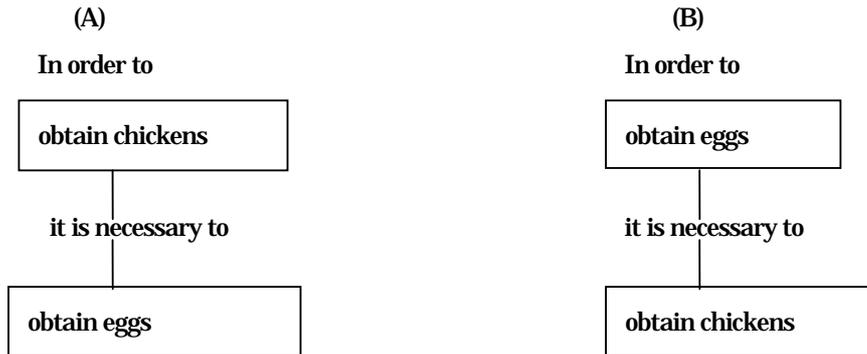### Episode 3   PMD Method can clarify "chicken or egg?" relationships
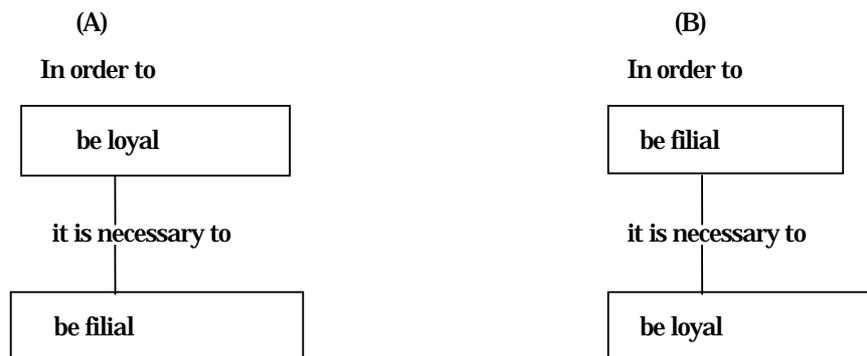
   When arguments go round and round in circles, we can say it has become a chicken or egg problem. Such problems arise when it is unclear what comes first in a causal relationship. Let us try to clarify such relations by constructing a PMD. We have

(A)	(B)
In order to	In order to

obtain chickens	obtain eggs
it is necessary to	it is necessary to
obtain eggs	obtain chickens

Comparing the two, (B) is more natural. If we have a hen and rooster, we can expect to obtain eggs, but we need additional chickens or incubators to obtain chicks from eggs. Therefore, (B) is the desired answer, provided "obtain chickens" is rewritten as "obtain hens and roosters."

(Note 1) From the above, we see that the conventional way of posing the problem is ambiguous, whether the predecessor is in terms of procedure or purpose. The PMD makes clear which is expressed. Let us look at another example.(See Note 2).
   Let us consider the old dilemma "To be loyal means to be unfilial, and to be filial means to be disloyal" using a PMD. We compare

(A)	(B)
In order to	In order to

be loyal	be filial
it is necessary to	it is necessary to
be filial	be loyal

   We see that (A) does not make sense. We also understand that being loyal and socially accepted is a

means of being filial. Therefore, being filial is more important, and loyalty can be ignored if the need should arise.

(Note 2) With PMD, we see that the conventional, "what is the most important" has the following 4 meanings:

(1) as an abstract higher level purpose;

(2) as the desired result;

(3) as an entrance through which to proceed;

(4) as the weightiest element in the desired result.

Answer to Problem (Episode 2): (B)

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