

Free Critical Thinking Test Inferences

Questions Booklet

Instructions

This practice critical thinking test will assess your ability to make inferences and logical assumptions and to reason with supported arguments.

Read the instructions preceding each section and answer the questions. There are a total of **14 questions** in this test and you should aim to correctly answer as many questions as you can within **30 minutes**.

Try to find a time and place where you will not be interrupted during the test. **The test will begin on the next page.**

Section 4: Inferences

Instructions:

An inference is a conclusion drawn from observed or supposed facts. For example, if someone presses a light switch but the light does not turn on, they might infer that the filament has burnt out. However, inferences may or may not be correct. For example, in this case, the bulb could be missing, or a fuse could be blown.

The questions in this section of the test will begin with a statement of facts that must be regarded as true. After each statement, you will be presented with possible inferences which might be drawn from facts in the statement. Analyse each inference separately and decide on its degree of truth.

For each inference, you will be provided with 5 possible answers: True, Probably True, More Information Required, Probably False, and False.

Select:

True, if you believe the inference is definitely true, i.e. it correctly follows beyond a reasonable doubt.

Probably True, if, based on the facts at hand, you think the inference is probably true; that it is more likely to be true than false, but not true beyond a reasonable doubt.

More Information Required, if you decide that there is not enough data to make a decision based on the provided facts (or lack of facts).

Probably False, if, based on the facts presented, you think the inference is probably false; i.e. it is more likely to be false than true, but there is not enough evidence to suggest that it is definitely false.

False, if you think the inference is definitely false; i.e. it must be incorrect because it misrepresents the facts provided or contradicts the facts provided in the statement.

Statement One:

Although it is agreed that China is rapidly modernising its army, there is some doubt surrounding the exact amount it is spending. The research institute 'PIPPi', submits that the annual Chinese defence spending has risen from almost \$31 billion in 2000 to over \$120 billion in 2010. This figure is almost double the official figure published by the Chinese government, who fail to include many other areas such as research and development in the official figure each year. In 2010, the United States government spent around \$400 billion on military defence. Based on the current level of military growth, statistics suggest that China's defence spending could overtake America's by 2030. In addition to military spending, China's army continues to enjoy the largest number of people within the ranks of its army than any other country.

Q1

Inference 1: The official figures published by the Chinese government in relation to their military spending are thought to be misleading.

- True
- Probably True
- More Information Required
- Probably False
- False

Q2

Inference 2: It is known that the Chinese government leave areas such as 'research' and 'development' from their official figures, however, this would also suggest that other areas of spending are also omitted from their official figure for military spending.

- True
- Probably True
- More Information Required
- Probably False
- False

Q3

Inference 3: The Chinese government omits several key areas from its official spending figures, in areas such as military spending, agriculture, human rights and law.

True
Probably True
More Information Required
Probably False
False

Q4

Inference 4: If there are any anomalies between the published figures on military spending and the actual figure spent, this is merely a clerical error.

True
Probably True
More Information Required
Probably False
False

Q5

Inference 5: In 2010, the United States of America spent less on its military defence than the Chinese government.

True
Probably True
More Information Required
Probably False
False

Statement Two

Turkey is a surprising addition to the list of rapidly developing economies; with a GDP increase of 8.5% in the year 2011 alone. However, such rapid growth leaves worries regarding possible side-effects. For instance, in 2011 Turkey's rate of inflation was well above that of its peers. Secondly, there is increasing concern regarding Turkey's growing dependency on foreign capital. A large portion of the Turkish banking system is part-owned by banks within the Eurozone. As the single currency falters, such a dependency raises questions about the stability of Turkish growth.

Q6

Inference 1: There are concerns that Turkey's development is at risk of faltering in the years after 2011.

- True
- Probably True
- More Information Required
- Probably False
- False

Q7

Inference 2: As Turkish banks are part-owned by those in the Eurozone, they may suffer if the European banks face financial difficulty.

- True
- Probably True
- More Information Required
- Probably False
- False

Q8

Inference 3: The Turkish banks are part-owned by European banks as this provides greater variation to the market and extra finance to the economy.

- True
- Probably True
- More Information Required
- Probably False
- False

Q9

Inference 4: Turkish banks are part-owned by European banks as this provides greater economic links with the Eurozone, helping their ascension into the European Union.

- True
- Probably True
- More Information Required
- Probably False
- False

Q10

Inference 5: The Turkish economy was surprisingly stagnant in 2011.

- True
- Probably True
- More Information Required
- Probably False
- False

Statement Three

Some people think that prospective employees should include a photograph with their application form. Such practice has traditionally been criticised for allowing more attractive individuals to get ahead in their career over 'plain' colleagues. However, one study demonstrates that this is, in fact, untrue. Ruffle, the creator of this study, attributes his findings to the 'dumb-blonde hypothesis'- that beautiful women are thought to be unintelligent. Ruffle submits that companies would be better advised adopting the selection model employed by the Belgian public sector, where CVs are anonymous and candidate names, gender and photographs are not allowed to be included on CVs. Such a model allows the candidate to be selected on factors relevant to the role applied for.

Q11

Inference 1: The 'dumb-blonde hypothesis' says that more attractive women are less capable of being intelligent.

- True
- Probably True
- Insufficient Data
- Probably False
- False

Q12

Inference 2: The model of selecting future employees adopted by the Belgian public sector aims to reduce discrimination based on appearance and gender.

- True
- Probably True
- Insufficient Data
- Probably False
- False

Q13

Inference 3: The method of selecting future employees adopted by the Belgian public sector has helped to eliminate discrimination in the Belgian public sector.

- True
- Probably True
- Insufficient Data
- Probably False
- False

Q14

Inference 4: The method of selecting future employees adopted by the Belgian public sector has had the effect of increasing discrimination based on appearance within the Belgian public sector.

True

Probably True

Insufficient Data

Probably False

False

-- END OF CRITICAL THINKING TEST --