Examples

NEW QUESTION TYPES FOR THE 2013 UKCAT

Verbal Reasoning

The seven major varietals of Alsace are Riesling, Gewürztraminer, Pinot Gris (formerly ‘Tokay’), Pinot Blanc, Pinot Noir (the only black grape), Sylvaner, and Muscat. Over the years, there has been a trend to replace plantings of Sylvaner (once the most common varietal) with Pinot Gris, Pinot Noir, and Riesling.

In terms of wine styles, almost all the wines are white except those made from Pinot Noir, which are light red or rosé.

A good quality sparkling wine, Crémant d’Alsace, is also made after the méthode champenoise, and accounts for about a fifth of the region’s total production. Grapes for Crémant d’Alsace are picked at the beginning of the harvest season, and permitted varietals include Pinot Blanc (aka Klevner), Pinot Gris, Pinot Noir, Riesling, and Chardonnay.

Finally, there are late harvest wines, which may be classified as either Vendange Tardive (‘Late Harvest’, similar to Auslese in Germany) or Séléction de Grains Nobles (‘Selection of Noble Berries’, similar to Beerenauslese in Germany and made from botrytised grapes). Only the four so-called ‘noble’ varietals, namely, Riesling, Gewürztraminer, Pinot Gris, and Muscat, are permitted for late harvest wines, whether Vendange Tardive or Séléction de Grains Nobles. Late harvest wines account for a very small fraction of total production, even in vintages that are favourable to late ripening and the development of noble rot. Vin de paille and eiswein are riper still, but made in even smaller quantities.
1. Which of the following can be reliably inferred?

A. Plantings of Pinot Gris, Pinot Noir, and Riesling have overtaken those of Sylvaner.
B. *Crémant d’Alsace* is a blend of five varietals.
C. Late harvest wines are all white wines.
D. White wines can be made from Pinot Noir.

2. From the information in the passage, which of the following is true?

A. There are seven grape varieties in Alsace.
B. *Crémant d’Alsace* accounts for a quarter of the region’s production.
C. Sylvaner is a permitted varietal for *Crémant d’Alsace*.
D. Less vin de Paille is produced than Vendange Tardive.

3. From the information in the passage, which of the following is least likely?

A. Grapes for *Crémant d’Alsace* have to be very ripe.
B. Late harvest wines are relatively expensive.
C. Vin de paille and eiswein are also late harvest wines.
D. Sylvaner is an inferior grape to Riesling.

4. From the information in the passage, late harvest wines are never:

A. Botrytized.
B. Made from Pinot Noir.
C. A blend of several varietals.
D. Single varietal wines.

**Answers appear at the end of this document.**
Abstract Reasoning Type 2

Which figure completes the series?

A

B

C

D

Answers appear at the end of this document
Abstract Reasoning Type 3

Answers appear at the end of this document
Abstract Reasoning Type 4

Which of the following shapes belongs to Set B?

A

B

C

D

Answers appear at the end of this document
Situational Judgement Test Question 1

Your clinical partner can’t attend a biochemistry lecture later this afternoon as she has an appointment at the dentist’s. She has asked you to sign the attendance register in her name, as students must attend 90% of lectures if they are to be admitted to the end-of-year exam.

How appropriate are each of the following responses in this situation

1. Sign the register in your clinical partner’s name, as a dental appointment is a valid reason for missing a lecture.

   A. A very appropriate thing to do.
   B. Appropriate, but not ideal.
   C. Inappropriate, but not awful.
   D. A very inappropriate thing to do.

2. Sign the register in your clinical partner’s name so that, in future, she might do the same for you.

   A. A very appropriate thing to do.
   B. Appropriate, but not ideal.
   C. Inappropriate, but not awful.
   D. A very inappropriate thing to do.

3. Sign the register in your clinical partner’s name on the grounds that the medical school’s rules are petty and ridiculous.

   A. A very appropriate thing to do.
   B. Appropriate, but not ideal.
   C. Inappropriate, but not awful.
   D. A very inappropriate thing to do.

4. Refuse to sign the register in your clinical partner’s name, underlining that this would be unethical.

   A. A very appropriate thing to do.
   B. Appropriate, but not ideal.
   C. Inappropriate, but not awful.
   D. A very inappropriate thing to do.
5. Discuss the ethics and possible consequences of falsifying a signature with your clinical partner, and help her to explore alternative solutions.

A. A very appropriate thing to do.
B. Appropriate, but not ideal.
C. Inappropriate, but not awful.
D. A very inappropriate thing to do.

6. Refuse to sign the register in your clinical partner’s name and bring up the matter with the academic tutor.

A. A very appropriate thing to do.
B. Appropriate, but not ideal.
C. Inappropriate, but not awful.
D. A very inappropriate thing to do.

Answers appear at the end of this document

Situational Judgement Test Question 2

You are a medical student interviewing a patient, when she discloses that she drinks two bottles of wine a day. She tells you not to tell the consultant, but you remember that alcohol can interact with the medication that she is taking. You mention this to her, but she insists that you keep quiet about her drinking.

When deciding whether or not to tell the consultant, how important is it for you to consider

1. The patient’s right to confidentiality.

A. Very important.
B. Important.
C. Of minor importance.
D. Not important at all.
2. The absolute amount of alcohol that the patient is drinking.
   A. Very important.
   B. Important.
   C. Of minor importance.
   D. Not important at all.

3. Whether or not the patient is actually taking her medication.
   A. Very important.
   B. Important.
   C. Of minor importance.
   D. Not important at all.

4. The nature, and possible consequences, of the interaction between alcohol and the patient’s medication.
   A. Very important.
   B. Important.
   C. Of minor importance.
   D. Not important at all.

5. The patient’s opinion of the consultant.
   A. Very important.
   B. Important.
   C. Of minor importance.
   D. Not important at all.

Answers appear at the end of this document

Situational Judgement Test Question 3

After having had a few beers, your flatmate tells you that his sister, who is studying at another medical school, once wrote an essay for her course in ethics, which he recently dug out and submitted as his own work.

How appropriate are each of the following responses in this situation
1. Discuss the issue with the ethics lecturer at the soonest opportunity.
   
   A. A very appropriate thing to do.
   B. Appropriate, but not ideal.
   C. Inappropriate, but not awful.
   D. A very inappropriate thing to do.

2. Discuss the issue with your flatmate on the following day, when he is sober.
   
   A. A very appropriate thing to do.
   B. Appropriate, but not ideal.
   C. Inappropriate, but not awful.
   D. A very inappropriate thing to do.

3. Do nothing and let it pass, as your flatmate was drunk at the time.
   
   A. A very appropriate thing to do.
   B. Appropriate, but not ideal.
   C. Inappropriate, but not awful.
   D. A very inappropriate thing to do.

4. Do nothing and let it pass, as it is none of your business.
   
   A. A very appropriate thing to do.
   B. Appropriate, but not ideal.
   C. Inappropriate, but not awful.
   D. A very inappropriate thing to do.

5. Remind your flatmate, when he is sober, of the implications and possible consequences of his behaviour.
   
   A. A very appropriate thing to do.
   B. Appropriate, but not ideal.
   C. Inappropriate, but not awful.
   D. A very inappropriate thing to do.

  **Answers appear at the end of this document**
Verbal Reasoning

1. C. The key here is not to be taken back by the use of unfamiliar foreign or specialist terms. The text does say that “over the years, there has been a trend to replace plantings of Sylvaner (once the most common varietal) with Pinot Gris, Pinot Noir, and Riesling”, but you cannot reliably infer that plantings of Pinot Gris, Pinot Noir, and Riesling have overtaken those of Sylvaner. Even though Sylvaner is in decline and is no longer the most common varietal, it could be that plantings of Sylvaner are (still) more important than those of Pinot Gris, Pinot Noir, and Riesling combined (A). The text says that permitted varietals for Crémant d’Alsace include Pinot Blanc, Pinot Gris, Pinot Noir, Riesling, and Chardonnay, but this need not mean that Crémant d’Alsace is necessarily or even mostly a blend of all five varietals. For example, it could be that most Crémant d’Alsace is 100% Chardonnay (B). The text says that “almost all the wines are white except those made from Pinot Noir, which are light red or rosé”. Although it may nonetheless be possible to make a white wine from Pinot Noir, you cannot reliably infer this from the text (D). What you can reliably infer is that late harvest wines are all white wines, since they can only be made from the four ‘noble varietals’ and not from Pinot Noir, which is the only varietal from which red and rosé wines are made. Therefore, the correct answer is C.

2. D. The text says that, “late harvest wines account for a very small fraction of total production, even in vintages that are favourable to late ripening and the development of noble rot.” It then goes on to say that “vin de paille and eiswein are also made, but in even smaller quantities.” According to the text, there are seven major varietals in Alsace, not seven varietals in total (A). Crémant d’Alsace accounts for one fifth of production, not one quarter (B). The grape varieties permitted for Crémant d’Alsace are Pinot Blanc, Pinot Gris, Pinot Noir, Riesling, and Chardonnay (C).

3. A. The text says that grapes for Crémant d’Alsace are picked at the beginning of the harvest season, suggesting that they are not very ripe. As late harvest wines are made in small quantities (even in good favourable vintages), they are likely to be relatively expensive (B). The text says that “vin de paille and eiswein are riper still”, suggesting that they are also late harvest wines (C). The text says that, “over the years, there has been a trend to replace plantings of Sylvaner (once the most common varietal) with Pinot Gris, Pinot Noir, and Riesling,” suggesting that Riesling is in fact a superior grape to Sylvaner (D).
4. **B.** The text clearly states that, “only the four so-called ‘noble’ varietals, namely, Riesling, Gewürztraminer, Pinot Gris, and Muscat, are permitted for late harvest wines”. On the other hand, we are told that Sélection de Grains Nobles (a style of late harvest wine) is made from botrytized grapes (A). There is nothing in the text to suggest that late harvest wines are either single varietal wines or a blend of several varietals, and in actual fact they can be either (C, D).

**Abstract Reasoning**

**Type 2**

There are two patterns here. In the first pattern, the smaller, peripherals shapes are rotating by 90 degrees clockwise each time, leaving only B and D as possible answers. In the second pattern, the larger, central shape is adding a side or angle each time, starting with a triangle, then a square, then a pentagon, then a hexagon. **This leaves only option D,** which features a 7-sided central shape.

**Type 3**

To arrive at the correct answer, you need to recognise that shapes with angles in the first set are replaced by shapes without angles in the second set, and vice versa. **Therefore, the correct answer is C.**

**Type 4**

All the examples in Set A contain items with no right angles. All the examples in Set B contain items with at least one right angle. The exact nature of the overall shape, the colour and the orientation show no consistent features of commonality.

Test shapes A, B and C have objects both with and without right angles and so aren’t Set A or Set B. **Test shape D has only right-angled figures and so belongs to Set B.**

**Situational Judgement**

**Question 1**

Answers: 1D, 2D, 3D, 4B, 5A, 6B
Discussion: Signing the register in someone else’s name is not only unethical, but could lend you and your clinical partner in a lot of trouble. No matter the circumstances, signing the register in someone else’s name is a very inappropriate thing to do. Refusing to sign, underlining that this would be unethical (Question 4) is appropriate but, ideally, you would also want to make your clinical partner understand why her request is unethical (Question 5). Bringing up the matter with the academic tutor prior to having had this discussion (Question 6) would be premature and possibly uncalled for. Ideally, you would seek to resolve the problem yourself before contacting the academic tutor.

**Question 2**
Answers: 1A, 2C, 3C, 4A, 5D

Discussion: The issue of confidentiality (Question 1) is at the heart of this matter, and so it is very important that you should consider it—this need not mean that you are not going to break confidentiality. The possible consequences of the interaction between alcohol and the patient’s medication (Question 4) are also very important: if the interaction is potentially fatal, there is a very strong case for breaking confidentiality. The amount of alcohol that the patient is drinking (Question 2) and whether or not she is compliant with her medication (Question 3) are relevant, but not so important in deciding whether to break confidentiality. The patient’s opinion of her consultant (Question 5) is unimportant, as this could be a matter of life or death.

**Question 3**
Answers: 1B, 2A, 3D, 4D, 5A

Discussion: You cannot simply let this matter pass, regardless of the circumstances (Questions 3 and 4). By passing off his sister’s essay as his own, your flatmate is not only damaging his learning, but also gaining an unfair advantage and setting a dangerous precedent—especially for a future medical practitioner. At the same time, to discuss the issue with the ethics lecturer at the soonest opportunity (Question 1) would be premature, and damage your relationship with your flatmate. What you ought to do, at least in the first instance, is to discuss the issue with your flatmate when he is sober (Question 2), establish the facts, remind him of the implications and possible consequences of his behaviour, and encourage him to deal with the problem himself (Question 5).