

CRITICAL THINKING TEST

ADMISSION EXAM PSYCHOLOGY – session JULY 2023

EXAMPLES of ITEMS

INSTRUCTIONS

During this assessment you will be presented with a series of situations (described in one or more paragraphs), each of which is followed by a series of items. After reading the paragraphs, your task will be to choose the right answer for the items corresponding to the proposed situations. There is only one correct answer.

*** SPECIFICATIONS**

The admission exam will include a number of 25-30 situations. The duration of the exam will be 2 hours (120 minutes). The situations and items presented below are only examples. The exam will contain other situations and different items.

SITUATION NUMBER 1

In a large study carried out in Europe over a period of 10 years, it was found that employees tend to leave the workplace if they perceive the balance between personal and professional life to be unfair. This does not happen, however, if there is support from the family. Our country is no exception.

ITEMS SITUATION 1

1. According to the information presented in the above paragraph, in Romania:

A	employees do not receive support from the family, because of this they leave their places of work.
B	employees no longer receive family support due to the fact that they have not been able to find the right balance between personal and professional life.
C	10 years ago, employees received more support from their families.
D	employees leaving their jobs could be avoided if their families supported them more.
E	employees cannot find the right balance between personal and professional life.

Correct answer: D

2. According to the information presented above, the balance between professional and personal life can be:

A	an important factor in the option to remain employed at a job.
B	unbalanced and impaired.
C	balanced, if the employee is sufficiently committed.
D	problematic for married people.
E	problematic for single people.

Correct answer: A

3. According to the information presented above, the study carried out in Europe:

A	refers to the tendency of families to support employees.
B	refers to factors that can influence the tendency of employees to leave the workplace.
C	refers to the influence of families in bad decisions made by employees.
D	does not include conditions in Romania.
E	it is not conclusive, because it is not adapted to the working conditions in Romania.

Correct answer: B

SITUATION NUMBER 2

A researcher is interested in studying the relationship between the amount of sugar consumed and hyperactivity in children. Thus, the participants in this study were divided into 2 experimental groups. The children from the first group received a chocolate bar, and the children from the second group received an apple. The researcher later measured the number of activity interruptions caused by each child as they listened to a story that the teacher was reading.

ITEMS SITUATION 2

4. According to the information presented above, we can state that:

A	the number of interruptions is considered by the researcher as an indicator of hyperactivity.
B	children should consume more apples than chocolate bars.
C	it is important to study the relationship between the amount of sugar consumed and hyperactivity.
D	children who have eaten chocolate will interrupt the story more times than those who have eaten apples.
E	the experiment was not carried out correctly.

Correct answer: A

5. According to the information presented above, the research carried out aimed to identify:

A	differences between groups of children in terms of sugar consumption.
B	the effects of eating sweets on the body.
C	whether the hyperactivity is influenced by the amount of sugar consumed.
D	children's effectiveness in learning activities.
E	the effects of fruit consumption on the children's bodies.

Correct answer: C

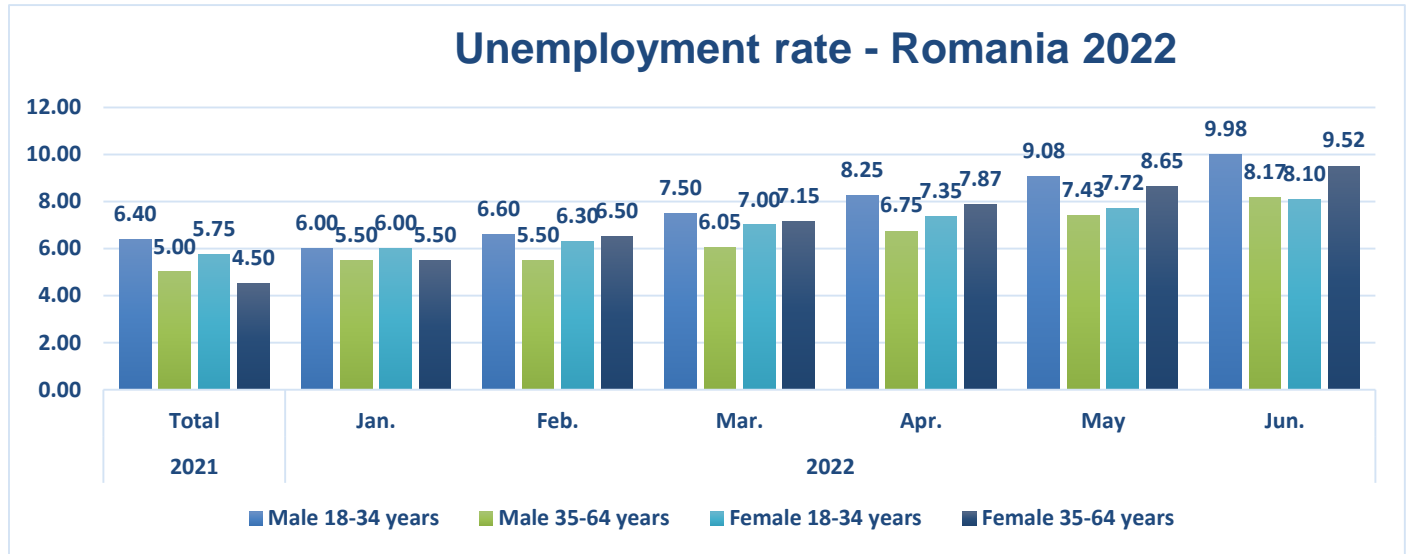
6. According to the information presented above, children:

A	involuntarily participated in the study.
B	they didn't have to eat anything.
C	they had to consume either a chocolate bar or an apple before listening to the story.
D	they could change their experimental group.
E	they were reading stories in the second stage of the research.

Correct answer: C

SITUATION NUMBER 3

The graph below shows the level of unemployment in Romania for the whole of 2021 and for the first half of 2022.



ITEMS SITUATION 3

7. According to the information presented above, in which month of 2022 the unemployment rate among men aged 35 to 64 years increases the most compared to the previous month?

A	February
B	June
C	May
D	April
E	March

Correct answer: B

8. According to the information presented above, which of the following categories has an unemployment rate at the level of June 2022 that is more than 100% higher than the average of 2021?

A	Male 18-34
B	Male 35-64
C	Female 18-34
D	Female 35-64
E	It is not possible to specify.

Correct answer: D

9. According to the information presented above, if the trend of unemployment levels in the last three months (April, May, June) continues, what will happen to the level of unemployment in July 2022 for male persons aged between 18 and 34 years?

A	It will grow above 10.5.
B	It will stagnate.
C	It's going to fall below 9.98.
D	It's going to fall below 8.40.
E	It will rise above 15.97.

Correct answer: A

SITUATION NUMBER 4

Acupuncture is a form of alternative medicine. It has been developed and practiced in traditional Chinese medicine since ancient times. In the last twenty years acupuncture has become a popular practice outside the East as well. Clinical studies that have investigated the effectiveness or possible adverse effects of acupuncture have reported minimal benefits of it in the treatment of various joint, muscle or rheumatic pains. For these medical conditions, the effectiveness of acupuncture was similar to that of treatments with inactive substances or placebo. At the same time, cross-sectional studies have identified that when acupuncture is used in conjunction with conventional treatments, patients with joint pain or problems reported a lower incidence of relapses and side effects. People who benefited from conventional treatment and acupuncture had a lower annual number of prescriptions prescribed by family doctors. This suggests that acupuncture can also have prophylactic effects among patients with muscle and/or joint pain.

ITEMS SITUATION 4

10. According to the information presented above, there is a lower incidence of relapses among patients with joint and/or muscle pain when...

A	acupuncture is practiced by Chinese specialists.
B	acupuncture is used for at least 12 months.
C	acupuncture is used in conjunction with conventional treatments.
D	acupuncture is used alongside placebo treatments.
E	acupuncture is used as the only form of treatment.

Correct answer: C

11. Which of the following statements is NOT INCLUDED in the text presented above?

A	Acupuncture is a conventional form of treatment, being scientifically validated.
B	Acupuncture is a form of alternative medicine.
C	Acupuncture can have beneficial effects alongside other forms of treatment.
D	Acupuncture was developed within the framework of traditional Chinese medicine.
E	The effectiveness of acupuncture in the treatment of rheumatic diseases is low.

Correct answer: A

12. Which of the following claims is FALSE?

A	Acupuncture is a form of alternative medicine.
B	Acupuncture can have prophylactic effects.
C	Acupuncture is a branch of traditional Chinese medicine.
D	In the last 20 years acupuncture has become more popular.
E	Acupuncture is the most effective treatment for rheumatism.

Correct answer: E

SITUATION NUMBER 5

High doses of sucralose have an unexpected calming effect on the immune system, indicating the prospect that the most widely used artificial sweetener will be able to treat some inflammatory diseases. Sucralose is used as a low-calorie alternative in foods and beverages such as cereals, chewing gum and carbonated drinks, but so far sugar and sweeteners have raised serious concerns about health effects.

A study on mice revealed a possible therapeutic use of sucralose in treating diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis, type 1 diabetes and colitis. Within it, the researchers observed that sucralose reduced the activity of T cells. T cells are a component of the immune system of all animals that can trigger inflammatory conditions when it is too active, as is the case with the response to cancer or infections. If these initial findings also apply to humans, it is believed that it may, at some point, be recommended as a way to limit some of the harmful effects of autoimmune conditions. A reduced immunity of T cells could be good news in case of an autoimmune disease such as multiple sclerosis or type 1 diabetes. However, it is bad news when the body has to fight infections or tumors. A suppressed immune system is also less effective in recognizing and attacking pathogens or cancer cells.

ITEMS SITUATION 5

13. Based on the above information, we can say that:

A	Sucralose is a more effective substitute for sugar.
B	Sucralose is recommended in the treatment of autoimmune diseases.
C	Sucralose is a sweetener with potential sedative effects on the immune system.
D	Sucralose is recommended in the treatment of pathogens and cancer cells.
E	Sucralose is a sweetener that has no negative impact on the body.

Correct answer: C

14. Based on the information in the text, it has been observed that sucralose has an effect:

A	Of suppression on T cells in the immune system of animals.
B	Of suppression on T cells in the immune system of laboratory mice.
C	Of suppression on the immune system of animals.
D	Of suppression on the immune system of people.
E	Of suppression on T cells in people's immune system.

Correct answer: B

15. According to the information in the text, the statement "those suffering from autoimmune diseases should consume more foods and beverages containing sucralose, such as cereals, chewing gum and carbonated drinks" is:

A	True
B	False
C	True, but only in the case of animals
D	False, but only in the case of animals
E	True, but only in the case of people

Correct answer: B

SITUATION NUMBER 6

It is known that natural sleep helps to sediment memories and information acquired during the day, which involves strengthening certain connections between synapses, to form a circuit of memory. Less known is the fact that sleeping pills have a negative effect, inhibiting this process. This was discovered by research conducted on a sample of laboratory mice: after a pregnancy involving intense learning, half of the mice received a dose of a popular sleeping pill on the market, and the others a placebo pill. As expected, in the group that did not receive sleeping pills, a strengthening of the synapses and brain connections formed during previous learning was observed, but this did not manifest itself in the group that took the sleeping pill. Not only did these mice not benefit from the consolidation of memories formed during the day (although both groups slept the same number of hours), but a deterioration of almost 50% in the connections formed during the learning task was also observed.

ITEMS SITUATION 6

16. Based on the information presented above, sleeping pills:

A	Have a positive effect on the duration of sleep.
B	Have a negative effect on the duration of sleep.
C	Have a negative effect on the processes of fixation in memory, during sleep.
D	Have a positive effect on the processes of fixation in memory, during sleep.
E	Have no effect.

Correct answer: C

17. Based on the information presented above, choose the correct statement:

A	The study provides evidence of the effects of sleeping pills on the process of storing information in memory.
B	The study provides evidence on the usefulness of using laboratory mice in experiments.
C	The study provides evidence on how lab mice react to a learning task following sleep.
D	The study provides evidence on how mice in the control group are treated differently compared to those in the experimental group.
E	The study provides evidence on the usefulness and importance of sleep in general.

Correct answer: A

18. Based on the above information, we can state that:

A	There is evidence that sleeping pills negatively influence the learning ability of new information.
B	There is evidence that sleeping pills positively influence the ability to imprint new information.
C	There is evidence that sleeping pills negatively influence the ability to store new information.
D	There is evidence that using placebo-type pills positively influences the learning capacity of new information.
E	There is evidence that using placebo pills negatively influences the learning capacity of new information.

Correct answer: C

SITUATION NUMBER 7

Claudia read a study yesterday that unhealthy anger can be better regulated when people train to look at the situation associated with anger from a different perspective than when they try not to show that they feel that emotion. She learned that the first strategy of self-regulation is called cognitive reassessment, and the second strategy is called suppression of emotion. Today, when she got off the tram, Claudia was pushed to one side by a passenger who was in a hurry to enter the tram before she got off. Claudia thought he was a jerk and got angry.

ITEMS SITUATION 7

19. According to the study read by Claudia, what strategy will help her more to regulate the anger felt when getting off the tram:

A	To strain her body, look calm and move on.
B	To tell that traveler that he is a jerk and that he does not behave civilized in public.
C	To tell in her mind that she is stronger and that she should not let herself be affected by the lack of education of others.
D	To think about the fact that perhaps this traveler did not intend to push her, but was focused on finding a free place on the tram.
E	To turn around and push the traveler to show him how she felt.

Correct answer: D

20. The following statement is representative of suppressing anger:

A	The person strains his body, squeezes his fist and hits a pillow until he calms down.
B	The person strains his body and seems calm.
C	The person thinks that there are worse things in this world than what happened to them.
D	The person thinks that he will be able to solve the situation, as he has done in the past.
E	The person thinks that some days are better, others worse.

Correct answer: B

21. What anger regulation strategy would Claudia have used if she hadn't shown that she was angry when the traveler pushed her to one side?

A	Cognitive reassessment
B	Blaming the other
C	Negative thinking about others
D	Looking at the situation from a different perspective
E	Suppressing emotion

Correct answer: E

SITUATION NUMBER 8

Claudiu and Iulian are best friends and they thought of creating a coded language in which to replace letters with numbers, to speak "coded", like in detective movies. According to the cipher language they made (in Romanian), the word DECID is 45384, the word TEVATURĂ becomes 05910761 and the word SANIE becomes 21785.

ITEMS SITUATION 8

22. How would Claudiu coded say EU SUNT DETECTIV?

A	57 2770 45053009
B	57 2669 45043889
C	57 2660 45053089
D	57 2770 45053089
E	We don't have enough information to decipher the code.

Correct answer: D

23. Claudiu and Iulian realized that there are more letters than numbers from 0 to 9 and did not want to assign a number from 10 and up to a letter, so some letters have the same code. From the given information, which letters have the same code?

A	U and N
B	I and E
C	U and M
D	C and D
E	N and M

Correct answer: A

24. How would Iulian coded say EU AM UN VIS?

A	56 16 66 982
B	57 16 77 982
C	57 17 66 982
D	57 17 77 982
E	We don't have enough information to code the message.

Correct answer: E

SITUATION NUMBER 9

According to the ICD-11 (International Classification of Diseases) it is important that people suffering from depression develop their own management strategies to cope with stress and improve their mood. These strategies may include exercise, meditation, art or music therapy, social activities, and the development of positive relationships. It is important that people with depression seek support and help from mental health professionals, as well as from friends and family.

Ionuț is 28 years old and works as a programmer at an IT company. Lately, he has begun to feel sadder and more tired than usual. He has trouble concentrating and has started taking more breaks than he would need. In addition, he began to lose interest in the activities he enjoyed before and often feels hopeless and helpless. He visited a specialist doctor, who diagnosed him with moderate depression and recommended psychotherapy.

ITEMS SITUATION 9

25. What is the best way for Ionuț to cope with the symptoms of moderate depression?

A	Try to work longer and more focused and take fewer breaks.
B	Avoid activities that brought him pleasure before he had depressive symptoms.
C	Follow the treatment recommended by the specialist doctor and create an action plan to cope with depression.
D	To worry and not to talk to anyone about his problems.
E	To follow the treatment recommended by the specialist doctor in order to be able to work harder.

Correct answer: C

26. What could Ionuț's friends do to help him during this difficult time?

A	To provide him with emotional support and help with everyday tasks, encouraging him to be more gentle with himself and to follow the treatment.
B	Give him a cigarette or something to drink to relax.
C	To tell him that he needs to recover and take his life in his hands.
D	To listen to his problems so that he can ignore them and leave him alone.
E	To give him tickets to a lecture on the non-existence of free will.

Correct answer: A

27. What is the most important thing that Ionuț should learn from this experience?

A	That he is a weak man and that he cannot cope.
B	That he should learn to neglect his symptoms and ignore them.
C	That he should learn to get through everything on his own.
D	That he can feel no shame for having problems and that it's okay to ask for help.
E	That ultimately work is all that matters.

Correct answer: D

SITUATION NUMBER 10

Reasoning is essential in the decision-making process and in the evaluation of the arguments put forward. It is important to understand that an argument that seems at first glance correct, is not necessarily true or valid. Thus, the Appeal to the Majority (*Ad Populum*) consists in invoking, as evidence in support of a statement, the number of people who accept that statement. The appeal to Tradition (*Argumentum ad Antiquitatem*) is an error of reasoning that is characterized by considering something as correct because that is what tradition says. Appeal to Authority (*ad Verecundiam*) is a type of argument that consists in upholding the truth value of an assertion based on the authority, knowledge and position of the person making the assertion.

ITEMS SITUATION 10

28. Starting with 2023, the profession of numerologist has been officially recognized in Romania. Numerology is a practice that deals with the study of the meaning of numbers and their influence on human life and personality. This practice reached us thanks to Pythagoras, a Greek philosopher from the sixth century B.C., whose essential message was: "*Everything is ordained according to number.*" It is an extremely widespread practice, having a lot of followers. Therefore, based on all these arguments we can consider that numerology is a scientific practice. Identify reasoning errors in the text.

A	Appeal to Authority
B	Appeal to Tradition
C	Appeal to the Majority
D	It contains all 3 errors mentioned above.
E	It does not contain any argumentation errors.

Correct answer: D

29. Some people believe that any information that has an academic source or reference is automatically valid and true.

A	This argument is correct, since the academic source guarantees the quality and validity of the argument.
B	This argument is wrong, since the validity of the argument is not guaranteed by the academic source itself, but by the arguments and evidence presented within it.
C	This argument is correct because most people who rely on academic sources have a developed critical thinking and know how to correctly evaluate arguments.
D	This argument is wrong because the academic sources themselves are not credible.
E	This argument is wrong because it appeals to Tradition.

Correct answer: B

30. The statement "All people who are afraid of dogs had a traumatic experience with a dog" is wrong due to an error of reasoning. Identify what this reasoning error is.

A	Appeal to Authority
B	Appeal to Tradition
C	Appeal to the Majority
D	It contains all 3 errors mentioned above.
E	It does not contain any of the 3 errors mentioned above.

Correct answer: E.

Explanation - is a Generalization error, not Appeal to the Majority. The faith of the majority is not called into question to be considered the correct C variant.