

# **Practice Verbal Reasoning 1**

*Explanatory Answers*

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**Passage I**

1. B  
Governments are placing a higher value on national security than on scientific freedom since scientific knowledge related to military defense is typically kept secret (presumably to prevent advantageous knowledge from leaking to enemy countries). A is unsupported. No connection is implied between the particle accelerator and space programs and national security. C is not responsive to the question and is a bit nonsensical. Even if C were turned around to make some logical sense (e.g., “Without the ability to communicate with scientists from other countries, scientists do not have free access to new scientific knowledge”), the statement would still not respond to the question. D is unsupported. The author neither states nor suggests which areas of scientific research should be emphasized.
  
2. B  
The fourth paragraph is concerned exclusively with pointing out evidence of the Soviet emphasis on a national science; given the content of the excerpt from *Literatunaya Gazeta*, it can be reasonably inferred that the author is quoting this article as one such piece of evidence. D is the second-best response. The quoted article does indeed reflect the Marxist-Leninist ideal (at least as interpreted and promulgated by the government) and may in fact have been published only because it was sanctioned (approved) by the Soviet government. However, statement D is not likely to be the author’s purpose in quoting the article, since this conclusion would require speculation and since the quoted excerpt makes no mention of government approval or disapproval of certain scientific notions. Statement A distorts the nature of the quoted article and runs contrary to the passage. The article illustrates the official Soviet position and possibly the sentiment among some members of the Soviet intellectual or scientific community. However, the article does not necessarily reflect the views of scientists from other countries. In fact, the reaction of Western scientists mentioned in the same paragraph suggests that scientists from other countries disagreed with this view. C is not likely to be the author’s purpose in quoting the article since the author argues that the notion of a national science pervaded the Soviet consciousness, not that there was a great deal of disagreement and debate among Soviet intellectuals.
  
3. A  
Statement A provides the best response since it calls for an unwarranted inference that is unsupported by the passage. Although the author does refer in the fifth paragraph to the Stalinist purges of the 1930s, nowhere does the author state or suggest that the events of this particular time period marked the peak (zenith) of government interference with scientific research. B is strongly supported; the final paragraph mentions scientists losing their jobs and being arrested in Argentina, while the second last paragraph mentions similar acts of suppression against Soviet refuseniks (scientists were fired and/or imprisoned). C is less explicit in the passage than either B or D; nevertheless, C is supported by the passage; while the Soviets distinguished socialist science from capitalistic science, the Nazis distinguished their *Deutsche Physik* from Jewish physics. D is mentioned explicitly in the fourth paragraph.

4. B  
According to the passage, the ambiguous position of Soviet scientists was that the Soviet government encouraged (exhorted) and generally supported scientific research, while at the same time it imposed significant restrictions upon its scientists. Statement B restates this idea. A is unsupported. The author neither states nor suggests that the Soviets lacked sufficient funding; moreover, although statement B, if true, would indicate an ambiguous position for scientists, it is not the nature of the ambiguity referred to in the passage. C is wholly unsupported. The author neither states nor suggests either assertion made in statement C. D is supported (albeit, not explicitly) by the passage and, if true, would present an ambiguous position for Soviet scientists. However, as with A and C, the ambiguity referred to in B fails to reflect the nature of the ambiguity referred to in the passage.
5. A  
The passage states explicitly in the second paragraph that twentieth-century challenges to science's normative assumptions (i.e., scientific freedom) have grown "out of the increasing importance of science to social and national life." C is the second-best response. The question asks for the fundamental cause of a general phenomenon, not of the specific challenges of the Soviet regime. Thus, C is too narrow. B is unsupported. The passage makes no mention of religious intolerance in the twentieth-century Soviet Union and alludes only briefly in the last paragraph to Jewish physics, which reference suggests more of a racial bias than a religious one on the part of the Nazis. D is unsupported; nowhere in the passage does the author either state or suggest that disloyalty of scientists prompted restrictions upon their freedom.
6. D  
The first paragraph identifies the two normative assumptions, while the remainder of the passage discusses how those assumptions have been challenged. Although the passage looks primarily at the Soviet Union, the last paragraph briefly discusses other attempts at suppression of scientific freedom in the twentieth century. C is the second-best response. While the fourth and fifth paragraphs are indeed concerned with describing Soviet attempts to suppress scientific freedom, C is too narrow in that ignores the rest of the passage, omitting the broader historical perspective. A is off focus and far too narrow; moreover, the author does not actually discuss any specific events that might have caused the suppression of the refusenik movement; rather, this historical phenomenon is mentioned simply as another example of the Soviet regime's longterm pattern of suppression. B is off focus and misses the author's attitude. Although the author does define the concept of national science, no attempt is made to dispel or disprove the concept.

## Passage II

7. A  
In the passage, the author presents and critiques both the economists' point of view (second

paragraph) and the view of modern-day critics of the government (fourth paragraph) regarding the proper role of government in health care. Admittedly, Response A does not embrace the entire passage—it does not encompass the discussion in the third paragraph regarding the extent and manner in which governments have historically provided health care, nor does it encompass the author’s suggestion at the close of the passage regarding the founding generation’s probable intent as to the proper role of government in health care. However, in the context of this short passage, these two areas of discussion are not of primary concern to the author. B is unsupported. Although the author takes the position that government should play a significant role in health care, nowhere does the author go so far as to suggest that the United States government’s role in health care today is too small. Although, in the last paragraph, the author rebuts the critics’ argument that government is not providing health care to all citizens, the author does not go so far as to assert that the government’s present role should be expanded. C is too narrow. Although the last paragraph discusses some of the changes regarding the U.S. government’s role in health care over the last three centuries, the author’s broader concern is to point out that the government has always played a significant role in this area because health care is inherently a public concern. D is unsupported. Although epidemic diseases are inherently associated with communal life, the author argues more broadly that health care is inherently a public concern and should be addressed by government. Also, the author does not offer a prescription for dealing with the underlying causes of epidemics; thus, the second portion of D is off focus and is unsupported.

8. C  
Although C may be a true statement, it does not respond to the question. The fact that governments have typically acted as if they had a health care obligation is not mentioned by the author as a reason why health care is inherently a public concern, but rather as empirical evidence that health care is inherently a public concern. A and B restate arguments made by market theorists (second paragraph) in favor of the inherently public nature of health care. Although the author asserts that the market theorists’ explanation is inadequate (“misses a critical point”), the author nevertheless expresses some agreement with their explanation (“the theory of public goods helps explain aspects of public health law...”). D expresses the author’s sociological argument, contained in the latter portion of the second paragraph, for the inherently public nature of health care.
9. D  
This question deals with the author’s evaluation of the market theory of public goods. The author views the theory as cogent (valid; appealing to reason) in that it “help[s] to explain an aspect of modern public health law.” At the same time, however, the author views the theory as inadequate in that “it omits a critical point.” A is the second-best response. In acknowledging that the market theory of public goods “help[s] to explain an aspect of modern public health law and assists in fitting it into modern economic theory,” the author is suggesting that the theory is a sound one. Accordingly, Response A is incomplete, since it fails to acknowledge the author’s criticism of the theory. B runs contrary to the author’s evaluation of the public goods theory. C is unsupported. The author never suggests that the market theorists are biased.

10. C

Statement C is unsupported; nowhere does the author suggest that the government polices today regarding health care are guided less by philosophical considerations than in previous eras. The term “philosophical” should not be equated with the term “religious” (otherwise, C and D would be essentially the same responses). A is the second-best response. Support for A is less explicit than for any other incorrect answer choice. Nevertheless, A finds support from the author’s point in that many non-epidemic diseases were not formerly addressed by the government because they were considered part and parcel of daily life. It can be reasonably inferred from this excerpt that epidemic diseases were considered a greater threat (i.e., more serious), thereby warranting government’s attention. B restates the author’s assertion that “many public responsibilities were carried out by what we would now consider private associations.” D is readily inferable from the last paragraph. The author asserts that the public role in health care is carried out in different ways today than in prior centuries. The author then points out that “religious influence was significant, especially in the seventeenth century.” It is reasonably inferable, then, that religion does not play a significant role today in public health care decisions.

11. A

According to the author, the critics equate the degree (extent) of health care provision with insurance coverage. The author contends that by this standard of measurement, public health care during the eighteenth century was practically non-existent. In fact, however, the government played a significant role in health care during that century in ways other than providing insurance to its citizens. Thus, the critics’ standard for measuring the extent of the government’s role in health care is far too narrow in that it ignores all of the other possible ways in which government can play a role in health care. B is unsupported. Nowhere does the author state or imply that insurance plays a larger role in health care than the critics contend; also, Statement B makes no distinction between private and public insurance. C is not well supported. Based upon the information in the last paragraph, it appears that the United States government has played a significant role in health care throughout history; the author does not contend that the government’s role in health care is greater today than in previous eras (implicitly, some of the evidence in the last paragraph supports this contention, while other evidence undermines it). Moreover, even if C were strongly supported by the passage, the statement is nevertheless not the author’s point of contention with the critics. D is unsupported and does not respond to the question. The author makes no attempt to evaluate the critics’ understanding of the founding generation’s intent. Even if Statement D were supported by the passage, the statement is nevertheless not the author’s point of contention with the critics.

12. D

In the last paragraph, the author rebuts the critics’ argument that government is not providing health care to all citizens and implies, at the close of the passage, that the founding generation probably intended that government play a significant (“complex”) role in health care. A is unsupported and runs contrary to the passage. The evidence in the last paragraph is conflicting as to whether the government’s role has in fact expanded over time, and the author does not really address this issue. Also, according to the

passage, the critics assert that the government plays too small a role in health care; thus, A actually tends to run contrary to the critics' contention. B is unsupported, calling for an unwarranted inference. Although acknowledging that the government in fact has expanded its health concerns from epidemics to chronic and endemic disorders, the author does not take a position on whether such expansion is desirable or proper. C is wholly unsupported. Although the first paragraph of the passage does identify the fundamental causes of certain epidemics occurring in the United States (during the twentieth as well as previous centuries), the author makes no attempt in the last paragraph to further identify the health problems of pre-industrial America or their causes.

### Passage III

13. D  
The inductive method in the natural sciences is the "Baconian method" and the author says this method omits "free imagination, controlled by the requirements of coherence and logic." The author implies that B *is* a part of induction. A and C are not covered in the author's discussion of strict induction.
14. C  
The author states that imaginative rationalization is successful because the observable "present" factors can be connected and made consistent with such thought. A is characteristic of strict induction. B is a distortion of the language of the passage: "consistencies and persistencies" may or may not be logical. In any case they are *illuminated* by "imaginative rationalization" and are not the cause of its success. D is incorrect since "irrationality" is not considered in the passage.
15. C  
The "true method of discovery" is described as grounded in particular observations (I and II), extending from there into imaginative consideration of the observations, and returning to the original observations with imaginative insight. The method can work with inconsistencies by making comparisons (V). III and IV represent a refusal to consider inconsistencies and any answers which include them are incorrect.
16. D  
Note the slight difference the author draws between the "imaginative construct" itself and the subsequent "philosophical generalizations" considered in question 6. The "success of the imaginative experiment" is measured by extension of its application. A is a failure in such application. B is incorrect since the point of imaginative thinking is to transcend strict induction. While C may be included in the imaginative method, it is primarily characteristic of induction and certainly is not the measure of imaginative success.
17. B  
The "successful philosophic generalization" will not only extend to fields beyond its origin, but also illuminate "universal principles" which particularity would obscure.

**Passage IV**

18. A

The passage states that the heads of each nation were women, while the chiefs were men. The passage goes on to state that, according to Degandawida, the clan heads (women) rather than the chiefs (men) should select League representatives because the likelihood that a pro-war representative would be appointed would be decreased thereby. Among the four responses, the only one that is inferable from this information is that Degandawida believed the men to be more pro-war than the women, i.e., statement A. Statement D is of the same nature substantively as Statement A. Qualitatively, however, D calls for an unwarranted inference. The passage does imply a connection between a chiefs passing power down to his children and the children's propensity for war, but only insofar as men (e.g., chiefs) are more likely to choose pro-war representatives than are women. However, the additional inference that a chiefs children are more likely to favor war than all other clan members is unwarranted based upon the information in the passage. Although the passage supports the idea that women are less likely than men to select pro-war representatives, the passage does not suggest that, of the male population in a clan, a chief's children have the greatest propensity for war. Statement D suggests a comparison (in terms of propensity for war) between the chiefs' children and the children of the clan heads. However, the passage does not support the inference that children of a clan head will be less likely than any other member of the clan to want war. Statement B is unsupported and distorts the information in the passage. The author makes no comparison in terms of the propensity for war between clan heads and nation heads because a nation's heads and the heads of that nation's clans were one and the same. Statement B suggests, however, that a nation's heads are different people from the clan heads. Statement C confuses the information presented in the pertinent part of the passage. The author does not make a connection between family dynasties and the propensity for war.

19. C

The first and second paragraphs are concerned with the inception of the Iroquois League, while the third and fourth paragraphs outline the subsequent history of the League from its decline through its subsequent resurgence under Handsome Lake. Statement C recapitulates this overall structure. Statement A is the second-best response. It could be argued that the author is presenting a "theory" as to how the Iroquois were swayed by Degandawida and later by Handsome Lake and that the "two related historical phenomena" mentioned in Statement A refer to the inception of the League (under Degandawida) and its revival (under Handsome Lake). However, the author presents the information as historical facts rather than as theories; that is, the passage merely recounts historical events rather than seeking to explain them by way of a more fundamental theory. Moreover, Statement A omits the discussion in the third paragraph concerning the decline of the Iroquois culture; in this sense, then, A is too narrow. Statement B distorts the overall view of the passage. Although two historical figures, Degandawida and Hiawatha, are indeed introduced in the first paragraph, the author makes no attempt to trace Hiawatha's influence or to compare the influence of these two men. An argument can be made that Statement B refers to Degandawida and Handsome Lake (not to Degandawida and Hiawatha) since the passage does examine the

influence of both of these men. However, no attempt is made to compare their influence. Also, although Handsome Lake is not mentioned until the last paragraph, Statement B suggests that the two historical figures are introduced early in the passage. Statement D is unsupported. Nowhere in the passage are “competing views” presented or evaluated.

20. B

Power struggles are not mentioned at all. Although the third paragraph refers to a dispute among the Iroquois leaders, the dispute concerned the role that the Iroquois should play in the American Revolution. Statements A, C, and D are explicitly mentioned in the third paragraph as factors contributing to the decline of the Iroquois culture.

21. C

The passage states that Cornplanter was an outspoken proponent of assimilation and that Handsome Lake was related to Cornplanter as a half-brother. The fact that Lake was responsible for the Iroquois reasserting their national identity is ironic, then, in light of Lake’s blood relationship to Cornplanter. Statements A, B, and D are all accurate statements, based upon the information in the passage. However, they do not respond to the question.

22. D

According to the passage, the Quaker’s introduction of new technology to the Iroquois was partly responsible for the decline of the Iroquois culture in that it contributed to their loss of national identity. D presents a similar situation. Statement A is the second-best response. Insofar as the children referred to in scenario A learn the language of the prevailing culture, assimilation and a resulting loss of ethnic identity might tend to occur. However, this sense of identity might be reinforced by their learning to read and write in their traditional language as well. Therefore, A is not as likely to lead to the demise of the minority group as D, at least based upon the Iroquois’ experience as discussed in the passage. Statement B is too vague and is not supported. Whether a government incentive to provide housing for members of the minority group actually undermines the group’s sense of ethnic identity would probably depend upon whether the incentives result in integration or segregation. Moreover, since the passage does not address whether the Iroquois became geographically integrated (assimilated), scenario B is insupportable. Statement C would probably carry the opposite result from that called for in the question. The scenario posed in C would actually contribute to the minority group’s retaining its ethnic identity, at least based upon the information in the passage. According to the passage, the introduction of spirits to the Iroquois population led to rampant alcoholism, which in turn contributed to the culture’s decline. Similarly, widespread drug abuse might have a similar effect today. Accordingly, any effort to curb such abuse, such as scenario C, would tend to impede a decline rather than contribute to it.

23. B

Both men had a thorough understanding of Iroquois traditions. Degandawida used Iroquois traditions as symbols to convey concepts and as models for the structure of his League, all with the goal of persuading the nations to join his League. Similarly, Handsome Lake’s use of traditional religious beliefs helped convert the Iroquois people to his new



religion. Statement D is the second-best response. Statement D is only partly supported by the passage. Although Degandawida's efforts did result in a new and lasting peace among the Iroquois, the author does not make a similar claim with respect to Handsome Lake. Admittedly, the passage does mention a dispute among the Iroquois as to their proper role in the American Revolution. However, it is unwarranted to infer from this fact that the Iroquois factions were feuding amongst themselves just prior to Lake or that Lake's influence was responsible for some sort of new peace. Statement A is not supported. Although the author explicitly mentions that Handsome Lake combined Christianity and the traditional Iroquois religion, there is no indication in the passage of any similar efforts by Degandawida. Statement C is not supported. Although the policies of both men were indeed aimed at uniting the Iroquois, the author does not suggest that either man's efforts were directed toward establishing an opposing force against the white settlers.

### Passage V

24. D  
The first paragraph of this passage deals with compression moulding, the second with the development of injection moulding, and the last with the transfer type of injection moulding. The last sentence of the 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph refers to "greater efficiency in compression moulding." A refers only to the use of compression moulding for thermosetting materials. B is an advantage of transfer moulding. C was a technique instrumental to the development of injection moulding.
25. B  
The passage cites the inability of compression moulding to process thermoplastic materials as instrumental to the development of injection moulding. All of the other answers are mentioned as leading to the "improvement of compression moulding."
26. B  
See middle of 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph. A, the need to decrease the plasticity of thermoplastic resins, was responsible for developing injection moulding. C is characteristic of automatic, not semi-automatic, presses. D is simply a property of the compression moulding process when used on thermosetting materials.
27. D  
The passage states that the transfer moulding type of injection process was developed for thermosetting materials
28. D  
According to the passage, injection equipment "speeded up the production of thermoplastic resins." Moreover, the resins are what is moulded in the various moulding methods; they are not advantages of any given method.
29. D  
The author opens his article with the comment that "The development of moulding

technology parallels the study of resinification,” and points out that because we had the new substances, we had to invent methods to employ them. He re-emphasizes the idea several more times in the passage.

### Passage VI

30. B  
The author specifically cites Van Gogh’s correspondence as demonstrating his “enthusiasm” about color. One can infer that the subsequent quotations about color are also from the correspondence
31. D  
According to the passage, Van Gogh turned from Delacroix to Japanese art, and in Japanese art, he “first regarded color in terms of classical technique.” The word “first” in the passage tells you that D is a better answer for Van Gogh’s original view of color than A.
32. D  
The point of the passage is Van Gogh’s “prophetic” understanding of color, and how he moves away from his early classical and traditional views. II is found in the 2<sup>nd</sup> last paragraph, III in the 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph; IV is a clear implication of the author’s discussion of the uniqueness of Van Gogh’s ideas about and work with color.
33. C  
The passage states that Van Gogh “emancipated” himself from the tones of nature. D is a little tricky: the main idea of the passage is a consideration of Van Gogh’s attitudes toward color; when the author says that our ideas of art as individual expression come from Van Gogh’s, he is talking both about Van Gogh’s color symbology and the quotation with which he concludes the passage.
34. D  
The author quotes Van Gogh specifically that “*exact* color ... could not” express emotions.

### Passage VII

35. C  
The author notes that the pre-war movement mingled bohemianism and radicalism, and then he states that after World War I there was a “parting of the ways.” A is given as in itself able to change the movement “significantly.” B is the opposite of C.
36. D  
The author says the pre-war movement “cast the school as the lever of social change.” One can infer from the following paragraph that Dewey is connected with the pre-war movement - the author tells us Dewey argued for social reformism. A is true of Dewey:

the Rousseauian emphasis on individual creativity was “recognized” by the prewar movement, but the “difference of emphasis,” which the question asks for, is found in the stress on radical social reform. B is the substance of prewar “radical” intellectual protest, but it isn’t the chief difference between Dewey’s and later educational ideas.

37. D  
This is quite clear from the last paragraph. A, B, and C are characteristics of the post-war attitudes, but they are not the key to grasping its “significance.”
38. B  
The “new articles of pedagogical faith” emphasize “personality development.” A and D would be characteristic of prewar progressive teachers. Post-war teachers emphasized freedom, making C incorrect.
39. D  
I: “the relationship with the creative revolution of the twenties” is the “essential meaning” of the post-war movement. II is the “characteristic pedagogical argument” of post-war progressivism. III is wrong because Dewey, who is pre-war, saw the “central connection with democracy as the crux of the earlier movement.” IV: Dewey also emphasized social reform. V: radicalism is the intellectual current at the heart of educational emphasis on social reform.
40. A  
Statement A provides the best summary statement because it covers the relationship of pre- and post-war movements, the nature of the change, and the content of the post-war movement. B is a slight distortion of the passage: change accompanied the war, but the author does not draw any explicit cause and effect relationships. C is not true. D is too confined to cope with the passage as a whole, and thus does not make a good answer to a question on the main idea