutually beneficial to both communities and to the proprietors of short-term rentals."

Now, let's evaluate the options based on these points:

- **(A) While short-term rentals and communities would mutually benefit from regulations, a hard ban against them would be counterproductive.** This statement perfectly encapsulates the two main points of the author's argument. It is a comprehensive summary of the author's position.
- (B) The passage presents short-term rentals as an alternative to hotels, not a complement. It states travelers choose them "as opposed to a traditional hotel."
- (C) The author is in favor of "useful regulations," so this statement is the opposite of their position.
- (D) This is a misreading of the last sentence. The author is arguing that communities *should not* see rentals as an adversary. The author would disagree with the statement as it is written.
- (E) The author suggests the industry will "continue to grow," not diminish in value.

#### Step 3: Final Answer:

Option (A) is the only statement that accurately and completely reflects the author's core thesis presented in the passage.

#### Quick Tip

For questions asking what an author would "most likely agree with," look for the option that best summarizes the main argument or thesis. Be wary of options that take a small detail out of context or twist the author's words.

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4. Which of the following most likely explains why Homeowners' Associations do not tend to support short-term rentals?

- (A) Homeowners' Associations see short-term rentals as being competition for the market of vacationers.
- (B) Homeowners' Associations, as a general policy, have always looked down upon short-term rentals because they are unsanitary.
- (C) Short-term rentals, due to the transitory nature of their inhabitants, can make the members of a community feel uncomfortable, thereby negatively impacting the Homeowners' Association.
- (D) Short-term rentals do not confer a benefit on the Homeowners' Association that is comparable to that conferred on the proprietor of a short-term rental.
- (E) Short-term rentals directly confer extra fees on Homeowners' Associations.

**Correct Answer:** (C) Short-term rentals, due to the transitory nature of their inhabitants, can make the members of a community feel uncomfortable, thereby negatively impacting the Homeowners' Association.

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

This question asks for the reason behind the opposition of Homeowners' Associations (HOAs) to short-term rentals, based on the information provided in the passage.

**Step 2: Detailed Explanation:**

We must locate the part of the passage that discusses HOAs. Paragraph 3 states: "In recent news, there have been incredible scandals in which short-term renters have abused the property loaned to them, causing thousands of dollars' worth of property damage. Other accusations include **disturbing the peace** and the commission of criminal acts. Homeowners' Associations (HOAs) have been up in arms, and the legal backlash has been significant."

The reasons given are negative behaviors that disrupt the community: property damage, noise, and crime. These issues arise from renters who are temporary ("transitory") and may not feel a sense of responsibility towards the community. This disruption would naturally make permanent residents and members of the community ("members of a community") feel uncomfortable and concerned for their safety and quality of life.

Let's analyze the options:

- (A) and (E) are not mentioned in the passage.
- (B) The passage mentions specific issues like property damage, not general unsanitary conditions, and it doesn't say HOAs have "always" felt this way.
- (D) While this might be true, the passage focuses on the negative impacts (costs), not the lack of benefits, as the reason for opposition.
- **(C)** This option provides the best summary of the problem. The "transitory nature" of renters leads to behaviors ("disturbing the peace," etc.) that make community members "uncomfortable" and prompt the HOA to act. This directly connects the cause (temporary renters) to the effect (negative community impact).

**Step 3: Final Answer:**

The passage explains that HOA opposition stems from renters disturbing the peace and causing property damage. Option (C) correctly identifies the root cause as the temporary nature of the renters, which leads to behavior that negatively affects the community.

### Quick Tip

When a question asks for a specific reason mentioned in the text, go back to the relevant paragraph and base your answer only on the information provided. Avoid making assumptions or choosing answers that seem plausible but are not supported by the passage.

#### 5. The primary purpose of the second paragraph is to \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) Argue that short-term rentals have reached their peak, and that they will never command more eminence than that which they currently have.
- (B) Convince the reader that short-term rentals are the most significant development in the realm in which the housing industry and the travel industry intersect.
- (C) Emphasize the impact that short-term rentals have had on the travel industry, thereby transitioning between the first and third paragraphs.
- (D) Provide a roadmap for the rest of the passage, given that the first paragraph served as an introductory paragraph to acquaint the reader with the topic.
- (E) Provide a quantitative valuation of a significant trend that would otherwise be difficult to tangibilize when drawing on subjective terms.

**Correct Answer:** (E) Provide a quantitative valuation of a significant trend that would otherwise be difficult to tangibilize when drawing on subjective terms.

#### **Solution:**

##### **Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

This question asks about the function of the second paragraph within the larger passage. We need to analyze its content and role in developing the author's overall point.

##### **Step 2: Detailed Explanation:**

Let's examine the content of the second paragraph:

- "In 2011, 40% of travelers reported..."
- "By 2013, this figure had jumped up to a staggering 49%."
- "The short-term rental business is a \$24 billion market..."
- "...holding 8% of the total market of U.S. travel."

The entire paragraph consists of statistics—percentages, monetary values, and market share. The first paragraph introduced the trend in subjective terms like "dramatically changing" and "blossomed." The second paragraph provides concrete numbers to prove and quantify this trend.

Let's evaluate the options:

- (A) The numbers show growth, not a peak. This is incorrect.
- (B) The author shows the trend is significant, but doesn't claim it's the "most" significant. This is an overstatement.
- (C) It does emphasize the impact and serves as a transition, but this is a very general description. Option (E) is more specific about \*how\* it achieves this.
- (D) The paragraph does not outline the structure of the rest of the text.
- (E) This option is the most precise. It provides a "quantitative valuation" (the numbers) of

a "significant trend" (the growth of short-term rentals) that was previously described in more "subjective terms." This perfectly describes the function of the paragraph.

**Step 3: Final Answer:**

The second paragraph's primary purpose is to use data to give a concrete sense of the scale and growth of the short-term rental market. Option (E) describes this function most accurately.

**Quick Tip**

When analyzing a paragraph's purpose, pay close attention to the type of information it contains. A paragraph full of statistics and data is likely intended to provide evidence, quantify a claim, or establish the significance of the topic.

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**6. Which of the following, if true, best supports the author's contention that bans against short-term rentals would inhibit economic development?**

- (A) Many vacationers enjoy short-term rentals and could visit a town or city without them.
- (B) All vacationers enjoy short-term rentals, but would substitute hotels if they were not available.
- (C) The average vacationer is very flexible with respect to the types of housing that they will use when traveling, which includes the use of short-term rentals.
- (D) Vacationers who enjoy short-term rentals tend to spend more money in tourist destinations.
- (E) Many vacationers exclusively use short-term rentals and would be unlikely to visit a town or city without them.

**Correct Answer:** (E) Many vacationers exclusively use short-term rentals and would be unlikely to visit a town or city without them.

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

This is a "strengthen the argument" question. We need to find a new piece of information that makes the author's conclusion more likely to be true. The author's specific contention is that bans inhibit economic development because "vacation-goers will simply choose alternative destinations."

**Step 2: Detailed Explanation:**

The author's argument hinges on the premise that if short-term rentals are banned, a significant number of tourists will not visit that location, resulting in lost revenue. We need an option that strengthens this cause-and-effect link.

Let's evaluate the options:

- (A), (B), and (C) all **weaken** the author's argument. They suggest that vacationers are flexible and would still visit, substituting hotels or other accommodations. This means the economic impact of a ban would be minimal.
- (D) This option shows that short-term renters are economically valuable, which is helpful to

the author's overall case. However, it doesn't directly support the specific claim that a *ban* would cause these valuable tourists to *go elsewhere*. They might be valuable, but they might also be willing to stay in a hotel.

- (E) This option provides the strongest possible support. If many vacationers use short-term rentals *exclusively* and would be "unlikely to visit" without them, then a ban would directly cause a loss of tourism and inhibit economic development. This directly reinforces the author's claim that vacationers will "simply choose alternative destinations."

### Step 3: Final Answer:

Option (E) provides a direct reason why a ban on short-term rentals would lead to a loss of tourists, thereby inhibiting economic development. It most effectively strengthens the author's specific contention.

#### Quick Tip

In a "strengthen the argument" question, first identify the author's central claim and the reasoning behind it. Then, look for an answer choice that makes the reasoning more solid or provides a new piece of evidence that directly supports the conclusion.

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"Why Learning Multiple Languages in Graduate School is Important" by Matthew Miner (2013)

In graduate school, students are often required to learn a number of foreign languages in addition to their regular coursework. This can be quite frustrating and difficult, for the normal courses in graduate school require significantly more reading and writing than do undergraduate courses. It is not unusual for graduate students to have regular reading assignments of several hundred pages for each course that they take. Likewise, they often write papers of much greater length than those that they wrote as undergraduate students. When language examinations are added to this difficult course load, it can be very frustrating for graduate students to try to find the time to prepare for these additional examinations.

Although these frustrations are understandable, this system has not been created solely to cause woe for graduate students. Much of the work for which these students are being prepared will focus on research. While much has been written in English about many topics, adequate research can only be done if one is able to read what people have written in other languages. For instance, there are many important articles and books written about almost every topic by European scholars. If a graduate student does not know any foreign languages, all of these articles and books will be impossible to read, and hence useless to their research endeavors. This would be a great loss for a student's research. Therefore, in spite of its frustrating aspects, the language examination process is an important component of graduate school education.

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**7. Which of the following sentences implies a negative outcome that might occur if graduate students no longer were required to study (and be examined in) foreign**

languages?

- (A) If a graduate student does not know any foreign languages, all of these article and books will be impossible to read and hence useless to their research endeavors.
- (B) This can be quite frustrating and difficult, for the normal courses in graduate school require significantly more reading and writing than do undergraduate courses.
- (C) Much of the work for which these students are being prepared will focus on research.
- (D) Therefore, in spite of its frustrating aspects, the language examination process is an important component of graduate school education.
- (E) Although these frustrations are understandable, this system has not been created solely to cause woe for graduate students.

**Correct Answer:** (A) If a graduate student does not know any foreign languages, all of these article and books will be impossible to read and hence useless to their research endeavors.

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

The question asks to identify the sentence that explicitly describes a negative consequence that would happen if graduate students did not learn foreign languages. We need to look for a statement that shows a direct, harmful result.

**Step 2: Detailed Explanation:**

Let's analyze each option in the context of the question:

- (A) This sentence presents a clear cause-and-effect scenario. The cause is "a graduate student does not know any foreign languages." The effect, or negative outcome, is that important articles and books become "impossible to read and hence useless to their research endeavors." This directly answers the question.
- (B) This sentence describes the difficulty and frustration of the current system, not a negative outcome of changing it.
- (C) This sentence states a fact about graduate school (its focus on research) but does not describe an outcome, negative or otherwise.
- (D) This is the author's conclusion, summarizing the main point. It frames the process as "important" but doesn't detail the negative outcome of its absence.
- (E) This sentence acknowledges the students' feelings but immediately pivots to justify the system. It doesn't describe a negative outcome of removing the language requirement.

**Step 3: Final Answer:**

The only sentence that directly states a negative outcome (the inability to conduct proper research) resulting from a lack of foreign language skills is option (A).

**Quick Tip**

For questions asking about outcomes or consequences, look for conditional statements (e.g., "If..., then...") or cause-and-effect language. These structures are often used to explain the results of a particular action or situation.

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## 8. What is the overall purpose of the passage?

- (A) To list frustrations that are felt about taking language examinations in graduate school
- (B) To consider the antiquated methods of graduate school education
- (C) To defend the language examination system found in graduate schools
- (D) To summarize the state of language exams in graduate schools
- (E) None of the other answers

**Correct Answer:** (C) To defend the language examination system found in graduate schools

### Solution:

#### Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

This question asks for the main purpose or primary goal of the author in writing the passage. We need to analyze the overall argument and structure to determine the author's intent.

#### Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The passage is structured as a classic argument:

- **Paragraph 1:** The author acknowledges the opposing viewpoint by describing in detail why language exams are "frustrating and difficult" for graduate students. This is a concession.
- **Paragraph 2:** The author pivots with the phrase "Although these frustrations are understandable..." and then presents the core argument: language skills are essential for "adequate research," which is a key part of graduate education.
- **Conclusion:** The final sentence reinforces the main point: "...in spite of its frustrating aspects, the language examination process is an important component of graduate school education."

This structure is not just a summary (D) or a list of frustrations (A). The author's primary goal is to justify the existence of the language requirement despite its difficulties. This is an act of defense.

#### Step 3: Final Answer:

The author acknowledges the downsides but ultimately argues in favor of the system, making the overall purpose a defense of the language examination requirement. Therefore, option (C) is the correct answer.

#### Quick Tip

To find the purpose of a passage, look at how the different parts work together. When an author starts by acknowledging a problem or an opposing view and then provides a strong reason why the system should remain, their purpose is almost always to defend or justify that system.

**9. In addition to introducing the topic, what is the purpose of the first paragraph in this passage?**

- (A) To describe the dire plight of students who cannot learn languages well
- (B) To make a concession and present reasons why people dislike language exams in graduate school
- (C) To explain the the justifications for delaying graduate school language exams for several years
- (D) To discuss the various means of language examinations used in graduate schools
- (E) To advocate on behalf of an elimination of graduate school language exams

**Correct Answer:** (B) To make a concession and present reasons why people dislike language exams in graduate school

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

This question asks for the specific function of the first paragraph, beyond just introducing the topic. We need to analyze what rhetorical role this paragraph plays in the author's larger argument.

**Step 2: Detailed Explanation:**

The first paragraph is entirely focused on the negative aspects of language exams for students. It uses words like "frustrating and difficult," "difficult course load," and "very frustrating." It details the heavy reading and writing assignments to show why adding language exams is such a burden. By doing this, the author is showing the reader that they understand the students' perspective and the validity of their complaints. This is a rhetorical strategy known as concession, where you acknowledge the points of the opposing side before presenting your own argument.

Let's analyze the options:

- (A) It describes the plight of all graduate students facing the requirement, not just those who are bad at languages.
- (B) This is the most accurate description. The author concedes that the frustrations are real and explains the reasons for them (heavy workload).
- (C) The paragraph does not mention delaying exams.
- (D) The paragraph does not discuss different types of exams.
- (E) The paragraph presents reasons for disliking the exams, but it does so as a setup for the author's defense, not as an argument for elimination. The author's actual position is the opposite of this.

**Step 3: Final Answer:**

The first paragraph's primary purpose is to concede the difficulty of language exams and explain why students find them frustrating, setting the stage for the counterargument in the second paragraph. Option (B) correctly identifies this purpose.

### Quick Tip

In argumentative writing, the opening paragraph often serves to build a connection with the reader by acknowledging a shared understanding or a common complaint. This makes the author appear reasonable and their subsequent argument more persuasive.

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#### 10. What is the purpose of the second paragraph in this passage?

- (A) To argue on behalf of an increase in the number of language exams from their current number
- (B) To disagree with the methods of examining often proposed by students
- (C) To condemn the laziness of those students who dislike graduate school language examinations
- (D) To remark on the marvels of language and the enlightenment that it affords
- (E) To present the author's argument that the language exams in question are, in fact, reasonable

**Correct Answer:** (E) To present the author's argument that the language exams in question are, in fact, reasonable

#### Solution:

##### Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

This question asks for the specific function of the second paragraph. We need to identify its role in the overall structure of the author's argument, especially in relation to the first paragraph.

##### Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The second paragraph begins with a crucial transition: "Although these frustrations are understandable..." This signals a shift from acknowledging the problem to presenting a counterpoint. The paragraph then lays out the central justification for the language requirement: its necessity for research. It argues that "adequate research can only be done" with foreign language skills and that without them, a student's research would suffer a "great loss." The author is essentially saying that despite the difficulties, there is a very good reason for the exams.

Let's evaluate the options:

- (A), (B), and (D) are not discussed in the paragraph.
- (C) The author explicitly states the frustrations are "understandable," which is the opposite of condemning students as lazy.
- (E) This option perfectly captures the paragraph's function. After acknowledging the frustrations, the author presents their core argument to show that the exams are not arbitrary but are a "reasonable" and "important component" of graduate education because of their direct link to research quality.

##### Step 3: Final Answer:

The purpose of the second paragraph is to provide the justification for the language exam system, thereby arguing for its reasonableness. Option (E) is the best description of this purpose.

### Quick Tip

Look for transition words like "although," "however," or "but" between paragraphs. These often signal a pivot in the argument. The paragraph that follows such a transition typically contains the author's main point or thesis.

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Adapted from "Introductory Remarks" in *The Interpretation of Dreams* by Sigmund Freud (trans. 1913)

In attempting to discuss the interpretation of dreams, I do not believe that I have overstepped the bounds of neuropathological interest. For, when investigated psychologically, the dream proves to be the first link in a chain of abnormal psychic structures whose other links—the hysterical phobia, the obsession, and the delusion—must interest the physician for practical reasons. The dream can lay no claim to a corresponding practical significance; however, its theoretical value is very great, and one who cannot explain the origin of the content of dreams will strive in vain to understand phobias, obsessive and delusional ideas, and likewise their therapeutic importance.

While this relationship makes our subject important, it is responsible also for the deficiencies in this work. The surfaces of fracture, which will be frequently discussed, correspond to many points of contact where the problem of dream formation informs more comprehensive problems of psychopathology which cannot be discussed here. These larger issues will be elaborated upon in the future.

Peculiarities in the material I have used to elucidate the interpretation of dreams have rendered this publication difficult. The work itself will demonstrate why all dreams related in scientific literature or collected by others had to remain useless for my purpose. In choosing my examples, I had to limit myself to considering my own dreams and those of my patients who were under psychoanalytic treatment. I was restrained from utilizing material derived from my patients' dreams by the fact that during their treatment, the dream processes were subjected to an undesirable complication—the intermixture of neurotic characters. On the other hand, in discussing my own dreams, I was obliged to expose more of the intimacies of my psychic life than I should like, more so than generally falls to the task of an author who is not a poet but an investigator of nature. This was painful, but unavoidable; I had to put up with the inevitable in order to demonstrate the truth of my psychological results at all. To be sure, I disguised some of my indiscretions through omissions and substitutions, though I feel that these detract from the value of the examples in which they appear. I can only express the hope that the reader of this work, putting himself in my difficult position, will show patience, and also that anyone inclined to take offense at any of the reported dreams will concede freedom of thought at least to the dream life.

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**11. The author has written this passage in order to \_\_\_\_\_.**

- (A) teach the reader how to interpret his or her own dreams
- (B) discuss common causes of nightmares

- (C) propose a psychological experiment
- (D) respond to a specific critic who has cast doubt on his work's reliability
- (E) justify his work and address some of its limitations

**Correct Answer:** (E) justify his work and address some of its limitations

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

This question asks for the main purpose of the passage. The passage serves as an introduction to a larger work, so its purpose is to set the stage for what is to come. We need to analyze the main themes the author discusses.

**Step 2: Detailed Explanation:**

The author spends the passage doing two main things:

1. **Justifying the work:** He argues for the "great" theoretical value of studying dreams, linking it to the understanding of phobias, obsessions, and delusions (Paragraph 1).
2. **Addressing limitations:** He discusses the "deficiencies in this work" (Paragraph 2), the "difficulties" in choosing material, and the personal "painful, but unavoidable" choices he had to make, such as using his own dreams and making "omissions and substitutions" (Paragraph 3).

Let's check the options:

- (A), (B), (C): The passage is a preface and does not teach interpretation, discuss nightmares, or propose an experiment.
- (D): There is no mention of a specific critic. The author is proactively addressing potential issues.
- (E): This option perfectly captures the dual purpose of the passage. He is justifying why the study of dreams is important while also managing the reader's expectations by explaining the work's inherent limitations.

**Step 3: Final Answer:**

The passage is an introductory text where the author explains the importance of his research while also acknowledging and explaining its shortcomings. Therefore, its purpose is to justify the work and address its limitations.

**Quick Tip**

When asked for the purpose of a preface or introductory remarks, look for arguments about the work's importance and explanations for the methods or challenges involved. Authors often use introductions to frame their work and preemptively answer potential questions or criticisms.

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**12. In the third paragraph, what does the author tell us about the omissions and substitutions he made when discussing his own dreams in the work that follow the**

passage?

- (A) He feels that the adjusted examples would be more useful had they remained unadjusted.
- (B) He is glad that he had the opportunity to reconsider his initial presentation of his dreams.
- (C) He doesn't think that they affect the work whatsoever, and help him save face.
- (D) He is not responsible for these; his editors are.
- (E) He was forced to make these, or journals would not accept his work.

**Correct Answer:** (A) He feels that the adjusted examples would be more useful had they remained unadjusted.

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

This is a detail-oriented question focusing on a specific statement in the third paragraph. We need to find what the author says about the effect of the "omissions and substitutions" he made.

**Step 2: Detailed Explanation:**

The relevant sentence in the third paragraph is: "To be sure, I disguised some of my indiscretions through omissions and substitutions, **though I feel that these detract from the value of the examples in which they appear.**"

The phrase "detract from the value" means that the changes made the examples less valuable or less effective. This directly implies that the original, unadjusted examples would have been more valuable or useful.

Let's analyze the options:

- (A) This is a correct paraphrase of the author's statement. If the changes detract from the value, the unadjusted versions would have been more useful.
- (B), (D), (E): These ideas are not mentioned in the passage. The author takes full responsibility and does not mention editors or journals.
- (C): This is the opposite of what the author states. He explicitly says the changes *do* affect the work by detracting from its value.

**Step 3: Final Answer:**

The author clearly states that his adjustments "detract from the value of the examples," meaning the original versions would have been more useful. Option (A) correctly reflects this sentiment.

**Quick Tip**

For questions that ask about a specific detail, locate the exact sentence or phrase in the passage that addresses it. Pay close attention to the author's precise wording. Words like "detract," "enhance," or "support" are crucial to understanding the author's opinion.

---

**13. In the last sentence of the passage, the author attempts to \_\_\_\_\_.**

- (A) encourage the reader to read the work of a variety of psychologists
- (B) get the reader to empathize with him
- (D) emphasize why his work is valuable, despite its flaws
- (E) inspire the reader to conduct his or her own scientific experiments

**Correct Answer:** (B) get the reader to empathize with him

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

This question asks for the purpose of the final sentence of the passage. We need to analyze what the author is asking of the reader and what emotion or response he is trying to elicit.

**Step 2: Detailed Explanation:**

The last sentence is: "I can only express the hope that the reader of this work, **putting himself in my difficult position**, will show **patience**, and also that anyone inclined to take offense at any of the reported dreams will concede freedom of thought at least to the dream life."

The key phrase here is "putting himself in my difficult position." This is a direct appeal for the reader to imagine the author's situation and understand the challenges he faced. Asking for "patience" is another part of this appeal. This is a clear attempt to build a connection with the reader based on shared understanding and empathy.

Let's analyze the options:

- (A), (C), (E): These topics are not addressed in the final sentence.
- (D): While the author wants the reader to appreciate the work, the final sentence is less about emphasizing value and more about asking for personal understanding and tolerance.
- (B) This option accurately describes the author's intent. He is asking the reader to empathize with his "difficult position" and show patience.

**Step 3: Final Answer:**

The author's request for the reader to understand his "difficult position" is a direct appeal for empathy. Therefore, option (B) is the correct answer.

**Quick Tip**

The tone of the final sentence of an introductory passage is often very revealing of the author's overall goal. Look for appeals to the reader's emotions, intellect, or patience, as these can give strong clues about the author's relationship with their audience and their subject matter.

---

**14. The author can be most accurately described as \_\_\_\_\_.**

- (A) imploring and desperate
- (B) defensive and meticulous
- (C) furious and insulted

- (D) whimsical and descriptive
- (E) unreliable and suspicious

**Correct Answer:** (B) defensive and meticulous

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

This question asks us to characterize the author’s tone and style based on the entire passage. We need to find the pair of adjectives that best fits the way the author presents himself and his work.

**Step 2: Detailed Explanation:**

Let’s break down the author’s tone:

- **Defensive:** The author seems to anticipate criticism. He defends his choice of subject (“I do not believe that I have overstepped the bounds...”), his choice of material (explaining why he had to use his own dreams), and the personal nature of his examples (“This was painful, but unavoidable...”).
- **Meticulous:** The author is very careful and precise in his explanations. He carefully lays out the theoretical importance of dreams, distinguishes between practical and theoretical value, explains the “deficiencies” and “surfaces of fracture,” and details the reasons for his methodological choices.

Now let’s evaluate the options:

- (A) He is pleading for patience, but “desperate” is too strong. His tone is more reasoned.
- **(B)** This pair fits perfectly. He is defending his choices while also being very careful and detailed (meticulous) in his explanations.
- (C) There is no evidence of fury or insult in the passage.
- (D) The tone is analytical and serious, not whimsical.
- (E) He is open about his methods and limitations, which makes him appear more reliable, not less.

**Step 3: Final Answer:**

The author’s careful explanation of his methods and his anticipation of potential criticisms give the passage a tone that is both defensive and meticulous.

**Quick Tip**

To determine an author’s tone, look at their word choice, sentence structure, and overall purpose. Is the language emotional or academic? Is the author justifying, attacking, or explaining? A combination of these elements will reveal the tone.

---

**15. The author argues that understanding the content of dreams is necessary for**  
-----.

- (A) understanding the rest of the work from which this passage is drawn
- (B) comprehending the therapeutic importance of dreams
- (C) understanding delusional ideas
- (D) accurately diagnosing a number of psychological conditions in patients
- (E) understanding why he had difficulty choosing dreams to discuss in the work that follows

**Correct Answer:** (C) understanding delusional ideas

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

This question asks what specific purpose the author assigns to the study of dreams, according to the first paragraph. We need to identify the direct consequence of failing to understand dreams.

**Step 2: Detailed Explanation:**

The first paragraph states: "...one who cannot explain the origin of the content of dreams will strive **in vain** to understand phobias, obsessive and **delusional ideas**, and likewise their therapeutic importance."

The phrase "strive in vain" means to try without success. Therefore, the author is arguing that without understanding dreams, it is impossible to understand these other psychological phenomena.

Let's analyze the options:

- (A) (E): These are about understanding the author's book, not the broader psychological importance he is claiming.
- (B): The sentence says one will fail to understand the "therapeutic importance" of phobias, etc., not of dreams themselves. The passage explicitly states dreams have "no claim to a corresponding practical significance."
- (C) This is directly stated. If you can't understand dreams, you will fail to understand "delusional ideas."
- (D): The text links understanding dreams to understanding phobias and delusions, but it doesn't explicitly mention "accurately diagnosing" them. "Understanding" is a broader concept than "diagnosing." Option (C) is a more direct and accurate reflection of the text.

**Step 3: Final Answer:**

The passage explicitly states that one who cannot explain dreams will fail to understand delusional ideas. Therefore, option (C) is the correct answer. The passage states this for phobias and obsessive ideas as well, but 'delusional ideas' is one of the options.

**Quick Tip**

When a question asks what an author argues is "necessary for" something else, look for cause-and-effect or conditional language in the text. Phrases like "one who cannot... will strive in vain" or "in order to..., one must..." are strong indicators.

16. The author discusses a topic that he plans to pursue in future work .....

- (A) nowhere in the passage
- (B) in the last sentence of the passage
- (C) in the second paragraph of the passage
- (D) in the first and last paragraphs of the passage
- (E) in the first sentence of the passage

**Correct Answer:** (C) in the second paragraph of the passage

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

This is a simple location-based question. We need to scan the passage to find where the author mentions plans for future work.

**Step 2: Detailed Explanation:**

Let's examine the paragraphs:

- Paragraph 1: Discusses the current work's topic. No mention of the future.
- Paragraph 2: The author discusses how the problem of dream formation connects to "more comprehensive problems of psychopathology which cannot be discussed here." The very next sentence is: "**These larger issues will be elaborated upon in the future.**" This is a clear statement of intent for future work.
- Paragraph 3: Discusses the difficulties and methods of the current publication. No mention of the future.

**Step 3: Final Answer:**

The explicit mention of future work occurs in the second paragraph. Therefore, option (C) is the correct answer.

#### Quick Tip

For questions that ask "where" in a passage something is located, quickly scan each paragraph for keywords from the question (in this case, "future," "later," "elaborated upon"). This is often faster than re-reading the entire passage in detail.

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17. Based on what is stated in the passage, one can infer that the author .....

- (A) is unable to make sense of his own dreams
- (B) is participating in a tradition of studying dreams in a psychological light
- (C) is not himself a psychologist
- (D) is famous
- (E) believes himself to have no "intermixture of neurotic characters"

**Correct Answer:** (E) believes himself to have no "intermixture of neurotic characters"

## Solution:

### Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

This question asks for a logical inference based on the author's statements. An inference is a conclusion that is not directly stated but is strongly implied by the text.

### Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

In the third paragraph, the author explains why he did not use his patients' dreams. He states he was "restrained from utilizing material derived from my patients' dreams by the fact that during their treatment, the dream processes were subjected to an **undesirable complication—the intermixture of neurotic characters.**"

He then decides to use his own dreams as the primary source material instead. The logical inference is that he chose his own dreams because he believed they did *not* suffer from this same "undesirable complication." If his own dreams were also complicated by neurotic characters in the same way, they would be equally unsuitable for his purpose, and his reason for rejecting his patients' dreams would be illogical. Therefore, he must believe his own psychic state is suitable for the study in a way his patients' is not.

Let's evaluate the other options:

- (A): This is incorrect. He is using his own dreams to build his entire theory, so he must believe he can make sense of them.
- (B), (D): The passage provides no information to support these inferences.
- (C): He describes himself as an "investigator of nature" in the psychic realm and discusses "neuropathological interest," implying he is a psychologist or physician.

### Step 3: Final Answer:

By presenting the "intermixture of neurotic characters" as the reason for rejecting his patients' dreams and then choosing his own, the author implies that he believes his own dreams are free from this specific complication.

#### Quick Tip

Inference questions require you to connect different pieces of information. Ask yourself: "If X is the reason for a decision, what does that imply about the alternative that was chosen?" Here, the reason for rejecting patients' dreams implies a quality about the author's own dreams.

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**18. According to the author, studying phobias, obsessions, and delusions is \_\_\_\_\_ but studying dreams is not.**

- (A) possible
- (B) wasteful
- (C) practical
- (D) easy
- (E) useless

**Correct Answer:** (C) practical

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

This question asks us to identify the distinction the author makes between studying phobias/obsessions and studying dreams. We need to find the word that describes the former but not the latter, according to the first paragraph.

**Step 2: Detailed Explanation:**

Let's look at the relevant sentences in the first paragraph:

- "...the hysterical phobia, the obsession, and the delusion—must interest the physician for **practical reasons.**"

- "The dream can lay **no claim to a corresponding practical significance**; however, its theoretical value is very great..."

The author explicitly states that phobias, obsessions, and delusions have "practical reasons" for study, while dreams have no "practical significance." Therefore, the distinguishing quality is being "practical."

**Step 3: Final Answer:**

The text directly contrasts the "practical" nature of studying phobias with the non-practical (but theoretical) nature of studying dreams. Option (C) correctly fills in the blank.

**Quick Tip**

Questions that use a "X is \_\_\_ but Y is not" structure are asking you to identify a point of contrast made by the author. Scan the passage for keywords that signal a comparison or distinction, such as "however," "on the other hand," or direct statements of difference.

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**19. The author could not rely upon the dreams related in scientific literature because -----.**

(A) he needed to interview people himself in order to discuss their emotional reactions to their dreams

(B) not many dreams had been discussed in scientific literature, and those that had been discussed concerned a very limited number of topics

(C) The author does not give a reason for this in the passage, but says that the rest of his work explains why this is the case.

(D) no work of scientific literature had discussed dreams at the time the author began his study

(E) he couldn't be sure if material had been changed in or censored from them

**Correct Answer:** (C) The author does not give a reason for this in the passage, but says that the rest of his work explains why this is the case.

**Solution:**

### Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

This question asks for the specific reason the author gives for finding dreams from existing scientific literature unsuitable for his study. We must locate the relevant sentence in the provided passage about Sigmund Freud.

### Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

In the third paragraph of the passage, the author states: "Peculiarities in the material I have used to elucidate the interpretation of dreams have rendered this publication difficult. **The work itself will demonstrate why all dreams related in scientific literature or collected by others had to remain useless for my purpose.**"

This sentence explicitly tells the reader that the explanation is not contained within this introductory passage. Instead, the author defers the reasoning to the main body of his work. He states that the work itself will make it clear why other sources were "useless."

Let's analyze the options:

- (A), (B), (E): These are plausible reasons why a scientist might reject prior data, but the author does not mention any of them in this passage.
- (D): The passage implies that scientific literature on dreams did exist, but it was "useless," not that it was nonexistent.
- (C): This option accurately reflects the author's statement. He doesn't give the reason now but promises that the main work will provide it.

### Step 3: Final Answer:

The author explicitly states that the main body of his work will demonstrate why existing literature was not useful. Therefore, he does not give a direct reason in this passage.

#### Quick Tip

In reading comprehension, it's crucial to stick to what the text explicitly states or directly implies. Be wary of answer choices that seem logical or plausible in the real world but are not supported by the specific information given in the passage.

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**20. The business model of internet cafes is no longer capable of success in the United States. This is because the availability of internet has skyrocketed over the past several years. Free wifi is offered in most major coffee shops and stores. Additionally, Americans have mobile devices with plans that provide them with internet access. For those without devices, public libraries also provide computers offering internet access, free of charge.**

**The argument depends on which of the following assumptions?**

- (A) Public libraries are the only accessible locations where anyone can use the internet.
- (B) Internet cafes do not offer any other services, aside from online access, that would enable them to be profitable.
- (C) Major coffee shops are in direct competition with internet cafes.
- (D) Internet cafes can still be profitable in other countries, just not the United States.

(E) Internet cafes were profitable five years ago.

**Correct Answer:** (B) Internet cafes do not offer any other services, aside from online access, that would enable them to be profitable.

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

This is an assumption question. An assumption is an unstated premise that is necessary for the argument's conclusion to be valid. The argument concludes that internet cafes are no longer a successful business model because their primary product, internet access, is now widely available for free.

**Step 2: Detailed Explanation:**

The argument's logic rests on the idea that since internet access is free and ubiquitous elsewhere, nobody will pay for it at an internet cafe. This logic only works if internet access is the \*only\* significant service that internet cafes provide for profit. If internet cafes offer other valuable services (e.g., high-performance gaming computers, specialized software, technical support, premium food and drinks, a unique social environment), then they could still be profitable even if their basic internet access is no longer a unique selling point. The argument ignores this possibility.

Let's use the Negation Test: If we negate option (B), it would state: "Internet cafes *do* offer other services, aside from online access, that would enable them to be profitable." If this were true, the original conclusion that their business model is "no longer capable of success" would be severely weakened or completely false. Because negating the statement destroys the argument, it is a necessary assumption.

**Step 3: Final Answer:**

The argument assumes that there is no other aspect of the internet cafe business model that could make it profitable, now that internet access itself is no longer a scarce commodity.

**Quick Tip**

To identify a necessary assumption, look for a logical gap between the evidence and the conclusion. A powerful technique is the "Negation Test": negate the answer choice and see if the argument falls apart. If it does, you've found the necessary assumption.

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**21. Landline telephone sales are declining and will no longer exist in a few decades. This is because almost everyone has cellular service or is able to rely on computer systems for their personal needs. Even in workplaces, landlines are becoming obsolete.**

**The argument depends on which of the following?**

(A) Workplaces are the only realm in which landlines are used.

(B) Landlines will no longer be necessary for any reason aside from personal or business com-

munication.

(C) Pre-installed landlines will be eliminated.

(D) Landline sales have been declining for several years now.

(E) Personal landlines no longer exist.

**Correct Answer:** (B) Landlines will no longer be necessary for any reason aside from personal or business communication.

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

This is an assumption question. The argument concludes that landlines will cease to exist. The evidence provided is that their functions for personal and business communication are being replaced by cell phones and computers. We need to find the unstated premise that bridges this evidence and conclusion.

**Step 2: Detailed Explanation:**

The argument focuses exclusively on the role of landlines in personal and business communication. However, it concludes that landlines will "no longer exist" entirely. This is a very strong conclusion. What if landlines serve other critical functions? For example, some security systems, emergency services (like 911 location accuracy), or specialized equipment might still rely on them. The argument implicitly assumes that no such essential, alternative uses for landlines exist.

Let's analyze the options:

- (A) is contradicted by the premise about "personal needs."
- (B) This statement perfectly fills the logical gap. If landlines have no other necessary function beyond the communication roles that are now obsolete, then it is logical to conclude that landlines themselves will disappear.
- (C) This is a restatement of the conclusion, not an assumption supporting it.
- (D) This is a premise of the argument, not an unstated assumption.
- (E) This is an overstatement; the argument says "almost everyone," not everyone.

**Step 3: Final Answer:**

The argument's conclusion that landlines will vanish depends on the assumption that their communication function is their only essential function.

**Quick Tip**

When an argument makes a broad conclusion about the obsolescence of a technology based on the obsolescence of its main functions, the key assumption is that there are no other secondary but critical functions that would keep the technology in use.

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**22. A medical degree is necessary for appointment to the hospital's board of directors. Further, no one having more than a five-percent equity stake in a pharmaceutical company can be appointed to the board of directors. Consequently, Dell,**

a practicing physician with a PhD in bioethics, cannot be appointed the hospital's treasurer, since he owns fifteen percent of PillCo, a pharmaceutical company. The argument's conclusion follows logically if which one of the following is assumed?

- (A) PillCo is one of the hospital's pharmaceutical vendors.
- (B) Anyone with a medical degree who does not hold more than a five-percent stake in any pharmaceutical company is eligible for appointment to the hospital's board of directors.
- (C) If Dell sold his stake in PillCo, he would be appointed treasurer.
- (D) A PhD is not necessary for appointment to the position of treasurer.
- (E) Only those eligible for appointment to the hospital's board of directors can be appointed as the hospital's treasurer.

**Correct Answer:** (E) Only those eligible for appointment to the hospital's board of directors can be appointed as the hospital's treasurer.

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

This is a sufficient assumption question. We need to find the statement that, when added to the existing premises, makes the conclusion logically certain.

**Step 2: Detailed Explanation:**

Let's break down the argument's structure:

- **Premise 1:** To be on the Board of Directors (BoD), one needs a medical degree.
- **Premise 2:** Having  $> 5\%$  stake in a pharmaceutical company makes one ineligible for the BoD.
- **Premise 3:** Dell has a medical degree but owns 15% of PillCo.
- **Intermediate Conclusion (unstated but implied):** From Premises 2 and 3, Dell is ineligible for the BoD.
- **Final Conclusion:** Dell cannot be appointed as the hospital's treasurer.

There is a logical gap. The premises prove that Dell cannot be on the *Board of Directors*. The conclusion is about Dell not being able to be the *treasurer*. The argument is invalid unless there is a rule linking the two positions. We need an assumption that connects eligibility for the Board to eligibility for the treasurer position.

Option (E) provides this missing link: **Treasurer**  $\rightarrow$  **Eligible for BoD**. If being treasurer requires being eligible for the Board of Directors, and we already know Dell is ineligible for the Board, then it logically follows that he cannot be the treasurer.

**Step 3: Final Answer:**

The assumption that the treasurer must be someone who is eligible for the Board of Directors makes the conclusion logically valid.

### Quick Tip

In sufficient assumption questions, identify the "rogue" element in the conclusion—a term or concept that does not appear in the premises. The correct answer will almost always link this new element back to the terms and concepts in the premises. Here, "treasurer" is the rogue element.

**23. Which one of the following uses flawed reasoning that most closely resembles the flawed reasoning used in the argument above?**

(A) All economists know linear algebra. All physicists know relativistic mechanics. Wilma is both an economist and a physicist. Therefore, Wilma knows both linear algebra and relativistic mechanics.

(B) All cars made by Chord are very well made. All cars made by Fysler are very poorly made. Half of the cars on Jim's lot are very well made and the other half are very poorly made. Therefore, half of the cars on Jim's lot are Chords and half are Fyslers.

(C) All players on the Wildcats have brown hair. All players on the Razorbacks have red hair. Members of the Moye family are on both the Wildcats and the Razorbacks. Therefore, some members of the Moye family have brown hair and others have red hair.

(D) All typists who practice at least one hour per day can type one hundred words per minute. But some typists who do not practice can also type one hundred words per minute. Mike, a typist, practices thirty minutes per day. Therefore, Mike types fifty words per minute.

(E) All halogen gases are toxic to humans. All non-radioactive noble gases are non-toxic to humans. "Nobagen" gas is a mixture of a halogen gas and a noble gas. Therefore, "nobagen" gas is moderately toxic to humans.

**Correct Answer:** (B) All cars made by Chord are very well made. All cars made by Fysler are very poorly made. Half of the cars on Jim's lot are very well made and the other half are very poorly made. Therefore, half of the cars on Jim's lot are Chords and half are Fyslers.

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

This is a parallel reasoning (flaw) question. We must first identify the logical flaw in a preceding argument and then find the option that contains the same type of error. The most likely intended reference for "the argument above" is the pattern of reasoning from questions 20 and 21.

**Step 2: Identifying the Flaw:**

The flaw in the arguments about internet cafes (Q20) and landlines (Q21) is the same: the argument assumes that because the primary, most obvious function of a thing is being replaced or is no longer unique, the thing as a whole is obsolete. This flaw ignores other possibilities. For internet cafes, it ignores other potential services. For landlines, it ignores other potential uses. In essence, it mistakes one sufficient condition for a necessary one (e.g., "Internet access is a reason to have an internet cafe" is treated as "The only reason to have an internet cafe is for internet access").

### Step 3: Analyzing the Options for a Parallel Flaw:

- (A) This argument is logically valid.
- (B) This argument contains the target flaw. The premises state that being a Chord is a sufficient condition for being well made ( $\text{Chord} \rightarrow \text{Well Made}$ ). The conclusion commits the fallacy of affirming the consequent, treating it as a necessary condition ( $\text{Well Made} \rightarrow \text{Chord}$ ). It ignores the possibility that other brands of cars could also be well made. This directly parallels the flaw of ignoring other possibilities (other services at cafes, other uses for landlines).
- (C) This argument is logically valid.
- (D) This is flawed, but the flaw is different. It's a non sequitur; the conclusion about typing "fifty words per minute" is completely arbitrary and has no basis in the premises.
- (E) This is the fallacy of composition. It assumes a mixture will have properties that are an average of its parts. While this involves an assumption, the structure is about parts and wholes, which is slightly different from the flaw of ignoring alternative categories seen in the reference arguments and option (B). The flaw in (B) is a more precise match.

### Step 4: Final Answer:

The reasoning in option (B) is flawed because it assumes that Chords are the only well-made cars and Fyslrs are the only poorly made ones, ignoring other alternatives. This is the same type of error as assuming internet access is the only service offered by internet cafes or that communication is the only use for landlines.

#### Quick Tip

In parallel flaw questions, abstract the logical error. Don't focus on the subject matter. The error in the referenced arguments is "ignoring alternatives." The error in option (B) is "ignoring alternative car brands that could be well made." The abstract structure is identical.

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**24. After replacing her old air conditioner with a new, energy-efficient unit, Paula's electric bills increased.**

**Each of the following, if true, contributes to an explanation of the increase mentioned above EXCEPT:**

- (A) Paula's electricity costs increased by 15 cents per kilowatt hour after she replaced her air conditioner.
- (B) Soon after the new air conditioner was installed, Paula adopted a child, doubling the size of her household.
- (C) Paula installed an electricity-intensive indoor tanning bed after she replaced her air conditioning unit.
- (D) The new air conditioner uses a smaller share of the electricity used by Paula's home than did the old unit.
- (E) Following the installation of her new air conditioner, Paula's neighborhood experienced a prolonged and severe heat wave, requiring heavy use of the new unit.

**Correct Answer:** (D) The new air conditioner uses a smaller share of the electricity used by

Paula's home than did the old unit.

### Solution:

#### Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

This is a paradox question with a twist. The paradox is that an action expected to cause a decrease (installing an energy-efficient AC) has resulted in an increase (higher electric bills). We are asked to find the option that does NOT help explain this surprising outcome. Therefore, four of the options will provide a possible reason for the increased bill, and one will not.

#### Step 2: Key Formula or Approach:

The total electric bill is a product of two factors:

$$\text{Total Bill} = (\text{Total Electricity Consumed in kWh}) \times (\text{Cost per kWh})$$

To explain why the total bill increased despite the new AC being more efficient, one or both of these factors must have increased enough to offset the savings from the new appliance.

#### Step 3: Detailed Explanation:

Let's analyze each option to see if it provides a plausible explanation for the increased bill:

- **(A) Paula's electricity costs increased by 15 cents per kilowatt hour...**: This directly addresses the "Cost per kWh" part of the formula. A significant price hike from the utility company could easily lead to a higher bill, even if Paula's total electricity consumption decreased slightly. This explains the paradox.
- **(B) ...Paula adopted a child, doubling the size of her household.**: A larger household would almost certainly lead to an increase in overall electricity consumption (more lights, laundry, electronics, etc.). This increase in "Total Electricity Consumed" could easily outweigh the savings from the new AC. This explains the paradox.
- **(C) Paula installed an electricity-intensive indoor tanning bed...**: Similar to option (B), adding a new, high-power appliance would increase the "Total Electricity Consumed," potentially by a large amount. This could easily account for the higher bill. This explains the paradox.
- **(D) The new air conditioner uses a smaller share of the electricity used by Paula's home...**: This statement is a *consequence* of the new AC being energy-efficient, not a reason for the total bill increasing. It means that the AC is doing its job as expected (being more efficient relative to other appliances). This statement actually deepens the paradox because it confirms the AC's efficiency but offers no explanation for why the overall bill went up.
- **(E) ...Paula's neighborhood experienced a prolonged and severe heat wave...**: A heat wave would force Paula to run the new AC for much longer hours than she ran the old one. Even if the new unit uses less power per hour, a drastic increase in the number of hours it runs could lead to higher total consumption from the AC than before. This explains the paradox.

#### Step 4: Final Answer:

Options (A), (B), (C), and (E) all provide new information that could logically explain why Paula's total electric bill increased. Option (D) does not provide an explanation; it merely confirms that the new appliance is, in fact, energy-efficient, which makes the situation more

puzzling, not less. Therefore, it is the correct answer for this EXCEPT question.

#### Quick Tip

In "Explain the Paradox, EXCEPT" questions, you are looking for the odd one out. Four of the choices will resolve the apparent contradiction by introducing a new piece of information (e.g., a price increase, an increase in usage, etc.). The correct answer will be the one that is irrelevant, restates part of the premise, or deepens the paradox.

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