

NO.	QUESTION
1	<p>Strong communication, free from scientific myths, is critical to deliver scientific information. As such, those in the receiving end of communication believe that poetry may be a useful conduit in communicating scientific facts. As scientific research is generally published in research journals for scientists, the public may be unaware of certain scientific jargon, leading to difficulty in comprehending complex scientific information.</p> <p><b>Which among the statements, if true, best strengthens the argument?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. As scientific writing is based on the rigours of scientific investigation, it must reflect the same level of precision as the research method.</li><li>B. As the writer is communicating highly technical information to those who may or may not be as educated, such as those from a different discipline, scientific communication necessitates accuracy in word use, clarity, and economy.</li><li>C. Poetry serves as a bridge between science and a larger audience, recasting knowledge in a more accessible language and manner.</li><li>D. Science is a broad subject involving numerous disciplines, such as pathology, microbiology, astrology and so on.</li></ul>
2	<p>In recent years, not only the media but also psychologists, psychiatrists, mental health organisations, and gamers themselves have increasingly paid attention to problems associated with online video games. The rise of online gaming has manifested in a new type of addiction by over-usage. The gaming industry has failed to address these problems by denying responsibility. To some extent, the addition of over-usage warning messages is a first step toward improving care standards for gamers, however, one-time warnings are insufficient.</p> <p><b>Which among the statements, if true, best strengthens the argument?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. The Chinese government has previously engaged in efforts to regulate game usage to mitigate the adverse effects of gaming.</li><li>B. The percentage of gamers who develop difficulties or get addicted may remain relatively stable, but as online video games improve and more people discover them, the number of addicts is expected to climb.</li><li>C. Online games provide a more intense experience than console games because different actions in-game produce a multitude of effects every time the game is played, amplifying the addictiveness of the virtual environment.</li><li>D. According to Forbes, the worldwide video game business is expected to rise from \$67 billion in 2012 to \$82 billion by 2017, overtaking film industry sales.</li></ul>
3	<p>Nanotechnology should be applied in developing food products. Nano-encapsulation is another application of nanotechnology in food processing. This method was deployed to conceal the flavour and odour of tuna fish oil, allowing it to be used to enhance bread with heart-healthy Omega-3 fatty acids. Fish oil particles are encased in a film coating, which prevents the fish oil from interacting with oxygen and emitting its odour. The nanocapsules only split open when they reach the stomach, allowing consumers to attain the health advantages of ingesting them whilst avoiding the odour.</p> <p><b>Which among the statements, if true, best weakens the argument?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Nanotechnology in food production was seen as more acceptable if it boosted the health benefits of the food.</li><li>B. Given food safety concerns, consumers are more likely to oppose nanotechnology when used in food processing.</li><li>C. Nanotechnology applications in the food sector can be used to detect pathogens in packaging, improve flavour and colour quality, and increase safety by boosting barrier qualities.</li><li>D. Candies (M&amp;M's, Skittles), infant bottles, and plastic storage containers are examples of food-related goods that use nanotechnology.</li></ul>

<p>4</p>	<p>Primary school is when early inclination in science and maths begins or stops. A pupil who does not engage in scientific study early on is unlikely to do well with the subject throughout high school and into university. Many believe that if kids aren't well-educated on science and maths in primary school, it's extremely difficult to get them back on track in secondary school, much alone university.</p> <p><b>Which among the statements, if true, best weakens the argument?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. About 60% of the university students found maths and science difficult since they did not learn their basics during primary school.</li><li>B. Research indicates that a student's proficiency in a particular subject in his or her early years of education has no statistically significant relationship to their academic performance in the later years.</li><li>C. It is just as important to cultivate the interest of students' interest in subjects other than science and maths, such as humanities.</li><li>D. It is difficult to learn complex scientific and mathematical topics without learning the basics during the early years in primary school.</li></ul>
<p>5</p>	<p>Many individuals, including scientists, should be concerned about global warming. Some regions of the planet are warming faster than others. However, global air temperatures near the Earth's surface have risen by around 2 degrees Fahrenheit on average during the last century. Indeed, the last five years have been the hottest in the past millennium. The intensity and volume of rainfall during storms such as hurricanes are projected to grow as the Earth's temperature continues to warm. Droughts and heatwaves will also grow more severe as the climate warms.</p> <p><b>Assuming the above argument is true, which among the statements below best strengthens the argument?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Twenty recent hurricanes that struck the US were stronger than the hurricanes before, causing greater damage to areas that passed by.</li><li>B. Global climate change is normal and people should not be worried about this phenomenon as it has been existing for thousands or millions of years.</li><li>C. With the constant change of temperatures, the earth now has a set time as to how long it can sustain life, and it would not take long till it dies out.</li><li>D. There is no significant change in the atmospheric temperature of Cebu City over the previous 7 years.</li></ul>
<p>6</p>	<p>Humans cannot continuously rely on robots to do all their workforce tasks. Robots are limited only to how they are programmed and will not operate further beyond their intended purpose. Due to this, they lack emotional capacity and are not sentient, unlike humans. Therefore, robots are incapable of empathising with, or relating to other people since human emotions are difficult to program.</p> <p><b>Assuming the above argument is true, which among the statements below best strengthens the argument?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Robots are more accurate than humans, making them commit fewer mistakes than humans.</li><li>B. What makes humans more valuable in businesses than robots is their ability to create emotional connections with people.</li><li>C. Continuous development of robots provides more jobs, especially in coding and engineering industries, which create these robots.</li><li>D. Despite the boosted efficiency of robots, their rudimentary understanding of the human psyche prevents the emotional intelligence needed for successful, personable interactions with customers.</li></ul>

<p>7</p>	<p>Even though you are closer to the sun at these altitudes, the air becomes cooler as you ascend from the earth's surface. The atmosphere isn't particularly excellent at retaining heat from the Sun. The heat simply passes through it. The heat from the Sun eventually reaches the Earth, where it is absorbed. This is especially true in forests and seas, which are excellent heat absorbers. The higher you ascend, the farther you are from the "heater" that keeps us all warm — the ground that has absorbed the Sun's heat.</p> <p><b>Which among the statements, if true, best strengthens the passage?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. It is hotter to stay on the roof of the house during noon time compared to staying on the ground.</li><li>B. Greenhouse gases are present in the atmosphere which traps some of the Earth's outgoing energy, thus retaining heat in the atmosphere.</li><li>C. There is also no air in space, so there is nothing to "hang onto" the warmth of the Sun and make the temperature around you feel warm.</li><li>D. Moving farther to the sun should be cooler than moving closer, thus elevated areas are cooler than less elevated areas.</li></ul>
<p>8</p>	<p>Homework, which is intended for developing self-directed learning, should be reduced in primary schools. Research has shown that spending more time on homework results in lower student accomplishment. Studies demonstrate that in nations with high homework demands, students' performance on international achievement exams is poor.</p> <p><b>Assuming the above argument is true, which among the statements below best strengthens the argument?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Too much homework results in a high level of parental dependency on completing assignments, which lowers the level of student engagement in their work.</li><li>B. Homework should be demanding but not too difficult for kids, as well as engaging and inspiring.</li><li>C. The greatest immediate benefit of homework is that it can increase retention and comprehension.</li><li>D. Homework may help children improve their study abilities and attitudes toward school, as well as educate them that learning can take place anywhere, not only within school grounds.</li></ul>
<p>9</p>	<p>Children should not be allowed to participate in beauty pageants. At first glance, these pageants may look innocent to spectators. However, participants are pressured to meet a certain beauty standard, and subjected to a hostile atmosphere of constant competition, with their every move under scrutiny. These competitions may lead to serious long-term problems for participants, including lowered self-esteem, body dysmorphia and elevated anxiety.</p> <p><b>Assuming the above argument is true, which among the statements below best weakens the argument?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Beauty pageants harm their individuality, and may make children feel compelled to appear a certain way.</li><li>B. Exposing children to pageants helps them realise their true beauty in self-confidence, empowering them to showcase the best and most authentic version of themselves to others.</li><li>C. Beauty pageants instil the importance of external validation within the minds of children.</li><li>D. Beauty pageants teach children to judge people based on their outward appearance.</li></ul>

**10** Children who engage in greater physical exercise are more likely to improve their health, and it may also help them improve their academic performance. According to the findings of a recent Swedish study, increasing the amount of time spent on physical education at school has a positive effect on children's academic success. Schools and parents are frequently asked to do more to increase children's physical activity – and the growing amount of data on the correlations between PE and academic performance may be just the carrot they need. Therefore, schools should require students to participate in rigorous physical activities to boost student performance.

**Assuming the above argument is true, which among the statements below best weakens the argument?**

- A. Increases of around 15 minutes of moderate-to-vigorous physical activity at the age of 11 were associated with improved scholastic performance five years later.
- B. Physical inactivity is the fourth greatest cause of illness worldwide, and it is an issue that must be addressed immediately.
- C. When compared to students in schools that did not boost physical activity, those who participated in the exercise program were twice as likely to reach the national learning targets in Maths and Science.
- D. Ten out of fifteen members of the soccer team failed their finals exams due to fatigue caused by a four-day game schedule within the finals week.

**11** When parents go shopping with their children, they should include them in financial talks and decisions. This introduces children to the various reasons for financial decisions made when purchasing commodities. This enables children to make sound financial decisions when using their own pocket money or savings, and also prepares them for the future.

**Assuming the above argument is true, which among the statements below best strengthens the argument?**

- A. Early exposure of children to finance allows them to apply these principles in managing a small amount of money at a young age until they learn to manage bigger amounts.
- B. Paying off debt, making a budget, and recognizing the differences between various financial products are all examples of financial literacy.
- C. It is pointless to talk about finance with children as there are multiple terms that they fail to understand such as interest rates, credit, debit, etc.
- D. When financial management is taught during childhood or adolescence, parents are able to advise and supervise them.

**12** Parents should pay children for doing house chores. Parents feel that tying tasks to pocket money teaches children the value of hard work. Just like parents work to earn money, children must work to earn money by completing chores around the house. This is one act that parents can do to prepare their children for the real world, where nothing is given freely, and there is a cost for everything.

**Assuming the above argument is true, which among the statements below best weakens the argument?**

- A. Paying children a little cash for doing their chores may teach them about the importance of taking responsibility in household chores.
- B. Parents have the responsibility to prepare their children for things in life that should be done out of a feeling of obligation rather than for monetary compensation.
- C. As children earn money on a regular basis for helping with home chores, they begin to see it mount up, giving them a sense of pride and success.
- D. Paying children to do work will make them feel less empathetic towards others, by cultivating the belief that tasks are transactional; everything they do should be done in exchange for gaining something.

<p><b>13</b></p>	<p>It has been demonstrated that children learn reading and maths skills more successfully when they are exposed to them on a regular basis through diverse tasks and responsibilities. According to a 2017 research, the more parents let their children practise writing and reading letters and numbers on their own when preparing grocery lists, the better their children's reading and arithmetic abilities would be later on. Moreover, parents might ask their children to use their grocery list to see if their parents purchased everything on the list, which helps improve accounting and reading skills. Parents should expose their children to a variety of everyday chores that aid the learning youngsters.</p> <p><b>Assuming the above argument is true, which among the statements below best strengthens the argument?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Before going grocery shopping, parents might ask their children to make a grocery list in order to keep track of what they should be buying and not miss out on some items.</li><li>B. Some children see to it that the amount paid for the groceries reflected in the receipt also aligns with their calculated amount indicated in their grocery list.</li><li>C. Repetition of these simple tasks such as tracking the expenses made during grocery shopping and naming the items on the lists can subconsciously help a child learn.</li><li>D. Busy parents prefer exposing their kids to doing chores such as the listing of grocery items as they are already bombarded with tasks from each of their workplaces.</li></ul>
<p><b>14</b></p>	<p>Spatial navigation, also called wayfinding, is used when a person visualises their area, takes a shortcut to work, or explores a new city. Children who are permitted to explore further out from their homes on their own are more likely to become better, more confident navigators as adults than children who are limited. These children rely less on local landmarks and felt less anxious while navigating.</p> <p><b>Assuming the above argument is true, which among the statements below best strengthens the argument?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Landmarks are all around us and come in handy when a person must quickly identify where they are or where they are headed.</li><li>B. Allowing children to walk freely helps them acquire better tactics for navigating unfamiliar situations and gain confidence when they travel alone.</li><li>C. Wayfinding is a critical component of intelligence, as well as a survival skill for any human or animal who must travel to acquire food, water, shelter, or mates.</li><li>D. Landmarks are used in a variety of ways, including: as organisational elements to "anchor" segments of space; as location identifiers, such as to assist determine what section of a city or area one is in; and as navigational aids.</li></ul>
<p><b>15</b></p>	<p>Space exploration is important as it is more than just a show of humanity's arrogance or a bold ambition to find new locations. If we accept the risk of travelling beyond our terrestrial home, it is to learn more about ourselves and our planet, to enhance life on Earth, and perhaps, just maybe, to find or create a new future for our children. We may use space travel to test or invalidate scientific hypotheses produced on Earth.</p> <p><b>Assuming the above argument is true, which among the statements below best strengthens the argument?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Space exploration is too expensive and the cost is better spent on solving problems on earth.</li><li>B. Understanding gravity, the magnetosphere, the atmosphere, fluid dynamics, and the geological development of other planets, for example, has come through studying the solar system.</li><li>C. By solving the problems of human space travel, we understand the earth better, advance technology, establish new businesses, and assist to promote peaceful relations with other nations.</li><li>D. Humans are compelled to explore the unknown, find new planets, test the limits of science and technology, and then push even farther.</li></ul>

**16** Textbooks should be replaced with tablets since textbooks are already obsolete. Tablets are more economical since they carry hundreds of textbooks, and help the environment by reducing printing, while still serving the purpose of boosting student involvement and creativity. According to the School Library Journal, the average price of a K-12 print textbook is around \$70, compared to \$45-\$55 for a 6-year digital textbook subscription.

**Assuming the above argument is true, which among the statements below best weakens the argument?**

- A. E-textbook prices continue to fall, with VitalSource estimating a 31% decline in price between 2016 and 2018, while tablet prices continue to fall, making them more accessible.
- B. According to the Australian Optometric Association, handhelds lead to Computer Vision Syndrome, which causes eye strain, headaches, impaired vision, dry eyes, and more often a greater prevalence of musculoskeletal ailments.
- C. Implementing tablets in K-12 schools requires purchasing hardware and software, building new wi-fi infrastructure, and training teachers and administrators on how to use the technology compared to textbooks where you only pay for the book.
- D. Tablets allow users to highlight and change material as well as take notes without destroying a textbook for the next user.

**17** It has been observed that educational quality in homeschooling is significantly higher than in traditional schools. Homeschooled children tend to pick up things more easily than children in traditional schools because they receive more personal care and grooming. They are more interested in studies that are tailored to them than in school-based courses.

**Which of the following statements, if true, best strengthens the above argument?**

- A. Children who study in traditional schools have more fun since they have more opportunities to play and learn with their classmates.
- B. Studies have shown that homeschooled kids perform better on state and federal assessments compared to kids in traditional schools.
- C. Homeschooled children won't be exposed to any of the things that help kids prepare for life.
- D. Homeschooled kids say their parents' maltreatment increased while they were homeschooled.

**18** Mothers' Day celebrations should be abolished as it dissatisfies mothers rather than making them feel treasured by being appreciated only for one day. Mother's Day has become the tale of a mother who selflessly labours physically and emotionally at home but deserves to be celebrated on one day for all of "the small things she does." As Mother's Day focuses on celebrating a mother's domestic and emotional labour, it overlooks a significant portion of mothers' lives' work, objectives, and successes; it's no surprise that some women are unhappy.

**Assuming the above argument is true, which among the statements below best weakens the argument?**

- A. Mothers' Day is like a non-working holiday for moms because on this day, moms are pampered by the other members of the family.
- B. The celebration of Mothers' Day has been highly commercialised, making it a cliché holiday that is unsuccessful in making some mothers feel special.
- C. Celebrating Mothers' Day became a tradition rather than a celebration, thus losing its value.
- D. Mothers' Day is a reminder to set aside everything and celebrate the woman who is behind our successes and has been there at our lowest.

<b>19</b>	<p>Sibling conflict is natural, and it is what brings siblings closer together. Sibling relationships are dynamic and develop over the course of a lifetime as siblings grow up together. Because of their dynamic and developing character, the reasons for their disagreements vary as siblings evolve into adult persons. Conflicts may develop at younger ages in the form of arguing over toy sharing, which gradually evolves as they grow into adulthood, when conflicts may emerge in arguments where siblings vary in their life values. As a result of these confrontations, siblings get to know each other better, bringing their relationships closer together.</p> <p><b>Assuming the above argument is true, which among the statements below best weakens the argument?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Some experts suggest that sibling conflict should be recognised as the most common form of bullying, which leaves permanent scars in relationships.</li><li>B. The age difference between siblings, birth order, developmental stage, peer influences, parental marital status and conflict, parent behaviour, and parental favouritism have all been connected to the start of sibling conflict.</li><li>C. Constructive sibling conflict is beneficial to children's development and may help them acquire vital skills such as how to be assertive without being aggressive.</li><li>D. Sibling conflict is normal and bound to occur, but successful resolution of strife is crucial.</li></ul>
<b>20</b>	<p>A child's hobbies and interests must be nurtured and supported by their parents to boost their self-esteem. Self-esteem helps kids cope with mistakes. It helps kids try again, even if they fail at first. As a result, self-esteem helps kids do better at school, at home, and with friends.</p> <p><b>Which of the following statements, if true, best strengthens the above argument?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Being kind to other people is also one way to help them boost their self-esteem.</li><li>B. Nurtured kids are known to not only be closer to their parents, but they also have more confidence in everything that they do.</li><li>C. It is important to instil healthy coping skills to a child because it teaches them how to deal with difficult situations and helps them become more resilient.</li><li>D. A child's interest can have a huge impact on his or her academic performance so they should follow their passion.</li></ul>
<b>21</b>	<p>Primary school is when early inclination in Science and Maths begins or stops. A pupil who does not engage in scientific study early on is unlikely to do well with the subject throughout high school and into university. Many believe that if kids aren't well-educated on Science and Maths in primary school, it's extremely difficult to get them back on track in secondary school, much alone university.</p> <p><b>Which among the statements, if true, best weakens the argument?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. About 60% of the college students found Maths and Science difficult since they did not learn their basics during primary school.</li><li>B. A student's proficiency in a particular subject in his or her early years of education has no significant impact on their academic performance in the later years.</li><li>C. It is not a determining factor that your academic interest rests solely during your primary school years.</li><li>D. It is difficult to learn complex scientific and mathematical topics without learning the basics during the early years in primary school.</li></ul>

<b>22</b>	<p>Azkals Soccer Club has announced that it will host children's soccer exhibitions two hours before matches start, typically at noon, in an effort to reduce congestion in-stadium entryways immediately before matches begin. As a result, some fans will have an incentive to arrive at the stadium early, clearing the entryways before the game begins.</p> <p><b>Which among the statements, if true, best weakens the passage above?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. The Azkals Soccer Club has discovered that discounting all concessions up to an hour before kickoff is the best way to encourage spectators to arrive early.</li><li>B. The stadium used by Azkals Soccer Club has fewer entryways than any other stadium in the surrounding area due to its original design.</li><li>C. Most Azkals Soccer Club fans take the train to the stadium every four hours, beginning at 11:30 AM.</li><li>D. Some Azkals Soccer Club fans must travel for several hours to attend games at the stadium.</li></ul>
<b>23</b>	<p>Humans cannot continuously rely on robots to do all the tasks needed to be done in their workplaces. Robots are limited only to how they are programmed and will not operate further beyond their purpose. Due to this, they also do not have emotions, unlike humans. Thus, they could never feel any emotion that would allow them to empathise with, or relate to other people since human emotions are difficult to program.</p> <p><b>Assuming the above argument is true, which among the statements below best strengthens the argument?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Robots are more accurate than humans, making them commit fewer mistakes compared to humans.</li><li>B. What makes humans more valuable than robots is their ability to create emotional connections with people.</li><li>C. Continuous development of robots provides more jobs, especially in coding and engineering industries, which create these robots.</li><li>D. Even with the efficiency you gain from robots, the lack of understanding of human emotions deters connection.</li></ul>
<b>24</b>	<p>The Earth and all other planets are not perfectly spherical. A "perfect sphere" is something that is perfectly spherical in every direction, according to scientists. During the formation of the earth and other planets, molten rocks are accumulated by gravity, which usually points toward the centre of a mass. This force of gravity compressed the planet's material evenly (in terms of force) in all directions and eventually formed a ball when it cooled and solidified.</p> <p><b>Which among the statements, if true, best strengthens the passage above?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. The Earth was formed from a gas cloud that slowly rotated in one direction around an axis.</li><li>B. All planets are circular due to gravity, and since they rotate at varying rates, some have thicker equators than their poles.</li><li>C. Gravity is a force generated by practically anything that has mass, which is a measure of how much material is in something.</li><li>D. The ancient Greeks used basic observations of the Sun to verify the Earth's roundness and size almost 2,000 years ago.</li></ul>



25 In recent years, not only the media, but also psychologists, psychiatrists, mental health organisations, and gamers themselves have paid more attention to the problems linked with the usage of online video games. The rise of online gaming has given rise to a new type of addiction by gaming over-usage, where the gaming industry failed to address these problems since they failed to take responsibility for them. Over-users, or gamers who play for extended lengths of time, are an issue that video game companies acknowledge. To some extent, the addition of over-usage warning messages is a first step toward building gamer-care standards, but one-time warnings are insufficient.

**Which among the statements, if true, best strengthens the argument?**

- A. The Chinese government has previously taken efforts to regulate game usage in order to mitigate the possible harmful impacts of gaming.
- B. The percentage of gamers who develop difficulties or get addicted may remain relatively stable, but as online video games improve and more people find them, the number of addicts is expected to climb.
- C. Online games give a more intense experience than console games because different actions in-game produce a variety of effects every time the game is played, increasing the addictiveness of the virtual environment.
- D. According to Forbes, the worldwide video game business is expected to rise from \$67 billion in 2012 to \$82 billion by 2017, overtaking film industry sales.

26 It is feared that the rise of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology could make people around the world unemployed. Technological advancements have shown how AI technology could outperform human activities with more precision, speed, and accuracy. This can be manifested in factories and production sites.

**Which among the statements, if true, best weakens the passage above?**

- A. AI technologies in factories would require frequent maintenance. This specific need brings about new job opportunities on the technical aspect of AI to more people.
- B. The advancement of artificial intelligence would push factories and companies to give monetary compensation to their employees who would lose their jobs
- C. There is a need for AI to take over human activity in order to reassure better productivity in various industries around the world
- D. It is important to deliver quality outputs and products. Thus, it is necessary to leave some people unemployed if it entails a more cost-efficient and quality rate of production for factories.

27 When parents go shopping with their children, they should include them in financial talks and decisions. This introduces youngsters to the various reasons for financial decisions made when purchasing. This enables youngsters to make their own financial decisions using resources such as pocket money or savings. This also assists them in preparing for the future in order to reach financial stability.

**Assuming the above argument is true, which among the statements below best strengthens the argument?**

- A. Early exposure of children to finance allows them to apply these principles in managing a small amount of money at a young age until they learn to manage bigger amounts.
- B. Paying off debt, making a budget, and recognizing the differences between various financial products are all examples of financial literacy.
- C. It is pointless to talk about finance with children as there are multiple terms that they fail to understand such as interest rates, credit, debit, etc.
- D. Financial management is best taught during earlier stages when parents are able to advise and supervise them.

**28** Individuals who pay their own utility bills have a direct financial incentive to use less energy. However, in the majority of our country's residential rental properties, the owner pays the utility bill, not the tenant who directly consumes that property's energy. To reduce our country's energy consumption, we should make tenants responsible for paying utility bills in residential rental properties.

**Which among the statements, if true, best weakens the passage above?**

- A. When landlords are responsible for utility bills, they are more likely to ensure that the appliances and furnaces in their rental properties are the most energy-efficient models available.
- B. Most rental properties are rented by younger people, and younger people are more conscious of environmental issues such as energy consumption.
- C. Other countries have had success in lowering energy consumption by providing rental subsidies to tenants whose energy consumption falls below certain thresholds.
- D. Energy bills are calculated not only based on the amount of energy consumed, but also on the time of day.

**29** Parents should pay children for doing house chores. Parents feel that tying tasks to pocket money teaches children the value of hard work. Just like parents work to earn money, children must work to earn money by completing chores around the house. This is one act that parents can do to prepare their children for the real world, where nothing is given freely, and there is a cost for everything.

**Assuming the above argument is true, which among the statements below best weakens the argument?**

- A. Paying youngsters a little cash for doing their chores may teach them about the notion of effort as well as how items around the house aren't magically paid for.
- B. Parents have the responsibility to prepare their children for things in life that should be done out of a feeling of obligation rather than for monetary compensation.
- C. As youngsters earn money on a regular basis for helping with home chores, they begin to see it mount up, giving them a sense of success.
- D. Paying children to do work will make them feel less empathetic towards others with the idea that everything they do should be done in exchange for gaining something.

**30** It has been demonstrated that children learn reading and maths skills more successfully when they are exposed to them on a regular basis through diverse tasks and responsibilities. According to a 2017 research, the more parents let their children practise writing and reading letters and numbers on their own when preparing grocery lists, the better their children's reading and arithmetic abilities would be later on. Moreover, parents might ask their children to use their grocery list to see if their parents purchased everything on the list, which helps improve accounting and reading skills. Parents should expose their children to a variety of everyday chores that aid the learning youngsters.

**Assuming the above argument is true, which among the statements below best strengthens the argument?**

- A. Before going grocery shopping, parents might ask their children to make a grocery list in order to keep track of what they should be buying and not miss out on some items.
- B. Some children see to it that the amount paid for the groceries reflected in the receipt also aligns with their calculated amount indicated in their grocery list.
- C. Repetition of these simple tasks such as tracking the expenses made during grocery shopping and naming the items on the lists can subconsciously help a child learn.
- D. Busy parents prefer exposing their kids to doing chores such as the listing of grocery items as they are already bombarded with tasks from each of their workplaces.

<p><b>31</b></p>	<p>Fans of the DC universe and Marvel universe usually find it difficult to have some common ground whenever a random online question of "<b>Which cinematic universe is better?</b>" is posted. Marvel fans argue that Marvel is better because their characters are more relatable and have more nuanced arcs. DC even hardly produces new films for its fans, keeping its momentum in the entertainment industry weak.</p> <p><b>Assuming you're a DC fan, what would you say to best weaken the claim of Marvel's fans?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. DC's characters are physically stronger than Marvel's characters, making DC better.</li><li>B. DC focuses on making their characters unique rather than relatable.</li><li>C. DC invests more time in character storylines, making their characters relatively more impactful.</li><li>D. DC's films, although few compared to Marvel, have sold out millions of tickets worldwide.</li></ul>
<p><b>32</b></p>	<p>Although some nations are anticipated to enter a recession in 2023 and downside risks continue to dominate the global economic outlook, it is still too early to predict whether there will be a generalised global recession, according to the International Money Fund (IMF) spokesman Gerry Rice on Thursday. According to Rice, given the third quarter's continued high inflation, supply chain issues, and tighter financial market conditions, high-frequency data indicated a further loss of momentum.</p> <p><b>What is the main conclusion of the passage?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. IMF predicts that the third quarter will see a further global economic slowdown.</li><li>B. IMF perceives that the rate of inflation is likely to change by the last quarter of the year.</li><li>C. IMF encourages states to boost local economies and strengthen multilateral trade agreements to prevent a global recession.</li><li>D. IMF believes that the global recession continues to inflict harm on local industries as compared to foreign ones.</li></ul>
<p><b>33</b></p>	<p>The concept of competition among students at schools is an essential part of the educational experience for children. This improves their capacity to demonstrate to their contemporaries the natural talents, skills, and expertise that have always been a part of them. In addition to this, it strengthens their capacity for learning, allowing them to mature at a younger age and become more globally competitive.</p> <p><b>Which of the following statements, if true, best weakens the argument above?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Children are influenced by bad behaviours through competition.</li><li>B. Competition has the potential to negatively affect kids who are naturally passive.</li><li>C. Competitive advantages must start out small in order to grow and expand once they reach their peak.</li><li>D. More children becoming more competitive makes children act like robots.</li></ul>
<p><b>34</b></p>	<p>The positive effects of a productive day at work actually carry over into one's personal life, and vice versa. Researchers analysed the findings of 21 different studies and came to the conclusion that having a positive experience in either the home or the workplace can enrich one's life in the other setting. In addition, a positive relationship between work and family is associated not only with greater job satisfaction but also with a greater commitment to achievement and a higher level of satisfaction within the family unit.</p> <p><b>What is the main conclusion of the passage?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Positive reinforcement of work and life balance is linked to individual productivity and growth.</li><li>B. Work and life balance are the top priorities if parents want to give time to their children.</li><li>C. Maintaining a healthy work and life balance provides more opportunities to get promoted.</li><li>D. Work and life balance lead to parents finally witnessing their children's growth.</li></ul>

<b>35</b>	<p>It is not necessary for children to have friends in order for them to respect others and make decisions. It is important for children to get to know their emotions and themselves at a young age. They should not be coerced in any way to engage in social interaction, despite the fact that doing so can help children begin to comprehend and become more aware of the range of emotions that people experience, as this is not a required facet of their childhood development.</p> <p><b>Which of the following statements, if true, best weakens the argument above?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Friendships are important for the next stages of life.</li><li>B. Children learn to respect others' feelings through friendships and playing with friends.</li><li>C. Children make good and bad friends, hence, they will encounter friendships throughout their lives.</li><li>D. Friendship is essential for children to develop skills essential for their education, and work.</li></ul>
<b>36</b>	<p>When it comes to children, one of the most important aspects of instilling the idea of freedom is making sure they understand that this concept is not limitless. Freedom grants them the permission to venture out, make mistakes, and gain wisdom from those experiences. It fosters a sense of adventure and sustained interest in the subject matter, turning education into a fun journey. However, it is important for children to understand that their freedom is limited if it infringes upon the rights of others.</p> <p><b>What is the main conclusion of the passage?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Children must be allowed to be free to experience the world and be allowed to make mistakes.</li><li>B. Children's consciousness of freedom must be exploratory but sensitive to others' freedom.</li><li>C. Children's concept of freedom must stem from a desire to be freed from oppressive structures.</li><li>D. Children's participation in activities that exercise their freedom empowers them to do good for others.</li></ul>
<b>37</b>	<p>The level of trust and respect that a child's parents have for them is the foundation for the place that the child will occupy in the world. Children develop the ability to trust and respect themselves as well as others when they behave in a manner that is consistent with the example that has been set for them. It is not necessary to disrespect children by exerting control over them, manipulating them, or mistreating them.</p> <p><b>Which of the following statements, if true, best strengthens the argument above?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Children need role models with morals, principles, and guidance.</li><li>B. Children need to experience the harsh reality at a young age to learn.</li><li>C. Children need attention and care from their parents.</li><li>D. Children must respect their parents before they respect others.</li></ul>
<b>38</b>	<p>Scientific journals typically specialise in various academic disciplines or subdisciplines, and they are the single most important means by which research findings can be disseminated to the general public. In order to gain a better comprehension of the facts and findings, the research will frequently challenge the commonly held assumptions and/or the research data presented in the published scientific literature.</p> <p><b>What is the main conclusion of the passage?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Scientific journals are the most efficient means of disseminating research to the general public.</li><li>B. Scientific journals give scientists and researchers an opportunity to explore a field of study unknown to society.</li><li>C. Scientific journals incentivize the novelty of research that will have an impact on the safety of the public.</li><li>D. Scientific journals are the building blocks of a healthy scientific community.</li></ul>

**39** The stigma and misperceptions that surround mental illness need to be eradicated first and foremost in educational institutions. The first steps toward forming lifelong friendships are often taken at school. Teenagers hone their sense of self-worth in these environments. It is also the place where children need to learn that the way they act toward other people can result in significant problems with their sense of self-worth.

**What is the main conclusion of the passage?**

- A. Schools must promote a healthy living environment for students.
- B. Campaigns for increased mental health awareness must be practised at schools.
- C. Schools must be safe spaces for children to learn and play without being bullied.
- D. Efforts on reducing mental stigma must be mainstreamed to government agencies promoting equity at schools.

**40** For years, Pixar films like Toy Story, Monsters University, and Cars, have received great acclaim for their complex narratives and unexpected plots that deviate from Disney's customary "happy ever after" endings. Woody from Toy Story parted ways with Andy when the latter went to college. Mike and Sully from Monsters University were kicked out by their university dean. Lightning McQueen from Cars did not win the Piston Cup. The main characters did not get the endings they wanted but got the endings they needed. Therefore, Pixar films are the ideal option among animated movies to educate children about life.

**Which of the following statements, if true, best strengthens the argument above?**

- A. Through its characters, Pixar teaches kids the concepts of failure and acceptance.
- B. Pixar comprehensively presents stories that mirror the complexities kids go through early in life.
- C. Pixar's characters were made to positively influence and capture the hearts of their viewers.
- D. Pixar invests a great deal of time and money to make their content of the highest quality.

Scholar