GRE Quantitative Reasoning Practice Questions

Section: GRE General Test Exams • **Total Questions:** 10 • **Format:** Verified Q&A

1. Which of the following best expresses the main idea of the passage?

(A) Creative work cannot benefit the public unless it is protected by legislation.
(B) Sometimes the full effects of a piece of legislation are difficult to foresee.
(C) Legislation alone will never completely eliminate an illegal activity.
(D) Legislation is often not the best way to deal with a problem.
(E) Legislation is impossible to enforce unless it is supported by the public.

2. Ascorbate readily oxidizes in aerated aqueous solutions, and the pH of such solutions, in part, _____ the rate of oxidation, since the higher the pH, the greater the rate of oxidation.

(A) determines
(B) accelerates
(C) consolidates
(D) governs
(E) compounds
(F) stabilizes

3. The primary purpose of the passage is to

> *The expectation that science is a stable body of relatively objective knowledge on which the law can draw to settle legal controversies may seem benign. However, this expectation often corresponds to a romantic notion of the scientific enterprise and thereby eclipses not only the instabilities and controversies within science itself, but also the social and rhetorical aspects of even the best science. We see the idealization of science in law whenever there is a presumption that if two scientific experts disagree, one of them must be a "junk scientist." This presumption ignores the theoretical presuppositions and limitations of data that lead to genuine scientific disputes. We also see the idealization of science in law whenever we associate "bias, interest, and motivation" with unreliable expertise. This association misses the practical advances made by scientists who have strong theoretical biases, institutional interests, and financial motivations. Finally, we see the idealization of science in law whenever a legislator, administrator, or judge demands certainty from science, not recognizing its probabilistic nature and dynamic history. It is neither a critique of scientific progress nor an exaggeration to acknowledge scientific debates, the conventional aspects of scientific methodology, the importance of networking and "social capital" with respect to publications and grants, and the persuasive elements in scientific discourse. To think that these features are somehow markers of bad science is to idealize science.*

(A) explain why a particular view of science is problematic
(B) account for the prevalence of a particular view of science
(C) present a debate about the nature of scientific knowledge
(D) suggest that scientific evidence cannot resolve legal disputes
(E) examine flaws in a particular approach to resolving scientific disputes

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4. (4 + ?(7)(8 - ?(28) / (?(2) equals

(A) 2?(3)
(B) 25
(C) 3?(5
(D) 2?(6)

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5. How many of the 15 recorded throw lengths were less than 90 percent of the longest recorded throw length?

(A) Eight
(B) Nine
(C) Ten
(D) Eleven
(E) Twelve

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6. Toys were packed into x boxes so that each box contained the same number of toys, with no toys left unpacked. If 3 fewer boxes had been used instead, then 12 toys would have been packed in each box, with 5 toys left unpacked. What is the value of x?

(A) 11
(B) 14
(C) 28
(D) 31
(E) 34

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7. For how many pairs of numbers x and y does (x — 7)Ãƒâ€š² + (y + 3)Ãƒâ€š² = 0?

(A) None
(B) One only
(C) Two only
(D) Three only
(E) More than three

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8. The primary purpose of the passage is to

> *It is fair to say that the discovery of chimpanzees using tools in the wild (van Lawick-Goodall 1968) was one of the most significant discoveries in field primatology and perhaps in animal behavior as a whole. This finding not only questioned the long-held assumption that using and manufacturing tools were the hallmark of humanity. but also reinvigorated the study of cognitive processes in apes. I say reinvigorated because tool use had been used by psychologists to investigate ape cognition long before its discovery in the wild.*
> *Both Köhler's and Yerkes' pioneering work in the 1920s on ape problem solving drew heavily on tool use. Yerkes saw tool use as an example of ideation, thinking in the absence of the actual stimuli, whereas Köhler saw it as an example of finding indirect solutions when the direct route was not possible. Köhler emphasized the insightful nature of several tool-use episodes, and he contrasted such a sudden mode of solution with the gradual trial-and-error learning that Thorndike had described with his puzzle boxes. Historically, this is the forerunner of a debate between association (Le, apes respond to the presence of certain observable cues but without any real causal understanding) and reasoning that continues unresolved today*

(A) show how approaches to studying ape cognition and tool use have changed over time
(B) summarize recent research on the significance of tool use in chimpanzees
(C) question the extent to which a discovery about chimpanzees was groundbreaking
(D) discuss precursors to an important breakthrough in understanding chimpanzees
(E) show how work on ape cognition has influenced the study of animal behavior

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9. How much must a charity raise to reach a total of $65,000 including Company B's contribution: for the first $9,000 raised, the company gives $3 for every $1; for every dollar above $9,000, the company gives $1 for every $1?

(A) $38

(C) $40

(E) $42

(G) $49

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10. The author would most likely agree with which of the following claims about the 'concept'?

> *A longstanding scholarly neglect of the subject of cooking is partly attributable to the antiquated 'separate spheres' schema that differentiated a private female sphere, which included food preparation and consumption, from a public male sphere, which included food production. While this concept never reflected most women's daily realities-women are major food producers worldwide-the ideological polarization certainly influenced the development of academia; it effectively segregated women into working in low-status 'domestic' disciplines such as dietetics and home economics, while the male-dominated realms of industrial agriculture, food technology, mass retailing, and corporate management enjoyed public respect and academic prestige. This institutionalized bias delayed serious attention to cooking even after feminists in the 1960s obliterated the notion of separate spheres and more women entered all areas of academia.*

(A) Its influence can be perceived in the relative prestige that was conferred on some academic fields of study.

(B) Its origins can be traced to an erroneous but longstanding theory about the production and consumption of food.

(C) Its currency within academia has declined as a result of shifting boundaries between scholarly disciplines.

(D) It had a greater impact on the disciplinary specializations of female scholars than on those of their male counterparts.

(E) It has been mistakenly applied to the study of subjects that it was not originally intended to explain.