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MART120

Homework 2 – Mindset

My result from the mindset quiz was a 49. This suggests that I have a strong growth mindset. While I do think that’s relatively true in this stage of my life, I’m not sure I find this test to be particularly valuable. Many of my answers could vary drastically if there was slightly more context to the question, and at least one of them was just an outright bad question. The question, “Mathematics is much easier to learn if you are male or you come from a culture that values it” **is particularly egregious. The difference between gender is a wildly different question than the difference in cultural appreciation for math. While I don’t believe gender has any affect on one’s ability to learn mathematics, the cultural difference would suggest a vastly different environment for learning. If a culture were to value mathematics very strongly, they would be providing far more opportunities for learning it, they would provide higher quality instruction, and they would allow for the time necessary for someone to accomplish their goals for learning. By contrast, a culture who thought math was next to useless would hardly provide any opportunities, resources, or time for learning math, and the student would struggle because of that.**

**All of this is to say I didn’t find this test to affect my mindset in one way or the other. A rather fixed mindset response, antithetical to my quiz results. However, I will say that I have noticed my mindset has become more open as I have aged. I’m a different person than I was a decade ago, and I believe that is because I have developed more of a growth mindset over time. Had I allowed myself to remain with a fixed mindset for all of my twenties, I know I would have experienced far fewer things, developed relationships with far fewer people, and I would certainly have not been a particularly entertaining person to be around.**