

Oklahoma General Education Test (OGET) (174) Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

- 1. The use of evidence that loops back to itself as support is termed?**
 - A. Circular argument**
 - B. Logical fallacy**
 - C. Slippery slope**
 - D. False dichotomy**
- 2. In narrative writing, the author's goal is often to achieve which of the following?**
 - A. Inform the reader**
 - B. Persuade the audience**
 - C. Entertain the reader**
 - D. Explain a concept**
- 3. If an author uses humor in writing, what is typically their main goal?**
 - A. To engage the reader**
 - B. To provide accurate data**
 - C. To persuade the reader to agree with a specific viewpoint**
 - D. To critique a social issue**
- 4. In the context provided, when skeletons are used to describe leafless trees, what literary device is being employed?**
 - A. Metonymy**
 - B. Synecdoche**
 - C. Metaphor**
 - D. Alliteration**
- 5. Which type of graph is most effective for illustrating general trends in the data?**
 - A. Pie chart**
 - B. Bar graph**
 - C. Line graph**
 - D. Histogram**

- 6. What term describes the attribution of human characteristics to nonhuman entities?**
- A. Personification**
 - B. Metaphor**
 - C. Personality**
 - D. Anthropomorphism**
- 7. What term describes the act of describing something as less than it is?**
- A. Simile**
 - B. Hyperbole**
 - C. Understatement**
 - D. Personification**
- 8. Reasoning that merely restates assertions in different words is called?**
- A. Circular reasoning**
 - B. Slippery slope**
 - C. False dichotomy**
 - D. Overgeneralization**
- 9. When an effect serves as the cause of another effect, what is this referred to as?**
- A. Cause and effect sequence**
 - B. Cause and effect relationship**
 - C. Cause and effect chain**
 - D. Causal chain**
- 10. What is the meaning of the word 'obtuse' when described through contrast?**
- A. Smart**
 - B. Unintelligent**
 - C. Talented**
 - D. Complex**

Answers

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1. A
2. C
3. A
4. C
5. C
6. A
7. C
8. A
9. C
10. B

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Explanations

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1. The use of evidence that loops back to itself as support is termed?

A. Circular argument

B. Logical fallacy

C. Slippery slope

D. False dichotomy

The term that describes the use of evidence that loops back to itself as support is a circular argument. In a circular argument, the conclusion of the argument is assumed in one of the premises, meaning that the reason given for a claim is essentially the same as the claim itself. This type of reasoning does not provide any new or independent support for the argument but rather restates the initial claim in a different way. For example, if someone asserts, "The law is valid because it is what the law says," they are not providing any external justification for the law; instead, they are simply reiterating the assertion in different words. Circular arguments can be deceptive because they can give the semblance of a valid logical structure while not actually providing genuine proof or support. Understanding this concept is vital in critical thinking, as it helps to identify when reasoning is flawed. The other terms, like logical fallacy, slippery slope, and false dichotomy, refer to different types of flawed reasoning or argumentative strategies that do not directly describe the self-referential nature of circular arguments.

2. In narrative writing, the author's goal is often to achieve which of the following?

A. Inform the reader

B. Persuade the audience

C. Entertain the reader

D. Explain a concept

In narrative writing, the primary goal is often to entertain the reader. This genre is characterized by storytelling elements such as character development, plot progression, and vivid settings that draw readers into the narrative. The author uses creative language and emotional engagement to captivate the audience's imagination, allowing them to experience events and emotions through the characters' eyes. While informing, persuading, or explaining may occur within a narrative, these are typically secondary goals. The essence of narrative writing lies in its ability to engage readers and evoke feelings, making entertainment its fundamental purpose. This is particularly important as it encourages readers to immerse themselves in the world that the author has created, leading to a more profound and enjoyable reading experience.

3. If an author uses humor in writing, what is typically their main goal?

- A. To engage the reader**
- B. To provide accurate data**
- C. To persuade the reader to agree with a specific viewpoint**
- D. To critique a social issue**

Using humor in writing often serves to engage the reader effectively. Humor can create a more enjoyable reading experience, allowing the audience to connect with the material on a personal level. This connection can foster a sense of relatability and make complex or difficult subjects more approachable. When an author integrates humor, they can draw the reader's attention and make the text more memorable, as well as enhance the overall tone of the piece. While the other options may represent possible aims of writing, they don't capture the primary purpose of humor as effectively as promoting engagement does. Providing accurate data is more associated with informational writing, persuasion aligns with argumentative formats, and social critique generally demands a serious tone. Humor, therefore, serves primarily to involve and entertain the reader while still conveying deeper meanings or themes.

4. In the context provided, when skeletons are used to describe leafless trees, what literary device is being employed?

- A. Metonymy**
- B. Synecdoche**
- C. Metaphor**
- D. Alliteration**

The use of skeletons to describe leafless trees is an example of metaphor. This literary device involves making a direct comparison between two unlike things to suggest a similarity or shared quality without using "like" or "as." In this case, comparing the bare, branch-like structure of a leafless tree to a skeleton evokes the idea of lifelessness and desolation, enhancing the imagery and emotional impact of the description. By employing metaphor, the author crafts a vivid image that encourages readers to envision the tree not just as a tree stripped of leaves, but as something resembling a human or animal skeleton, thereby deepening the reader's understanding and emotional response to the scene. Through this comparison, the metaphor invites readers to engage their imagination and connect with the underlying themes of loss or emptiness associated with the imagery.

5. Which type of graph is most effective for illustrating general trends in the data?

- A. Pie chart**
- B. Bar graph**
- C. Line graph**
- D. Histogram**

A line graph is particularly effective for illustrating general trends in data over a continuous range, such as time. This type of graph displays information as a series of data points connected by straight line segments, making it easy to visualize how values change over intervals and to identify patterns or trends over time. The clear representation of upward or downward movements facilitates quick understanding of the relationship between the variables, allowing viewers to observe trends at a glance. In contrast, while pie charts are great for showing proportions of a whole, they do not effectively convey changes over time. Bar graphs can show comparisons between distinct categories but may not clearly highlight trends over periods. Histograms are useful for understanding the distribution of data points in certain ranges, often used in statistics, but they also lack the clarity needed to display temporal trends effectively.

6. What term describes the attribution of human characteristics to nonhuman entities?

- A. Personification**
- B. Metaphor**
- C. Personality**
- D. Anthropomorphism**

The term that describes the attribution of human characteristics to nonhuman entities is personification. This literary device is commonly used to give humans traits, emotions, or behaviors to animals, inanimate objects, or abstract concepts, making them relatable and allowing readers to connect with the narrative on a more personal level. Personification is effective in creating imagery and enriching storytelling by allowing audiences to empathize with nonhuman characters or elements. While anthropomorphism is similar, it often refers specifically to giving animals human traits or behaviors, whereas personification encompasses a broader range, including inanimate objects and concepts. Metaphor is a figure of speech that makes a comparison between two unlike things directly, without using "like" or "as," but it does not necessarily involve human attributes. Personality typically refers to the characteristics or qualities that form an individual's distinctive character and is not related to the literary attribute in question.

7. What term describes the act of describing something as less than it is?

- A. Simile**
- B. Hyperbole**
- C. Understatement**
- D. Personification**

The term that describes the act of describing something as less than it is is "understatement." This rhetorical device is used to downplay a situation or a characteristic, often for ironic or humorous effect. For example, saying "It's just a scratch" when referring to a large dent in a car exemplifies understatement because it minimizes the severity of the damage. In the context of rhetorical devices, understatement can create an impact by drawing attention to the reality of a situation while using a softer or more reserved language. It often invites the listener or reader to read between the lines and perceive the situation in a more profound manner. Similes, on the other hand, are comparisons that use "like" or "as" to draw similarities between two different things, while hyperbole involves exaggerated statements or claims not meant to be taken literally. Personification attributes human qualities to non-human entities but does not pertain to the act of diminishing the significance or size of something.

8. Reasoning that merely restates assertions in different words is called?

- A. Circular reasoning**
- B. Slippery slope**
- C. False dichotomy**
- D. Overgeneralization**

Circular reasoning is a type of logical fallacy in which the conclusion of an argument is assumed in the phrasing of the question itself. In this reasoning, one simply restates the claim or assertion in different terms without providing actual evidence or rationale that supports that claim. For example, if someone argues that a certain idea is true simply because it is valid or a fundamental belief, they are essentially going in a circle without offering any new information or evidence to substantiate their assertion. This type of reasoning fails to advance the discussion or persuade others since it does not engage with external evidence or alternative viewpoints. In contrast, slippery slope arguments suggest that one action will lead to a series of negative consequences without substantiating the causal connections. Meanwhile, a false dichotomy presents only two options when there may be more, restricting the argument's scope unfairly. Overgeneralization occurs when conclusions are drawn from insufficient evidence, often leading to stereotypes or blanket statements. These other fallacies demonstrate different types of reasoning errors but do not accurately describe the act of simply restating assertions as seen in circular reasoning.

9. When an effect serves as the cause of another effect, what is this referred to as?

- A. Cause and effect sequence**
- B. Cause and effect relationship**
- C. Cause and effect chain**
- D. Causal chain**

The concept being described is best captured by the term "cause and effect chain." This term specifically refers to a sequence in which one effect leads to another effect, establishing a continuum of causality. In this chain, each effect acts as a new cause for the next effect, demonstrating a series of interconnected events where the outcome of one influences the next occurrence. Understanding this is crucial in fields such as science, philosophy, and social studies, where discerning how various phenomena interact helps to clarify complex systems and relationships. The term implies a linear progression of cause-and-effect scenarios rather than a single cause-effect relationship, showcasing the depth and interconnectedness of events or actions in a systematic way. Other terms like "cause and effect sequence" and "cause and effect relationship" focus more on individual causal connections rather than an ongoing series, which lacks the emphasis on the continuity and interdependency that the concept of a "cause and effect chain" provides. "Causal chain," while similar, might not be as commonly recognized in certain contexts as "cause and effect chain," making the latter the more precise term for what is being described.

10. What is the meaning of the word 'obtuse' when described through contrast?

- A. Smart**
- B. Unintelligent**
- C. Talented**
- D. Complex**

The term "obtuse" generally refers to someone who is not quick to understand or lacks sharpness in intelligence. This is particularly highlighted when contrasted with words that imply intelligence or sharpness. In this context, the opposite of being smart or quick-witted would be being unintelligent, which aligns perfectly with the choice indicating that "obtuse" signifies a lack of understanding or awareness. When looking at the remaining options, "smart" and "talented" are definitions that run counter to the concept of being obtuse, as they imply sharpness and capability in understanding or skills. The option "complex" does not directly relate to intelligence. Therefore, the answer that best encapsulates the meaning of "obtuse" through contrast is the one that describes someone lacking in these qualities, which is unintelligent.