

PRE-THINKING FOR ASSUMPTION QUESTIONS

CR Session 2

INTRODUCTION TO VERBAL LIVE PREP

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Upcoming Free Sessions in November

Session Name	Date/Time
CR 2 – Pre-Thinking for Assumptions	November 18
Importance of Meaning	November 24







Entry limited by the # of participants we can accommodate in our meeting room

Live Session Details

S.No	Session Name	Session Date and Time
1	STR1 – GMAT Strategy Session	Saturday, November 10, 9:30 am
2	CR1 – Inference	Saturday, November 17, 7:00 am
3	CR2 – Pre-thinking and Argument Structure	Sunday, November 18, 7:00 am
4	SC1 – How to approach SC	Saturday, November 24, 7:00 am
5	CR3 – Evaluate	Sunday, November 24, 9:30 am
6	CR4 – Strengthen and Weaken	Saturday, November 25, 7:00 am
7	SC2 – Foundation of Sentence Structure	Saturday, Dec 1, 7:00 am
8	RC1 - Efficient reading and comprehension	Sunday, Dec 2, 7:00 am
9	SC3 – Parallelism	Saturday, Dec 8, 7:00 am
10	SC4 – Modifiers	Saturday, Dec 15, 7:00 am
11	RC2 – Master the most challenging passages	Sunday, Dec 16, 7:00 am
12	SC5 – Application Session	Saturday, Dec 22, 7:00 am
13	CR5 – Bold Face & Paradox	Sunday, December 23, 9:30 am

TIME = PACIFIC TIME ZONE

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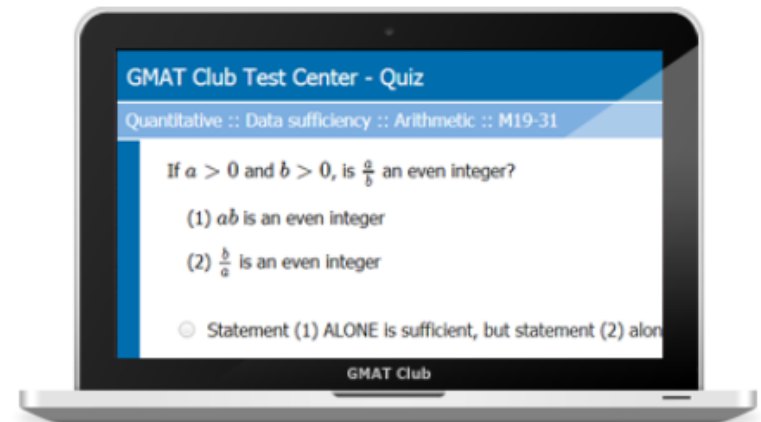
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Recent Successes (last few weeks)



SOURAV DEBNATH: GMAT CLUB MANAGER



After I subscribed to E-gmat course I realized my shortfalls in my verbal strategy. The course was very very helpful to bring up my V23 score to V40. And I would fully attribute my verbal success to e-gmat. A ton of thanks to the ace teachers of e-gmat (Rajat, Payal & Shraddha) for putting up their efforts in this forum too. I got everything I needed to crack SC and RC (the RC strategy worked very well with me). Knowledge of sentence structure & attacking SC question by splitting the clauses was the key in improving on SC.

(Exam Experience) Initial questions were easy ones and I just followed the e-gmat strategy to solve all verbal questions. I did not bothered what is right. I just made sure i strictly apply the strategies learned through e-gmat. I was not searching the right answer, rather i was eliminating the wrong ones. (This is the key in verbal portion).

I have struggled more than 2 years to achieve a good GMAT score. Now there is no consideration to look backwards. I am ready to stretch myself beyond limits. If I can convert my weakness (Verbal score) into a strength, I believe I can do so in future too.

IMPROVED FROM V23 TO V40, USED VLP IN HIS 4TH ATTEMPT

Debrief

Improved from V22 to V37

*I recount a few instances when you both (Rajat/payal) wrote "make us proud" as you signed off any email. I gave my GMAT this Wednesday and score 690, not sure how you two perceive it :) . Now for the interesting part.. guess my verbal score in my first attempt when i scored a total of 510! - - - it was 22 (yeah.. it was so low) - - please note that i am not dumb! :) :) .. its just that i lacked a SOLID Teacher!! This time I scored **37***

ANKIT DHINGRA: GMAT 690, V37

Improved 5 points in spite of being ill



GURPREET SINGH: GMATCLUB MODERATOR



For E-gmat I would just say my Thanks to Rajat, Payal, and Shradha. The live sessions of RAJAT on strategy and CR are awesome. Payal and Shradha are no less than Stacy and Ron of MGMAT. No doubt no one knows more than these two experts of Mgmata, but sometimes I used to find their replies too technical to grasp. On the other hand - the live sessions of Payal and Shradha were awesome. Their articles and replies on the questions are fabulous. REALLY something that helps you to learn the concepts.

710, IMPROVED FROM V30 TO V35, USED VLP IN HIS 4TH ATTEMPT

Debrief

740 (V42)

POOJA JOLIE



The e-GMAT Verbal Live course took my preparation to the next level. The OG Solutions Video course is awesome. The CR course helped me weave through logic of arguments and provided me the approach for most CR question types. Overall, this course played a major role in improving my verbal score from 30 to 42 (90+ percentile).

POOJA IMPROVED AN IMPRESSIVE 19 POINTS (V23 TO V42) TO SCORE 740 (Q48, V42) ON GMAT

Debrief

Aim of this Session

To help people Pre-think assumptions

AGENDA

- 1 How to approach to Prethink
- 2 Solved examples
- 3 Negation Test

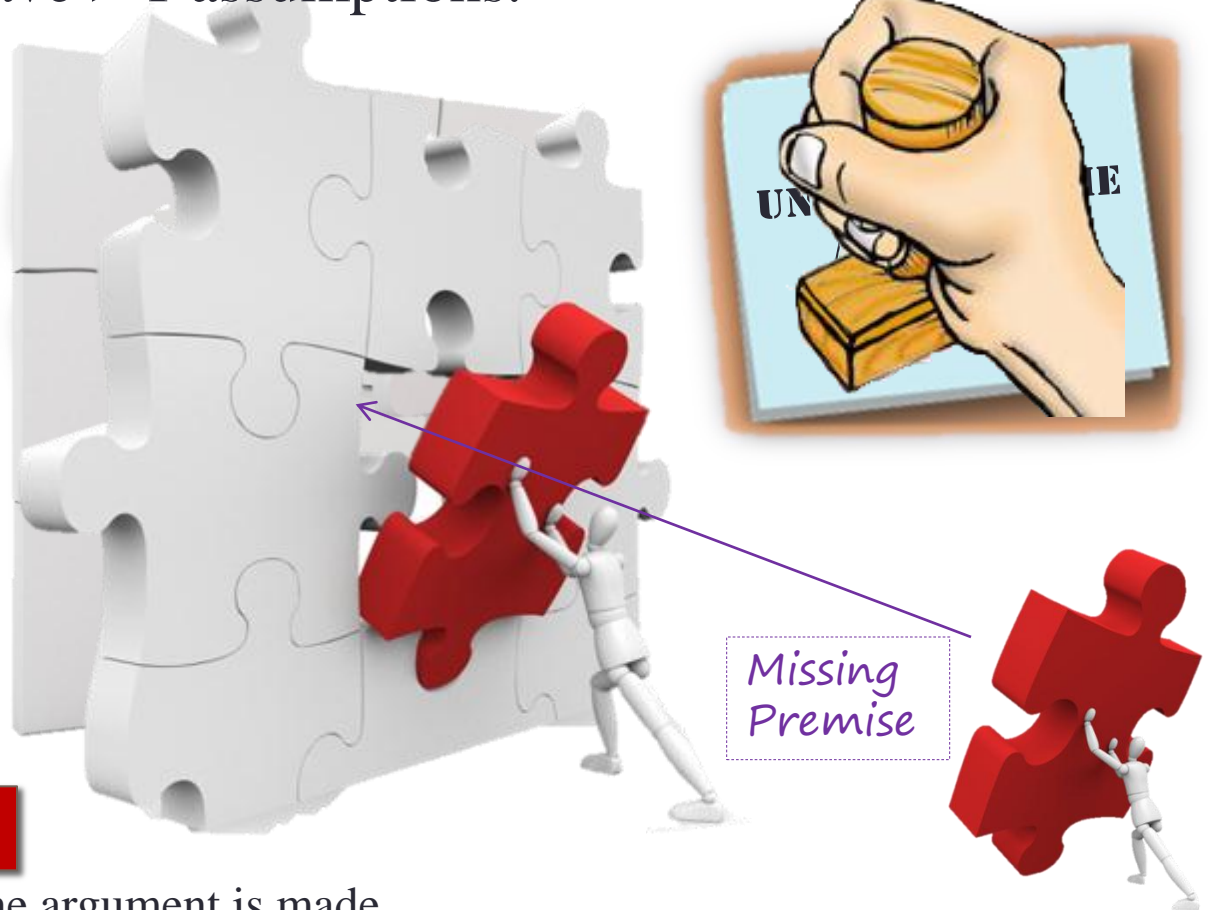
Pre-Requisites

1. Logical Structure
2. Assumption Concept file
3. Assumption Application file
4. Inference concept file (Good practice)

What is an Assumption?

ASSUMPTION

- The unstated idea required for the conclusion to be valid.
- An argument can have > 1 assumptions.



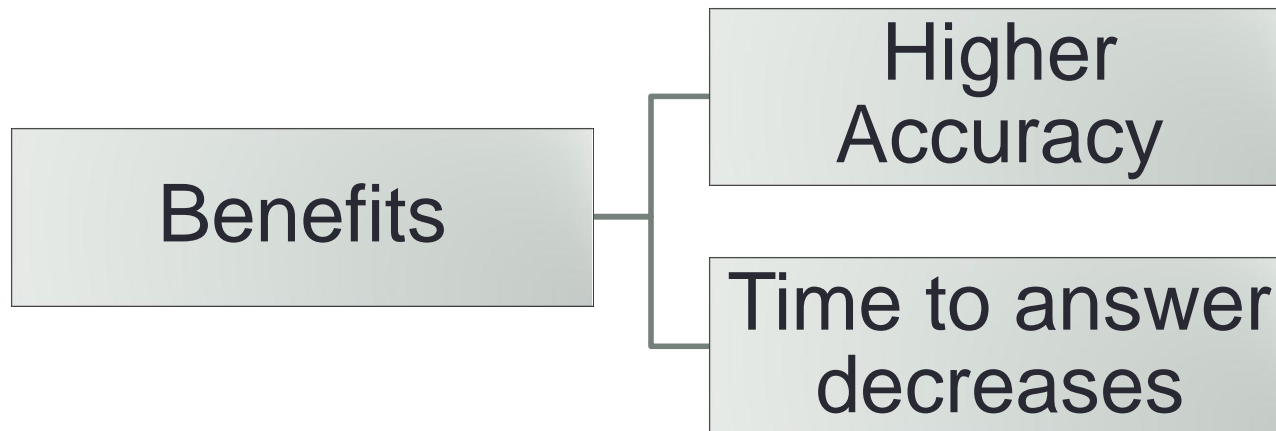
WHAT IS TESTED ?

- Understanding how the argument is made
- Incorporating new information that the author assumes

Pre-thinking: what and why...



Pre-thinking: Thinking “one potential” assumption in your mind in “15 seconds” “before” going to the answer choices..



Higher
GMAT score



Saving time with Prethinking

CR Assumption Question

- Ability to read and comprehend
- Understanding of the concepts
- Attack Strategy (Process)
- Familiarity with question types
- Agility of the mind

Understand
the
argument

Student 1

30-45 S

Student 2

30 S

Pre-think the
answer

15 S

0 S

Evaluate the
answer
choices

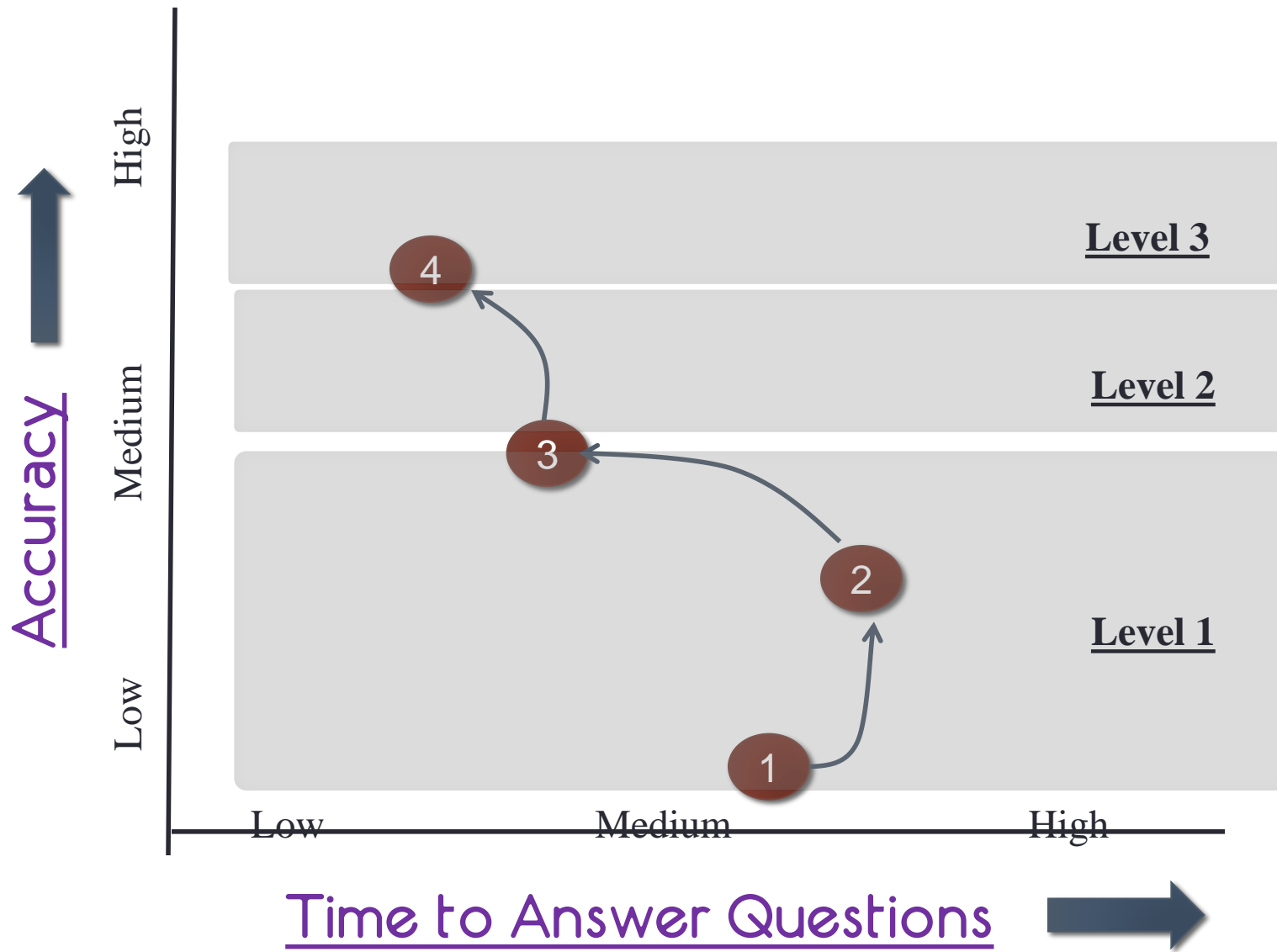
15-30 S

60 -
150S

60 to 90
seconds

90 to 180
Seconds

How will you feel



PROCESS AND EXAMPLES

- ✓ Start with easy examples
- ✓ Move on to more challenging problems

How to Pre-think



FOCUS ON CONCLUSION AND HOW IT RELATES TO THE INFORMATION PROVIDED

In their annual report, Comscore suggested that Windows mobile share of the US smartphone market dipped from 18% in 2009 to 10% in 2010. The author therefore concluded that fewer smartphones with Windows Mobile were shipped in 2010 than in 2009.

How to Pre-think ... Analytical



FOCUS ON CONCLUSION AND HOW IT RELATES TO THE INFORMATION PROVIDED

In their annual report, Comscore suggested Windows mobile share of the US smartphone market dipped from 18% in 2009 to 10% in 2010. The author therefore concluded that fewer smartphones with Windows Mobile were shipped in 2010 than in 2009.

What is the conclusion?

fewer smartphones with WM OS were shipped in 2010 than in 2009.

What is the basis of his conclusion?

Market share of WM OS declined.

How is #WM phone related to market share?

WM phone = (# of Smartphones) X (Market Share)

What else needs be true?

of smartphones should not have gone up considerably

How to Pre-think Example 2



FOCUS ON CONCLUSION AND HOW IT RELATES TO THE INFORMATION PROVIDED

Joshua has is GMAT exam in 3 weeks and wants to score 700. Joshua, recently gave his GMAT mock test and scored 650, with a split of Q49, V31. Based on this split, his mentor recommended that to achieve his target score, Joshua spend 80% of his time to improve his performance on GMAT Verbal.

What is the conclusion?

Joshua spend 80% of his time to improve his performance on GMAT Verbal.

What is the basis of his conclusion?

1. Mock test score and split.
2. 3 weeks to exam

How is mock test score related to actual GMAT score?

- They should be similar
- The split tells the strengths and weakness

What else needs be true?

1. Mock test needs to be representative.
2. Joshua should not have cheated on the mock.

The best way to start Prethinking



1. Understand the Conclusion
2. Visualize the argument
3. Ask ...
 - What else must be true
 - How can I falsify the conclusion
 - Under what conditions is the conclusion no longer valid

TAKE AWAY

Follow this process and you should be able to move from Stage 1 to Stage 2 in about 20 questions

Q1: Newsweek Vs TIME

Historically Newsweek had 30% fewer subscribers than TIME magazine did. To improve its share, Newsweek recently increased coverage on international financial markets and added a new section on international movies. The two magazines now have about the same number of subscribers. Therefore, Newsweek's editor concluded that the increased coverage and the addition of a new section led to the subscribers switching from TIME to Newsweek.

Which of the following is an assumption that the editor of Newsweek relies on while making his case?

- A. After these additions the editorial content of Newsweek's is more closely aligned with the interests of the overall population than is the content of TIME magazine.
- B. Newsweek's readers are more interested in international financial markets and international movies than TIME's readers are.
- C. At least some TIME readers liked the content additions from Newsweek better than the corresponding content from TIME.
- D. The growth in Newsweek subscribers is may be due to its recently revamped advertising program.
- E. The quality of editorial of TIME magazine has not improved over the discussed time Period.

Q1: Passage Analysis

What is the conclusion?


The increased coverage and the addition of a new section led to the subscribers switching from TIME to Newsweek.

What is the basis of the conclusion

1. Newsweek 30% fewer Subsc. Than TIME
2. Additions + enhancements
3. Number of subscribers the same

What else needs to be true for the conclusion to hold true?

1. Some TIME Subsc. should like NW content better.
2. No alternate reason



You are doing good if you came up with one of these assumptions

NEGATION
What happens when you negate these assumptions



Q1: Answer Choice Analysis

Historically Newsweek had 30% fewer subscribers than TIME magazine did. To improve its share, Newsweek recently increased coverage on international financial markets and added a new section on international movies. The two magazines now have about the same number of subscribers. Therefore, Newsweek's editor concluded that the increased coverage and the addition of a new section led to the subscribers switching from TIME to Newsweek.

- A. After these additions the editorial content of Newsweek's is more closely aligned with the interests of the overall population than is the content of TIME magazine.
 - B. Newsweek's readers are more interested in international financial markets and international movies than TIME's readers are.
 - C. At least some TIME readers liked the content additions from Newsweek better than the corresponding content from TIME.
 - D. The growth in Newsweek subscribers is may be due to its recently revamped advertising program.
 - E. The quality of editorial of TIME magazine has not improved over the discussed time Period.
- A. **OFS:** We are not concerned with the interests of the overall population.
 - B. **OFS:** Relative comparison of the interests of the subscribers of 2 magazines is not in scope.
 - C. **Correct:** Provides the reason for switch from TIME to Newsweek. (hint apply negation test)
 - D. **Weakeners:** Supports alternate reasoning
 - E. **OFS:** Quality improvement is not an issue here.

Q2: BACH TECH

To improve profitability, last year the CEO of Bach Tech committed to reducing overhead costs by 30%. Last year the company employed 100 employees as overhead for every \$100 million in revenue. While announcing earnings this year, the CEO announced that the company now employs only 50 employees for every 100 million in revenue. Therefore, the analysts' angst that the CEO has not lived up to his commitment is false.

The argument above assumes that...

- A. Leading up to last year, the number of overhead employees either constantly increased or were constant.
- B. Bach Tech's revenue this year is at least the same as that last year.
- C. Bach Tech has lower than or equivalent overhead costs to its competitors
- D. The average expense per overhead employee is not significantly higher this year than last year.
- E. The overall profits of the company have increased this year when compared to last year.

Q2: Company Overhead

To improve profitability, last year the CEO of Back Tech committed to reducing overhead costs by 30%. Last year the company employed 100 employees as overhead for every \$100 million in revenue. While announcing earnings this year, the CEO announced that the company now employs only 50 employees for every 100 million in revenue. Therefore, the analysts' angst that the CEO has not lived up to his commitment is false.

The argument above assumes that...

What is the conclusion?

the analysts' angst that the CEO has not lived up to his commitment is false. (CEO has met his commitment)

What is the CEO's commitment?

Reduce overhead costs by 30%

What are overhead costs?

$(\text{Number of OH emp}) * (\text{cost per emp})$

What else needs be true?

1. Cost per emp should not go up
2. Revenue should not go up considerably

Q2: Answer Choice Analysis

To improve profitability, last year the CEO of Back Tech committed to reducing overhead costs by 30%. Last year the company employed 100 employees as overhead for every \$100 million in revenue. While announcing earnings this year, the CEO announced that the company now employs only 50 employees for every 100 million in revenue. Therefore, the analysts' angst that the CEO has not lived up to his commitment is false.

- A. Leading up to last year, the number of overhead employees either constantly increased or were constant.
 - B. Back Tech's revenue this year is at least the same as that last year.
 - C. Back Tech has lower than or equivalent overhead costs to its competitors
 - D. The average expense per overhead employee is not significantly higher this year than last year.
 - E. The overall profits of the company have increased this year when compared to last year.
- A. **OFS:** We are not concerned with the # of employees leading up to last year
 - B. **RBI:** Relevant because it talks about revenue, inconclusive because it does not provide an upper ceiling
 - C. **OFS:** Comparison with competitors not in scope.
 - D. **Correct:** Talks about one assumption as discussed before
 - E. **OFS:** Overall profits not an issue

Q3: Shelbyville Refuse

Last year all refuse collected by Shelbyville city services was incinerated. This incineration generated a large quantity of residual ash. In order to reduce the amount of residual ash Shelbyville generates this year to half of last year's total, the city has revamped its collection program. This year city services will separate for recycling enough refuse to reduce the number of truckloads of refuse to be incinerated to half of last year's number.

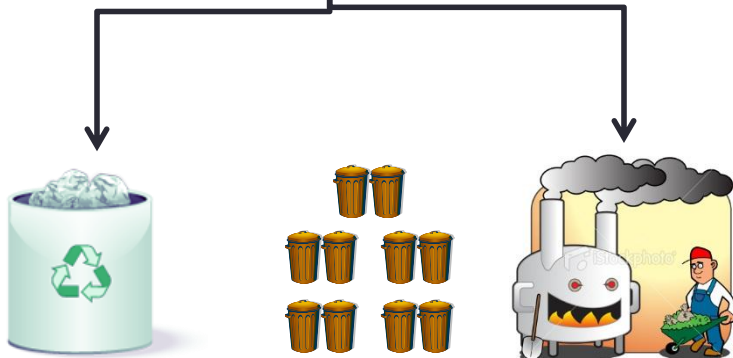
Which of the following is required for the revamped collection program to achieve its aim?

- A. This year, no materials that city services could separate for recycling will be incinerated.
- B. Separating recyclable materials from materials to be incinerated will cost Shelbyville less than half what it cost last year to dispose of the residual ash
- C. Refuse collected by city services will contain a larger proportion of recyclable materials this year than it did last year.
- D. The refuse incinerated this year will generate no more residual ash per truckload incinerated than did the refuse incinerated last year.
- E. The total quantity of refuse collected by Shelbyville city service's this year will be no greater than that collected last year.

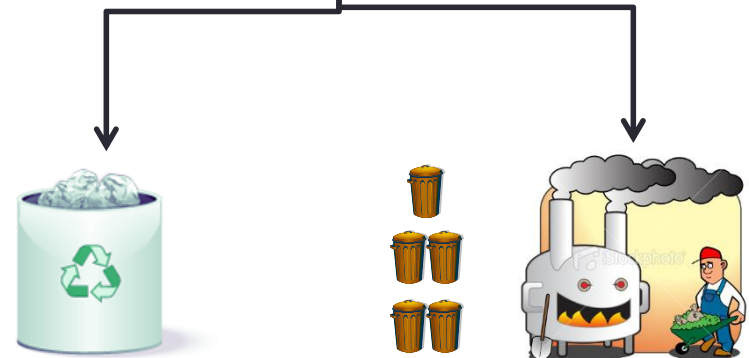
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Last Year



This Year



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Which of the following is required for the revamped collection program to achieve its aim

What is the conclusion?	Revamped collection program achieves its aim
What is the aim?	To reduce the amount of residual ash Shelbyville generates this year to half of last year's total
Define amount of ash	(Number of truckloads) X (Ash/truckload)
What else do we know	The number of truckloads will be reduced to half
What else needs be true?	1. Ash/truckload needs to stay the same or reduce

Q4: RDS Technology GMATPREP problem

Radio stations with radio data system (RDS) technology broadcast special program information that only radios with an RDS feature can receive. Between 1994 and 1996, the number of RDS radio stations in Verdland increased from 250 to 600. However, since the number of RDS-equipped radios in Verdland was about the same in 1996 as in 1994, the number of Verlanders receiving the special program information probably did not increase significantly.

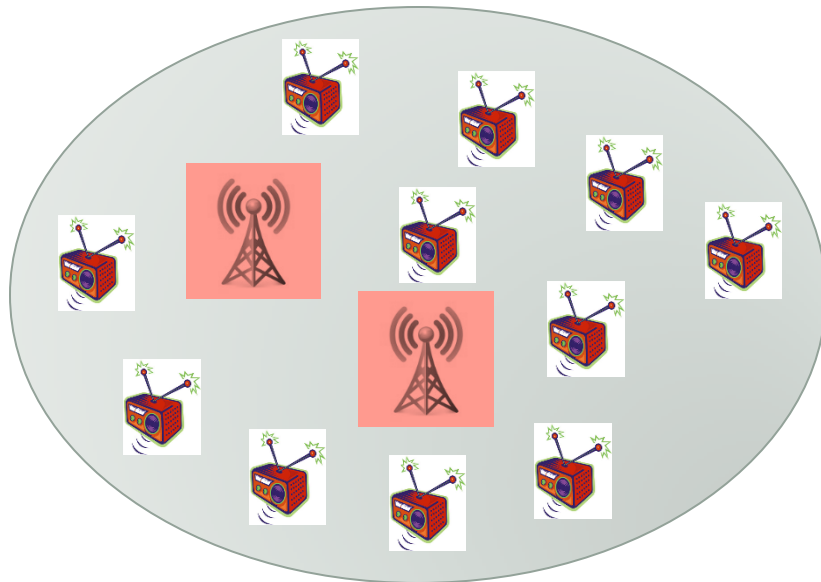
Which of the following is an assumption on which the argument depends?

- A. Few if any of the RDS radio stations that began broadcasting in Verdland after 1994 broadcast to people with RDS-equipped radios living in areas not previously reached by RDS stations.
- B. In 1996 most Verlanders who lived within the listening area of an RDS station already had a radio equipped to receive RDS.
- C. Equipping a radio station with RDS technology does not decrease the station's listening area.
- D. In 1996 Verlanders who did not own radios equipped to receive RDS could not receive any programming from the RDS radio stations that began broadcasting in Verdland after 1994.
- E. The RDS radio stations in Verdland in 1996 did not all offer the same type of programming.

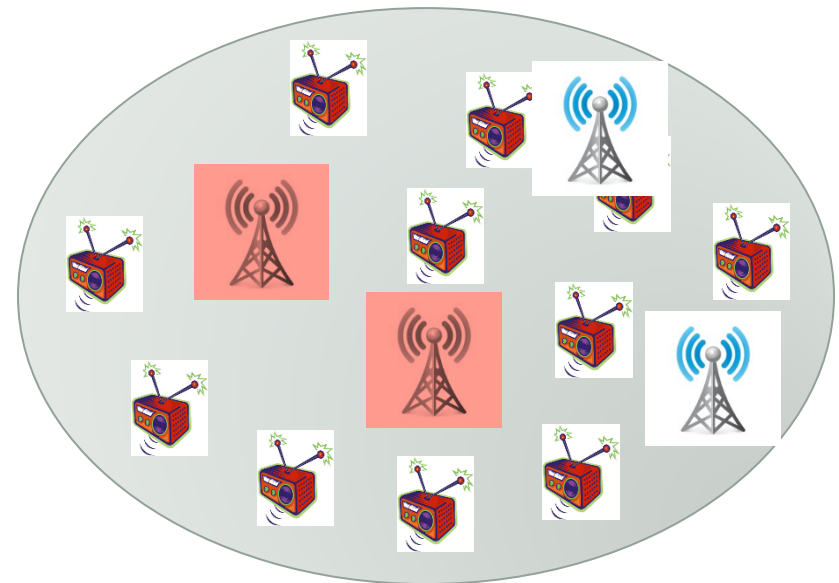
Q4: RDS Technology GMATPREP problem

Radio stations with radio data system (RDS) technology broadcast special program information that only radios with an RDS feature can receive. Between 1994 and 1996, the number of RDS radio stations in Verdland increased from 250 to 600. However, since the number of RDS-equipped radios in Verdland was about the same in 1996 as in 1994, the number of Verlanders receiving the special program information probably did not increase significantly.

In 1994



In 1996



Q4: RDS Technology GMATPREP problem

Radio stations with radio data system (RDS) technology broadcast special program information that only radios with an RDS feature can receive. Between 1994 and 1996, the number of RDS radio stations in Verdland increased from 250 to 600. However, since the number of RDS-equipped radios in Verdland was about the same in 1996 as in 1994, the number of Verlanders receiving the special program information probably did not increase significantly.

Which of the following is an assumption on which the argument depends?

What is the conclusion?	the number of Verlanders receiving the special program information probably did not increase significantly
How do you compute the # of Verlanders receiving	$(\# \text{ of radios}) \times (\text{Coverage}) \times (\text{people/radio})$
What else do we know	The number of radios remained the same
What else needs be true?	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Coverage should not be very different2. People/radio

Q4: Answer Choice Analysis

Radio stations with radio data system (RDS) technology broadcast special program information that only radios with an RDS feature can receive. Between 1994 and 1996, the number of RDS radio stations in Verdland increased from 250 to 600. However, since the number of RDS-equipped radios in Verdland was about the same in 1996 as in 1994, the number of Verlanders receiving the special program information probably did not increase significantly.

- A. Few if any of the RDS radio stations that began broadcasting in Verdland after 1994 broadcast to people with RDS-equipped radios living in areas not previously reached by RDS stations.
 - B. In 1996 most Verlanders who lived within the listening area of an RDS station already had a radio equipped to receive RDS.
 - C. Equipping a radio station with RDS technology does not decrease the station's listening area.
 - D. In 1996 Verlanders who did not own radios equipped to receive RDS could not receive any programming from the RDS radio stations that began broadcasting in Verdland after 1994.
 - E. The RDS radio stations in Verdland in 1996 did not all offer the same type of programming.
- A. Correct:** Ensures that the increased # of radio stations did not improve coverage
 - B. OFS:** Talks about 1996; has no relationship to the conclusion
 - C. OFS :** Range of radio station is not relevant here.
 - D. OFS:** The concern here is special programming and not any programming
 - E. OFS:** Type of programming not in scope.

Take Aways

How to Prethink

Take Aways from Questions

What to do Next?

E-GMAT Concepts

1. Premise and Conclusion
2. Logical Structure
3. Inference files
4. Assumption concept file
5. Assumption Application file

Official Questions

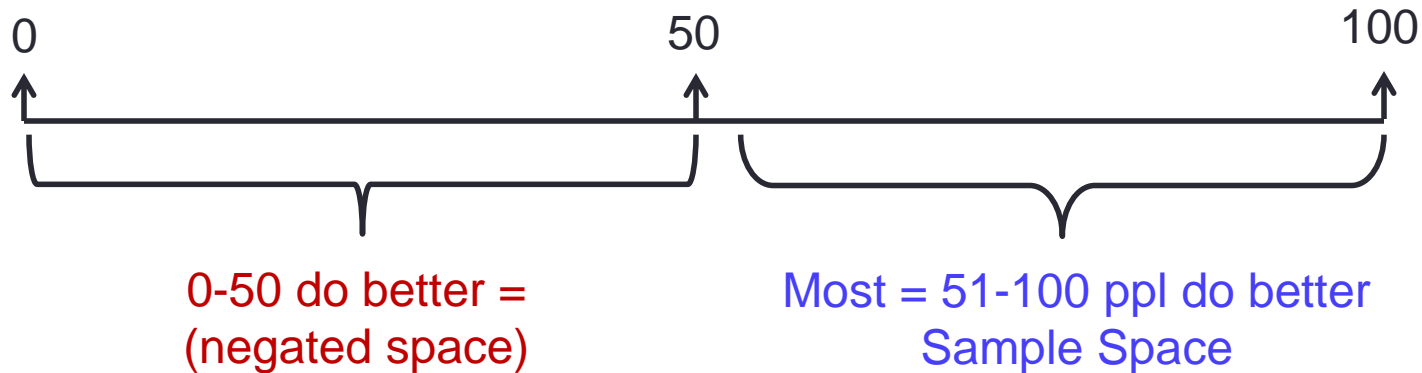
- **OG 12:** 2, 20, 28, 43, 48, 50, 58, 71, 76, 78, 84, 93, 95, 107, 110, 112
- **OG 13:** 21, 41, 46, 48, 75, 77, 83, 93, 96, 106, 109, 113
- **Verbal Review (Blue):** 1, 7, 10, 28, 34, 37, 44, 52, 56, 59, 63, 67, 69, 76

NEGATION TEST

Ex1: Lets analyze the choice itself

Ex1: Most GMAT test takers who take the exam after 1 month of preparation perform better than they did in their first mock. (Multiple answers may be correct)

Sample Space = 100 test takers who perform better



<u>Do better</u>	<u>Don't do better</u>
0 do better	100 don't do better
50 do better	50 don't do better

} Is this equivalent to
Most don't do better?

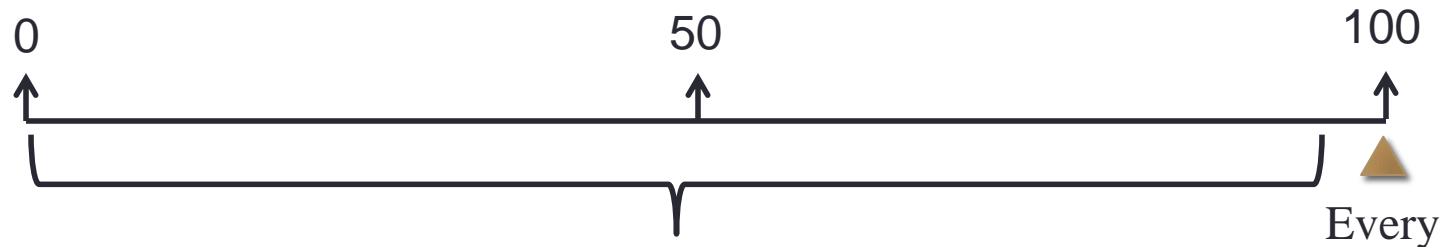
Negated statement: 1) Only 0 to 50 do better 2) 50 to 100 do not do better.

- | | |
|---|---|
| A. Most GMAT test takers who take the exam after 1 month of preparation do not perform better than they did in their first mock. | A. Most do not perform better => only 0 to 49 perform better, leaving 50 out. ☒ |
| B. All GMAT test takers who take the exam after 1 month of preparation perform better than they did in their first mock. | B. All = 100% hence we not the sample space. ☒ |
| C. No GMAT test taker who takes the exam after 1 month of preparation performs better than they did in their first mock. | C. None = 0 ☒ |
| D. At least half of GMAT test takers who take the exam after 1 month of preparation perform better than they did in their first mock. | D. At least half = 50 to 100 (both included), overlapping with the sample space. ☒ |
| E. Up to half of GMAT test takers who take the exam after 1 month of preparation perform better than they did in their first mock. | E. Up to half => 0 -50 perform better. ✓ |
| F. Up to half of GMAT test takers who take the exam after 1 month of preparation do not perform better than they did in their first mock. | F. Up to half do not perform better => 51-100 perform better, same as the choice. ☒ |
| G. Half or more of GMAT test takers who take the exam after 1 month of preparation do not perform better than they did in their first mock. | G. Half or more do not perform better => 0 to 50 perform better.. ✓ |

Ex2: Lets analyze the choice itself

Ex2: Every internet dating profile in the world begs for some spontaneity (Multiple answers may be correct)

Sample Space = 100 profiles



0-99 do not beg better = (negated space)

✓ Not Every

✓ Some

Ex3: Lets analyze the choice itself

Ex2: Innovations such as iPhone happen nowhere outside Apple. (Multiple answers may be correct)

Ex2 reword: Innovations such as iPhone happen only inside Apple. (Multiple answers may be correct)



Negation: Innovations such as iPhone also happen outside Apple

Negation: Innovations such as iPhone do happen outside Apple

Negation: Innovations such as iPhone happen both inside and outside Apple.

Q5: Facebook

We are currently in a Social networking bubble. Ever since, Facebook announced its deal with Farmville, the valuation of all social networking gaming companies has increased multifold to the extent that average social network gaming company now trades at 40 times estimated future 6-month revenue as predicted by analysts a month back. Historically, such high valuation when sustained over 9 months resulted in a bubble burst that had an overall negative impact on the economy and this time is no different.

While making the prediction, the author assumes that..

- A. There are no fewer start ups in this bubble than were in the previous bubbles.
- B. The revenue growth of social networking companies is not higher than the revenue growth of traditional companies.
- C. The current crop of social networking companies do not have higher revenue than the crop of companies who failed in the previous bubble.
- D. The average revenue increase for social networking gaming companies in the next 6 months will not be substantially over and above analysts predictions.
- E. Some social networking companies do not have much higher valuation than others.

Q5: Facebook - Analysis

We are currently in a Social networking bubble. Ever since, Facebook announced its deal with Farmville, the valuation of all social networking gaming companies has increased multifold to the extent that average social network gaming company now trades at 40 times estimated future 6-month revenue as predicted by analysts a month back. Historically, such high valuation when sustained over 9 months results in a bubble burst that has an overall negative impact on the economy and this time is no different.

What is the conclusion?

Bubble will burst due to high valuation sustained over 9 months

Define high valuation

40 times the estimated 6 month future revenue as predicted by analysts

What else do we know

Its (high valuation) triggered by an event
Related to facebook

What else needs be true?

1. The high valuation must be sustained
2. analyst's prediction of revenue must not be off

Q5: Answer Choice Analysis

We are currently in a Social networking bubble. Ever since, Facebook announced its deal with Farmville, the valuation of all social networking gaming companies has increased multifold to the extent that average social network gaming company now trades at 40 times estimated future 6-month revenue as predicted by analysts a month back. Historically, such high valuation when sustained over 9 months resulted in a bubble burst that had an overall negative impact on the economy and this time is no different.

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 - C. The current crop of social networking companies do not have higher revenue than the crop of companies who failed in the previous bubble.
 - D. The average revenue increase for social networking gaming companies in the next 6 months will not be substantially over and above analysts predictions.
 - E. Some social networking companies do not have much higher valuation than others.
- A. **OFS:** The # of startups has no link to the conclusion.
 - B. **OFS:** Comparison with traditional companies has not relevance here.
 - C. **OFS :** Valuation and not overall revenue is of relevance here.
 - D. **Correct:** Required assumption for the bubble to burst.
 - E. **OFS:** not relevant to the conclusion.

How should you evaluate a GMAT course

1. Completeness

Does the course cover all the major concepts tested on the GMAT



2. Application

Does the course teach you how to apply the concepts ... comprehensively



3. Practice

Does the course contain enough practice questions.



4. Support

Does the company stand behind its course, and clear any doubts that you have



5. Proven success

Does the company have a track record of delivering



