

ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY GCE
CRITICAL THINKING

Unit 2: Assessing and Developing Argument

F502/01
F502/02

Candidates answer on the question paper

OCR Supplied Materials:

- Answer Sheet for Section A Multiple Choice
- Resource Booklet

Other Materials Required:

None

Monday 12 January 2009
Afternoon
Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes

Candidate Forename					Candidate Surname				
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Centre Number						Candidate Number			
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INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Write your name clearly in capital letters, your Centre Number and Candidate Number in the boxes above.
- Use black ink. Pencil may be used for graphs and diagrams only.
- Read each question carefully and make sure that you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Answer **all** the questions.
- Answer Section A, questions 1–15, on the Answer Sheet provided. You are advised to spend no more than 20 minutes on Section A.
- Answer Sections B and C in the spaces on the question paper.
- Do **not** write in the bar codes.
- Write your answer to each question in the space provided, however additional paper may be used if necessary.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.
- The total number of marks for this paper is **75**. Section A comprises 20% of the available marks; Sections B and C comprise 80% of the available marks.
- Up to 5 marks are awarded for quality of written communication within Section C.
- This document consists of **16** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

Section A: Multiple Choice

Answer **all** questions.

You are advised to spend no more than 20 minutes on this section of the paper.

Questions 1 and 2 refer to the following passage:

There are dozens of skyscraper projects planned or under way across London, which have all been approved by the Mayor. But tall buildings in the wrong place can be a big problem: dwarfing the other architecture, blocking light and historic views and creating an inhuman cityscape of glass and steel. Since there are problems with building up we will have to look down – not at our feet, but at the ground beneath. Planners must consider developing underground complexes.

- 1 Which of the following is the **main conclusion** of the above argument?
- (a) Planners must consider developing underground complexes.
 - (b) Since there are problems with building up, we will have to look down.
 - (c) Tall buildings in the wrong places can be a big problem.
 - (d) The Mayor should not have approved all of the skyscraper projects. [1]
- 2 The argument contains a **flaw** in the reasoning. The flaw would be best described as:
- (a) circular argument
 - (b) irrelevant appeal to authority
 - (c) post hoc
 - (d) restricting the options [1]

Questions 3, 4 and 5 refer to the following passage:

Rubbish inspectors in Southampton will soon be cracking down on end of term waste dumping by students. Although the arrival of these inspectors may annoy students, the crackdown is a good thing because it is unfair that the community has to bear the cost of a minority's actions. In 2007 the council collected 45 tonnes of waste from two student areas, at a cost of £6000 to the taxpayer.

3 Which of the following is the **main conclusion** of the argument?

- (a) It is unfair that the community has to bear the cost of a minority's actions.
- (b) One council collected 45 tonnes of waste from two student areas.
- (c) Rubbish inspectors will soon be cracking down on end of term waste dumping.
- (d) The crackdown is a good thing.

[1]

4 Which of the following is a **principle** used in the argument?

- (a) It is unfair that the community has to bear the cost of a minority's actions.
- (b) One council collected 45 tonnes of waste from two student areas.
- (c) Rubbish inspectors will soon be cracking down on end of term waste dumping.
- (d) The crackdown is a good thing.

[1]

5 What is the name given to the following argument element in the above passage:

“The arrival of these inspectors may annoy students.”

- (a) Conclusion of a counter-argument.
- (b) Counter-assertion.
- (c) Intermediate conclusion.
- (d) Reason.

[1]

Questions 6, 7 and 8 refer to the following passage:

People who make hoax calls to the fire service should face serious punishment because calls about false emergencies such as fires, car crashes and terrorist attacks have serious consequences. Hoax calls waste taxpayers' money. Worse, each hoax call draws life-saving services away from people in real need.

6 Which of the following is the **intermediate conclusion** of the argument?

- (a) Calls about false emergencies such as fires, car crashes and terrorist attacks have serious consequences.
- (b) Hoax calls waste taxpayers' money.
- (c) People who make hoax calls to the fire service should face serious punishment.
- (d) Worse, each hoax call draws life-saving services away from people in real need.

[1]

7 Which of the following is a **principle** which should **support** the argument?

- (a) It is tasteless to play practical jokes.
- (b) It is wrong to take actions which could lead to loss of life.
- (c) Loss of life is the most serious consequence which could occur.
- (d) Punishment is rarely effective as a means of preventing crime.

[1]

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

- (a) It is possible to pinpoint the location of calls including which mobile made the call.
- (b) Penalties for hoax calls currently include a £5000 fine or a six-month jail sentence.
- (c) Some fire services and mobile phone operators are co-operating to cut off phones used for hoax calls.
- (d) Thousands of hoax calls are made every year at a cost of around £2000 a time.

[1]

Questions 9 and 10 refer to the following passage:

Research has found that children with stressed parents have significantly more illnesses than children with relaxed parents. The Government must deal with this problem now, as childhood illness affects learning. If children do not learn the basics they will not progress in their education. Children could leave school without the skills needed by employers. This could lead to serious economic decline.

9 What is the name given to the following argument element in the above passage:

“Research has found that children with stressed parents have significantly more illnesses than children with relaxed parents.”

- (a) Evidence
- (b) Example
- (c) Intermediate conclusion
- (d) Main conclusion

[1]

10 The argument contains a **flaw** in the reasoning. The flaw would be best described as:

- (a) Confusing necessary and sufficient conditions.
- (b) Reasoning from wrong actions.
- (c) Restricting the options.
- (d) Slippery slope.

[1]

Questions 11 and 12 refer to the following passage:

Many people complain that music festivals are too muddy and expensive. This is true but it doesn't matter. Some people like the mud because it gets them away from the claustrophobic indoor living of city life. If people enjoy the music, they should not complain about the price.

11 What is the best description of the following argument element in the above passage:

"Some people like the mud because it gets them away from the claustrophobic indoor living of city life."

- (a) Counter argument with reason and conclusion
- (b) Example + reason
- (c) Explanation
- (d) Reason + intermediate conclusion

[1]

12 Which of the following best expresses a **weakness** in the argument?

- (a) It does not follow from enjoying music that any price is acceptable.
- (b) It does not follow from the truth of complaints that they do not matter.
- (c) It is possible to find music festivals which are good value and quite dry.
- (d) It is possible to get away from city life without wading through the sort of knee deep mud found at some festivals.

Section A Total [15]

Questions 13 and 14 refer to the following passage:

A significant number of high street shops have their doors wide open to the passing public during working hours. The total annual wastage from heat loss through these open doors is over £250 million. Although this strategy makes a shop more welcoming to passers-by, the average shop could save over 25% of its energy bills by closing its doors. If shops want to increase profit margins, and also be more environmentally friendly, they should not leave their doors open.

13 Which of the following is the best statement of the **counter-assertion** in the above argument?

- (a) A lot of shops leave their door open.
- (b) Leaving the doors open can make a shop more welcoming.
- (c) Shops could save more than a quarter of their energy bill by closing their doors.
- (d) Shops should shut their doors.

[1]

14 Which of the following is an **underlying assumption** of the argument?

- (a) A significant number of customers will still visit the shop despite the doors being closed.
- (b) Closing the shop doors will reduce the heat loss from the shop.
- (c) Closing the shop doors will save more money in costs than it loses in customer income.
- (d) The majority of customers will know that the shop doors are closed for environmental reasons.

[1]

15 The legal limit for driving with alcohol should be reduced from 80 mg per 100 ml of blood to 50 mg. Records show that last year more than 6,000 people were hurt in drink-driving accidents. Tests show that a driver's awareness and skill can be affected by as little as 60 mg of alcohol per 100 ml of blood. Therefore a driver can be legally allowed to drive despite being affected by alcohol.

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

- (a) The average opening hours of pubs and bars in the UK has increased in the last few years.
- (b) There are a significant number of drivers currently analysed as having between 50 and 80 mg of alcohol per 100 ml in their blood.
- (c) There is a growing concern about binge-drinking in the UK.
- (d) The legal limits for driving with alcohol in other European countries range between 50 and 80 mg per 100 ml of blood.

[1]

Section B – Analysing and Evaluating Argument

Answer all questions.

Read the passage in the Resource Booklet.

Questions 16–20 refer to paragraphs 1 to 4 of the passage only.

You should use the exact words of the author in your answers to 16 a, b and c.

- 16 (a)** State the main conclusion of the argument presented in paragraphs 1 to 4.

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.....
.....

[3]

- (b)** State an intermediate conclusion in paragraphs 1 to 4.

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.....

[3]

- (c)** State the principle given by the author in paragraphs 1 to 4.

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[3]

- 17** In paragraph 2, the author suggests that the significant increase in the number of prisoners has been caused by the longer sentences being given to petty criminals. Give an alternative explanation for this increase.

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[2]

- 18 In paragraph 2, the author says that the average cost to taxpayers of each prison place is £40,000 per year. Explain **one** strength **or** weakness in the use of this evidence to support the argument.

Circle which you have chosen:

Strength

Weakness

Explanation:

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[2]

- 19 In paragraph 3, the author claims that "Community Service is better than prison at encouraging criminals to change their behaviour". Explain **one** weakness in the way the author has used evidence to support this claim.

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[3]

- 20 Name a flaw in paragraph 4, and, with reference to the reasoning, explain why it is flawed.

Name: [1]

Explanation:

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.....
.....

[2]

Questions 21 and 22 refer to paragraphs 5 and 6 only

21 What does the Reader's Response imply that the Government should do?

[2]

[2]

22 Evaluate the reasoning in the Reader's Response, covered in paragraphs 5 and 6. In your answer you might consider:

- flaws and appeals
 - the use of examples
 - the use of hypothetical reasoning
 - other evaluation

[9]

. [9]

Section B Total [30]

Section C – Developing your own arguments

- 23** In paragraph 1, the author says the Government is releasing nearly 2,000 non-dangerous offenders early as a solution to prison over-crowding. Give **two** reasons why the Government should **not** do this.

Reason 1:

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..... [3]

Reason 2:

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.....

..... [3]

- 24** Write your own argument to **challenge** the following conclusion:

“Prison sentences should be short and unpleasant.”

Marks will be given for a well-structured and developed argument. You should include at least 3 reasons, an intermediate conclusion and an overall conclusion. Your argument should also contain examples and/or evidence.

You may use information and ideas from the passage, but you must use them to form a new argument. No credit will be given for repeating the arguments in the passage.

[12]

. [12]

- 25** Write your own argument to **challenge or support** the following conclusion:

“We should aim to rehabilitate offenders rather than punish them.”

Marks will be given for a well-structured and developed argument. You should include at least 3 reasons, an intermediate conclusion and an overall conclusion. Your argument should also contain examples and/or evidence.

You may use information and ideas from the passage, but you must use them to form a new argument. No credit will be given for repeating the arguments in the passage.

[12]

. [12]

Section C Total [30]

Paper Total [75]

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