

## CRITICAL VERBAL REASONING PRACTICE TEST 4

---

Recently it has been claimed that the anti climate-change movement has turned into a large-scale political effort that operates across the UK and the US. Politicians and political commentators have debated whether global warming is actually occurring - despite the scientific evidence proving this. Some have even denied that there is a link to carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere. Any attempt to downplay or negate the scientific consensus on global warming and the link to human activity is an example of climate change denial. The *anti-climate change movement* is those individuals or groups who refuse to accept, or legislate to prevent, the damage done to our planet. The denial of such scientific facts is pseudoscientific; taking the rhetorical form of legitimate scientific debate, but ignoring the actual principles of that debate.

Throughout history individual wealth has been used to purchase political power. One recent investigation of secret funding operations found that it was mainly billionaires, who supported the anti-climate change agenda. Donations being made through a convoluted system of trusts to guarantee anonymity. In fact, there are now thought to be almost 100 advocacy groups, think tanks and industry associations whose mission is to block the agreement of any governmental action on climate change. Geoffrey Siddons, Climate Change Advisor from one such body, commented on behalf of the Greentree Trust that, *Greentree considers carbon dioxide to be a greenhouse gas. We also believe that man-made emissions will cause a little warming. However, we are still opposed to mandatory reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.*

The Best Choice Fund is considered by many to be the leading destination for many of these underground donations that are then used to fund groups opposed to climate action. Although the Fund's senior Director, Geoffrey Siddons denied that it took a position on any issue advocated by its grantees. Janette Cooper, Head of PR for the Allied Group (an influential think tank based in North London) was slightly more forthcoming in her response, explaining somewhat surprisingly that it can be *"extremely challenging"* to separate funds designated strictly for climate-change work from overall budgets. Janette went on to stress that *"...each Allied Group researcher works independently and will be available for comment on their individual findings. Although many of our past researchers have moved on to new projects in other organisations"*.

- 1) What is it about Janette Cross's response that makes the passage's author "somewhat surprised"?
- a) It's unexpectedness.
  - b) It's acute perception.
  - c) It's financial inaccuracy.
  - d) It's dubious nature.
  - e) The inappropriate context.

- 2) Which one of the following opinions form part of the anti-climate change agenda (described in the passage)?
- a) Mandatory reductions in greenhouse gas emissions could work.
  - b) There is a clear link between global warming and climate change.
  - c) Government agreements on climate change reform need to be encouraged.
  - d) Donor names should be kept anonymous.
  - e) Climate change is a misnomer.
- 3) What does the author mean by the term *pseudoscience*?
- a) Incorrect
  - b) Artistic
  - c) Unreal
  - d) Nonsensical
  - e) Misleading
- 4) Which of the following statements is false?
- (a) Some political debate have sent mixed messages of the effects of climate change.
  - (b) There is scientific agreement that global warming exists.
  - (c) The anti-climate change movement accepts anonymous donations.
  - (d) The Best Choice Fund is a corrupt organisation.
  - (e) There has been insufficient global efforts to turnaround the effects of climate change.
- 5) Which of the following is the most accurate summary of the first paragraph?
- a) English and American democracies have been distorted by climate change.
  - b) The climate-change counter movement is one of the most dominant political forces.
  - c) The anti climate change agenda has been hijacked by UK and US politicians.
  - d) Well-paid writers and publicity agents are behind many anti climate change headlines.
  - e) Unsurprisingly there is some political coercion behind the anti-climate change movement.
- 6) The passage includes which one or more of the following facts?
- a) North London's Allied Group sponsors researchers.
  - b) Geoffrey Siddons works for the Allied Group.
  - c) Authors of anti-climate change books often do not write about their own beliefs.
  - d) Anti-climate change advocates do not consider carbon dioxide a greenhouse gas.
  - e) The numbers of anti-climate change organisations now numbers in the three figures.
- 7) Some members of which group are identified in the passage as opponents of climate change policy?
- a) Activists
  - b) Billionaires
  - c) Conservative corporations
  - d) Unaccountable organisations deciding what our politics should be.
  - e) Top-tier conservative think tanks