MCAT
Medical College
Admission Test
AAMC

MCAT Verbal Reasoning Skills

I. Comprehension

  A. Identify the Central concern or thesis of the passage.

  B. Identify the reasons or evidence offered in support of a thesis.

  C. Identify the background knowledge contained in the passage or question that is relevant to a particular interpretation.

  D. Determine, from context, the meaning of significant terminology or vocabulary used in the passage.

  E. Recognize an accurate paraphrase of complex information presented in the passage.

  F. Identify comparative relationships among ideas or pieces of information contained in the passage.

  G. Identify stated or unstated assumptions contained in the passage.

  H. Recognize appropriate questions of clarification.

II. Evaluation

  A. Judge the soundness of an argument or a step of reasoning presented in the passage.

  B. Judge the credibility of a source.

  C. Judge whether a conclusion follows necessarily from the reasons given in the passage.

  D. Appraise the strength of the evidence for a generalization, conclusion, or claim.

  E. Distinguish between supported and unsupported claims

  F. Judge the relevance of information to an argument or claim.

III. Application

  A. Predict a result on the basis of passage content and specific facts about a hypothetical situation.

  B. Use given information to solve a specified problem.

    C. Identify the probable cause of a particular event or result based on information presented.

    D. Determine the implications of conclusions or results for real-world situations

    E. Recognize the scope of application of hypothesis, explanations, and conclusions.

    F. Identify a general theory or model based on given information.

IV: Incorporation of new information

    A. Judge the bearing of new evidence on conclusions presented in the passage.

    B. Recognize methods or results that would challenge hypotheses, models, or theories given in the passage.

    C. Determine how a conclusion from the passage can be modified to be made consistent with additional information.

    D. Recognize plausible alternative hypotheses or solutions.