



GMAT AWA Template and Sample Essays



India's Fastest Growing GMAT Prep Company!

Creating a GMAT AWA Template

- **Paragraph 1: Introduction**
 - Reiterate what is given in the argument – premises and conclusion.
 - Make a statement about the argument being flawed
- **Paragraph 2:** State the first reason why the argument is not well-reasoned. Give some illustration/evidence/examples to support your claim
- **Paragraph 3:** Similarly, state the second reason why the argument is flawed, with examples. State what would help make the argument better. More information? A different use of available information?
- **Paragraph 4:** Conclusion. Summarize your line of thought in 1 or 2 lines.

AWA Sample Essay 1

Read the statement(s) and the instructions that follow, and then make any notes that will help you plan your response. Begin typing your response in the box at the bottom of the screen.

The following appeared in the editorial section of a local newspaper:

“The inflow of immigrant workers into our community has put a downward pressure on wages. In fact, the average compensation of unskilled labor in our city has declined by nearly 10% over the past 5 years. Therefore, to protect our local economy, it is essential to impose a moratorium on further immigration.”

Discuss how well reasoned you find this argument. Point out flaws in the argument's logic and analyze the argument's underlying assumptions. In addition, evaluate how supporting evidence is used and what evidence might counter the argument's conclusion. You may also discuss what additional evidence could be used to strengthen the argument or what changes would make the argument more logically sound.

AWA Sample Essay 1

Response:

In the passage, the author argues that it is essential to impose a moratorium on further immigration in order to protect the local economy. Support for this claim takes the form, primarily, of an assumption that immigration has put a downward pressure on the wages, especially for unskilled labor. On deeper analysis of the subject at hand, it becomes apparent that certain relevant aspects have not been taken into account, leading to a number of flaws.

One such flaw is that the author is opposed to immigration of all types, when it is clearly stated in the passage that the problem is with the immigration of workers in the community. The passage does not indicate any other type of immigration as a problem. There can be a possibility that certain types of immigrants were actually helping the economy in some manner. For instance, immigrants who set up new businesses or provide employment to locals. In order to strengthen the argument, the author should also specify some information about other types of immigrants.

(Continued)

AWA Sample Essay 1

A horizontal bar with a light green segment on the left and a dark green segment on the right.

Another flaw, which significantly weakens the argument, is the assumption that reduced average compensation of unskilled labor will have a negative impact on the economy. It is possible that these wages were very high previously because of the scarcity of unskilled labor in the economy and immigration actually helped the local businesses to grow by earning more profit through reduced labor wages. To overcome such a flaw, the passage should reveal some more information on how the reduced compensation will affect the economy.

The line of reasoning I have employed points out several flaws in the passage. On closer examination of the matter, I conclude that the above passage is not logically sound.

AWA Sample Essay 2

Read the statement(s) and the instructions that follow, and then make any notes that will help you plan your response. Begin typing your response in the box at the bottom of the screen.

The following appeared in a magazine article on trends and lifestyles:

“In general, people are not as concerned as they were a decade ago about regulating their intake of red meat and fatty cheeses. Walk into the Heart’s Delight, a store that started selling organic fruits and vegetables and whole-grain flours in the 1960’s, and you will also find a wide selection of cheeses made with high butterfat content. Next door, the owners of the Good Earth Café, an old vegetarian restaurant, are still making a modest living, but the owners of the new House of Beef across the street are millionaires.”

Discuss how well reasoned you find this argument. Point out flaws in the argument's logic and analyze the argument's underlying assumptions. In addition, evaluate how supporting evidence is used and what evidence might counter the argument's conclusion. You may also discuss what additional evidence could be used to strengthen the argument or what changes would make the argument more logically sound.

AWA Sample Essay 2

Response:

The author has arrived at a conclusion that people are as concerned as they were a decade ago about regulating their intake of red meat and fatty cheeses. This conclusion is based on certain assumptions that may or may not be true, given the data provided.

Firstly, it is given that a store that started selling organic fruits and vegetables and whole grain flours in the 1960s has also included a wide selection of cheeses with high butter content. This fact cannot be attributed to the reasoning that people have become less health conscious. Nothing is said in the argument regarding when the store started to include cheeses in its saleable products. Did this happen in the last 10 years or earlier? Even though there are wide varieties of cheeses available in the store, nothing is mentioned about the sales volume of high butter content cheese products at the particular store. There is inadequate information given for any conclusion to be drawn.

(Continued)

AWA Sample Essay 2

Secondly, modest sales at a nearby vegetarian cafe doesn't mean that people do not prefer vegetarian food. The decline may be because of other reasons such as inferior quality of food, competition from other vegetarian cafes which are better in terms of food quality, service, the variety of food offered in their menu etc.

Thirdly, it is only mentioned that the House of Beef was newly started and that its owners are millionaires. This fact cannot lead to the conclusion that people are consuming more quantities of red meat. The owners may have already been rich while starting the shop or are rich because other businesses they own are flourishing.

Altogether this argument is open to questioning on multiple counts.
