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CRITICAL THINKING

ASSIGNMENT

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**CASE 1**

1)How strong is the evidence provided by Mrs. Short? Does it count as a corroboration for Mr. Green’s accusation?

* It’s not considered strong claim because she haven’t seen Mr. White actually assaulting Mr. Green it’s not a direct evidence.
* It is also considered weak evidence because nothing is being informed about her in detail or about her reputation in society whether she could be trusted or not.
* And the way she delivered her information its looks like she is being biased may be because she is neighbors with him or acquaintance.
* And about the parking ticket she just thought that it was there she is not definitely sure about it.
* And also Mrs. shorts evidence is provided as corroboration or matches only in the awareness that it is same in opinion with Mr. Green’s claim or accusation.
* Therefore, her evidence is uncertain and unclear.

2)How reliable is the restaurant owners witness?

* Restaurant owner he is reliable or not it’s still questionable based on his quality of performance.
* Whether he can be trusted or not as a person because we are told that he is old friend and business partners with Mr. White.
* It’s important to see that he don’t have any vested interest and also keep note that he don’t have any other reason to make such a claim.
* And it can be possible that he just looking for pros and cons of the situation. If yes then that owner may not be telling the truth like for example trying to save his friendship or may be trying to help his friend plus business partner.
* So, we have to keep all this thing’s in mind before considering that he is reliable witness or not.
* As you can see being friends with Mr. White and old business partner’s he is not a reliable witness.

3)What problems are there with Mr. Long’s evidence?

* First we have to keep in mind that he is not friends or acquaintance with any of the parties involved in this situation like Mr. Green, Mr. White or the owner of the restaurant.
* And also notice that he was no where in picture before but only came forward when Sunday papers had printed stories of Mr. White being arrested and getting out of the same white car at a friend’s wedding with this you get to know one thing that he was not firm or certain about his statement.
* Or it can also be possible that he didn’t have faith in himself that whether what he has seen is actually correct or not or that he will be involve in this case too of him being not certain about his statement or verdict.it can be possible but we can’t say it’s true or false.
* Even if Mr. Long has seen his car parked outside his house can be considered as evidence but there are more chances of his statement being not reliable than reliable.
* For example, some facts or data can be used to support certain facts or certain verdict but you cannot just simply say it’s true because there can be other possibilities too.
* So, with this we get idea that his claims are unreliable.

4)Where would you look for evidence if you were investigating the case?

* It would be as simple as that because at one point if you consider Mrs. Shorts evidence you can look forward to it for example:
* If Mrs. Short being the person living just below Mrs. Shorts flat it is possible, she would have noticed certain things which can be considered at one point and also her description about Mr. White arriving by a car at the house on Saturday and later when she went out to shop she noticed the car again and also thought about seeing a parking ticket (which can be considered at one point).
* So, when the investigation was being carried out the police or the people investigating the case would have noticed and found out about the parking ticket because most of the times there are records kept about thing’s they would found out the date and time of the parking ticket being issued and all.
* If this was proved right than it would also prove that Mr. White and the Owner of the restaurant were lying from start.
* And with this both of them (Mr. White & Restaurant’s Owner) would be questioned that how it is possible to find a parking ticket near Mr. Green’s house. (if it was planned by someone else and robbed his car and done the deed than there would be him registering about it and all if that was possible so there would be further investigation about that but apart from that as it’s not mentioned in the case this would be in question for the time being.)
* This would be an indisputable evidence or proof.

**CASE 2**

Q1) Assuming it has been fairly represented by the author, decide how credible is the testimony given by each of the following.

* **Dahlia -**

Reputation: According to the special status of Dahlia in society of being the lead singer in their band and there is no other accusation against her in past or present showing her bad image in society as per the report this says that she is a good member of the society with status in the community(even if no one’s occupation or rank is guarantee of credibility but you can consider it plausible).

* **Sandra Berrelson-**

Corroboration: Sandra’s proof and all her multiple reasons support and endorse one another to support her particular claim (but you cannot directly say whether it’s true or false) for example: they being in the same college, the college organizing a charity concert, old photograph and album having the picture of Maggie and Sandra to which even Dahlia agrees in her may be statement of sharing a stage when in college and the handwritten guitar chords in her scrapbook.(so all of these claims have some amount of credibility in them)

* **Paco-**

Vested Interest: it can be possible that Paco is looking for his vested interest in all this situation being the manager of the Loose String Band he will try to save the lead member of the band one of the reasons can be because of her popular songs which brings profit to him being the manager so it seems plausible that he has his actual interest and also the way he describes about plagiarism term and the way he is using his tone (*about Barrelson women’s not been the first and won’t be the last*)it shows that he was being prejudice against Sandra. So, he is questionable and not so credible person to rely on.

* **Jon Rudenko-**

Expertise: As he is an experience person in his field of work and also an expertise so he is good and reliable source to be consider as credible. He must also be aware that being expert and experienced that if he does any fallacy then his job will be at risk. He also has good reasons for example: (chord sequence in Sandra’s scrapbook would fit the melody line of *if you were sorry* but he also says that although it would not be impossible for the same chords to fit two different tunes….). It is reasonable to believe his statement because he is reputable source and also it is plausible that his source is greater than it is from a disreputable one.(another point to be kept in mind that no one’s occupation or rank is guarantee of credibility but as we said we can’t say directly whether it’s true or false) he can be consider as credible for this based on his experience and expertise.

Q2) Identify and assess the pieces of circumstantial evidence reported in the article.

* The information we receive about the two songs and the data including the chords that can be used to support certain facts or certain verdicts. The most important thing is the fact themselves the data signified and how much u really get to infer from it in this particular case study.
* For example, the information we receive about the two songs and the data including the chords the photograph album having the group picture of the college band.
* The most important thing the fact themselves the data signified and how much you really get to infer from it. For example, in these two songs how they were written, when they were written, where and when they were pen down and how they match or are they similar with one another in any way.
* This shows us the circumstantial evidence reported in the article showing the differences between them how reliable the evidence can be.

Q3) As a source of information, how reliable do you consider Jeremy Iron’s article to be in it’s reputing of the dispute? On what grounds might someone question its reliability?

* As we can see Jeremy Irons the reporter she is actually listening to all the people involve in the case or has come forward to give their testimony. Everything she is providing as evidence is not a direct form of evidence.
* The people she has interviewed and their answers to the questions providing the evidence which is an indirect form of evidence or hearsay evidence. Also, in some situation she is trying to accuse her wrong which is not proven or convicted yet. For example, she is accusing Dahlia with her words that *she has cashed in big time on her much publicized*… and further also says that *so called charity visits to developing country...* which may not be sure yet because it’s not proven.
* Even if she is accused of being stolen a song doesn’t mean whatever she has done in the past for good cause like charity is fake or to hide her wrong doings. So this shows how biased the reporter is being even if the accusation might be true but the harsh words or the tone the reporter uses shows that she cannot be consider as reliable.
* And if you go to see the other way round she is actually giving all the evidence concerned with the case for example the content in Sandra Berrelson’s scrapbook and her handwritten song itself which cannot be neglected too as its very important as part of evidence.
* These are the all the things we need to keep in mind when deciding how reliable her report is or how reliable her report is about the disputes pointed out in the article or whether the author is having her actual interest or he is just looking for pros and cons. If yes then the person might not be telling the truth. So, all this thing’s we have to keep in mind while deciding how reliable is Jeremy’s article or report.

Q4) Imagine you are an informal jury considering the evidence contained in the article. What would your verdict be, and why?

* Assuming that it has been fairly represent in the Article jury would considered first that Jon Rudenko how fair and neutral he is or is he judgemental perhaps even being biased but as you see professor Jon Rudenko has no connection with any of the parties involve here as he is an independent source and also an expertise so his statement will be taken into consideration.(it is also considered that he is having a high level of possibility of being a reliable source)
* Detailed examination will be done on the elements like for example, both the songs and chords.
* The things to be taken into consideration are the separate claims made by Dahlia and professor are claims themselves.
* And also, the both of their reputation in the society how good they are as member of the society, expertise, whether they are independent sources or neutrality of both the sources as we have seen all of this seems plausible.
* The ability to have seen what is being claimed for example, Dahlia says that she has written *If You Were Sorry* after looking at the hardship and suffering of people in Africa….and about Professor Jon Rudenko saying that “although it would not be impossible for the same chords to fit two quiet different tunes. And also asked to estimate the odds……, he said: upwards of twenty to one. Not huge. it’s quite a common sequence in popular music.” So, the simple form of corroboration is agreement between independent sources just like Dahlia and professor saying that there can be similarities between chords because as you can see how advance is our today’s world so it’s quite common.
* Absence of vested interest (like motive of both of them saying one thing or another.
* Also corroboration is important when there is agreement between different sources(if u see in case of Sandra(unknown school teacher) everything she is saying and presenting as evidence there is no strong grounds to support her claim that whatever she is saying is credible enough(it can also be possible that she is using all this old memories because of some past old grudge from college she has against Dahlia and now she might have felt it’s the right time which can be possible) and to support her if you take the reporter Jeremy’s words into consideration even she is not a reliable source because all she giving is hearsay evidence and not direct evidence which cannot be considered reliable again).
* With all this we would come to decision that Dahlia is not guilty.

Q5) Assess the language use by the author Jeremy Irons. Do you consider it to be fair and neutral report, or judgemental, perhaps even biased? What evidence is there, if any, of partiality towards one side or the other?

* The evidence cannot be taken seriously at all. It is a typical case of hearsay evidence: she heard all of them when she interviewed them. We don’t have any other means of knowing if these are the exact words used by them, or were the Author’s colorful way of representing them.
* Besides even if they are exactly the words of the people involved in the case or were interviewed we don’t really know how far they went or prepared to go.
* If she was fond of Dahlia the lead band singer, she would hardly reply so strong imply that her most famous song is not even hers to sing.
* This shows that she is being partial towards Dahlia and trying to show her dislike towards her by using offensive words in her article against her for example, the reporter state’s that Dahlia has cashed in big time with her so called charity for developing countries last year which is not event proven yet.
* This makes her less reliable person as her neutrality is in question because of her verbally trying to show her dislikes towards the lead singer Dahlia.
* It is plausible that whatever she says is out not to count for much as evidence of guilty in any enquiry.