

10th Grade Social Studies Ohio Graduation Test
Skills and Methods Standard

Question 7
Benchmark A
Spring 2005

At a public meeting, community residents will be able to comment on a proposal for a new city park.

The live broadcast of the meeting will likely be a credible source of information about the meeting attendees' feelings about the proposed park because

- A. the speakers' opinions will be unbiased.
- B. the speakers will be heard in their own words.
- C. television makes presentations more interesting.
- D. many journalists and citizens will be in the audience.

Question 11
Benchmark A
Spring 2005

Below are two points of view about a local landfill.

From a local citizens group:

"Unless the local landfill is closed down, the health of community residents will continue to suffer. The cost of finding a new landfill site is no longer the issue. Far more important are the proven health risks of toxic waste leakage."

From a county environmental safety official:

"While there is always some health risk from landfills, the risk from our local landfill has proven to be very small. However, capacity is becoming a problem. Whatever the cost, we will need to find a new landfill site within the next year or the health of our citizens will become a real concern."

Which statement about the two points of view presented above is accurate?

- A. The point of view of the county official includes data to support it.
- B. The point of view of the citizens group is composed of facts.
- C. Both points of view fail to mention their sources of information.
- D. Both points of view include support from reliable sources of information.

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Question 21
Benchmark A
Spring 2005

A newspaper prints an article on a controversial political issue.

This article could be considered biased if its author

- A. formed logical conclusions based on fact.
- B. contacted supporters of only one side.
- C. presented statistical information on the issue.
- D. included information that had not been published before.

Question 37
Benchmark A
Spring 2005

Governor Stone is running for re-election. In a letter to the editor of a local newspaper, a citizen writes:

The past four years have been devastating for our state. Governor Stone hasn't done anything but make speeches and raise money for his next political campaign. The average family has less today than it did four years ago.

In another letter, Governor Stone replies:

The economy of our state is stronger than it was four years ago. The average family income has increased three percent, after adjustments for inflation. School funding has increased 23 percent. The state repaved 5,000 miles of four-lane highway. If re-elected, you can count on me to continue to improve the quality of life in our state.

Governor Stone's statement could be reliable because

- A. it was printed in the newspaper.
- B. Governor Stone is an elected official.
- C. it contains information that can be verified.
- D. the original letter writer represents the average family.

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Question 3
Benchmark A
9th Practice 2004

Voters wishing to determine the reliability of a candidate's campaign advertisement should pay particular attention to

- A. the appropriateness of the campaign slogan.
- B. the number of accusations against the opponent.
- C. how well the candidate has supported his or her position with facts.
- D. how much money the candidate has spent on advertising.

Question 15
Benchmark A
9th Practice 2004

. Which source of information about candidates for public office probably would be free of bias?

- A. a pamphlet written by a political campaign worker
- B. a newspaper editorial stating the newspaper's position
- C. a reprint of the complete text of the last candidate debate
- D. a political advertisement paid for by a political action committee

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Question 18
Benchmark A
9th Practice 2004

A town is considering building a community swimming pool. At a public hearing on the issue, supporters and opponents of the pool make the following statements:

Supporters

A report by the U.S. Surgeon General emphasized the health benefits of swimming for both children and adults. A recent university study found that communities with adequate recreation facilities had lower rates of juvenile delinquency than communities that did not.

Opponents

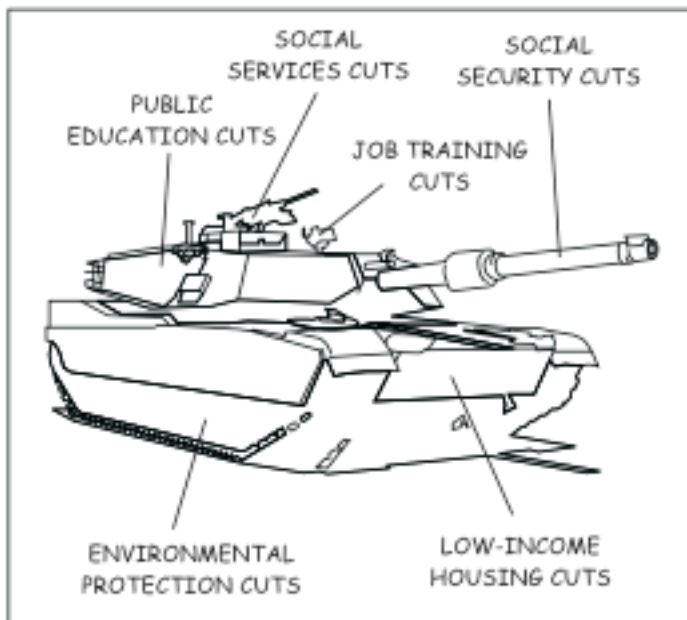
The pool is a bad idea for many reasons. There are better, more cost-effective ways to help kids than by building a pool. The town should be spending its money on more critical issues at this time. The pool would be a complete waste of the town's money.

- Which of these two statements includes credible sources of information that uphold the statement's position?
- Why does agreement with credible sources of information help make a statement believable?

Write your answer in the **Answer Document**. (2 points)

Question 21
Benchmark A
9th Practice 2004

Use the following cartoon to answer question 21.



21. The cartoon above could be described as

- A. an objective source of factual information.
- B. a biased criticism of increases in defense spending.
- C. a biased criticism of increases in the federal budget.
- D. a biased criticism of increases in spending on social programs.

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Question 29
Benchmark A
9th Practice 2004

Which would be the most credible primary source about conditions in Nazi concentration camps during the Holocaust?

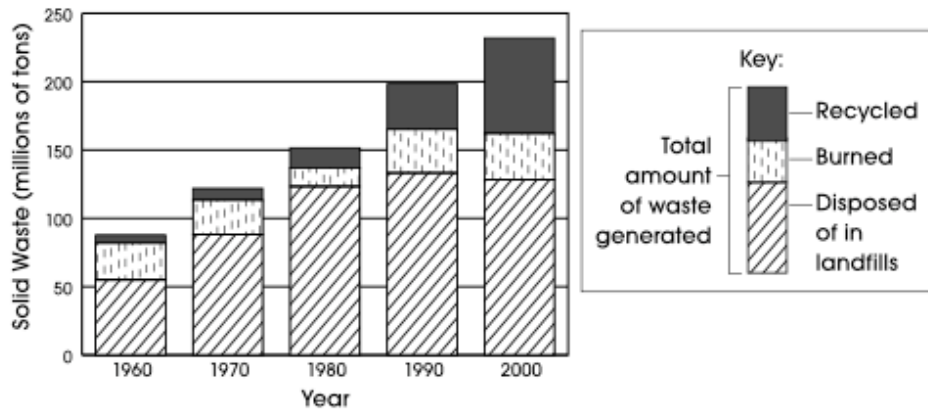
- A. a novel set in a concentration camp
- B. an account of camp life by a survivor of a concentration camp
- C. a 1942 movie produced by the German government depicting concentration camp activities
- D. a film about the camps directed by a person whose parents were in a concentration camp

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Question 38
Benchmark B
9th Practice 2004

Use the following graph to answer question 38.

Municipal Solid Waste Generated in the United States, 1960 – 2000



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

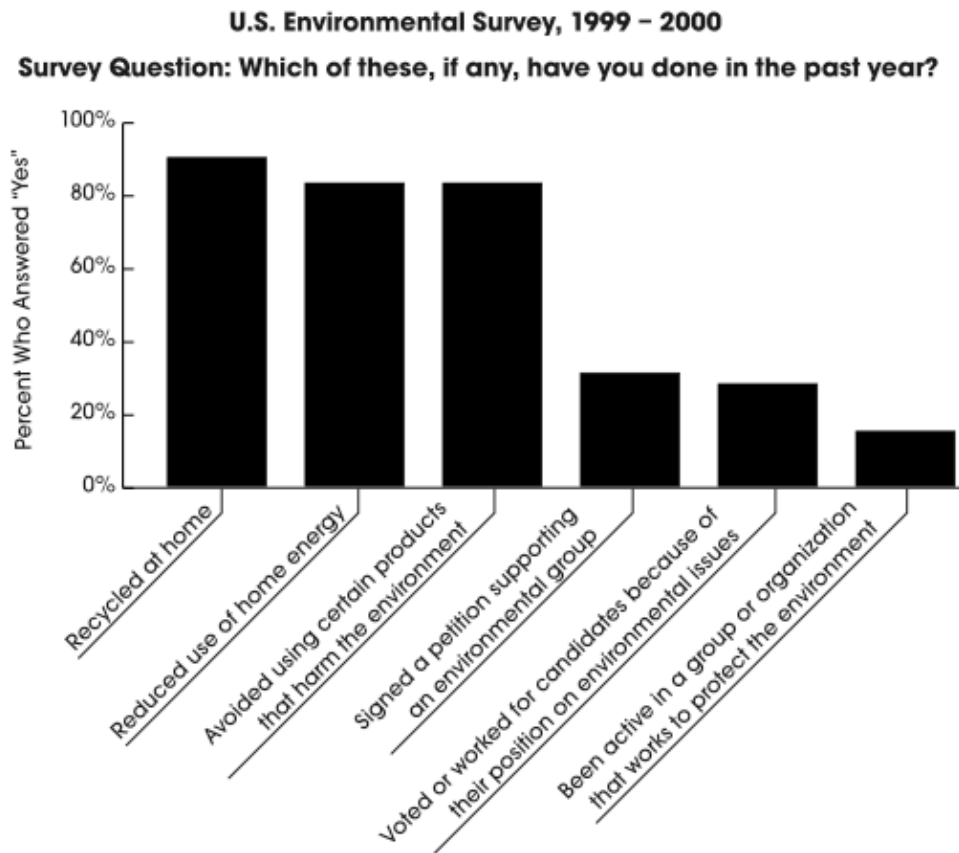
38. Which thesis is supported by the data in the above graph?

- A. Burning of solid waste has increased steadily since 1960.
- B. Burning of solid waste was responsible for climate change in the 1970s and 1980s.
- C. People in the United States generated less solid waste in the 1990s than in previous decades.
- D. Recycling programs were successful in reducing the growth in waste added to landfills from 1960 to 2000.

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Question 33
Benchmark B
9th Practice 2004

33. In April 2000, a survey was conducted in which people in the United States were asked what actions they had taken to solve environmental problems. The following graph shows the results of the survey.



The survey results support the thesis that during 1999 – 2000, the majority of people in the United States

- A. were unaware of the serious nature of problems facing the environment.
- B. were likely to join political parties that reflect their views on the environment.
- C. did not believe that their own actions have any impact on environmental problems.
- D. chose individual action over group action to solve environmental problems.

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Question 5
Benchmark B
9th Practice 2004

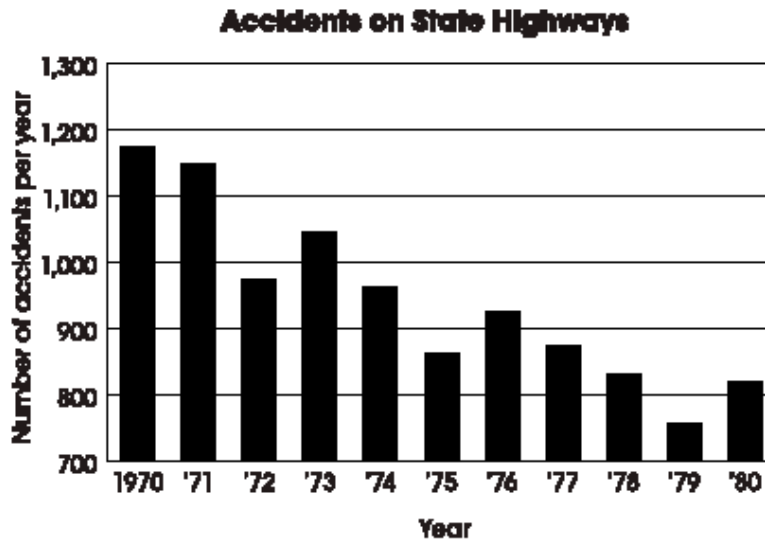
A citizen group wants the local government to approve funding for a new public park in the city's downtown area. What statement could help support the position that the downtown area is an appropriate location for the park?

- A. The city will have to pay to maintain the park.
- B. There are already several public parks in the city.
- C. Many residents have signed a petition supporting the site of the proposed park.
- D. The city could use the proposed location to build government offices.

10th Grade Social Studies Ohio Graduation Test
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Question 42
Benchmark B
Spring 2005

Use the following graph to answer question 42.



42. In 1970, a state government announced a program to reduce the number of state highway accidents to less than 1,000 per year within 10 years. In 1980, the state's governor asserted that the goal of the accident reduction program had been met.

Using the data in the graph above, support or refute the governor's assertion. Write your answer in the **Answer Document**. (2 points)

Question 44
Benchmark B
Spring 2005

The school board of a particular school district has proposed a school uniform policy. It believes that the policy will improve student behavior.

This thesis could be supported or refuted by

- A. data on student behavior in other school districts that do not have school uniform policies.
- B. data from other school districts comparing student behavior before and after similar uniform policies were put into effect.
- C. data from schools within the school district regarding students' views of the uniform policy.
- D. data from schools within the school district regarding current student behavior.

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Question 9
Benchmark B
Spring 2005

A local politician believes that allowing graffiti artists to paint on a designated wall in a city park would reduce illegal graffiti in other parts of the city.

Which statement would help support this thesis?

- A. Many people in the city do not approve of graffiti.
- B. Graffiti has appeared on buildings in many parts of the city.
- C. Illegal graffiti is not protected by the right to free speech.
- D. Similar programs have reduced illegal graffiti in other cities.

Question 15
Benchmark B
Spring 2005

Use the following chart to answer question 15.

Daily U.S. Newspaper Circulation, 1970 – 2000 (in millions)

Year	1970	1980	1990	2000
Circulation	62.1	62.2	62.3	55.8

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

15. The data above support the thesis that between 1990 and 2000
- A. the price of newspapers decreased steadily.
 - B. information in newspapers became more reliable.
 - C. people became more informed about world events.
 - D. people decreasingly relied on newspapers as a source of information.