
THINKING SKILLS

9694/23

Paper 2 Critical Thinking

October/November 2017

1 hour 45 minutes

No Additional Materials are required.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

An answer booklet is provided inside this question paper. You should follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

Answer **all** the questions.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question.



This document consists of **6** printed pages, **2** blank pages and **1** insert.

1 *Study the evidence and answer the questions that follow.*

Source A

News report

September 2014

Eastland National University has announced a significant fundraising project. The University owns a priceless collection of ancient artefacts, classical artworks and historical documents, including the original Constitution of Eastland, signed by the nation's founding fathers. This collection will be sent on a world tour. A small company, under the chairmanship of Professor Barry Eno, has been set up to manage the Heritage Tour. Professor Eno said, "We have been fortunate enough to secure the services of two talented young people to work full-time for this project. My son has experience in managing arts events, while my daughter has recently completed a degree in Business Administration."

Source B

University news

March 2016

Mr Allan Devi has been appointed as the new Principal of Eastland National University. The news of his appointment has surprised some members of the University, who were expecting the Acting Principal, Professor Barry Eno, to be confirmed as Principal.

Mr Devi has never previously held an academic position, but he has extensive business experience and a reputation for rescuing companies which are under-performing. The National University is currently in financial difficulties, and there have been persistent rumours that these difficulties have been caused by mismanagement and corruption. It was recently announced that the Heritage Tour, which was intended to raise funds for the University, lost money instead of raising it, but bonuses for successful performance were still paid to the project's two full-time employees.

Mr Devi said, "Costs must be reduced. Senior staff will be encouraged to take early retirement, but we hope to avoid compulsory redundancies. Allegations of previous financial irregularities will be thoroughly investigated, and if any criminal activity is uncovered, those responsible will be prosecuted."

Source C

Letter from lawyers

December 2016

Dear Mr Devi

It has come to the attention of our client Professor Barry Eno that you have told colleagues at Eastland National University that you suspect him of defrauding the University by paying excessive fees to members of his family for their work on the Heritage Tour. Professor Eno has instructed us to take legal action against you if you repeat this untrue allegation.

Source D**News report**

February 2017

Mr Allan Devi, the Principal of Eastland National University, has been suspended while an allegation of theft is investigated. A spokesman for the University, Professor Barry Eno, said that Mr Devi had stolen confidential accounts and other records of the company set up to run the Heritage Tour, by falsely claiming to a clerical assistant that he was entitled to see them. The alleged theft was reported by Professor Eno, who has been appointed as Acting Principal while Mr Devi is under suspension.

- (a) Before beginning work for the University Heritage Tour, Professor Eno's son had never had a paid job since leaving university five years previously, but he had volunteered as a steward at various music concerts arranged by friends.

What impact does this additional information have on the understanding of Source A? [3]

- (b) (i) Suggest **one** way in which Source C is **useful** in relation to this case. [2]

(ii) Suggest **one** factor about Source C which **reduces** its usefulness. [2]

- (c) Professor Eno's motive for accusing Mr Devi of theft may be that he did not want Mr Devi to see the financial records of the Heritage Tour. Suggest and briefly explain one **other** possible motive for Professor Eno's action. [2]

- (d) How likely do you think it is that Professor Barry Eno and his family are guilty of defrauding Eastland National University?

Write a short, reasoned argument to support your conclusion, with critical reference to the evidence provided and considering a plausible alternative conclusion. [6]

2 Study the evidence and answer the questions that follow.

Source A

News report

Until the middle of the 20th Century, Americans were taller than Europeans. This was probably because the supply of food in America was more plentiful than in Europe. Even slaves in America, despite being exploited and mistreated, were fed relatively well, in order to derive the most work from them.

Since the Second World War, however, many European countries have introduced social policies which have made a huge difference to people's quality of life. Most of those countries now have universal health care, and there is less disparity in income between rich and poor than in the US. While average height in the US has remained static during that time, Europeans have gradually overtaken them.

The tallest population is now to be found in the Netherlands. The average height of men there is now 1.85 metres, while women average 1.7 metres.

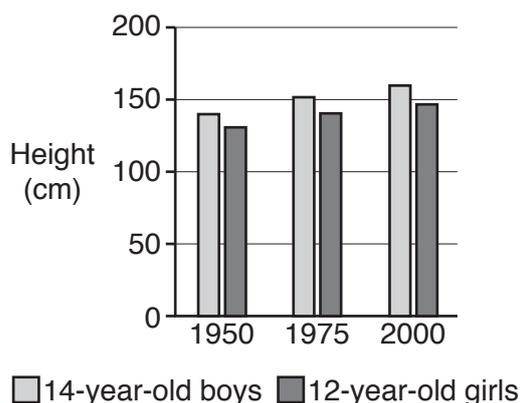
Source B

Health report

In recent decades, Americans have ceased to be taller than other nationalities. This is one consequence of the introduction and popularity of 'junk food'. Americans are eating more. Obesity is a big problem in the US today, and has especially serious consequences during puberty and adolescence. An excess of carbohydrates and fats in a fast-food diet may interfere with the absorption of nutrients which are essential to growth during childhood and adolescence.

Source C

News Report

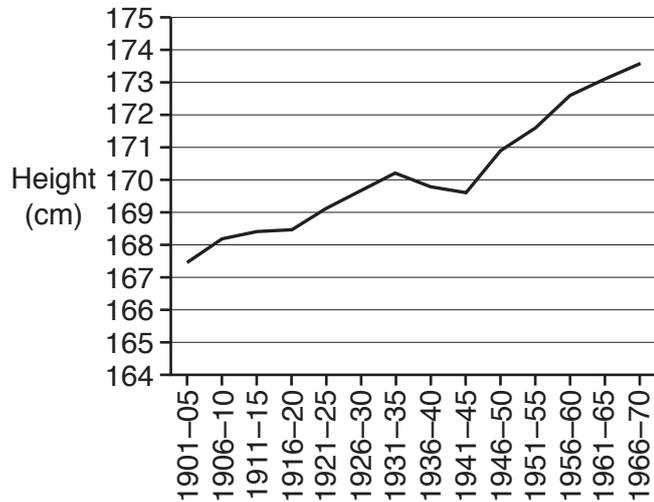


In the year 2000, 14-year-old Japanese boys averaged 1.6 metres in height. This was 8 cm taller than boys of the same age 25 years previously and 20 cm taller than in 1950. 12-year-old girls in 2000 averaged 6.3 cm taller than girls of that age 25 years previously and 16 cm taller than in 1950. Experts have not agreed on what caused these increases, but they think the most likely causes are improvements in health and diet. Intake of animal protein by Japanese people has doubled since 1960, to 60 grams a day. Soy protein consumption has also increased. The consumption of dairy products by Japanese people has increased greatly and now amounts to more than 50 kg per year.

Source D

Military Records

A European country kept records of the average height of all recruits into their army. The figures between 1901 and 1970 were as follows:



With the exception of a temporary fall during World War II, these statistics show that the average height of army recruits in that country was steadily increasing.

- (a) Source A suggests that eating plenty of food made Americans taller than other nationalities, whereas Source B suggests that eating plenty of food has made Americans shorter than other nationalities.

Briefly explain **two** reasons why these explanations do **not** contradict one another. [4]

- (b) A student who read Sources A, B and C said, 'The main determinant of height is genetics. If your parents were tall, then you also will be tall.'

How effective is this objection to the claims in Sources A, B and C? [3]

- (c) In many cases, the only historical records available for a country's population height are those for army recruits.

Suggest **one** reason why the average height of army recruits in a particular country may be **lower** than the average height of the population in that country, and **one** reason why it might be **higher**. [2]

- (d) 'If the population of a country can afford to eat better, they will grow taller.'

To what extent do you agree with this comment? Write a short, reasoned argument to support your conclusion, using and evaluating the information provided in Sources A–D. [6]

3 *Read the passage and answer the questions below.*

- 1 Allowing dogs to roam free in public places is dangerous. Dogs are descended from wolves, and many traditional stories show that wolves pose a serious threat to humans. All dogs should be kept on a lead and wear a muzzle when out in public.
- 2 Dogs which are not on a lead may run away. This will cause distress to the owner and suffering to the animal. If the dog becomes frightened or hungry, it may even cause danger to the public. Dog owners should take precautions to avoid these problems. No one wants to be afraid to leave their home for fear of encountering a marauding pack of wild dogs.
- 3 Young children walking in a park with their parent or carer are often frightened if a dog approaches them. Dogs are more frightening if they are not under control. Keeping dogs on a lead is necessary, for the sake of child welfare. Dog owners who resist these restrictions think that the freedom of dogs is more important than the safety of human beings, which is ridiculous.
- 4 Allowing dogs to roam freely constitutes a risk to public health, because they may defecate without their owner noticing. The lives of innocent, defenceless children can be ruined if they catch toxoplasmosis from the faeces of infected dogs and cats, which can happen in rare cases. This is why in some countries dog owners are required by law to collect and safely dispose of the faeces produced by their pets in public places, but they cannot do that if they have not seen what the dog is doing. Dogs which wander freely may also catch fleas. Even though dog fleas cannot be passed on to humans, some varieties of flea can constitute a hazard to human health.
- 5 Any dog which attacks a person or another animal is subsequently required to be muzzled. But that is too late for the original victim, who has been permanently injured or even killed. If the dog had already been muzzled, the incident would not have happened. Everyone will be safer if all dogs are muzzled whenever they are out in public.

(a) Using the exact words from the passage as far as possible, identify the main conclusion. [2]

(b) Using the exact words from the passage as far as possible, identify **three** intermediate conclusions. [3]

(c) Evaluate the strength of the reasoning in the argument. In your answer you should consider any flaws, unstated assumptions and other weaknesses. [5]

(d) 'Animals should not be kept as pets.'

Write your own short argument to support **or** challenge this claim. The conclusion of your argument must be stated. Credit will not be given for repeating ideas from the passage. [5]

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