

GMAT Integrated Reasoning Practice Paper 13

Article 1

From a local Southern California newspaper.

Typically, fewer people vote in local elections than in national ones, but participation can vary widely by state. A new poll has found that more people in California vote in local elections than do people in Nevada, Arizona, and New Mexico combined. This has been attributed to the high number of independent voters in our state, as well as the high enthusiasm for local elections. City councilman Brad Zellman was pleased to see such a high turnout at the recent city council election. "It's a unique opportunity for local citizens' votes to carry more weight than they would in big national elections, and it's great to have so much participation in these smaller campaigns state-wide."

Article 2

Editorial from the Opinion section of a competing newspaper.

The recent city council election has seen many a politico claim that the increased voter turnout is due to local citizens wanting to be a part of an election where their vote is proportionally more important. However, it is incorrect to suggest that voting in local elections somehow means your vote "counts more." True, local politicians make decisions that affect day-to-day operations of our cities, but national politicians make decisions that ultimately affect the outcomes of our lives. When you vote for national figures in larger elections, your vote matters more because you are voting for people who will ultimately have a bigger impact on your life long-term.

Article 3

Results from recent California elections.

City councilman elections: 13,000 local votes cast (22% of the eligible population voted), 80% of citizens who voted were polled as “extremely satisfied” with the results.
District representative elections: 1.9 million votes cast (19% of the eligible population voted), 67% of citizens who voted were polled as “extremely satisfied” with the results.

Question 1

Consider each of the following statements. Does the information in the articles support the inference as stated?

Californians are more concerned with politics than are people in Nevada, Arizona, and New Mexico.

- ☒ A Yes
- ☐ B No

Question 2

Consider each of the following statements. Does the information in the articles support the inference as stated?

The “weight” Zellman describes refers to the scale of political decision-making.

- ☒ A Yes
- ☐ B No

Question 3

Consider each of the following statements. Does the information in the articles support the inference as stated?

Local citizens are more satisfied by smaller elections than by larger ones.

- ☒ A Yes
- ☐ B No

Question 4

Consider each of the following statements. Does the information in the articles support the inference as stated?

Local politicians have more short-term impact on their constituents' lives.

A Yes

B No

Question 5

In the recent election, if everyone who voted in the city councilman elections also voted in the district representative elections, how many of those voters were "extremely satisfied" with both elections?

A Less than 7,000.

B Approximately 10,400.

C More than 1.3 million.

D It cannot be determined.