

**Critical thinking in academic research, BA2, repeat credit-test, 27.06.2014.**

**Circle the best answer**

1. “While your findings are certainly curious, they remain at this stage no more than that. That is to say, you have not attempted to draw out the general conclusions for linguistic theory”. This comment is about the contrast between:

- (a) theory and practice,
- (b) explaining and defining,
- (c) data and facts,
- (d) data and theory,
- (e) erring and inferring.

2. “Cheap wines are good because they are good and cheap” is explaining:

- (a) ignotum per ignotum,
- (b) idem per idem,
- (c) ad personam,
- (d) per genus,
- (e) tertium non datur.

3. The choice between *Olive trees live long* therefore *there's something good in them* versus *There's something good in olive trees* therefore *they live long* is mostly concerned with:

- (a) definition,
- (b) causation,
- (c) teleology,
- (d) description,
- (e) justification.

4. This syllogism: *Socrates is a man* AND *Socrates is mortal* THEREFORE *All men are mortal* is:

- (a) logically fallacious,
- (b) logically correct,
- (c) pragmatically fallacious,
- (d) causally correct,
- (e) correlationally fallacious.

5. The so-called ‘normal’ curve has the shape it has because:

- (a) there's always a sharp rise from left to right in any distribution,
- (b) there's always a dip in the middle of any distribution,
- (c) it relates to algebraic distribution,
- (d) it is best expressed as a tangent,
- (e) most observations are always average.

6. “*Silent* and *listen* are anagrams!”. From the critical thinking standpoint the best answer to this is:

- (a) Cute!,
- (b) They must be related semantically,
- (c) They are opposites of each other,
- (d) So what?
- (e) This must be about sound-symbolism.

7. The metaphor often invoked in the discussion of *truth* is:

- (a) travel,
- (b) cave,
- (c) bath-tub,
- (d) heart,
- (e) time.

8. The word *thing* should be avoided in academic writing because it is:

- (a) too concrete,
- (b) hard to pronounce for non-natives,
- (c) too short and simple,
- (d) imprecise,
- (e) for other reasons.

9. Numerology is a branch of:

- (a) algebra,
- (b) geometry,
- (c) arithmetic,
- (d) computer science,
- (e) pseudoscience.

**Best answers: 1d, 2b, 3b, 4a, 5e, 6d, 7b, 8d, 9e.**