

Name: KEY - SAMPLE

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Blk: \_\_\_\_\_

Practice for:

## Reasoning Evaluation

**Instructions:** Evaluate each of the arguments below, using the following 4 step reasoning evaluation protocol.

1. Identify thesis/topic sentence, predominant type of reasoning & associate elements
2. Diagram the argument as is
3. Frame the appropriate reasoning evaluation questions in the context of the argument
4. Answer the appropriate reasoning evaluation questions including commenting on what missing from the argument

(1) Burger King is a much better restaurant than McDonald's. First, Burger King has better french fries. Its french fries have a rich potato flavor and are fried crisp whereas McDonald's fries are often soggy and lacking natural potato taste. Second, Burger King includes better toys in their kids' meals. McDonald's toys are usually outdated and uninteresting. BK's toys are typically based on the most recent children's movies. Finally, BK has higher quality service. The wait time is always shorter than Mickey D's and the staff much friendlier.

(2) There are several effects of a ferocious bear attack. In attacking its victim, the bear likely used its claws to cause grievous injuries including deep lacerations, internal bleeding and perhaps even broken bones. Such injuries pose a serious threat to the life and the victim should receive medical care ASAP. A less harmful effect could simply be the loss of food and supplies. The attack may have been precipitated by the bear's hunger. Bears have a keen sense of smell and an hungry bear may very well be drawn to the smell of human food. The bear may attack the human, not because the bear is threatened by the human but merely to get something to eat. A human may escape such an attack merely by dropping their supplies, usually a backpack, and running away as the bear tears into the pack. Nonetheless, this "lucky" human is left without their food and supplies. However, such food induced attacks may still result in a severe mauling described above.

(3) BHS social studies teachers are a good mix of experience and youth. Sunderland, Rosecan and Butler have each been teaching for 20-25 years. On the other hand Culhane, Predaina and Goetschius are all in their first ten years of teaching. This mix ensures that students get a good mix of cutting edge teaching techniques as well as the tried and true.

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1. COMPARISON

2.

BK IS MUCH BETTER THAN MCD		
ISSUE	BK	MCD
FRIES	RICH POTATO FLAVOR FRIES CRISP	SOGGY LACKING NATURAL POTATO TASTE
TOYS	BASED ON MOST RECENT KID'S MOVIES	OUTDATED UNINTERESTING
Service	SHORTER, WAIT TIME FRIENDLIER STAFF	

3a. How important are the issues of French fries, toys + service?

3b. How detailed are the descriptions of BK + MCD. Fries, toys + service?

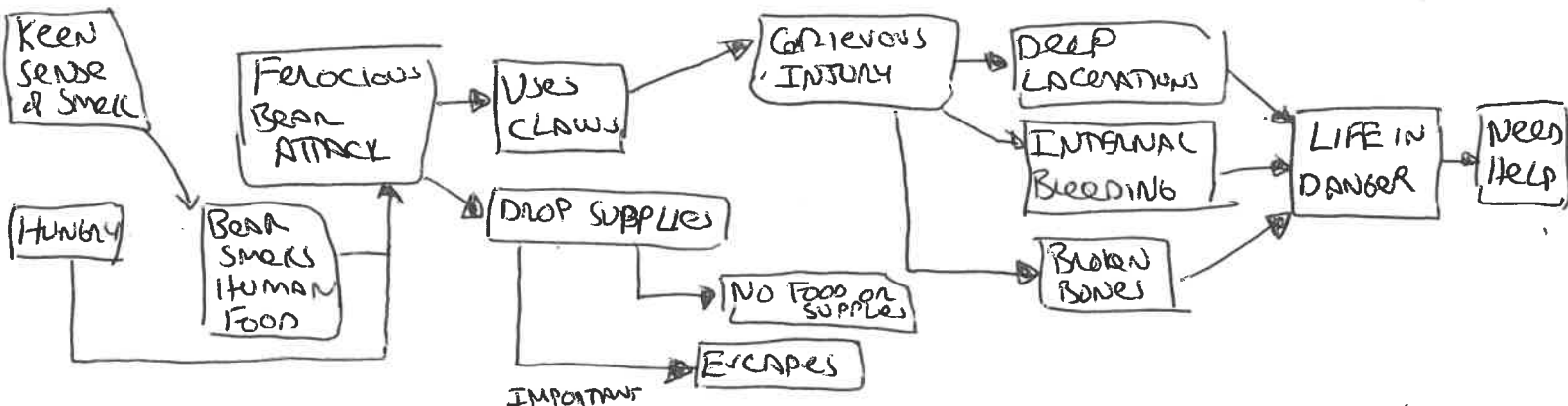


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1. CAUSE → Effect    CA = CAUSE, CO = CONNECTOR, E = EFFECT
- 2.



- 3a. WHAT ARE OTHER EFFECTS OF A BEAR ATTACK BESIDES NEEDING MEDICAL HELP AND BEING WITHOUT FOOD OR SUPPLIES
- 3b. HOW CLEAR ARE THE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE BEAR ATTACK AND NEEDING MEDICAL HELP OR BEING WITHOUT FOOD OR SUPPLIES?

4a) The STATED EFFECTS of NEEDING MEDICAL HELP ~~AND~~ OR BEING LEFT WITHOUT FOOD OR SUPPLIES ARE CERTAINLY IMPORTANT EFFECTS, PROBABLY MOST IMPORTANT EFFECTS BUT THERE ARE SOME ADDITIONAL EFFECT THAT OUGHT TO BE CONSIDERED. FOR ONE, WHAT HAPPENS TO THE BEAR. HISTORICALLY PEOPLE HAVE RESPONDED TO ANIMAL ATTACK BY HUNTING DOWN AND KILLING THE RESPONSIBLE ANIMALS AND LIKELY OTHER SIMILAR ANIMALS. INDEED IT IS THEORIZED THAT THE AMERICANS HAVE SO FEW LARGE PREDATORS BECAUSE EARLY AMERICANS HUNTERS TOOK THEM INTO EXTINCTION. ANOTHER EFFECT THAT WOULD BE IMPORTANT AT LEAST TO THE VICTIM IS THAT THEY WOULD HAVE ONE HELL OF A GOOD STORY... IF THEY LIVED.

4b) THE CONNECTIONS ARE PROTY CLEAR ESPECIALLY WITH REGARD TO THE INJURIES. YES, A MORE DETAILED EXPLANATION + DESCRIPTION OF THE ATTACK COULD REALLY CONNECT BUT IT DOESN'T TAKE TOO MUCH OF A LEAP OF IMAGINATION TO GO FROM "USED ITS CLAWS" TO "DEEP LACERATIONS, INTERNAL BLEEDING, AND BROKEN BONES". THE MAIN AREA THAT COULD USE SOME CLEANER CONNECTIONS IS HOW "DROPPING SUPPLIES" COULD LEAD TO AN ESCAPE. IT WOULD HAVE HELPED IF THE NUNNEN EXPLAINED HOW AFTER DROPPING THE SUPPLIES THE HUNGRY BEAR WOULD FOLLOW ON THEIR SUPPLIES AND LOSE INTEREST IN THE VICTIM CREATING THE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE VICTIM TO ESCAPE.

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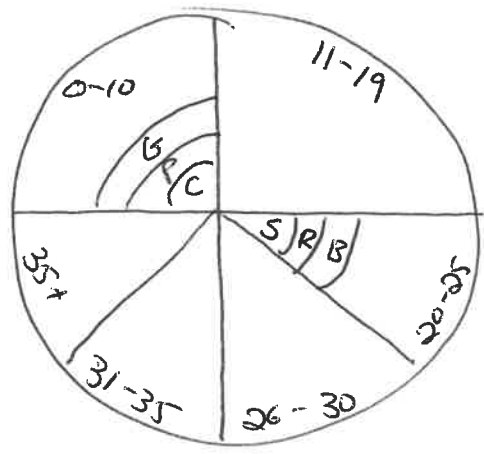
3. GENERALIZATION

4. WHY BHS SS TEACHERS

P: YEARS of EXPERIENCE

- 0-10
- 11-19
- 20-25
- 26-30
- 31-35
- 35+

- S:
- SUNDERLAND
  - ROSECAN
  - BUTLER
  - CULHANE
  - PREDAINA
  - GOETSCHUIS



3a. How large is the sample of BHS ~~teachers~~ SS teachers?

3b. How representative is the sample of BHS SS teachers?

IS PARTING BY YEARS of EXPERIENCE INSIGHTFUL GIVEN THE GENERALIZATION ON YOUTH + EXPERIENCE.

4a) THE AUTHOR USES 6 OF THE 11 BHS SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHERS AS A SAMPLE. AS A TOTAL PERCENTAGE, THAT'S BETTER THAN HALF. HOWEVER, WITH ONLY 11 INDIVIDUALS IN THE WHOLE, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN VERY MANAGEABLE TO INCLUDE MARBOUS, WALSH, WYSOKOWSKI, DONNELLY AND BOSCIETTO AS WELL AS THE 6 NAMED. DOING SO WOULD HAVE MADE A SAMPLE IDENTICAL TO THE WHOLE WHICH WOULD HAVE ALLOWED FOR A MUCH STRONGER GENERALIZATION... ASSUMING THE SAMPLE BORE OUT THE CONCLUSION

4b) WHILE ~~THE~~ DEFENSIBLE, THE SAMPLE IS A BIT PROBLEMATIC. THE AUTHOR DOES INCLUDE MULTIPLE ~~SAME~~ SAMPLES FROM SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT EXPERIENCE PARTS. HOWEVER, ONLY TWO SUCH PARTS ARE IDENTIFIED AND ONE PART IS A 10 YEAR SPAN, THE OTHER ONLY 5. GIVEN A TEACHER'S RETIREMENT PROGRAM WHOSE BENEFITS MAX OUT AT 35 YEARS EXPERIENCE ONE COULD CONCEIVABLY PART YEAR OF EXPERIENCE YEAR BY YEAR FROM 0-35 AND PERHAPS EVEN INCLUDE A "35+" FOR THE ODD BILLS THAT CONTINUE TEACHING EVEN AFTER RETIREMENT BENEFITS HAVE MAXED OUT. UNDERSTANDABLY 36 SLICES OF PIE IS A BIT MUCH BUT 5 YEAR INCREMENTS WOULD HAVE BEEN ONLY 7 SLICES. DOING SO WOULD REVEAL THAT CUKHANE, MEDAUNA + GOETSCHMUS ARE ACTUALLY IN THE 6-10 RANGE REDUCING THE REPRESENTATIVENESS OF THE SAMPLE TO JUST 2 PARTS

6-10 AND 20-25. INCLUDING THE OTHER 5 MEMBERS OF THE DEPARTMENT WOULD HAVE EXPANDED THE REPRESENTATIVENESS A LITTLE WITH WYSOKOWSKI AND MARBOUS FALLING IN THE 11-15 SLICE BUT WALSH + DONNELLY WOULD HAVE FOLLEN IN WITH THE OTHERS IN THE 20-25 PART. ALL THIS WOULD HAVE REVEALED THE DEPARTMENT IS COMPOSED OF 24-25+ MEMBERS.