商学院

入学考试指导下

云南出版集团公司云南教育出版社

面学院

人学考试指导

(下)

本书编写组

江苏工业学院图书馆 藏 书 章

云南出版集团公司 云南教育出版社

图书在版编目 (CIP) 数据

商学院人学考试指导/本书编写组编. 昆明: 云南教育出版社,2006.7 ISBN 7-5415-3066-2

I. 商... II. 本... III. 英语—研究生—人学考试— 自学参考资料 IV. H310. 41

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2006)第 079849 号

商学院入学考试指导(上中下)

责任编辑 李安泰 黄 晨 出版发行 云南教育出版社 社 昆明市环城西路 609号 바 印 刷 北京市兆成印刷有限责任公司 开 本 $787 \times 1092 \,\mathrm{mm} - 1/16$ 印 张 71 字 数 2000 干 次 2006年7月第1版 版 印 次 2006年7月第1次印刷

书 号 ISBN 7—5415—3066—2

定 价 110.00 元(上中下)

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GMAT 阅读核心篇

新老观点对比型

Passage 1

- Caffeine, the stimulant in coffee, has been called "the most widely used psychoactive substance on Earth ." Synder, Daly and Bruns have recently proposed that caffeine affects behavior by countering the activity in
- (5) the human brain of a naturally occurring chemical called adenosine. Adenosine normally depresses neuron firing in many areas of the brain. It apparently does this by inhibiting the release of neurotransmitters, chemicals that carry nerve impulses from one neuron to the next.
- (10) Like many other agents that affect neuron firing, adenosine must first bind to specific receptors on neuronal membranes. There are at least two classes of these receptors, which have been designated A1 and A2. Snyder et al propose that caffeine, which is struc
- (15) turally similar to adenosine, is able to bind to both types of receptors, which prevents adenosine from attaching there and allows the neurons to fire more readily than they otherwise would.
- (20) buted to its inhibition of the production of phosphodiesterase, an enzyme that breaks down the chemical called cyclic AMP.A number of neurotransmitters exert their effects by first increasing cyclic AMP concentrations in target neurons. Therefore, prolonged periods at

For many years, caffeine's effects have been attri-

- (25) the elevated concentrations, as might be brought about by a phosphodiesterase inhibitor, could lead to a greater amount of neuron firing and, consequently, to behavioral stimulation. But Snyder et al point out that the caffeine concentrations needed to inhibit the production
- (30) of phosphodiesterase in the brain are much higher than those that produce stimulation. Moreover, other compounds that block phosphodiesterase's activity are not stimulants.
- To buttress their case that caffeine acts instead by pre(35) venting adenosine binding, Snyder et al compared the
 stimulatory effects of a series of caffeine derivatives with
 their ability to dislodge adenosine from its receptors in
 the brains of mice. "In general," they reported, "the
 ability of the compounds to compete at the receptors
- (40) correlates with their ability to stimulate locomotion in the mouse; i.e., the higher their capacity to bind at the

receptors, the higher their ability to stimulate locomotion." Theophylline, a close structural relative of caffeine and the major stimulant in tea, was one of the most

3-isobuty1-1-methylxanthine(IBMX), which bound very

- (45) effective compounds in both regards.

 There were some apparent exceptions to the general correlation observed between adenosine-receptor binding and stimulation. One of these was a compound called
- (50) well but actually depressed mouse locomotion. Snyder et al suggest that this is not a major stumbling block to their hypothesis. The problem is that the compound has mixed effects in the brain, a not unusual occurrence with psychoactive drugs. Even caffeine, which is generally
- (55) known only for its stimulatory effects, displays this property, depressing mouse locomotion at very low concentrations and stimulating it at higher ones.
- 1. The primary purpose of the passage is to
 - (A) discuss a plan for investigation of a phenomenon that is not yet fully understood
 - (B) present two explanations of a phenomenon and reconcile the differences between them
 - (C) summarize two theories and suggest a third theory that overcomes the problems encountered in the first two
 - (D) describe an alternative hypothesis and provide evidence and arguments that support it
 - (E) challenge the validity of a theory by exposing the inconsistencies and contradictions in it
- 2. According so Snyder et al, caffeine differs from adenosine in that caffeine
 - (A) stimulates behavior in the mouse and in humans, whereas adenosine stimulates behavior in humans only
 - (B) has mixed effects in the brain, whereas adenosine has only a stimulatory effect
 - (C) increases cyclic AMP concentrations in target neurons, whereas adenosine decreases such concentrations
 - (D) permits release of neurotransmitters when it is bound to adenosine receptors, whereas adenosine inhibits such release

- (E) inhibits both neuron firing and the production of phosphodiesterase when there is a sufficient concentration in the brain, whereas adenosine inhibits only neuron firing
- 3. In response to experimental results concerning IBMX, Snyder et al contended that it is not uncommon for psychoactive drugs to have
 - (A) mixed effects in the brain
 - (B) inhibitory effects on enzymes in the brain
 - (C) close structural relationships with caffeine
 - (D) depressive effects on mouse locomotion
 - (E) the ability to dislodge caffeine from receptors in the brain
- 4. According to Snyder et al, all of the following compounds can bind to specific receptors in the brain EXCEPT
 - (A) IBMX
 - (B) caffeine
 - (C) adenosine
 - (D) theophylline
 - (E) phosphodiesterase
- 5. Snyder et al suggest that caffeine's ability to bind to A1 and A2 receptors can be at least partially attributed to which of the following?

- (A) The chemical relationship between caffeine and phosphodiesterase
- (B) The structural relationship between caffeine and adenosine
- (C) The structural similarity between caffeine and neurotransmitters
- (D) The ability of caffeine to stimulate behavior
- (E) The natural occurrence of caffeine and adenosine in the brain
- 6. The author quotes Snyder et al in lines 38-43

most probably in order to

- (A) reveal some of the assumptions underlying their theory
- (B) summarize a major finding of their experiments
- (C) point out that their experiments were limited to the mouse
- (D) indicate that their experiments resulted only in general correlations
- (E) refute the objections made by supporters of the older theory

Passage 2

- Federal efforts to aid minority businesses began in the 1960's when the Small Business Administration (SBA) began making federally guaranteed loans and government-sponsored management and technical assistance
- (5) available to minority business enterprises. While this program enabled many minority entrepreneurs to form new businesses, the results were disappointing, since managerial inexperience, unfavorable locations, and capital shortages led to high failure rates. Even 15
- (10) years after the program was implemented, minority business receipts were not quite two percent of the national economy's total receipts.
 - Recently federal policymakers have adopted an approach intended to accelerate development of the
- (15) minority business sector by moving away from directly aiding small minority enterprises and toward supporting larger, growth-oriented minority firms through intermediary companies. In this approach, large corporations participate in the development of successful and stable
- (20) minority businesses by making use of governmentsponsored venture capital. The capital is used by a participating company to establish a Minority Enterprise Small Business Investment Company or MESBIC. The MESBIC then provides capital and guidance to minority
- (25) businesses that have potential to become future suppliers or customers of the sponsoring company. MESBIC's are the result of the belief that providing established firms with easier access to relevant management techniques and more job-specific experience, as
- (30) well as substantial amounts of capital, gives those firms a greater opportunity to develop sound business founda-

- tions than does simply making general management experience and small amounts of capital available. Further, since potential markets for the minority busi-
- (35) nesses already exist through the sponsoring companies, the minority businesses face considerably less risk in terms of location and market fluctuation. Following early financial and operating problems, sponsoring corporations began to capitalize MESBIC's far above
- (40) the legal minimum of \$500,000 in order to generate sufficient income and to sustain the quality of management needed. MESBIC'c are now emerging as increasingly important financing sources for minority enterprises.
- (45) Ironically, MESBIC staffs, which usually consist of Hispanic and Black professionals, tend to approach investments in minority firms more pragmatically than do many MESBIC directors, who are usually senior managers from sponsoring corporations. The latter
- (50) often still think mainly in terms of the "social responsibility approach" and thus seem to prefer deals that are riskier and less attractive than normal investment criteria would warrant. Such differences in viewpoint have produced uneasiness among many minority staff members,
- (55) who feel that minority entrepreneurs and businesses should be judged by established business considerations. These staff members believe their point of view is closer to the original philosophy of MESBIC's and they are concerned that, unless a more prudent course is fol-
- (60) lowed, MESBIC directors may revert to policies likely to re-create the disappointing results of the original SBA approach.
- 13. Which of the following best states the central idea of the passage?
 - (A) The use of MESBIC's for aiding minority entrepreneurs seems to have greater potential for success than does the original SBA approach.
 - (B) There is a crucial difference in point of view between the staff and directors of some MESBIC's.
 - (C) After initial problems with management and marketing, minority businesses have begun to expand at a steady rate.
 - (D) Minority entrepreneurs wishing to form new businesses now have several equally successful federal programs on

- which to rely.
- (E) For the first time since 1960, large corporations are making significant contributions to the development of minority businesses.
- 14. According to the passage, the MESBIC approach differs from the SBA approach in that MESBIC's
 - (A) seek federal contracts to provide markets for minority businesses
 - (B) encourage minority businesses to provide markets for other minority businesses
 - (C) attempt to maintain a specified rate of

- growth in the minority business sector
- (D) rely on the participation of large corporations to finance minority businesses
- (E) select minority businesses on the basis of their location
- 15. Which of the following does the author cite to support the conclusion that the results of the SBA program were disappointing?
 - (A) The small number of new minority enterprises formed as a result of the program
 - (B) The small number of minority enterprises that took advantage of the management and technical assistance offered under the program
 - (C) The small percentage of the nation's business receipts earned by minority enterprises following the programs, implementation.
 - (D) The small percentage of recipient minority enterprises that were able to repay federally guaranteed loans made under the program
 - (E) The small number of minority enterprises that chose to participate in the program
- 16. Which of the following statements about the SBA program can be inferred from the passage?
 - (A) The maximum term for loans made to recipient businesses was 15 years.
 - (B) Business loans were considered to be more useful to recipient businesses than was management and technical assistance.
 - (C) The anticipated failure rate for recipient businesses was significantly lower than the rate that actually resulted.
 - (D) Recipient businesses were encouraged to relocate to areas more favorable for business development.

- (E) The capitalization needs of recipient businesses were assessed and then provided for adequately.
- 17. The author refers to the "financial and operating problems" (line 38) encountered by MESBIC's primarily in order to
 - (A) broaden the scope of the discussion to include the legal considerations of funding MESBIC'S through sponsoring companies
 - (B) call attention to the fact that MESBIC's must receive adequate funding in order to function effectively
 - (C) show that sponsoring companies were willing to invest only \$500,000 of government-sponsored venture capital in the original MESBIC's
 - (D) compare SBA and MESBIC limits on minimum funding
 - (E) refute suggestions that MESBIC's have been only marginally successful
- 18. The author's primary objective in the passage is to
 - (A) disprove the view that federal efforts to aid minority businesses have been ineffective
 - (B) explain how federal efforts to aid minority businesses have changed since the 1960's
 - (C) establish a direct link between the federal efforts to aid minority businesses made before the 1960's and those made in the 1980's
 - (D) analyze the basis for the belief that job-specific experience is more useful to minority businesses than is general management experience
 - (E) argue that the "social responsibility approach" to aiding minority businesses is superior to any other approach

Passage 3

Seeking a competitive advantage, some professional

- service firms(for example, firms providing advertising, accounting, or health care services) have considered offering unconditional guarantees of satisfaction. Such
- (5) guarantees specify what clients can expect and what the firm will do if it fails to fulfill these expectations. Particularly with first-time clients, an unconditional guarantee can be an effective marketing tool if the client is very cautious, the firm's fees are high, the
- (10) negative consequences of bad service are grave, or business is difficult to obtain through referrals and word-of-mouth.
 - However, an unconditional guarantee can sometimes hinder marketing efforts. With its implication that fail-
- (15) ure is possible, the guarantee may, paradoxically, cause clients to doubt the service firm's ability to deliver the promised level of service. It may conflict with a firm's desire to appear sophisticated, or may even suggest that a firm is begging for business. In legal and health care
- (20) services, it may mislead clients by suggesting that lawsuits or medical procedures will have guaranteed outcomes. Indeed, professional service firms with outstanding reputations and performance to match have little to gain from offering unconditional guarantees. And any firm
- (25) that implements an unconditional guarantee without undertaking a commensurate commitment to quality of service is merely employing a potentially costly marketing gimmick.
- 113. The primary function of the passage as a whole is to
 - (A) account for the popularity of a practice
 - (B) evaluate the utility of a practice
 - (C) demonstrate how to institute a practice
 - (D) weigh the ethics of using a strategy
 - (E) explain the reasons for pursuing a strategy
- 114. All of the following are mentioned in the passage as circumstances in which professional service firms can benefit from offering an unconditional guarantee EXCEPT:
 - (A) The firm is having difficulty retaining its clients of long standing.
 - (B) The firm is having difficulty getting business through client recommendations.
 - (C) The firm charges substantial fees for its

services.

- (D) The adverse effects of poor performance by the firm are significant for the client.
- (E) The client is reluctant to incur risk.
- 115. Which of the following is cited in the passage as a goal of some professional service firms in offering unconditional guarantees of satisfaction?
 - (A) A limit on the firm's liability
 - (B) Successful competition against other firms
 - (C) Ability to justify fee increases
 - (D) Attainment of an outstanding reputation in a field
 - (E) Improvement in the quality of the firm's service
- 116. The passage's description of the issue

raised by unconditional guarantees for health care or legal services most clearly implies that which of the following is true?

- (A) The legal and medical professions have standards of practice that would be violated by attempts to fulfill such unconditional guarantees.
- (B) The result of a lawsuit of medical procedure cannot necessarily be determined in advance by the professionals handling a client's case.
- (C) The dignity of the legal and medical professions is undermined by any attempts at marketing of professional services, including unconditional guarantees.
- (D) Clients whose lawsuits or medical procedures have unsatisfactory outcomes cannot be adequately compensated by financial settlements alone.
- (E) Predicting the monetary cost of legal or health care services is more difficult than predicting the monetary cost of other types of professional services.
- 117. Which of the following hypothetical situations best exemplifies the potential problem noted in the second sentence of the second paragraph (lines 14-17)?
 - (A) A physician's unconditional guarantee of satisfaction encourages patients to sue for malpractice if they are unhappy with the treatment they receive.
 - (B) A lawyer's unconditional guarantee of

- satisfaction makes clients suspect that the lawyer needs to find new clients quickly to increase the firm's income.
- (C) A business consultant's unconditional guarantee of satisfaction is undermined when the consultant fails to provide all of the services that are promised.
- (D) An architect's unconditional guarantee of satisfaction makes clients wonder how often the architect's buildings fail to please clients.
- (E) An accountant's unconditional guarantee of satisfaction leads clients to believe that tax returns prepared by the accountant are certain to be accurate.
- 118. The passage most clearly implies which of the following about the professional service firms mentioned in line 22?
 - (A) They are unlikely to have offered unconditional guarantees of satisfaction in the past.
 - (B) They are usually profitable enough to be able to compensate clients according to the terms of an unconditional guarantee.
 - (C) They usually practice in fields in which the outcomes are predictable.
 - (D) Their fees are usually more affordable than those charged by other professional service firms.
 - (E) Their clients are usually already satisfied with the quality of service that is delivered.

Passage 4

Schools expect textbooks to be a valuable source of information for students. My research suggests, however, that textbooks that address the place of Native Americans within he history of the United States distort history to suit

(5) a particular cultural value system. In some textbooks, for example, settlers are pictured as more humane, complex, skillful, and wise than Native American. In essence, textbooks stereotype and deprecate the numerous Native

- American cultures while reinforcing the attitude that the
- (10) European conquest of the New World denotes the superiority of European cultures. Although textbooks evaluate Native American architecture, political systems, and homemaking. I contend that they do it from an ethnocentric,
- (15) European perspective without recognizing that other perspectives are possible.

 One argument against my contention asserts that by
 - One argument against my contention asserts that, by nature, textbooks are culturally biased and that I am simply underestimating children's ability to see through these
- (20) biases. Some researchers even claim that by the time students are in high school, they know they cannot take textbooks literally. Yet substantial evidence exists to the contrary. Two researchers, for example, have conducted studies that suggest that children's attitudes about particular
- (25) culture are strongly influenced by the textbooks used in schools. Given this, an ongoing, careful review of how school textbooks depict Native American is certainly warranted.
- 154. Which of the following would most logically be the topic of the paragraph immediately following the passage?
 - (A) Specific ways to evaluate the biases of United States history textbooks
 - (B) The centrality of the teacher's role in United States history courses
 - (C) Nontraditional methods of teaching United States history
 - (D) The contributions of European immigrants to the development of the United States
 - (E) Ways in which parents influence children's political attitudes
- 155. The primary purpose of the passage is to
 - (A) describe in detail one research study regarding the impact of history textbooks on children's attitudes and beliefs about certain cultures
 - (B) describe revisions that should be made to United States history textbooks
 - (C) discuss the difficulty of presenting an accurate history of the United States
 - (D) argue that textbooks used in schools stereotype Native Americans and influence children's attitudes

- (E) summarize ways in which some textbooks give distorted pictures of the political systems developed by various Native American groups
- 156. The author mentions two researchers' studies (lines22-25) most likely in order to
 - (A) suggest that children's political attitudes are formed primarily through textbooks
 - (B) counter the claim that children are able to see through stereotypes in textbooks
 - (C) suggest that younger children tend to interpret the messages in textbooks more literally than do older children
 - (D) demonstrate that textbooks carry political messages meant to influence their readers
 - (E) prove that textbooks are not biased in terms of their political presentations
- 157. The author's attitude toward the content of the history textbooks discussed in the passage is best described as one of
 - (A) indifference
 - (B) hesitance
 - (C) neutrality
 - (D) amusement

(E) disapproval

158. It can be inferred from the passage that the researchers mentioned in line 19 would be most likely to agree with which of the following statements?

- (A) Students form attitudes about cultures other than their own primarily inside the school environment.
- (B) For the most part, seniors in high school know that textbooks can be biased.
- (C) Textbooks play a crucial role in shaping the attitudes and beliefs of students.
- (D) Elementary school students are as likely to recognize biases in textbooks as are high school students.
- (E) Students are less likely to give credence

to history textbooks than to mathematics textbooks.

- 159. The author implies tha5t which of the following will occur if textbooks are not carefully reviewed?
 - (A) Children will remain ignorant of the European settlers' conquest of the New World.
 - (B) Children will lose their ability to recognize biases in textbooks.
 - (C) Children will form negative stereotypes of Native Americans.
 - (D) Children will develop an understanding of ethnocentrism.
 - (E) Children will stop taking textbooks seriously.

问题解决型

Passage 5

Excess inventory, a massive problem for many businesses, has several causes, some of which are unavoidable. Overstocks may accumulate through production overruns or errors. Certain styles and colors prove unpopular. With

- (5) some products—computers and software, toys, and books—last year's models are difficult to move even at huge discounts. Occasionally the competition introduces a better product. But in many cases the public's buying tastes simply change, leaving a manufacturer or distributor with
- (10) thousands (or millions) of items that the fickle public no longer wants.
 - One common way to dispose of this merchandise is to sell it to a liquidator, who buys as cheaply as possible and then resells the merchandise through catalogs, discount
- (15) stores, and other outlets. However, liquidators may pay less for the merchandise than it cost to make it. Another way to dispose of excess inventory is to dump it. The corporation takes a straight cost write-off on its taxes and hauls the merchandise to a landfill. Although it is hard to believe,
- (20) there is a sort of convoluted logic to this approach. It is perfectly legal, requires little time or preparation on the company's part, and solves the problem quickly. The drawback is the remote possibility of getting caught by the news media. Dumping perfectly useful products can turn into a
- (25) public relations nightmare. Children living in poverty are freezing and XYZ Company has just sent 500 new snowsuits to the local dump. Parents of young children are barely getting by and QPS Company dumps 1,000 cases of disposable diapers because they have slight imperfections.
- (30) The managers of these companies are not deliberately wasteful; they are simply unaware of all their alternatives. In 1976 the Internal Revenue Service provided a tangible incentive for businesses to contribute their products to charity. The new tax law allowed corporations to deduct the
- (35)cost of the product donated plus half the difference between cost and fair market selling price, with the proviso that deductions cannot exceed twice cost. Thus, the federal government sanctions—indeed, encourages—an above-cost federal tax deduction for companies that donate inventory
- (40) to charity.
- 183. The author mentions each of the following | as a cause of excess inventory EXCEPT

- (A) production of too much merchandise
- (B) inaccurate forecasting of buyers' preferences
- (C) unrealistic pricing policies
- (D) products' rapid obsolescence
- (E) availability of a better product
- 184. The passage suggests that which of the following is a kind of product that a liquidator who sells to discount stores would be unlikely to wish to acquire?
 - (A) Furniture
 - (B) Computers
 - (C) Kitchen equipment
 - (D) Baby-care products
 - (E) Children's clothing
- 185. The passage provides information that supports which of the following statements?
 - (A) Excess inventory results most often from insufficient market analysis by the manufacturer.
 - (B) Products with slight manufacturing defects may contribute to excess inventory.
 - (C) Few manufacturers have taken advantage of the changes in the federal tax laws.
 - (D) Manufacturers who dump their excess inventory are often caught and exposed by the news media.
 - (E) Most products available in discount stores have come from manufacturers' excess-inventory stock.
- 186. The author cites the examples in lines 25-29 most probably in order to illustrate
 - (A) the fiscal irresponsibility of dumping as a policy for dealing with excess inventory
 - (B) the waste-management problems that dumping new products creates
 - (C) the advantages to the manufacturer of dumping as a policy
 - (D) alternatives to dumping explored by different companies
 - (E) how the news media could portray

dumping to the detriment of the manufacturer's reputation

- 187. By asserting that manufacturers "are simply unaware" (line 31), the author suggests which of the following?
 - (A) Manufacturers might donate excess inventory to charity rather than dump it if they knew about the provision in the federal tax code.
 - (B) The federal government has failed to provide sufficient encouragement to manufacturers to make use of advantageous tax policies.
 - (C) Manufacturers who choose to dump excess inventory are not aware of the possible effects on their reputation of media coverage of such dumping.
 - (D) The manufacturers of products disposed of by dumping are unaware of the needs of those people who would find the products useful.
 - (E) The manufacturers who dump their excess inventory are not familiar with the employment of liquidators to dispose of overstock.
- 188. The information in the passage suggests that which of the following, if true, would make donating excess inventory to charity less attractive to manufacturers than dumping?
 - (A) The costs of getting the inventory to the charitable destination are greater than the above-cost tax deduction.
 - (B) The news media give manufacturers' charitable contributions the same amount of coverage that they give dumping.
 - (C) No straight-cost tax benefit can be claimed for items that are dumped.
 - (D) The fair-market value of an item in excess inventory is 1.5 times its cost.
 - (E) Items end up as excess inventory because of a change in the public's preferences.
- 189. Information in the passage suggests that

one reason manufacturers might take advantage of the tax provision mentioned in the last paragraph is that

- (A) there are many kinds of products that cannot be legally dumped in a landfill
- (B) liquidators often refuse to handle products with slight imperfections
- (C) the law allows a deduction in excess of the cost of manufacturing the product
- (D) media coverage of contributions of excess-inventory products to charity is widespread and favorable
- (E) no tax deduction is available for products dumped or sold to a liquidator

Passage 6

While there is no blueprint for transforming a largely government-controlled economy into a free one, the experience of the United Kingdom since 1979 clearly shows one approach that works: privatization, in which

- (5) state-owned industries are sold to private companies. By 1979, the total borrowings and losses of state-owned industries were running at about t3 billion a year. By selling many of these industries, the government has decreased these borrowings and losses, gained over 34
- (10) billion from the sales, and now receives tax revenues from the newly privatized companies. Along with a dramatically improved overall economy, the government has been able to repay 12.5 percent of the net national debt over a two-year period.
- (15) In fact, privatization has not only rescued individual industries and a whole economy headed for disaster, but has also raised the level of performance in every area. At British Airways and British Gas, for example, productivity per employee has risen by 20 percent. At associated
- (20) British Ports, labor disruptions common in the 1970's and early 1980's have now virtually disappeared. At British Telecom, there is no longer a waiting list—as there always was before privatization—to have a telephone installed.

Part of this improved productivity has come about

- (25) because the employees of privatized industries were given the opportunity to buy shares in their own companies. They responded enthusiastically to the offer of shares; at British Aerospace, 89 percent of the eligible work force bought shares; at Associated British Ports, 90 percent; and at
- (30) British Telecom, 92 percent. When people have a personal stake in something, they think about it, care about it, work to make it prosper. At the National Freight Consortium, the new employee-owners grew so concerned about their company's profits that during wage negotiations they
- (35) actually pressed their union to lower its wage demands.

 Some economists have suggested that giving away free

- shares would provide a needed acceleration of the privatization process. Yet they miss Thomas Paine's point that "what we obtain too cheap we esteem too lightly." In
- (40) order for the far-ranging benefits of individual ownership to be achieved by owners, companies, and countries, employees and other individuals must make their own decisions to buy, and they must commit some of their own resources to the choice.

206. According to the passage, all of the following were benefits of privatizing state-owned industries in the United Kingdom EXCEPT:

- (A) Privatized industries paid taxes to the government.
- (B) The government gained revenue from selling state-owned industries.
- (C) The government repaid some of its national debt.
- (D) Profits from industries that were still state-owned increased.
- (E) Total borrowings and losses of state-owned industries decreased.

207. According to the passage, which of the following resulted in increased productivity in companies that have been privatized?

- (A) A large number of employees chose to purchase shares in their companies.
- (B) Free shares were widely distributed to individual shareholders.
- (C) The government ceased to regulate major industries.
- (D) Unions conducted wage negotiations for employees.
- (E) Employee-owners agreed to have their wages lowered.

208. It can be inferred from the passage that the author considers labor disruptions to be

- (A) an inevitable problem in a weak national economy
- (B) a positive sign of employee concern about a company
- (C) a predictor of employee reactions to a company's offer to sell shares to them
- (D) a phenomenon found more often in

- state-owned industries than in private companies
- (E) a deterrence to high performance levels in an industry

209. The passage supports which of the following statements about employees buying shares in their own companies?

- (A) At three different companies, approximately nine out of ten of the workers were eligible to buy shares in their companies.
- (B) Approximately 90% of the eligible workers at three different companies chose o buy shares in their companies.
- (C) The opportunity to buy shares was discouraged by at least some labor unions.
- (D) Companies that demonstrated the highest productivity were the first to allow their employees the opportunity to buy shares.
- (E) Eligibility to buy shares was contingent on employees' agreeing to increased work loads.

210. Which of the following statements is most consistent with the principle described in lines 30-32?

- (A) A democratic government that decides it is inappropriate to own a particular industry has in no way abdicated its responsibilities as guardian of the public interest.
- (B) The ideal way for a government to protect employee interests is to force companies to maintain their share of a competitive market without government