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# GRE 习作修改集--Argument 篇 (老外修改)

第一期 (10 Arguments)

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# GRE 习作修改集--Argument 篇 (老外修改)

## 第一期

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**7. The following appeared in a letter to the editor of the Clearview newspaper. "In the next mayoral election, residents of Clearview should vote for Ann Green, who is a member of the Good Earth Coalition, rather than for Frank Braun, a member of the Clearview town council, because the current members are not protecting our environment. For example, during the past year the number of factories in Clearview has doubled, air pollution levels have increased, and the local hospital has treated 25 percent more patients with respiratory illnesses. If we elect Ann Green, the environmental problems in Clearview will certainly be solved."**

Merely relied on a series of unfounded assumptions and vague evidence, the author comes to the unconvincing conclusion that the environmental problems in Clearview will certainly be solved with electing Ann Green.

To strengthen the conclusion, the author asserts that the current members are not protecting our environment. In addition, the letter sets the examples of doubled number of factories, increasing levels of air condition, and more treatment cases of respiratory illnesses in Clearview. On the surface, the argument appears to be somewhat compelling, however, neither does the author provide warranted evidence to make the letter sound nor organize a logic argument in favor of the conclusion. As it stands, the arguer ignores several important concerns as follows, which must be addressed to prove.

In the first place, the author uses the statistical relationship between the claim that residents of Clearview should vote for Ann Green rather than for Frank Braun and the possible fact that the current members are not protecting our environment. Nevertheless, the fact upstairs does not necessarily prove that Ann Green should be chosen. Even if the current members do not protect our environment; it does not show so does Frank Braun. Maybe he has try his best to protect the environment but difficultly in place of what harmful things the current do for environment. More evidences are needed for it.

In the second place, we need more points of evidence for the examples. First, see to the fact that the number of factories in Clearview has doubled during the past year. No more evidence shows that these new factories pollute the environment. Perhaps, more than 90% of them are little pollution factories for environment. Second, it is perhaps air pollution from nearby towns blowing by wind increase air pollution levels of Clearview. Perhaps the air condition is more clearly than before without the factors of the other cities. In addition, the 25% more patients of respiratory illnesses dose not show the current members are not protecting environment. Maybe more than 50% patients are from other cities as a good condition of respiratory illnesses treatment in this local hospital. So, until these questions are answered, the examples are worthless as evidences for the conclusion.

Further more, although the assumptions and examples are truly enough, it does not show Ann Green should be voted. To choose a leader of city, we need a full aspect of view in place of if he/she merely taking care of pollution. If Ann Green has no respect of increasing economic, falls keeping process of education and so on, how can people choose him/her?

Overall, though the argument seems to be logical and plausible, actually, it is neither sound nor persuasive. To make the argument more logically acceptable, the author would have to provide more specific information regarding the assumptions and examples. With being given factors discussed above, it would have been more thorough and adequate.

**7. The following appeared in a letter to the editor of the Clearview newspaper. "In the next mayoral election, residents of Clearview should vote for Ann Green, who is a member of the Good Earth Coalition, rather than for Frank Braun, a member of the Clearview town council, because the current members are not protecting our environment. For example, during the past year the number of factories in Clearview has doubled, air pollution levels have increased, and the local hospital has treated 25 percent more patients with respiratory illnesses. If we elect Ann Green, the environmental problems in Clearview will certainly be solved."**

Merely relying on a series of unfounded assumptions and vague evidence, the author comes to the unconvincing conclusion that the environmental problems in Clearview will certainly be solved through electing Ann Green and that said problems are directly the result of the current mayor's term in office.

To strengthen the conclusion, the author asserts that the current members are not protecting the environment. In addition, the letter sets the examples of twice the number of factories, increasing levels of air pollutants, and more treatment of respiratory illnesses in Clearview. On the surface, the argument appears to be somewhat compelling, however, the author neither provides warranted evidence to make the letter sound nor does the author organize a logical argument in favor of the conclusion. As it stands, the arguer ignores several important concerns, which must be addressed to substantiate the assertions contained in the letter.

In the first place, the author uses the statistical relationship between the claim that residents of Clearview should vote for Ann Green rather than for Frank Braun and the possible fact that the current council members are not protecting the environment. Nevertheless, the first fact assertion does not necessarily prove that Ann Green should be voted onto the council. Even if the current council as a whole does not actively aid in protecting the environment, this does not prove the same is true for Frank Braun individually. Maybe Braun does try his best to protect the environment but difficulties arise because evidence of such alleged harm is needed to propel his cause.

Second, we need more points of such evidence as examples. First, for example, no substantial evidence is provided besides the fact that the number of factories in Clearview has doubled during the past year. No evidence is provided to show that these new factories pollute the environment. Perhaps, more than 90 percent of them cause very little environmental pollution. Second, Clearview's air pollution problems might be caused by other factors, such as strong winds from nearby towns blowing in. Perhaps the air was clearer than before, without the factories of the other cities. In addition, 25 percent more patients being treated for respiratory illnesses has no cause and effect relationship with whether current council members are not protecting environment. Perhaps a large percentage of patients are from other cities, but come to Clearview's hospital to receive excellent treatment for respiratory illnesses. Until these questions are answered, the examples are worthless as evidence for the conclusion and serve only to appeal to one's sense of injustice.

Furthermore, although the assumptions and examples may be true on some level, they do not show any reason why Ann Green should be voted into office. To choose a leader of city, we need a full view in place of whether that leader has the credentials and experience to meet the requirements, especially in this instance regarding the environment and pollution. If Ann Green has no respect for the economy, education, business, and other important aspects of running a city government, voters should be wary of choosing that person. There is also an inherent assumption that Ann Green will be both environmentally minded and environmentally effective. However, with no record of her effectiveness in previous posts or other environmental qualifications, voters are left with merely sensationalizing statistics and a vague Good Earth Coalition membership on which to base their decision.

Overall, though the argument seems to be logical and plausible, actually, it is neither sound nor persuasive. To make the argument more logically acceptable, the author would have to provide more specific information regarding the assumptions and examples. Being given factors discussed above, the letter would have been more thorough and adequate.

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~~of~~ view in place of ~~if he/she~~ whether that leader has the credentials and experience to meet the requirements, especially in this instance regarding the environment and pollution ~~merely taking care of pollution~~. If Ann Green has no respect ~~of for the increasing economy~~, ~~ie, falls keeping process of~~ education, business, and other important aspects of running a city government, voters should be wary of choosing that person. There is also an inherent assumption that Ann Green will be both environmentally minded and environmentally effective. However, with no record of her effectiveness in previous posts or other environmental qualifications, voters are left with merely sensationalizing statistics and a vague Good Earth Coalition membership on which to base their decision. ~~education and so on, how can people choose him/her?~~

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**45. The following appeared as an editorial in a wildlife journal.**

**"Arctic deer live on islands in Canada's arctic region. They search for food by moving over ice from island to island during the course of a year. Their habitat is limited to areas warm enough to sustain the plants on which they feed, and cold enough, at least some of the year, for the ice to cover the sea separating the islands, allowing the deer to travel over it. Unfortunately, according to reports from local hunters, the deer populations are declining. Since these reports coincide with recent global warming trends that have caused the sea ice to melt, we can conclude that the decline in arctic deer populations is the result of deer being unable to follow their age-old migration patterns across the frozen sea."**

Since the reports that the deer populations are declining coincides with recent global warming trends which have caused the sea ice to melt, the arguer asserts that the change in climate should be responsible for the declining deer populations because the deer are unable to follow their age-old migration patterns. To some extent, the argument seems reasonable.

However, the reports that the deer populations has declined come from the local hunters rather than some authoritative organizations, which are not cogent evidence for the smaller deer populations. Perhaps the arctic deer are more capable of eluding the hunters than before.

Moreover, the climate change could be one of the possibilities for the declining populations of deer, if there is any. But the arguer is failing to consider other possible alternatives other than the climate factor to the decreasing number of the deer. Such alternatives may include the fact that larger percentage of deer has been killed by the hunters comparing with the previous years. It is possible that the fur of arctic deer is quite good at keeping warm and can be sold at high price, which leads the hunters to capture them. In addition, the arguer has no idea whether other kinds of animals have migrated to this region. Perhaps the new animals also feed on the plants as the deer do, or the animals may feed on the arctic deer to decrease its population. Therefore, it is reasonable to investigate the true reason for the decreasing population.

Finally, the recent global warming trends which have caused the sea ice to melt could not be the evidence for that the sea ice melt in the Canada's arctic region. Perhaps the sea ice melts in summer rather than in winter, which has no effect on the deer's age-old migration patterns. Further more, it is not logical to make the global warming trends as the reason for the decreasing deer populations because they happen in the same time.

In conclusion, the truth of the declining populations of deer needs to be investigated. And there is no cogent evidence to show the Canada's arctic sea ice has melt as a result of the failure of the deer to follow their migration patterns. In addition, it is unfair to conclude that the climate changes result in the deer's smaller population just because they happened in the same time. The arguer should do more research and collect more information in details to figure out such a problem.

**45. The following appeared as an editorial in a wildlife journal.**

**"Arctic deer live on islands in Canada's arctic region. They search for food by moving over ice from island to island during the course of a year. Their habitat is limited to areas warm enough to sustain the plants on which they feed, and cold enough, at least some of the year, for the ice to cover the sea separating the islands, allowing the deer to travel over it. Unfortunately, according to reports from local hunters, the deer populations are declining. Since these reports coincide with recent global warming trends that have caused the sea ice to melt, we can conclude that the decline in arctic deer populations is the result of deer being unable to follow their age-old migration patterns across the frozen sea."**

The report states that the declining deer populations coincide with recent global warming trends that have caused the sea ice to melt; therefore, the arguer asserts that the change in climate leads to declining deer populations because the deer are unable to follow their age-old migration patterns. To some extent, the argument seems reasonable.

However, the reports indicating a decline in deer populations come from local hunters, which is not convincing evidence in and of itself. Are hunters merely observing the wildlife or are they using some sort of tool or technology to measure these changes? It is possible that the arctic deer are more capable of eluding the hunters than before. The arguer should have cited authoritative organizations.

Moreover, the arguer fails to consider alternatives to climate change for the declining populations of deer. [M1] Perhaps a larger percentage of deer have been killed by hunters as compared to previous years. It is also possible that the fur of arctic deer can be sold at high prices, which motivates hunters and poachers to capture them. Additionally, the arguer does not know if other kinds of animals have migrated to this region. Perhaps there are new animals that also feed on the plants, or the animals may feed on the arctic deer, thereby decreasing the deer population. Therefore, it is necessary to investigate alternative reasons for the decreasing population than global warming alone.

Finally, the recent global warming trends that have caused sea ice to melt cannot serve as the only evidence for the sea ice melting in Canada's arctic region. Perhaps the sea ice melts in summer rather than in winter, which has no effect on the deer's age-old migration patterns. Furthermore, it is not logical to assume the global warming trends are the reason for the decreasing deer populations simply because they happen at the same time. Correlation may be considered, but this hearsay "evidence" alone is not substantial enough to formulate a true cause-and-effect relationship.

In conclusion, the reasons for the declining populations of deer should be further investigated. There is no logical evidence to show that the failure of the deer to follow their migration patterns is a direct result of the melting of Canada's arctic sea ice. In addition, it is unreasonable to conclude that the climate changes result in the deer's smaller population just because they happened at the same time. The arguer should do more research to find the true cause or causes for the declining deer population.

## 45. The following appeared as an editorial in a wildlife journal.

"Arctic deer live on islands in Canada's arctic region. They search for food by moving over ice from island to island during the course of a year. Their habitat is limited to areas warm enough to sustain the plants on which they feed, and cold enough, at least some of the year, for the ice to cover the sea separating the islands, allowing the deer to travel over it. Unfortunately, according to reports from local hunters, the deer populations are declining. Since these reports coincide with recent global warming trends that have caused the sea ice to melt, we can conclude that the decline in arctic deer populations is the result of deer being unable to follow their age-old migration patterns across the frozen sea."

Since the report states that the declining deer populations ~~are declining~~ coincide with recent global warming trends ~~which that~~ have caused the sea ice to melt; ~~therefore,~~ the arguer asserts that the change in climate ~~should be~~ leads to ~~responsible for the~~ declining deer populations because the deer are unable to follow their age-old migration patterns. To some extent, the argument seems reasonable.

However, the reports ~~that indicating a decline in the~~ deer populations ~~has declined~~ come from ~~the~~ local hunters, ~~rather than some authoritative organizations,~~ which ~~are is not~~ cogent ~~convincing~~ evidence ~~in and of itself for the smaller deer populations.~~ Are hunters merely observing the wildlife or are they using some sort of tool or technology to measure these changes? It is possible that the arctic deer are more capable of eluding the hunters than before. The arguer should have cited authoritative organizations. ~~Perhaps the arctic deer are more capable of eluding the hunters than before.~~

Moreover, ~~the arguer fails to consider alternatives to climate change for the declining populations of deer, such as climate change. [M1] Also, the climate change could be one of the possibilities for the declining populations of deer, if there is any. But the arguer is failing to consider other possible alternatives other than the climate factor to the decreasing number of the deer. Such alternatives may include the fact that~~ Perhaps a larger percentage of deer ~~could have~~ have been killed by ~~the hunters as compared~~ ~~ing with to the~~ previous years. It is ~~also~~ possible that the fur of arctic deer ~~is quite good at keeping warm and~~ can be sold at high prices, which ~~leads~~ ~~motivates the~~ hunters ~~and poachers~~ to capture them. ~~In addition~~ Additionally, the arguer ~~has no idea whether~~ ~~does not know if~~ other kinds of animals have migrated to this region. Perhaps ~~the there are~~ new animals ~~also that also~~ feed on the plants ~~as the deer do~~, or the animals may feed on the arctic deer, ~~thereby and to~~ decreasing ~~e its the deer's~~ population. Therefore, it is ~~reasonable~~ ~~necessary~~ to investigate ~~alternative~~ ~~the true reason~~ reasons for the decreasing population ~~than global warming alone.~~

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In conclusion, the ~~truth of the~~ reasons for the ~~declining~~ populations of deer ~~needs to~~ ~~should~~ be ~~further~~ investigated. ~~T~~ ~~And~~ there is no ~~cogent~~ ~~logical~~ evidence to show ~~the that~~ the failure of the deer to follow their migration patterns is a ~~direct~~ ~~result of the melting of~~ Canada's arctic sea ice ~~has melted as a result of the failure of the deer to follow their migration patterns.~~ In addition, it is ~~unfair~~ ~~unreasonable~~ to conclude that the climate changes result in the deer's smaller population just because they happened ~~in at~~ the same time. The arguer should do more research ~~and collect more information in details to figure out such a problem~~ to find the true cause or causes for the declining deer populations.

**51. The following appeared in a medical newsletter.**

**"Doctors have long suspected that secondary infections may keep some patients from healing quickly after severe muscle strain. This hypothesis has now been proved by preliminary results of a study of two groups of patients. The first group of patients, all being treated for muscle injuries by Dr. Newland, a doctor who specializes in sports medicine, took antibiotics regularly throughout their treatment. Their recuperation time was, on average, 40 percent quicker than typically expected. Patients in the second group, all being treated by Dr. Alton, a general physician, were given sugar pills, although the patients believed they were taking antibiotics. Their average recuperation time was not significantly reduced. Therefore, all patients who are diagnosed with muscle strain would be well advised to take antibiotics as part of their treatment."**

The author of this medical newsletter suggests that all patients who have muscle strain would be well advised to take antibiotics as part of their treatment. To support the conclusion, he/she shows evidences that secondary infections may keep some patients who has severe muscle strain from healing quickly. Then the author gives two groups' experiments to establish the suggestion. However, further examination of the relationship between conclusion and evidences reveals that this argument is flawed in several critical aspects.

The major problem of this argument is that the author does not different people with muscle strain and people who suffer from secondary infections. The evidence shows an assumption that secondary infection may slow patients healing, but the author does not provide any information about how many of patients with severe muscle strain will have secondary infection. Then, the author gives a study of two groups of patients to prove the assumption. There are also no facts could reveal that the two groups of patients have troubles of secondary infections. Without enough evidences and clear relation between the assumption and proofs, we could not accept the study has proved the hypothesis.

Even though we assume that two groups of patients had suffered from the secondary infections. The author has not provided sufficient evidences which could prove recuperation of the first group is because of taking antibiotics. There is no particular information about the two groups of patients, such as their ages, health situation, and degree of severe muscle stain. Maybe patients in the second group are younger than the first group, so they have better health condition and recovered quickly. The author also overlooks the different doctors of the two groups which may influence the experimental result significantly. Since the doctor of the first group is who specialized in sports medicine, he/she may know how to treat such problems very professionally. And Dr. Alton who treated the first group is a general physician who may lack of experiences of curing severe muscle strain. Therefore, without ruling out all the possibilities, we could not sure that the first group of patients has healed quicker than the second group is because of taking antibiotics.

Last but not least, even assuming that taking antibiotics may work on rehabilitating muscle strain, the conclusion that all patients who have this trouble would take antibiotics is unwarranted. The disadvantages of this suggestion are apparently outweighed to its advantages, since not each patient who has muscle strain will have to take antibiotics. It is well known that antibiotics not only use to prevent infectious diseases, but also have some side-effects. Let alone there are some patients who are sensitive to antibiotics. For these reasons, we could justify that this suggestion is not feasible.

All in all, the author fails to prove the hypothesis and the conclusion. To better evaluate the suggestion, we need more accurate evidences that the relation between the hypothesis and the study, more information about the experiments of the two groups and rule out all the negative elements of the suggestion. After all, a wrong suggestion of treatment will be more dangerous than taking no medicine at all.

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The author of this medical newsletter suggests that all patients who have muscle strain would be well advised to take antibiotics as part of their treatment. To support the conclusion, he/she shows evidences that secondary infections may keep some patients who have severe muscle strain from healing quickly. Then the author notes a two-group experiment to establish the suggestion. However, further examination of the relationship between conclusion and evidences reveals that this argument is flawed in several critical aspects.

The major problem of this argument is that the author does not differentiate people with muscle strain from people who suffer from secondary infections. The evidence shows an assumption that secondary infection may slow patients healing, but the author does not provide any information about how many patients with severe muscle strain will have a secondary infection. Then, the author gives a study of two groups of patients to prove the assumption. There are also no facts to reveal whether the two groups of patients actually experienced secondary infections. Without enough evidence and a clear relation between the assumptions and proof, we cannot logically accept that the study has proven the hypothesis.

Even though we are led to assume that the two groups of patients had suffered from secondary infections, the author has not provided sufficient evidence to prove that recuperation of the first group is solely due to their taking antibiotics. There is no particular information about the two groups of patients, such as their ages, health situation, and degree of "severe" muscle strain—were they mildly severe, moderately severe, or very severe? Perhaps patients in the second group were younger than those in the first group, so they had better health conditions over all and recovered quickly. The author also overlooks the different doctors of the two groups, which may influence the experiment's result significantly. Since the doctor of the first group specialized in sports medicine, he or she may know how to treat such problems very professionally. Dr. Alton, who treated the first group, is a general physician who may lack experience in treating severe muscle strain. Therefore, without ruling out all the possibilities, we could not be sure that the reason the first group of patients healed quicker than the second group was because of taking antibiotics alone.

There are many factors that can contribute to healing in addition to medicine alone. Those factors should have been monitored in this study for a truly accurate experiment to have been conducted. For instance, were those involved spiritual or religious in any way? Though science and medicine do not often like to mix with religion, the two are not mutually exclusive. Many studies have shown that people who actively believe in a higher power and practice prayer or meditation may recover quickly from ailments or injuries and may have a lower likelihood of suffering any to begin with. Familial support, economics, and stress levels should also be taken into account, as well as exercise and eating habits. More than just the use of antibiotics were at play in each patient's life and must be accounted for in this conclusion.

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conclusion that all patients who have this trouble would take antibiotics is unwarranted. The disadvantages of this suggestion are neglected to the discussion of its advantages, since not each patient who has muscle strain will have to take antibiotics. It is well known that, while they are used to prevent infectious diseases and ailments, antibiotics also often have some side-effects. There are even some patients who are sensitive to antibiotics. For these reasons, we could justify that this suggestion is not feasible.

All in all, the author fails to prove the hypothesis and the conclusion. To better evaluate the suggestion, we need more accurate evidence of the relation between the hypothesis and the study, more information about the experiments of the two groups, and we need to be able to rule out all negative elements of suggestion. After all, a wrong recommendation of treatment will be more dangerous than taking no medicine at all.

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There are many factors that can contribute to healing in addition to medicine alone. Thos factors should have been monitored in this study for a truly accurate experiment to have been conducted. For instance, were those involved spiritual or religious in any way? Though science and medicine do not often like to mix with religion, the two are not mutually exclusive. Many studies have shown that people who actively believe in a higher power and practice prayer or meditation may recover quickly from ailments or injuries and may have a lower likelihood of suffering any to begin with. Familial support, economics, and stress levels should also be taken into account, as

well as exercise and eating habits. More than just the use of antibiotics were at play in each patient's life and must be accounted for in this conclusion. -

Last but not least, even assuming that taking antibiotics may work on rehabilitating muscle strain, the conclusion that all patients who have this trouble would take antibiotics is unwarranted. The disadvantages of this suggestion are ~~apparently outweighed~~ neglected to the discussion of its ~~its~~ advantages, since not each patient who has muscle strain will have to take antibiotics. It is well known that, while ~~antibiotics~~ they are not only used to prevent infectious diseases and ailments, antibiotics ~~but~~ also ~~have~~ often have some side-effects. ~~Let alone~~ ~~t~~ There are even some patients who are sensitive to antibiotics. For these reasons, we could justify that this suggestion is not feasible.

All in all, the author fails to prove the hypothesis and the conclusion. To better evaluate the suggestion, we need more accurate evidence of ~~that~~ the relation between the hypothesis and the study, more information about the experiments of the two groups, and ~~rule~~ we need to be able to rule out all ~~the~~ negative elements of ~~the~~ suggestion. After all, a wrong ~~suggestion~~ recommendation of treatment will be more dangerous than taking no medicine at all.

**53. Thirteen years ago, researchers studied a group of 25 infants who showed signs of mild distress when exposed to unfamiliar stimuli such as an unusual odor or a tape recording of an unknown voice. They discovered that these infants were more likely than other infants to have been conceived in early autumn, a time when their mothers' production of melatonin—a hormone known to affect some brain functions—would naturally increase in response to decreased daylight. In a follow-up study conducted earlier this year, more than half of these children—now teenagers—who had shown signs of distress identified themselves as shy. Clearly, increased levels of melatonin before birth cause shyness during infancy and this shyness continues into later life.**

In this argument, the author concludes that shyness during infancy has much to do with the increased level of melatonin before birth, and this shyness will continue into later life. To support this conclusion, the author cites a study involving a group of 25 infants who showed signs of mild distress when exposed to unfamiliar stimuli. Also, the author points out that these infants were more likely to have been conceived in early autumn, and cites a follow-up study showing that these children had shown signs of distress identified themselves as shy. This argument contains several critical flaws, which render it unpersuasive.

To begin with, the author unfairly assumes that the distress shown in these infants are due to their exposure to unfamiliar stimuli. Without taking into account other factors which may lead to infants' anxiety, it is entirely possible that these babies are hungry at the time of the experiment. Or perhaps, these babies fall into certain illness, and the unfamiliar stimuli can add to their discomfort. Besides, the 25 infants are not necessarily representative of overall infants, since these babies may be the same in terms of their susceptibility to these stimuli. Moreover, the term "mild" is too vague to draw any meaningful conclusion, since we are not informed the extent to which the author describe as mild.

Next, the author observe a correlation between the season in which these infants are conceived and the symptoms when they are exposed to stimuli, then conclude too hastily that it is melatonin that increases these babies' shyness. However, mere fact that their mothers' production of melatonin—a hormone know to affect some brain functions—would naturally increase in response to decreased daylight is scant evidence that the production of melatonin would increase in early Autumn. Perhaps their mother were sitting in the office room without exposure to sunshine, therefore the influence of sunshine could be excluded. This scenario is quite possible, especially considering that many official women take their job as white collar. Even assuming that their mother's production of melatonin does increase in early Autumn, the author provides no evidence that the increase in melatonin's production caused the increase in children's shyness.

Finally, the author fails to take into account other factor which may serve to shape teenager's character. Common sense indicates that children's personal experience, instruction from their parents, and influence of mass media may also play roles in deciding children's character. Therefore, as it stands, it is unfair to conclude that shyness during their infancy will continue into their later life.

To sum up, the author's claim is not well supported. To strengthen it, the author should assure me that the unfamiliar stimuli is the only reason for children's anxiety, and that the infants can represent the overall babies. To better evaluate this argument, I also would like to know how the author defines "mild". Besides, the author must consider other factor that may contribut to children's shyness.

**53. Thirteen years ago, researchers studied a group of 25 infants who showed signs of mild distress when exposed to unfamiliar stimuli such as an unusual odor or a tape recording of an unknown voice. They discovered that these infants were more likely than other infants to have been conceived in early autumn, a time when their mothers' production of melatonin—a hormone known to affect some brain functions—would naturally increase in response to decreased daylight. In a follow-up study conducted earlier this year, more than half of these children—now teenagers—who had shown signs of distress identified themselves as shy. Clearly, increased levels of melatonin before birth cause shyness during infancy and this shyness continues into later life.**

In this argument, the author concludes that shyness during infancy has much to do with the increased level of melatonin before birth and this shyness will continue into later life. To support this conclusion, the author cites a study involving a group of twenty-five infants who showed signs of mild distress when exposed to unfamiliar stimuli. Also, the author points out that these infants were more likely to have been conceived in early autumn, and cites a follow-up study showing that these children had shown signs of distress and identified themselves as shy. This argument contains several critical flaws, which render it unpersuasive.

To begin with, the author unfairly assumes that the distress shown in these infants are due to their exposure to unfamiliar stimuli. Without taking into account other factors that may lead to infants' anxiety, it is entirely possible that these babies are hungry at the time of the experiment. Or perhaps, these babies were sick and the unfamiliar stimuli added to their discomfort. Besides, the twenty-five infants are not necessarily representative of all infants, since these babies may be the same in terms of their susceptibility to these stimuli. Moreover, the term "mild" is too vague to draw any meaningful conclusion, since we are not informed about the extent to which the author describes this word.

Next, the author observe a correlation between the season in which these infants are conceived and the symptoms when they are exposed to stimuli, then concludes too hastily that it is melatonin that increases these babies' shyness. However, the mere fact that their mothers' production of melatonin—a hormone know to affect some brain functions—would naturally increase in response to decreased daylight is scant evidence that the production of melatonin would increase in early autumn. Perhaps their mothers were sitting in an interior office room without exposure to sunshine, and therefore the influence of sunshine could be excluded. This scenario is quite possible, especially considering that many official women work white collar jobs. Even assuming that their mothers' production of melatonin does increase in early autumn, the author provides no evidence that the increase in melatonin's production caused the increase in children's' shyness.

Finally, the author fails to take into account other factors that may serve to shape teenagers' character. Common sense indicates that children's personal experiences, instruction from their parents, and the influence of mass media may also play roles in deciding children's character. Physical fluctuations, hormonal or otherwise, also dictate much of teenagers' behavior. To cite an adolescent's shy behavior as indicative of a lifelong biological nuance, let alone the baseless hypothesis of increased melatonin, about which little is known, is extremely farfetched. As it stands, is unfair and highly implausible to conclude that shyness during their infancy will continue into their later lives.

To sum up, the author's claim is not well supported. To strengthen it, the author should assure readers that the unfamiliar stimuli is the only reason for children's anxiety, and that the infants studied can represent babies overall. To better evaluate this argument, I also would like to know how the author defines "mild." Besides, the author must consider other factors that may contribute to children's shyness. Also, with the vague description given regarding the hormone of choice, melatonin, and the even vaguer reason for its supposed increase, the autumn season, the entire argument falls apart from the bottom and must be reworked with better evidence and more critical analysis.

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To sum up, the author's claim is not well supported. To strengthen it, the author should assure ~~me~~ readers that the unfamiliar stimuli is the only reason for children's anxiety, and that the ~~infants~~ studied can represent ~~the overall~~ babies overall. To better evaluate this argument, I also would like to know how the author defines "mild~~"~~." Besides, the author must consider other ~~factor~~ factors that may ~~contribut~~ contribute to children's shyness. Also, with the vague description given regarding the hormone of choice, melatonin, and the even vaguer reason for its supposed increase, the autumn season, the entire argument falls apart from the bottom and must be reworked with better evidence and more critical analysis.

**65. The following appeared in a memo from the president of a chain of cheese stores located throughout the United States.**

**"For many years all the stores in our chain have stocked a wide variety of both domestic and imported cheeses. Last year, however, the five best-selling cheeses at our newest store were all domestic cheddar cheeses from Wisconsin. Furthermore, a recent survey by Cheeses of the World magazine indicates an increasing preference for domestic cheeses among its subscribers. Since our company can reduce expenses by limiting inventory, the best way to improve profits in all of our stores is to discontinue stocking many of our varieties of imported cheese and concentrate primarily on domestic cheeses."**

In the memo, the speaker asserts that we should discontinue stocking the imported cheeses to improve the profits. To begin with, the arguer indicates that the five best-selling cheeses at new stores are domestic cheeses. Furthermore, a survey of a magazine indicates an increasing number of its subscribers have a preference of domestic cheeses. As far as I am concerned, the arguer's conclusion is insufficient and unfounded.

In the first place, the arguer unfairly assumes that the domestic cheeses have a better market than the imported ones. To strengthen his assumption, the author listed that the five best-selling cheeses in their new stores are domestic ones. Yet, the author was oblivious to the difference, such as the sorts of the cheeses displayed, which may exist between the newest stores and the others. It is possible that the majority of the cheeses are domestic ones, and the consumers have no other choices for other kind of cheeses. What is more, the author claimed that the best-selling ones were all cheeses from Wisconsin. Then, there is of great possibility that the newest stores particularly supplied domestic cheeses from Wisconsin. Thus, the speaker's assumption of a better market of domestic cheeses is dubious.

In the second place, the arguer tried to convince us that people preferred domestic cheeses rather than imported ones according to a survey. But, this assumption reveals many problems that would undermine the arguer's conclusion. First, the people involved in this survey were the subscribers of the Cheeses of the World magazine. However, the arguer provided no information about their underground and any comparison of the number of these people who like domestic cheeses in the past years and the recent years. Perhaps, these people are just the people who like domestic cheeses and there are only few readers of this magazine.

Last but not the least, even the arguer's assumption that domestic cheeses are old better and people have a preference to these cheeses. It is still hasty to maintain that the company should forbid stocking the imported cheeses. After all, their company is a chain of cheese stores located throughout the United States. Consequently, it inevitably involves many differences in the consumers' taste in different areas, and even the interests in consuming cheese. Besides, the arguer said there would be an improved profit after discontinuing imported cheeses. Moreover, the speaker failed to take many other aspects that will influence the gaining of profits.

To sum up, the arguer's assertion that they should discontinue stocking the imported cheeses and concentrate primarily on domestic cheeses is unfounded. To make his opinion more appealing, the speaker should provide more information about whether the domestic cheeses are sold better and whether their consumers indeed have a preference to domestic cheeses.

**65. The following appeared in a memo from the president of a chain of cheese stores located throughout the United States.**

**"For many years all the stores in our chain have stocked a wide variety of both domestic and imported cheeses. Last year, however, the five best-selling cheeses at our newest store were all domestic cheddar cheeses from Wisconsin. Furthermore, a recent survey by Cheeses of the World magazine indicates an increasing preference for domestic cheeses among its subscribers. Since our company can reduce expenses by limiting inventory, the best way to improve profits in all of our stores is to discontinue stocking many of our varieties of imported cheese and concentrate primarily on domestic cheeses."**

In the memo, the speaker asserts that the store should discontinue stocking the imported cheeses to improve its profits. To begin with, the arguer indicates that the five best-selling cheeses at the new store are domestic cheeses. Furthermore, a magazine survey indicates an increasing number of subscribers have a preference for domestic cheeses. As far as I am concerned, however, the arguer's conclusion is insufficient and unfounded.

In the first place, the arguer unfairly assumes that the domestic cheeses have a better market than the imported ones. To strengthen his assumption, the author pointed out that the five best-selling cheeses in the new store are domestic ones. Yet the author does not explore the difference that may exist between the new store and the older stores. It is possible that the majority of the cheeses in older stores are domestic ones, and the consumers have fewer choices. Furthermore, the author claimed that the best-selling cheeses were all from Wisconsin, and the newest store could have supplied domestic cheeses mostly from Wisconsin. Thus, the speaker's assumption of a better market for domestic cheeses is unreasonable.

In the second place, by citing a magazine survey, the arguer tried to convince us that people preferred domestic cheeses over imported ones. But this assumption reveals many problems that would undermine the arguer's conclusion. First, the people involved in this survey were subscribers of the Cheeses of the World magazine. The arguer provided no information about the respondents' demographics or backgrounds. It is often true that domestic products are more expensive. Perhaps only people with a substantial income responded to the survey and can pay extra money for domestic cheeses. Perhaps these people are just the people who like domestic cheeses and there are only a few, select readers of this magazine. It is also not noted whether the survey had a particular sponsor or what questions exactly were asked and in what manner. If the questions were "leading" questions, or if an incentive for participating was offered, the survey cannot be trusted. Polls and surveys are notoriously slanted and incorrect unless they are conducted randomly and according to a strict statistical formula.

Last, it is hasty to forbid the company from stocking the imported cheeses. After all, their company is a chain of cheese stores located throughout the United States. The store inevitably involves many differences in the consumers' taste in different places. The arguer said there would be an improved profit after discontinuing imported cheeses, but the speaker failed to explore many other factors that influence profits besides the products alone.

To sum up, the arguer's assertion that they should discontinue stocking the imported cheeses and concentrate primarily on domestic cheeses is unfounded. To make his opinion more appealing, the speaker should provide more information about whether the domestic cheeses sold better and whether the company's consumers, not just a certain magazines subscribers, indeed have a proven preference to domestic cheeses.

**65. The following appeared in a memo from the president of a chain of cheese stores located throughout the United States.**

"For many years all the stores in our chain have stocked a wide variety of both domestic and imported cheeses. Last year, however, the five best-selling cheeses at our newest store were all domestic cheddar cheeses from Wisconsin. Furthermore, a recent survey by Cheeses of the World magazine indicates an increasing preference for domestic cheeses among its subscribers. Since our company can reduce expenses by limiting inventory, the best way to improve profits in all of our stores is to discontinue stocking many of our varieties of imported cheese and concentrate primarily on domestic cheeses."

In the memo, the speaker asserts that the ~~store~~store should discontinue stocking the imported cheeses to improve ~~the~~its profits. To begin with, the arguer indicates that the five best-selling cheeses ~~at~~the new store~~s~~ are domestic cheeses. Furthermore, a ~~magazine~~survey ~~of at a magazine~~ indicates an increasing number of ~~its~~subscribers have a preference ~~for~~of domestic cheeses. As far as ~~It~~am concerned, however, the arguer's conclusion is insufficient and unfounded.

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Last ~~but not the least~~, ~~even the arguer's assumption that domestic cheeses are old better and people have a preference to these cheeses.~~It is ~~still~~hasty to ~~maintain that the company should forbid~~forbid the company from stocking the imported cheeses. After all, their company is a chain of cheese~~s~~ stores located throughout the United States. ~~Consequently,~~ The store ~~it~~inevitably involves many differences in the consumers' taste in different

~~areas~~ ~~places,~~ ~~and even the interests in consuming cheese.~~ ~~Besides,~~ ~~T~~he arguer said there would be an improved profit after discontinuing imported cheeses, ~~but.~~ ~~Moreover,~~ the speaker failed to ~~take~~ ~~explore~~ many other ~~aspects~~ ~~factors~~ that ~~will~~ influence ~~the gaining of profits~~ profits besides the products alone.

To sum up, the arguer's assertion that they should ~~discontinuing~~ ~~discontinue~~ stocking the imported cheeses and concentrate primarily on domestic cheeses is unfounded. To make his opinion more appealing, the speaker should provide more information about whether the domestic cheeses ~~are~~ sold better and whether ~~their~~ ~~the company's~~ consumers, ~~not just a certain magazines subscribers,~~ indeed have a ~~proven~~ preference to domestic cheeses.

**101. The following appeared in a memo from the president of a company that makes breakfast cereals.**

**In a recent study, subjects who ate soybeans at least five times per week had significantly lower cholesterol levels than subjects who ate no soy products. By fortifying our Wheat-O cereal with soy protein, we can increase sales by appealing to additional consumers who are concerned about their health. This new version of Wheat-O should increase company profits and, at the same time, improve the health of our customers.**

The author suggested that this cereal company should add soy protein into Wheat-O cereal to improve customers' health and increase profit by attracting more health-concerned consumers. To support this point, result of a recent study has been provided. This argument seems plausible at the first glance, but a close examination reveals its logical flaws and invalidity.

To begin with, the fact that people who ate soybeans at least five times per week had lower cholesterol than those who ate no soy product does not necessarily imply soybean is effective to lower cholesterol. The study only shows a comparison of soybean consuming frequency between at least five times per week and none, which raises the suspicion that eating soybeans less than five times per week may cause no impact on cholesterol level. Moreover, no information about the diet of these two groups of people has been given. Thereby if soybean is not the only difference in their diet, it is possible that it is not soybean but other food helped lower cholesterol level. Thus, unless further research or more information has been provided, the conclusion that soybean lowers cholesterol level is unwarranted at best.

Assumingly, soybean could lower cholesterol level, but that does not directly lead to the result of sale increase by adding soy protein in product. An obvious fallacy here is equating soy protein with soybean. No evidence shows it is the soy protein lowers cholesterol level, since there are so many other ingredients included in soybean. Subsequently, consumers will not be convinced and may not choose Wheat-O. Also, low cholesterol is not the only factor contributing to human health, and most health conscious customers may consider other health related factors, or even do not care about lowering cholesterol at all if they are already at a healthy level. Meanwhile, author failed to take competitors into account. There may be other cereal companies also providing cholesterol lowering products, but with better taste, lower price, appealing package and better service. In short, adding soy protein may be unable to achieve the result of sale increase since the author failed to consider many sale-related factors.

Last, even the sale will surely increase, it is insufficient to predict the outcome of gaining more profit and improving customers' health. Since adding soy protein into product means more production cost, which may not be surpassed or even covered by profit from additional sale. Therefore, increasing profit is not a certainty. On the other hand, as far as customers' health was concerned, there are numerous factors such as diet, lifestyle, profession and mental condition all relating to a person's health and normal cholesterol level is just one, not even a determining one, element of human health. Hence, the assumption that eating new version of Wheat-O cereal will improve people's health is ungrounded.

In sum, to prevent a hasty conclusion, further study of the effectiveness of soybean at lowering cholesterol is in need and so many sale and profit relating factors have to be taken into consideration. Otherwise, the author would have made a poor suggestion, which is unconvincing and even misleading.

**101. The following appeared in a memo from the president of a company that makes breakfast cereals.**

**In a recent study, subjects who ate soybeans at least five times per week had significantly lower cholesterol levels than subjects who ate no soy products. By fortifying our Wheat-O cereal with soy protein, we can increase sales by appealing to additional consumers who are concerned about their health. This new version of Wheat-O should increase company profits and, at the same time, improve the health of our customers.**

The author suggests that this cereal company should add soy protein into Wheat-O cereal to improve customers' health and increase profits by attracting more health-concerned consumers. To support this point, the results of a recent study are provided. This argument seems plausible at first glance, but a close examination reveals its logical flaws and invalidity.

To begin with, the fact that people who ate soybeans at least five times per week had lower cholesterol than those who ate no soy products does not necessarily imply that soybeans are effective in lowering cholesterol. For one, the study only compares no soybean consumption to consumption five times per week, which raises the suspicion that eating soybeans fewer than five times per week may cause no impact on cholesterol level at all. Moreover, no information about the diet of these two groups of people has been supplied. Therefore, if soybean consumption was not the only difference in their diet, it is possible that it was not soybeans but other foods that helped lower cholesterol level. Thus, without further research and more information, the conclusion that soybeans lower cholesterol levels is unwarranted at best.

It is quite possible that soybeans could lower cholesterol levels, but that fact alone will not likely directly lead to an increase in sales if soy protein is added to the cereal. An obvious fallacy here is equating soy protein with soybeans. No evidence shows it is the soy protein that lowers cholesterol levels since there are many things besides protein that compose soybeans. Consumers may not be convinced and may not choose Wheat-O regardless. Also, low cholesterol is not the only factor contributing to human health, and most health conscious customers may consider other health related factors, and some do not care about lowering cholesterol at all if they are already at healthy. Meanwhile, the author failed to take competitors into account. There may be other cereal companies also providing cholesterol-lowering products, but perhaps with better tastes, lower prices, appealing packages, and better overall products. In short, adding soy protein may not increase cereal sales, as the author failed to consider many other sales-related factors.

A working knowledge of chemistry and a human's biological reaction to such processed foods must also be at play in this issue. It is often true that extracting nutrients from any given food might not make it as potent or useful. Many vitamins and minerals are so beneficial because they are found within certain foods. That is why no doctor will tell you to only get your daily recommended doses of vitamins from a pill supplement alone—they always insist that you eat fresh fruits and vegetables to get them. The company cannot assume that extracting protein from soybeans to add to the cereal is beneficial at all since it will no longer be in its natural host. If people buy a cereal that makes claims to have health benefits but those customers see no actual benefits in themselves, sales could potentially drop instead of increasing.

Lastly, even if sales were to increase, it is irresponsible to predict the outcome of improving customers' health and to assume profits would grow. Since adding soy protein into the cereal would require more production costs, increased sales may not be surpass the amount spent on upgrading the product. Therefore, increasing profit is not a certainty. On the other hand, as far as customers' health is concerned, there are numerous factors such as diet, lifestyle, profession, and mental condition that all relate to a person's health, cholesterol levels being just one of

those factors. Hence, the assumption that eating a new version of Wheat-O cereal will improve people's health is ungrounded.

In sum, to prevent a hasty conclusion, further studies of the effectiveness of soybeans in lowering cholesterol are necessary. Many sale and profit relating factors have to be taken into consideration. Otherwise, the author would be making a poor suggestion that is unconvincing and even misleading.

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~~Assumingly, It is quite possible that~~ soybeans could lower cholesterol levels, but that fact alone will does not likely directly lead to an increase in sales if soy protein is added to the cereal. the resu it of sale increase by adding soy protein in product. An obvious fallacy here is equating soy protein with soybeans. No evidence shows it is the soy protein that lowers cholesterol levels; since there are ~~so~~ many things besides protein that compose soybeans. other ingredients included in soybean. Subsequently, e Consumers ~~will not~~ may not be convinced and may not choose Wheat-O regardless. Also, low cholesterol is not the only factor contributing to human health, and most health conscious customers may consider other health related factors, ~~or even~~ and some do not care about lowering cholesterol at all if they are already at ~~a~~ healthy level. Meanwhile, the author failed to take competitors into account. There may be other cereal companies also providing cholesterol-lowering products, but perhaps with better tastes, lower prices, appealing packages, and better overall products service. In short, adding soy protein may ~~be not unable to achieve the result of sale~~ increase cereal sales since, as the author failed to consider many other sales-related factors.

A working knowledge of chemistry and a human's biological reaction to such processed foods must also be at play in this issue. It is often true that extracting nutrients from any given food might not make it as potent or useful. Many vitamins and minerals are so beneficial because they are found within certain foods. That is why no doctor will tell you to only get your daily recommended doses of vitamins from a pill supplement alone—they always insist that you eat fresh fruits and vegetables to get them. The company cannot assume that extracting protein from soybeans to add to the cereal is beneficial at all since it will no longer be in its natural host. If people buy a cereal that makes claims to have health benefits but those customers see no actual benefits in themselves, sales could potentially drop instead of increasing.

Lastly, even ~~if the sales will~~ ~~here to surely~~ increase, it is ~~irresponsible~~ ~~insufficient~~ to predict the outcome of ~~gaining more profit and~~ improving customers' health ~~and to assume profits would grow~~. Since adding soy protein into ~~the cereal~~ ~~product means more~~ would require more production costs, ~~increased sales which~~ may not be surpass ~~the amount spent on upgrading the product~~ ~~ed or even covered by profit from additional sale~~. Therefore, increasing profit is not a certainty. On the other hand, as far as customers' health ~~was~~ ~~is~~ concerned, there are numerous factors such as diet, lifestyle, profession, and mental condition ~~that all relating~~ to a person's health, ~~cholesterol levels being just one of those factors.~~ ~~h and normal cholesterol level is just one, not even a determining one, element of human health.~~ Hence, the assumption that eating ~~a~~ new version of Wheat-O cereal will improve people's health is ungrounded.

In sum, to prevent a hasty conclusion, further studies ~~y~~ of the effectiveness of soybeans ~~in~~ ~~at~~ lowering cholesterol ~~is~~ ~~are necessary~~ ~~in~~ ~~need and so m~~. Many sale and profit relating factors have to be taken into consideration. Otherwise, the author would ~~have made~~ ~~be making~~ a poor suggestion ~~that,~~ ~~which~~ is unconvincing and even misleading.

**137. The following appeared in an editorial in the Mason City newspaper.**

**"At present, Mason City residents seldom use the nearby Mason River for any kind of recreational activity, even though surveys of the region's residents consistently rank water sports (swimming, fishing, and boating) as a favorite form of recreation. Since there have been complaints about the quality of the water in the river, residents must be avoiding the river because they think that it is not clean enough. But that situation is about to change: the agency responsible for rivers in our region has announced plans to clean up Mason River. Therefore, recreational use of the river is likely to increase, so the Mason City council will need to increase its budget for improvements to the publicly owned lands along the Mason River."**

In this argument, the cause and effect relationship is far from reasonable. In fact, the evidence that the newspaper suggests about Mason City council increasing its budget to improve the public establishments along the Mason River is not valid based on the information above.

To begin with, the survey just indicates that Mason City residents are favored in water sports, which does not prove a strong connection to the less preference of activities nearby the river. Water sports mean the sports which can be just played, or acted, in water, and it does not include the sports or activities nearby the water, no matter how close it is. So from my point of view, the survey, which the author would like to support the statement, in fact, has nothing to do with it.

Besides, thinking the poor quality of the river as the only reason why residents avoid the river is ill considered. Other possibilities, which are likely to be more important than the quality, could also lead to such a situation. Safety, for instance, may be the principal factor to most of parents, as a lot of incidents reported just happened near the river took so many children's lives. Therefore, it is entirely possible that residents consider that the safeguards near the river can not protect people, especially children, from falling down into the river for the sake of the limitation of the design or the obsolete facilities. Another point worth considering is the geographical factor. People usually prefer a place next to their apartments to do some sports and relax themselves. Hardly could seen one going for some place far away from home on purpose for the recreational activities. So, maybe residents seldom use the nearby Mason River for their recreational activities is because the inconvenient transportation—the bumpy road, the less enough space for parking, and the fees charged along the road. However, the newspaper, which failed to consider many other reasons, only states that by improving the quality of the river, the situation would be better than before is totally illogic. Then, how can we believe that the recreational use would increase based on the statements previously?

Even if I were reluctantly concede that after cleaning up the river, the recreational use would increase a little bit, what on earth is the relationship between increase and the augment of the budgets given by Mason City council? There is no evidence to prove that the budgets now is not enough for improving the publicly own lands along the river. And there is, too, no evidence to prove that the condition of the publicly own lands along the river is not satisfactory enough. Without the field survey by professional experts and further investigations about the satisfaction, opinions and suggestions from the real consumers and tax payers—Mason City residents, the newspaper can not draw such a irresponsible verdict.

In short, the series of ratiocinations to the final conclusion are full of logical mistakes. If Mason City council really want to ameliorate the phenomenon about less recreational use along the Mason River, a detailed investigation among the residents is highly recommended, rather than the unilateral summing-up in the newspaper.

**137. The following appeared in an editorial in the Mason City newspaper.**

**"At present, Mason City residents seldom use the nearby Mason River for any kind of recreational activity, even though surveys of the region's residents consistently rank water sports (swimming, fishing, and boating) as a favorite form of recreation. Since there have been complaints about the quality of the water in the river, residents must be avoiding the river because they think that it is not clean enough. But that situation is about to change: the agency responsible for rivers in our region has announced plans to clean up Mason River. Therefore, recreational use of the river is likely to increase, so the Mason City council will need to increase its budget for improvements to the publicly owned lands along the Mason River."**

In this argument, the cause and effect relationship the newspaper uses is far from reasonable. In fact, the evidence that the newspaper suggests about the Mason City council increasing its budget to improve the public establishments along the Mason River is not valid.

To begin with, the survey simply indicates that Mason City residents favor water sports, which does not prove a lesser preference to activities near the river. The term "water sports" means activities that can be played in water, and the term does not include the sports or activities near the water. So from my point of view, the survey, which the author would like to support the statement, in fact, has nothing to do with it.

Besides, thinking that the poor quality of the river is the only reason residents avoid the river is ill considered. Other possibilities, which are likely to be more important than the river's quality, could also lead to such a conclusion. Safety, for instance, may be the principal factor to most parents, as a lot of incidents reported near the river took children's lives. Therefore, it is entirely possible that residents believe the safeguards near the river cannot protect people, especially children, from falling down into the river, for reasons like the limitation of the design or inadequate facilities.

Another point worth considering is the geographical factor. People usually prefer a place next to their apartments to play sports and relax. So, residents may seldom use the nearby Mason River for their recreational activities because of inconvenient transportation, a bumpy road, lack of parking, and fees charged along the road. There could also be other competing recreational areas in the area that are more appealing for a myriad of reasons. These other possible recreational areas might provide more activities than merely what the river has to offer for that particular demographic of residents.

There could also be a meteorological reason for the lack of recreation. Perhaps the river is too cold, therefore inhibiting its ability to be enjoyed to its fullest extent. In addition to this, there is also a social factor that must not be overlooked. Perhaps the nearby residents simply have no interest in such activities. Therefore, the newspaper's assertion that improving the quality of the river would improve the situation is illogical. How then, can we believe that recreational use would increase based on the previous statements?

Even if I were to concede that the recreational use would increase after cleaning up the river, there is no evidence to prove that the current budget is not enough to improve the publicly owned land along the river. Also, there is no evidence to prove that the condition of the publicly owned land along the river is inadequate. Without a field survey by professional experts and opinions and suggestions from real consumers and taxpayers—Mason City residents—the newspaper cannot draw such a verdict. The conclusion that an increased budget is necessary is built upon speculation and assumption.

In short, the series of deductions leading to the final conclusion are illogical. If the Mason City council really wanted to accurately prove the argument about less recreational use along the Mason River, a detailed investigation among residents is highly recommended, rather than the one-sided view of the newspaper. Such assumptions exemplify journalism at its poorest and do not bode well for the community itself.

## 137. The following appeared in an editorial in the Mason City newspaper.

"At present, Mason City residents seldom use the nearby Mason River for any kind of recreational activity, even though surveys of the region's residents consistently rank water sports (swimming, fishing, and boating) as a favorite form of recreation. Since there have been complaints about the quality of the water in the river, residents must be avoiding the river because they think that it is not clean enough. But that situation is about to change: the agency responsible for rivers in our region has announced plans to clean up Mason River. Therefore, recreational use of the river is likely to increase, so the Mason City council will need to increase its budget for improvements to the publicly owned lands along the Mason River."

In this argument, the cause and effect relationship the newspaper uses is far from reasonable. In fact, the evidence that the newspaper suggests about the Mason City council increasing its budget to improve the public establishments along the Mason River is not valid ~~based on the information above~~.

To begin with, the survey simply just indicates that Mason City residents ~~are favored in~~ water sports, which does not prove ~~a strong connection to a~~ the lesser preference ~~to of~~ activities nearby the river. The term "Water sports" means ~~the activities sports which that~~ can be just played, ~~or acted,~~ in water, and the term it does not include the sports or activities nearby the water, ~~no matter how close it is~~. So from my point of view, the survey, which the author would like to support the statement, in fact, has nothing to do with it.

Besides, thinking that the poor ~~e-poor~~ quality of the river is the only reason ~~why~~ residents avoid the river is ill considered. Other possibilities, which are likely to be more important than the river's quality, could also lead to such a ~~situation~~ conclusion. Safety, for instance, may be the principal factor to most ~~of~~ parents, as a lot of incidents reported ~~just happened~~ near the river took ~~so many~~ children's lives. Therefore, it is entirely possible that residents ~~consider that believe~~ the safeguards near the river can not protect people, especially children, from falling down into the river, ~~for the~~ for reasons like the ~~sake of the~~ limitation of the design or ~~the obsolete~~ inadequate facilities.

Another point worth considering is the geographical factor. People usually prefer a place next to their apartments to ~~do some~~ play sports and relax themselves. ~~Hardly could seen one going for some place far away from home on purpose for the recreational activities~~. So, ~~maybe~~ residents may seldom use the nearby Mason River for their recreational activities ~~is~~ because ~~of the~~ inconvenient ~~transportatio~~ transportation, a ~~n~~ the bumpy road, ~~the less enough space for~~ lack of parking, and ~~the~~ fees charged along the road. There could also be other competing recreational areas in the area that are more appealing for a myriad of reasons. These other possible recreational areas might provide more activities than merely what the river has to offer for that particular demographic of residents.

There could also be a meteorological reason for the lack of recreation. Perhaps the river is too cold, therefore inhibiting its ability to be ~~or not to be~~ enjoyed to its fullest extent. In addition to this, there is also a social factor that must not be overlooked. Perhaps the nearby residents simply have no interest in such activities. However, the Therefore, the newspaper, 's assertion ~~which failed to consider many other reasons, only states that~~ by improving the quality of the river would improve the, ~~the situation would be better than before~~ is ~~totally~~ illogical. H Then, how then, can we believe that ~~the~~ recreational use would increase based on the previous statements ~~previously~~?

Even if I were ~~to reluctantly~~ concede that ~~after cleaning up the river,~~ the recreational use would increase ~~after cleaning up the river a little bit, what on earth is the relationship between increase and the augment of the budgets given by Mason City council? , t~~ There is no evidence to prove that the ~~current~~ budget ~~s now~~ is not enough ~~to for~~ improving the publicly ~~-owned~~ lands along the river. ~~And there is, too, Also, there is~~ no evidence to prove that the condition of the publicly ~~-owned~~ lands along the river is ~~not in~~satisfactory ~~enough~~adequate. Without ~~a the~~ field survey by professional experts ~~and further investigations about the satisfaction and ,~~ opinions and suggestions from ~~the~~ real consumers and tax-payers—Mason City residents—~~the , the~~ newspaper can not draw such a ~~irresponsible~~ verdict. The conclusion that an increased budget is necessary is built upon speculation and assumption.

In short, the series of ~~ratiocinations~~ ~~deductions~~ leading to the final conclusion are ~~full of logical mistakes~~ illogical. If ~~the~~ Mason City council really wanted to ~~amcliorate~~ accurately prove the ~~argument~~ phenomenon about less recreational use along the Mason River, a detailed investigation among ~~the~~ residents is highly recommended, rather than the ~~unilateral~~ one-sided ~~summing up~~ view of ~~in~~ the newspaper. Such assumptions exemplify journalism at its poorest and do not bode well for the community itself.

**173. The following is a memorandum issued by the publisher of a newsmagazine, Newsbeat, in the country of Dinn.**

**"Our poorest-selling magazine issues over the past three years were those that featured international news stories on their front covers. Over the same period, competing news-magazines have significantly decreased the number of cover stories that they devote to international news. Moreover, the cost of maintaining our foreign bureaus to report on international news is increasing. Therefore, we should decrease our emphasis on international news and refrain from displaying such stories on our magazine covers."**

The author recommends that they should decrease their emphasis on international news and refrain from displaying such stories on their magazine covers. To bolster his recommendation, the author points out that the poorest-selling magazine issues over the past three years were those that featured international stories on their front covers, their competitors have decreased the number of cover stories that they devote to international news, and the cost of reporting on international news is increasing. However, the writer's argument is based on insufficient evidence and therefore unconvincing as it stands.

In the first place, the author attributes the poor-selling of the magazines to that they are featured with international news stories on their front covers, but the author fails to provide enough evidence to support this view of him. Maybe the poor-selling of these magazines was because they failed to provide the most important international news that most people were interested in; Or the international news provided by these magazines failed to provide enough information compared with other magazines; it could also be that these kind of magazines are too expensive, so people would rather read news through the newspaper or internet; the poor-selling of these magazines may not due to their international news but to other kind of news which are not provided as good as international news. Without ruling out these alternative reasons, the author could not convince me that the poor-selling of the magazines is because that they provided too much international news.

In the second place, the author argues that their competitors have significantly decreased the number of cover stories that they devote to international news, so they should also decrease their international news. However, the author rules out no information about whether their competitors' sale of magazine increased or decreased after they reduce the international news. If the sale of magazine decreased sharply after they reduce the international news, the author's recommendation would be very unconvincible. Besides, even if their competitors' sale of magazines indeed increased after they reduce their international news, the author still fails to point out whether the number of international news provided by their competitors are still much more than them. So it is possible that the number of news on their competitors' magazines is still more than them even after they decreased. In short, the author can not defend the recommended course of action on the basis of what their competitors did without considering their own conditions.

Thirdly, the author points out that the cost of maintaining their bureaus to report on international news is increasing. However, he fails to provide information about whether the cost of other type of news is increasing or not. If the cost of other type of news is also increasing much more quickly, the author's suggestion would be unreasonable. Besides, if the increased price of these magazines can compensate for the increase of the cost of obtaining international news, the author should reconsider his recommendation.

In conclusion, the argument is based on a series of unsubstantiated assumptions which renders it dubious to stand. In order to prove his recommendation, the author should provide evidence that displaying international news on their magazine covers indeed decrease their sale; their competitors could gain more profit by providing less international news than them; the increased cost of reporting international news surpassed the profit brought by it.

**173. The following is a memorandum issued by the publisher of a newsmagazine, Newsbeat, in the country of Dinn.**

**"Our poorest-selling magazine issues over the past three years were those that featured international news stories on their front covers. Over the same period, competing news-magazines have significantly decreased the number of cover stories that they devote to international news. Moreover, the cost of maintaining our foreign bureaus to report on international news is increasing. Therefore, we should decrease our emphasis on international news and refrain from displaying such stories on our magazine covers."**

The author recommends that Newsbeat should decrease its emphasis on international news and refrain from displaying these stories on its magazine covers. To bolster this recommendation, the author points out that the poorest-selling magazine issues over the past three years featured international stories on their front covers, that competitors have decreased the number of cover stories that they devote to international news, and that the cost of reporting on international news is increasing. However, the writer's argument is based on insufficient evidence and therefore is unconvincing.

In the first place, the author attributes the poor selling of the magazine to the international news stories on the front cover, but fails to provide enough evidence to support this view. Maybe Newsbeat failed to provide the most important international news that most people were interested in, or it did not contain as much international news as other magazines. Also, these magazines could be too expensive, so people would rather read news in the newspaper or on the Internet. Additionally, the poor selling of these magazines could be a result of other kinds of news that are not reported well. Without exploring these alternative reasons, the author could not convince me that the poor performance of the magazines is due to too much international news.

In the second place, the author argues that Newsbeat's competitors have significantly decreased the number of cover stories that they devote to international news, so Newsbeat should also decrease its international news. However, the author does not indicate whether competitors' sales increased or decreased after they reduced international news. If the sales decreased after they reduced international news, the author's recommendation would be ineffective. Even if the competitors' sales increased after they reduced providing international news, the author still fails to point out whether the competitors provide more international news than Newsbeat. In short, the author can not defend the recommended course of action based on their competitors' actions.

Next, the author points out that the cost of maintaining bureaus to report international news is increasing. However, he fails to provide information about whether the cost of other types of news is increasing. If the cost of other types of news is also increasing, the author's suggestion would be unreasonable. Also, if the increased price of these magazines can compensate for the increased cost of obtaining international news, the author should reconsider his recommendation.

Lastly, merely highlighting that the covers of these poor-selling issues were devoted to international news is quite a broad notation. The author does not examine, on a smaller scale, what those covers actually were about. Perhaps the covers were negative in nature, or perhaps they covered international news that was unpopular or irrelevant to most readers' lives. Something as simple as layout and design could have influenced the low sales of those particular magazine issues.

In conclusion, this argument is based on a series of unsubstantiated assumptions. In order to prove his recommendation, the author should provide evidence that displaying international news on Newsbeat's covers indeed decreased its sales, that competitors could gain more profit by providing less international news, and that the increased cost of reporting international news surpassed the profit brought by it.

173. The following is a memorandum issued by the publisher of a newsmagazine, Newsbeat, in the country of Dinn.

"Our poorest-selling magazine issues over the past three years were those that featured international news stories on their front covers. Over the same period, competing news-magazines have significantly decreased the number of cover stories that they devote to international news. Moreover, the cost of maintaining our foreign bureaus to report on international news is increasing. Therefore, we should decrease our emphasis on international news and refrain from displaying such stories on our magazine covers."

The author recommends that ~~they~~ Newsbeat should decrease ~~its~~~~their~~ emphasis on international news and refrain from displaying ~~these~~~~such~~ stories ~~s~~ on ~~their~~~~its~~ magazine covers. To bolster this recommendation, the author points out that the poorest-selling magazine issues over the past three years ~~were those that~~ featured international stories on their front covers, ~~that~~ ~~their~~ competitors have decreased the number of cover stories that they devote to international news, and ~~that~~ the cost of reporting on international news is increasing. However, the writer's argument is based on insufficient evidence and therefore is unconvincing ~~as it stands~~.

In the first place, the author attributes the poor-selling of the magazine to the international news stories on the front covers ~~to that they are featured with international news stories on their front covers~~, but ~~the author~~ fails to provide enough evidence to support this view ~~of him~~. Maybe Newsbeat failed to provide the most important international news that most people were interested in, or it did not contain as much ~~the poor-selling of these magazines was because they failed to provide the most important international news that most people were interested in; Or the international news provided by these magazines failed to provide enough information compared with~~ as other magazines. ~~Also, it could also be that these~~ kind of magazines could be ~~are~~ too expensive, so people ~~would~~ would rather read news ~~through the~~ in the newspaper or on the Internet ~~internet~~. ~~Additionally, the~~ poor-selling of these magazines ~~may not due to their international news but to other~~ could be a result of other kinds of news ~~which are not provided as good as international news~~ that are not reported well. Without ~~ruling out~~ exploring these alternative reasons, the author could not convince me that the poor ~~performance~~ selling of the magazines is ~~because that they provided too much international news~~ due to too much international news.

In the second place, the author argues that ~~their~~ Newsbeat's competitors have significantly decreased the number of cover stories that they devote to international news, so ~~they~~ Newsbeat should also decrease ~~its~~~~their~~ international news. However, the author does not indicate ~~rules out no information about~~ whether competitors' sales ~~of magazine~~ increased or decreased after they reduced international news. If the sales ~~of magazine~~ decreased ~~sharply~~ after they reduced international news, the author's recommendation would be ~~very unconvincible~~ ineffective. ~~Besides, even if their competitors' sales of magazines indeed increased after they reduced providing international news, the author still fails to point out whether the~~ competitors provide more international news than Newsbeat. number of international news provided by their competitors are still much more than them. So it is possible that the number of news on their competitors' magazines is still more than them even after they decreased. In short, the author can not defend the recommended course of action ~~on the basis of what their competitors did without considering their own conditions~~ based on their competitors' actions.

~~Thirdly~~ Next, the author points out that the cost of maintaining ~~their~~ bureaus to report ~~on~~ international news is increasing. However, he fails to provide information about whether the cost of other types of news is increasing ~~or not~~. If the cost of other types of news is also increasing ~~much more quickly~~, the author's suggestion would be unreasonable. ~~Besides~~ Also, if the increased price of these magazines can compensate for the increased ~~of the~~ cost of obtaining international news, the author should reconsider his recommendation.

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In conclusion, this argument is based on a series of unsubstantiated assumptions ~~which renders it dubious to stand~~. In order to prove his recommendation, the author should provide evidence that displaying international news on ~~their Newsbeat's magazine~~ covers indeed decreased its sales, ~~that~~ competitors could gain more profit by providing less international news, ~~and that~~; the increased cost of reporting international news surpassed the profit brought by it.

**207. It is known that in recent years, industrial pollution has caused the Earth's ozone layer to thin, allowing an increase in the amount of ultraviolet radiation that reaches the Earth's surface. At the same time, scientists have discovered, the population of a species of salamander that lays its eggs in mountain lakes has declined. Since ultraviolet radiation is known to be damaging to delicate tissues and since salamander eggs have no protective shells, it must be the case that the increase in ultraviolet radiation has damaged many salamander eggs and prevented them from hatching. This process will no doubt cause population declines in other species, just as it has in the salamander species.**

In this argument the speaker claims that increasing ultraviolet radiation caused by the thinning of the Earth's ozone layer is responsible for the significant decline in the amount of the salamanders that lay their eggs in mountain lakes, as well as the decrease of the number of other species. The facets that the salamander eggs lack a protective shell which makes them vulnerable to the radiation damage, and that the increased radiation will damage to delicate tissues and prevent the eggs from hatching, seeming to be convinced, prove to be groundless after a careful thinking.

To begin with, the author oversimplifies the fact that the salamander population is declining, because his assumption is merely based on the discovery that the number of salamanders laying eggs in mountain lakes is declining. It is entirely possible that only the population of such kind of salamanders decline while in other place the number is increasing rapidly. Lacking such evidence that this kind of salamander can be representative of the whole species, the author cannot draw any conclusion.

Furthermore, even if the total salamander population is declining, the author also commits a mistake that he considers the ultraviolet radiation damage as the only reason for decrease of eggs just because the thinning of the earth ozone occurred before the salamander egg reducing. It is likely that both of the two are coincident. It is possible that the lake where the salamanders lay their eggs is polluted by some poisonous substance, which is the real reason that leads to the phenomenon.

Last but not the least, even assuming the total salamander population is declining as a result of increasing radiation, the author also fails to infer that other species are susceptible to the population decline at the same time. Since different species have different ways to breed their offspring, and since it happens to be that the salamander eggs with no protective shells are extremely fragile to the radiation, we are more willing to believe that the author makes a false analogy.

In sum, judging from the aforementioned analysis, the author fails to make his conclusion convinced. To bolster his conclusion, the author should offer evidence that the ultraviolet radiation damage has a direct relation with the decline of salamander population without other probable sources. Also he should eliminate other possible explanations causing the eggs decreasing, and makes a specific survey on other species.

**207. It is known that in recent years, industrial pollution has caused the Earth's ozone layer to thin, allowing an increase in the amount of ultraviolet radiation that reaches the Earth's surface. At the same time, scientists have discovered, the population of a species of salamander that lays its eggs in mountain lakes has declined. Since ultraviolet radiation is known to be damaging to delicate tissues and since salamander eggs have no protective shells, it must be the case that the increase in ultraviolet radiation has damaged many salamander eggs and prevented them from hatching. This process will no doubt cause population declines in other species, just as it has in the salamander species.**

In this argument, the speaker claims that increasing ultraviolet radiation caused by the thinning of the Earth's ozone layer is responsible for the significant decline in the number of salamanders that lay their eggs in mountain lakes, as well as a decrease in the number of other species. Though the author's claim that the salamander eggs lack a protective shell to shield from radiation damage and the increased radiation prevents the eggs from hatching seems a convincing argument, it ultimately proves groundless.

To begin with, the author bases his assumption that the population is declining on the discovery that the number of salamanders laying eggs in mountain lakes is declining. It is entirely possible that only the population of a specific kind of salamanders is declining while in other places the number might be increasing rapidly. In assuming that this kind of salamander is representative of the whole species, the author cannot draw any conclusion.

Furthermore, even if the total salamander population is declining, the author mistakenly asserts that the ultraviolet radiation damage is the only reason for decrease of eggs because the thinning of the Earth's ozone occurred before the reduction in salamander eggs. It is likely that both events are coincidental. It is also possible that the lake where the salamanders lay their eggs is polluted by some poisonous substance, which could be the real reason leading to the phenomenon. Other factors must also be considered. What types of animals prey on these salamanders? Perhaps that animal population has increased and the decrease in the population of the salamanders has nothing to do with eggs not hatching at all, but may be attributed to completely unrelated factors.

Last but not least, even if we assume the total salamander population is declining as a result of increasing radiation, the author fails to prove that other species are susceptible to the population decline at the same time. Since different species have different ways to breed their offspring, and since it happens that the salamander eggs with no protective layer are extremely fragile and susceptible to radiation, it is more likely that the author makes a false analogy. The only way the author can draw this conclusion, which he or she claims to be true "without a doubt," proof would need to be offered, but none is. One cannot make such a strenuous leap based on what is, at best, circumstantial evidence.

In sum, judging from the aforementioned analysis, the author fails to make his conclusion convincing. To bolster his conclusion, the author should offer evidence that the ultraviolet radiation damage has a direct relationship with the decline of salamander population, while ruling out other probable sources. He should also conduct a specific survey on other species.

**207. It is known that in recent years, industrial pollution has caused the Earth's ozone layer to thin, allowing an increase in the amount of ultraviolet radiation that reaches the Earth's surface. At the same time, scientists have discovered, the population of a species of salamander that lays its eggs in mountain lakes has declined. Since ultraviolet radiation is known to be damaging to delicate tissues and since salamander eggs have no protective shells, it must be the case that the increase in ultraviolet radiation has damaged many salamander eggs and prevented them from hatching. This process will no doubt cause population declines in other species, just as it has in the salamander species.**

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To begin with, the author ~~oversimplifies the fact that the salamander population is~~ bases declining, ~~because~~ his assumption that the population is declining is merely based on the discovery that the number of salamanders laying eggs in mountain lakes is declining. It is entirely possible that only the population of a such specific kind of salamanders is declining ~~e~~ while in other places, ~~the number~~ might be increasing rapidly. In Lacking such evidence ~~assuming~~ e that this kind of salamander ~~can be~~ is representative of the whole species, the author cannot draw any conclusion.

Furthermore, even if the total salamander population is declining, the author ~~also commits a~~ mistakenly asserts that ~~mistake that he considers~~ the ultraviolet radiation damage ~~as is~~ the only reason for decrease of eggs; ~~just~~ because the thinning of the ~~earth~~ Earth's ozone occurred before the reduction in salamander ~~egg reduce~~ eggs. It is likely that both ~~of the two events~~ are coincident ~~coincidental~~. It is also possible that the lake where the salamanders lay their eggs is polluted by some poisonous substance, which ~~is could be~~ the real reason that leads ~~leading~~ to the phenomenon. Other factors must also be considered. What types of animals prey on these salamanders? Perhaps that animal population has increased and the decrease in the population of the salamanders has nothing to do with eggs not hatching at all, but may be attributed to completely unrelated factors.

Last but not ~~the~~ least, even if we ~~assume ing~~ the total salamander population is declining as a result of increasing radiation, the author ~~also~~ fails to prove ~~infer~~ that other ~~spices~~ species are susceptible to the population decline at the same time. Since different ~~spices~~ species have different ways to breed their offspring, and since it happens ~~to be~~ that the salamander eggs with no protective layer ~~eggs~~ are extremely fragile and susceptible ~~to the~~ radiation, ~~we are more~~ it is more likely ~~willing to believe~~ that the author makes a false analogy. The only way the author can draw this conclusion, which her or she claims to be true "without a doubt," proof would need to be offered, but none is. One cannot make such a strenuous leap based on what is, at best, circumstantial evidence.

In sum, judging from the aforementioned analysis, the author fails to make his conclusion ~~convinced~~ convincing. To bolster his conclusion, the author should offer evidence that the ultraviolet radiation damage has a direct ship with the decline of salamander population, while ruling out ~~without~~ other probable sources. ~~Also he~~ He should also ~~eliminate other possible explanations causing the eggs decreasing, and mak~~ conduct es a specific survey on other species.

**242. The following appeared as an editorial in the student newspaper of Groveton College.**

**"To combat the recently reported dramatic rise in cheating among college and university students, these institutions should adopt honor codes similar to Groveton's, which calls for students to agree not to cheat in their academic endeavors and to notify a faculty member if they suspect that others have cheated. Groveton's honor code replaced an old-fashioned system in which students were closely monitored by teachers and an average of thirty cases of cheating per year was reported. The honor code has proven far more successful: in the first year it was in place, students reported twenty-one cases of cheating; five years later, this figure had dropped to fourteen. Moreover, in a recent survey conducted by the Groveton honor council, a majority of students said that they would be less likely to cheat with an honor code in place than without."**

The propose of adopting honor codes similar to Groveton's(G) seems soundly at first glance based on the minimized figure of cheating cases, a recent survey conducted by the G's honor council and the assumption that other colleges and universities could achieve the uniform success via prompting the same regulation. However, the author need more work of reasoning to substantiate the hypothesis.

The principle problem involved in this argument is whether the number of cheating cases practically declined. To be realistic, the statistics of cheating cases reported each year which seems reliable and creditable as it might be, is far from sufficient to support the deduction of the author. The author unfairly neglects other factors leading to a degressive figure. It is highly possible that the advanced skills and modern equipment have been used by a number of students so that hardly can supervisors discover these cheating cases. Namely, there are a myriad of cheating cases but only a minority of cheating students had been caught for their "carelessness and weak equipment". It is also likely that only a few students are willing to report peer's cheating cases, which has been established as a concealed principle in the G. In other words, they play ticks cheating together under the teachers' supervision, or they have reached a "compromise", people in the same condition help each other. The decreased number of reported cheating cases could be illustrated not only by this regulation but also by taking in these cases into consideration. If so, the code regulation could be demonstrated to work weaker in preventing and deterring cheating actions.

Moreover, the recent survey conducted by the Groveton honor council is problematic too. Firstly, the sample size of the informant may be far from sufficient and can hardly represent the authenticity, if there are only a small part of the students selected in the survey, the conclusion is absolutely meaningless. Moreover, we can cast serious doubt on the selection procedure, which is not specified in the argument. It is possible that the survey is only processed in one particular grade, such as freshman, who are mostly genuine and honest. Further more, common sense informs us that the students who have a impulse to cheat in their exam might not be prone to admitting this in this survey. Namely, the respondents are mostly those who have no desires to cheat in their exam. Lacking in the information involving the number of students surveyed and the proportion of respondents, it is utterly impossible to conclude that the potential cheating cases are dropping down because of the honor code regulation.

In addition, even if the declined cheating cases dramatically attribute to regulation dramatically, the author unfairly overlook the differences between different colleges and universities. The level of the universities, the preciseness of the education, the responsibility of the professors should be taken into account. Unlike the Groveton, which is a high level university in which the students have severe consciousness of responsibility and the professors have great honor, the students have a great sense to obey the honor code regulation, other universities even adopted the same strategy may have varied consequences except the expected result.

Overall, the regulation which seems perfect at first glance, has several defects such as mentioned above. The argument could be strengthened if the author provide evidences demonstrated the honor code regulation fairly deter the students and reduce the cheating desires. What is more, the author should evaluate the differences between different universities, adjust the measures to local conditions. If so, both the students and universities could benefit from the author's suggestion.

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The proposal of adopting honor codes similar to Groveton's seems sound at first glance based on the minimized figure of reported cheating cases. The author states that a recent survey conducted by the school's honor council is grounds to believe that other colleges and universities could achieve similar success through implementing the same regulation. However, the author needs deeper reasoning to substantiate the hypothesis.

The principle problem involved in this argument is whether the number of cheating cases truly declined, and not just the reports of cheating. To be realistic, the statistics of cheating cases reported each year, as reliable and creditable as they might seem, are far from sufficient to support the deduction of the author. The author unfairly neglects other factors leading to a digressive figure. It is quite possible that advanced technologies, including computers and their software working in tandem with more skillful students, have made cheating easier and therefore less easily supervised by educators. For instance, there might be a myriad of cheating cases but only a minority of cheating students may have been caught due to carelessness and/or weak equipment. It is also likely that only a few students are willing to report cases of peers cheating, which is established as a concealed principle in this matter. In other words, students might cheat together instead of alone, or they might reach compromises among themselves to keep the cheating clandestine. The decreased number of reported cheating cases could be illustrated not only by this new regulation, but also by taking the speculation above into consideration. If these ideas are true, the code regulation could actually be demonstrated to be less effective in preventing and deterring cheating.

When other schools begin to think about adopting this honor code, which seems to reduce instances of cheating, they must also consider the psychology that goes into signing such a code before taking an exam, writing a paper, or conducting any other type of project. Requiring a signature on something like that immediately makes it taboo. If students feel that the subject of cheating is now even more taboo than ever, they may not be willing to talk about it with anyone, much less a teacher. Therefore, cheating itself may or may not decrease at all, but encouraging students who believe cheating is taking place to speak up may also become more unlikely. No one wants to be caught "tattling."

Moreover, the recent survey conducted by the Groveton honor council is problematic, as well. First, the sample size of the informant may be far from sufficient and can hardly represent the whole if only a small part of the student body participated, which would make the author's conclusion absolutely meaningless. Moreover, we can cast serious doubt on the selection procedure, because it is not even mentioned in the argument. It is possible that the survey was only administered to one year of students, such as freshman, who might mostly be honest. Furthermore, common sense informs us that the students who have an impulse to cheat on their exams might not be prone to admitting this during a survey. The respondents are probably primarily those who have no desire to cheat to begin

with. Lacking the information regarding the number of students surveyed and the demographics and proportion respondents, it is utterly impossible to conclude that cheating cases are dropping due to the honor code regulation.

In addition, even if the declined cheating cases may be attributed to this new regulation, the author unfairly overlooks the differences among different colleges and universities. The level of the universities, the preciseness of the education each administers, and the responsibility and professionalism of the professors should be taken into account. Not all schools are like Groveton, which is a high level university at which students have a deep consciousness of responsibility and the professors have great honor. Indeed, those students have a great sense to obey the honor-code regulation, but other universities cannot adopt the same strategy and expect the same results. They will inevitably vary from school to school.

Overall, this regulation, which seems perfect at first glance, has several defects as outlined above. The argument could be strengthened if the author provides evidence demonstrating that the honor code regulation unequivocally deters students from the desire to cheat and definitely reduces the act of cheating. What is more, the author should evaluate the differences among universities and adjust the measures and statistics to reflect local conditions. Both the students and universities could benefit from the author's suggestion.

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