

Loophole Flaw Challenge Explanation 19.4.3

First, translate.

So the number of calories in a gram of sugar and fructose are the same, even though fructose is the natural sugar in fruit and vegetables. Therefore, a piece of candy made from sugar has no more calories than a piece of fruit with the same amount of fructose.

This stimulus is just one of the many rationalizations we tell ourselves in our quest to eat candy. Yeah, fructose and sugar have the same number of calories per gram, but we're assuming that candy and fruit don't have any of other calorie-containing ingredients besides sugar and fructose. There could be a ton of extra stuff in the candy that could make it have more calories than the fruit. Just because the fructose and sugar calories are the same doesn't mean the overall calories are the same.

LOOPHOLE

What if there are other things besides sugar in the candy that contain calories?

Now we see it's a Classic Flaw question stem. We didn't identify a classic flaw in our CLIR, but that's OK because our Loophole will likely lead us to the correct answer anyway. Let's go find our Loophole in the answer choices.

- A)** *So it fails to consider that fruit has non-caloric ingredients that candy doesn't. The conclusion is about the number of calories in fruit vs. candy, so we really don't care about anything non-caloric. **A** isn't what's wrong with the argument. **A** is not provable.*
- B)** *So it assumes that all candy has the same amount of sugar. No, the conclusion is about a given piece of candy with the same amount of sugar as a given piece of fruit. It has nothing to do with **all** candy. **B** is not what's wrong with the argument.*
- C)** *So it confuses one kind of sugar with another. No, it's differentiating two kinds of sugars and saying they share one quality in common, the calories per gram that they contain. **C** doesn't confront the error in the stimulus' reasoning, that there could be other calorie-containing ingredients in candy. It's not provable.*
- D)** *So it assumes the conclusion that fruit and candy have the same calories. Nope, this is not a Circular Reasoning stimulus. The premises do not assume the truth of the conclusion; there's a different issue here. **D** is not provable.*
- E)** *So it overlooks that sugar might not be the only calorie-containing ingredient in candy. Awesome! We finally found our Loophole in the answer choices. **E** is exactly what's wrong with the argument. It's provable.*

E is the correct answer. It is the only answer choice that describes how the argument went wrong.