

MBA

MBA Fastrack 2025

Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension

DPP: 3

Grounds of eliminating incorrect answer choices

Direction (1 - 5) Read the following passage and answer the given questions.

Countless legal standards ask what the 'reasonable person' would do. But who is this person? The reasonable person is not just the average person. That's easily seen. Sometimes, average people do unreasonable things. This insight has led theorists to propose the reasonable person as some 'ideal person', such as the virtuous person, the person who achieves the best consequences, or the person who acts in accord with moral duty.

But this is all too quick. The reasonable person isn't just the average person, but neither is it simply the ideal person. Instead, the 'reasonable person' represents someone who is both common and good.

The reasonable person is often associated with the law of accidents. To determine whether someone is legally responsible for causing an injury, courts apply a test of 'reasonable care'. Did the person causing the injury act with the care of a reasonable person? But reasonableness sets countless other legal standards: was a killing reasonably provoked? Would advertisements have misled a reasonable consumer? Was a contract offer accepted in a reasonable time? Was a criminal trial reasonably delayed? Reasonableness appears within the law of both the United States and the United Kingdom as well as that of Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Egypt, Hong Kong, India, Russia and Singapore.

Theorists often remark that the reasonable person is not the average person. As the

American legal philosopher Peter Westen puts it:

Reasonableness is not an empirical or statistical measure of how average members of the public think, feel, or behave ... Rather, reasonableness is a normative measure of ways in which it is right for persons to think, feel, or behave ...

The fact that a reasonable person can't be an average person inspires 'ideal' theories of the reasonable person. The UK's Supreme Court elaborates this view, on which facts about average people are entirely irrelevant.

Evidence about ordinary people is 'beside the point. The behaviour of the reasonable man is not established by the evidence of witness, but by the application of a legal standard by the court.' On this view, the reasonable person is some 'ideal' person. As the UK Supreme Court observed, it is 'the anthropomorphic conception of justice ... the court itself'.

Of course, often 'the court itself' reflects the judgment of ordinary jurors. Perhaps surprisingly, the question of how ordinary people judge reasonableness is largely neglected. When people evaluate a standard of 'reasonable care', it might be that they're considering the common level of care or a good level of care. Or perhaps they're considering both.

Q1 The main idea discussed in the passage is:

(A) Legal systems around the world define reasonableness differently based on


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culture

- (B) The concept of the 'reasonable person' blends both common behavior and moral ideals
- (C) Most court cases rely solely on the average behavior of people to determine guilt
- (D) The UK and US have the most complex standards of legal reasonableness.

Q2 What does the word "neglected" most likely mean in the sentence below?

"The question of how ordinary people judge reasonableness is largely neglected."

- (A) Given little attention
- (B) Explained carefully
- (C) Discussed in detail
- (D) Remembered often

Q3 According to the passage, the 'reasonable person' standard is used in the law of:

- (A) Defining property rights and inheritance laws.
- (B) Determining legal responsibility in cases of accidents.
- (C) Deciding the validity of international treaties.
- (D) Setting standards for political election campaigns.

Q4 The passage suggests that 'ideal' theories of the reasonable person imply that:

- (A) Reasonableness is an empirical measure of average public behavior.
- (B) Reasonableness is a normative measure, not based on how average people behave.
- (C) Ideal person theories are universally accepted in legal circles.
- (D) The reasonable person is a statistical average of societal behaviors.

Q5 What can be inferred about the role of juries in the context of determining

reasonableness as per the passage?

- (A) Juries are usually neglected in the process of defining what is reasonable.
- (B) Juries are solely responsible for establishing the standard of reasonableness.
- (C) Juries, reflecting ordinary people, contribute to interpreting reasonableness.
- (D) The role of juries is insignificant compared to the legal standards set by courts.

Direction (6 - 10) Read the following passage and answer the given questions.

First, being a philosopher is an activity-based identity. Unlike actual kings and queens, you're not born a philosopher. Nor is it an officially conferred title, such as knight, mayor, or doctor. You're a philosopher because you do philosophy. The challenge here, though, is that the nature of philosophy, is itself a philosophical question, and therefore the subject of rich philosophical debate. Many philosophers might agree that philosophy is hard to define, but might say, 'I know it when I see it'. Thus a loop emerges, where those who can already claim to be philosophers get to 'know it when they see it' and hence shape the boundaries of what philosophy is. In turn, what they call philosophy then serves to legitimize their own 'philosopher' identity. While most people nowadays (though not all) agree with Plato that the role of philosopher should be credited from ability and not from gender, there is still a predominance of men amongst philosophers. You can see this on course curricula, in philosophy handbooks, at conferences, and in the press. There are many reasons for this. For example, relatively more women drop out of philosophy (and academia more broadly) during their studies and early in their careers for various gender-related



reasons. In the past, the obligations of marriage meant that many educated women had to give up academic life. Today, caring responsibilities are still an obstacle for women's careers more so than for men's. Adding to this, it has been shown time and time again that a general bias in evaluation makes it harder for women to get philosophy jobs. This continuous alienation can cause self-silencing and underperformance. Part of the explanation, however, may also lie in how we view the women who actually do manage to pursue a thinking career.

A well-known historical example of such a woman is Elisabeth of Bohemia (1618- 1680). She was a key philosophical interlocutor for René Descartes (1596-1650). In correspondence between them, she challenged his dualism and urged Descartes to take the emotional aspects of human life more seriously – a topic she worked on and discussed with several intellectuals. Despite being an important figure for the philosophy of her time, who developed an interesting counterpoint to the Cartesian view of human nature, it briefly caused chaos and discontent among students at my old alma mater, the University of Copenhagen, when her texts were added to the History of Philosophy curriculum in 2018. Students feared that studying her would take away space from 'real' philosophers, and thus protested against this revision. And so we return to the question of what a real philosopher is. One of the first things I was told when I started my philosophy degree, was that you don't become a philosopher by studying philosophy, you became a philosophy professional (or fagfilosof in Danish). This, we were to understand, was a different matter. On the one hand, this awkward title is meant to protect serious academics from the 'philosopher' title to which anyone can lay

claim. On the other hand, it signals that there's a difference between philosophy graduates (us) and 'real' philosophers such as Plato, Kant, or Hegel. Again philosophy is characterized by canonical thinking, that is, demarcated by the identification of and engagement with the 'real' philosophers.

Q6 All of the following are TRUE about the identity of a philosopher according to the passage EXCEPT:

- (A) A philosopher is someone who actively engages in the practice of philosophy.
- (B) The identity of a philosopher is officially conferred, much like the title of a doctor.
- (C) Defining what philosophy is can itself be considered a philosophical debate.
- (D) Established philosophers have a significant role in shaping what qualifies as philosophy.

Q7 All of the following are FALSE regarding the challenges women face in philosophy EXCEPT:

- (A) Marriage obligations no longer impact women's ability to continue academic careers today.
- (B) Women philosophers today do not face biases in their evaluations when applying for jobs.
- (C) The predominance of men in philosophy is due to societal bias, including caring responsibilities that disproportionately affect women.
- (D) Women in philosophy today have the same opportunities as men in academia.

Q8 Based on the passage, which of the following can be INFERRED about the role of historical women in philosophy?

- (A) They were often recognized equally alongside their male counterparts.



- (B) They contributed significantly to philosophical debates but were rarely acknowledged during their time.
- (C) Women philosophers had fewer ideas and contributions worth studying.
- (D) The inclusion of women philosophers in curricula is universally accepted and encouraged.

Q9 Which of the following statements best summarizes the paradox regarding becoming a 'real' philosopher as discussed in the passage?

- (A) Philosophy students must study the great thinkers of the past but can never attain the same status as them.
- (B) A philosopher must both reject traditional ideas and adhere to canonical philosophers to be considered real.
- (C) The title of philosopher is open to everyone, yet the boundaries of what constitutes philosophy are defined by established philosophers.
- (D) Anyone who completes a philosophy degree automatically gains recognition as a real philosopher.

Q10 Which of the following keywords best captures the core themes and structure of the passage?

- (A) Philosophy – Identity – Professional – Elisabeth of Bohemia – Protest
- (B) Descartes – Dualism – Emotional Aspects – Curriculum – Copenhagen
- (C) Gender Bias – Marriage Obligations – Self-silencing – Real Philosophers – Canonical Thinking
- (D) Academic Life – Kant – Plato – Gender Parity – Course Content

Direction (11 - 15) Read the following passage and answer the given questions.

When I was in my mid-30s, I was faced with a difficult decision. It had repercussions for years, and at times the choice I made filled me with regret. I had two job offers. One was to work at a very large physics experiment on the West Coast of the United States called the National Ignition Facility (NIF). Last year, they achieved a nuclear fusion breakthrough. The other offer was to take a job at a university research institute. I agonised over the choice for weeks. There were pros and cons in both directions. I reached out to a mentor from graduate school, a physicist I respected, and asked him to help me choose. He told me to take the university job, and so I did.

In the years to come, whenever my work seemed dull and uninspiring, or the vagaries of funding forced me down an unwelcome path, or – worse – the NIF was in the news, my mind would turn back to that moment and ask: 'What if?' Imagine if I were at that other job in that other state thousands of miles away. Imagine a different life that I would never live. Then again, perhaps I had dodged a bullet, who knows?

Every life contains pain. Even the perfect life, the life where you have everything you want, hides its own unique struggles. Writing in *The Genealogy of Morals* (1887), Friedrich Nietzsche said: 'Man, the bravest animal and most prone to suffer, does not deny suffering as such: he wills it, he even seeks it out, provided he is shown a meaning for it, a purpose of suffering.' A life apparently perfect but devoid of meaning, no matter how comfortable, is a kind of hell.

In our search for meaning, we fantasise about the roads not taken, and these alternative lives take on a reality of their own, and, perhaps, they are real. In his novel *The Midnight Library* (2020), Matt Haig explores this concept. In it, a woman named Nora Seed is given the chance to live the lives she would have lived had she



made different choices. Each life is a book in an infinite library. Opening the book takes her to live in that other world for as long as she feels comfortable there. Each possible world becomes a reality.

For centuries, philosophers have dreamed of possible worlds. But only with the advent of quantum physics and the need to interpret its counterintuitive predictions did it appear that these possibilities might be real. Introduced in the 1950s by a graduate student, Hugh Everett, to little fanfare, and promoted in the 1970s by the physicist Bryce DeWitt, the 'many-worlds' interpretation of physics has captured the public imagination and flowered a burst of art and culture. Born out of a need to interpret the behaviour of the smallest building blocks of our Universe, quantum physics has powered a cultural conversation from the depths of academic philosophy and science, to the pinnacle of Hollywood's elite. The modern concept of possible worlds is attributed to the German polymath, co-inventor of calculus, and rival to Isaac Newton, Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz, in his work *Theodicy: Essays on the Goodness of God, the Freedom of Man, and the Origin of Evil* (1710). The phrase 'best of all possible worlds' comes from this work and refers to Leibniz's attempt to solve the problem of evil by proposing that ours is the best possible world. In other words, any other possible world would contain more evil.

Q11 What can be inferred about Nietzsche's perspective on suffering as presented in the passage?

- (A) Suffering is a fundamental part of human existence that cannot be avoided.
- (B) Humans are inherently drawn to suffering if it holds a deeper meaning or purpose.

(C) Suffering should be actively sought out as it is essential for personal growth.

(D) It's a negative aspect of life that humans should constantly strive to overcome.

Q12 Analyze Nietzsche's quote "Man, the bravest animal and most prone to suffer, does not deny suffering as such: he wills it, he even seeks it out, provided he is shown a meaning for it, a purpose of suffering." and identify which interpretation aligns with its meaning in the passage.

- (A) Suffering is a natural and unavoidable aspect of human existence that should be embraced.
- (B) Humans are inherently drawn to suffering, often seeking it without any specific reason.
- (C) Suffering is acceptable to humans only if it serves a larger, meaningful purpose.
- (D) The quote implies that suffering is a choice that humans willingly make in life.

Q13 Among the statements below, which one diverges from the central premise in the narrator's reflections concerning their career choice?

- (A) The narrator consistently regrets the decision made in their mid-30s.
- (B) The decision led the narrator to frequently ponder the 'what if' of the unchosen path.
- (C) The narrator's choice is portrayed as one leading to unending satisfaction.
- (D) Their decision occasionally made them consider alternative life scenarios.



Q14 None of the below-given options best summarizes the central theme of the passage EXCEPT.

- (A) The exploration of life's choices and the contemplation of paths not taken.
- (B) A detailed analysis of quantum physics and its cultural implications.
- (C) The narrator's regret over a career choice made in their mid-30s.
- (D) An in-depth discussion on Nietzsche's philosophy of suffering.

Q15 Which of the given options, IF TRUE, would strengthen the idea regarding the narrator's contemplation of alternate life paths?

- (A) The narrator often found their actual life lacking compared to imagined alternatives.
- (B) The narrator never truly considered what their life would be like if they had made a different choice.
- (C) Alternate life paths are generally less satisfying than the path one actually takes.
- (D) The concept of 'possible worlds' is a fictional idea with no basis in reality.

Direction (16 - 20) Read the following passage and answer the given questions.

In a time of constant technological advances and innovations, computers and our communication systems can do more than ever before. With algorithms that learn human patterns and provide personalized suggestions, chatbots that help on many e-commerce websites, and virtual assistants like Alexa and Siri that provide information when verbally asked, intelligence amplification is becoming a part of our everyday lives. This trend of electronic discovery—using intelligence systems to aid human decisions in all areas, from reaching a medical diagnosis to

looking more into machine learning and the possibility of creating a complete artificial intelligence—is only going to continue. While it sounds like you need an introduction to cybernetics to understand what all this means for businesses, we're here to make it simple by explaining the definition and applications of intelligence amplification. In contrast to artificial intelligence, which aims to replicate the functions and consciousness of the mind, Intelligence Amplification is used to extend the abilities of the already existing mind. Augmented intelligence tools aid this amplification, with early forms including abacus, calculators, and even the internet all beginning with human consciousness and helping the mind with information processing to amplify intelligence. Augmented reality is an application of Intelligence Amplification today—providing users with additional information or images to aid their thought processes. Likewise, wireless computational earpieces and wearable smartwatches can track and provide information to users, assisting in decisions and conversations. These augmented intelligence tools have the potential to transform our work environments and strategies by amplifying human intelligence. With that definition in mind, the main role of many augmented intelligence tools is to accumulate big data from across the channels they have access to—creating a knowledge base of sorts—and feeding this back to aid human intellect. This can create a symbiosis between the human brain and the Intelligence Amplification system, as they work together to tackle problem-solving and decision-making, taking the effective use of information technology to the next level. For example, common virtual assistants access the IoT and online knowledge bases to answer a user's verbal queries.



This isn't strictly artificial intelligence, as virtual assistants cannot make decisions based on this information, although machine learning helps it select more appropriate information based on previous interactions. Instead, the virtual assistant creates cognitive augmentation, influencing problem-solving by amplifying the intelligence available to use. Intelligence Amplification is used throughout a range of industries including healthcare, retail, and engineering. With MIT and other organizations working on AI systems and brain-computer interfaces, the applications of Intelligence Amplification are increasing, making even more effective use of information technology.

Since the early computer pioneers, electronic discovery has aimed to amplify human intellect, helping improve our problem-solving and decision-making faculties. Since then, technological innovations have given the human brain access to vastly more information and, through machine learning, become more accurate and precise in the information provided. Integrating Intelligence Amplification into your business practice makes use of the augmented intelligence tools already existing to improve customer experiences and quality of services, and ease the provision of these services. With increasing research and developments in the area of cybernetics and artificial intelligence, we're certainly going to be seeing more of it in our day-to-day business.

Q16 What inference can be drawn regarding the role of augmented intelligence tools in transforming work environments and strategies?

(A) Augmented intelligence tools can transform work environments by collecting and processing vast amounts of data, which aids overall strategy formulation.

(B) Augmented intelligence tools automate decision-making processes in work environments, thriving on the need for human involvement in strategic planning.

(C) The primary role of augmented intelligence tools is to replicate human intelligence, enabling independent decision-making in work environments.

(D) Augmented intelligence tools operate by enhancing communication and conversations within work environments, by influencing decision-making or strategies.

Q17 According to the passage, modern technology has enhanced human intelligence in all the following ways, EXCEPT:

(A) Modern technology enhances human intelligence by accumulating big data across multiple channels and providing relevant information to users in decision-making.

(B) Modern technology enhances human intelligence by tracking personal patterns and offering personalized suggestions based on past interactions.

(C) Modern technology enhances human intelligence by making decisions independently of human input, using pre-programmed algorithms.

(D) Modern technology enhances human intelligence by creating a symbiotic relationship between human brains and computational systems, allowing them to collaborate in solving problems.

Q18 What inference can be made regarding the comparison between Intelligence



Amplification and cybernetics based on the passage?

- (A) Cybernetics and Intelligence Amplification both involve the automation of human intelligence without the need for human intervention.
- (B) Intelligence Amplification focuses on enhancing human intelligence, while cybernetics aims to understand and potentially replicate biological processes.
- (C) Intelligence Amplification and cybernetics rely on artificial intelligence systems to replicate human consciousness and replace decision-making.
- (D) Cybernetics is solely focused on machine learning algorithms to improve intelligence amplification, whereas Intelligence Amplification relies on human input depending on personal experiences and expertise.

Q19 What does the author suggest as a potential factor that could facilitate the symbiosis between the human brain and an Intelligence Amplification system?

- (A) The ability of IA systems to solve complex problems using human intervention facilitates the symbiosis between the human brain and IA systems.
- (B) The integration of IA systems with neural networks that replicate human thought processes facilitates the symbiosis between the human brain and IA systems.
- (C) The development of virtual assistants that assist human decision-making capabilities facilitates the symbiosis between the human brain and IA systems.

- (D) Accumulation and effective processing of big data through IA systems to aid human intellect and decision-making can facilitate the symbiosis between the human brain and IA systems.

Q20 How does the passage differentiate Artificial Intelligence (AI) from Intelligence Amplification (IA)?

- (A) AI aims to replicate the functions and consciousness of the human mind, while IA is focused on extending the abilities of the already existing human mind, assisting with problem-solving and decision-making.
- (B) AI is focused on data accumulation using the human mind, whereas IA is focused on using technological algorithms to replicate human cognitive functions.
- (C) AI depends on human input, while IA functions through the automation of tasks, which means depending on AI, which means that both have a common tendency that bridges the gap between the two.
- (D) AI and IA are both focused on automating decision-making processes, with IA providing higher-level cognitive functions and AI providing better algorithms.

Direction (21 - 25) Read the following passage and answer the given questions.

We all feel a profound connection with the natural world. E O Wilson called this sensation biophilia: 'the urge to affiliate with other forms of life'. That sense of connection brings great emotional satisfaction. It can decrease levels of anger, anxiety and pain. It has undoubtedly helped our species to survive, since we are fundamentally dependent on our surrounding environment and ecosystem. But lately



biophilia has spawned an extreme variant: chemophobia, a reflexive rejection of modern synthetic chemicals.

Chemophobia is an outgrowth of the modern environmental movement, especially Rachel Carson's book *Silent Spring* (1962), which demonised chemicals as 'the sinister and little-recognised partners of radiation... entering into living organisms passing from one to another in a chain of poisoning and death'. Carson's words helped to inspire unleaded gasoline, the US Clean Air Act, the banning of DDT, and other hugely important environmental advances. However, even as much of the world became cleaner, the anti-chemical movement became so polarised that *all* artificial chemicals are now considered tainted. This false assumption has led to a popular demand for products that are 'natural' or even 'chemical-free'.

In reality, 'natural' products are usually more chemically complicated than anything we can create in the lab. To demonstrate, I broke down the components in an ordinary banana. (For brevity's sake, I omitted the thousands of minority ingredients, including DNA.) Here is the result:

INGREDIENTS:

WATER (75%), SUGARS (12%)
(GLUCOSE (48%), FRUCTOSE (40%),
SUCROSE (2%), MALTOSE (<1%)),
STARCH (5%), FIBRE E460 (3%),
AMINO ACIDS (<1%) (GLUTAMIC
ACID (19%), ASPARTIC ACID (16%),
HISTIDINE (11%), LEUCINE (7%),
LYSINE (5%), PHENYLALANINE (4%),
ARGININE (4%), VALINE (4%),
ALANINE (4%), SERINE (4%),
GLYCINE (3%), THREONINE (3%),
ISOLEUCINE (3%)....
....2-METHYLPROPAN-1-OL, 3-
METHYLBUTYL-1-OL, 2-HYDROXY-3-
METHYLETHYL BUTANOATE, 3-

METHYLBUTANAL, ETHYL
HEXANOATE, ETHYL BUTANOATE,
PENTYL ACETATE), 1510, NATURAL
RIPENING AGENT (ETHENE GAS).

This exercise illustrates a larger point. The distinction between natural and synthetic chemicals is not merely ambiguous, it is non-existent. The fact that an ingredient is synthetic does not automatically make it dangerous, and the fact that it is natural doesn't make it safe. Botulinum, produced by bacteria that grow in honey, is more than 1.3 billion times as toxic as lead and is the reason why infants should never eat honey. A cup of apple seeds contains enough natural cyanide to kill an adult human. Natural chemicals can be beneficial, neutral or harmful depending on the dosage and on how they are used, just like synthetic chemicals. Whether a chemical is 'natural' should never be a factor when assessing its safety.

Misconceptions about natural versus synthetic compounds can have devastating consequences. The anxiety over formaldehyde is a telling example. Formaldehyde occurs naturally in fruits, vegetables, meat, eggs and foliage. It is found in high concentrations in Peking duck (120 parts per million), smoked salmon (50 ppm), and processed meats (20 ppm) as a normal result of traditional curing processes. It is found at levels of around 2 ppm in a healthy human body, where it plays an important role in the production of DNA. Formaldehyde is also used in various industries as a preservative.

People automatically accept the many 'natural' sources of formaldehyde that are present all around, but minuscule traces of 'artificial' formaldehyde in vaccines and cosmetics have caused public outcry – even though all formaldehyde is chemically exactly the same: CH₂O. One such incident in 2013 forced



Johnson & Johnson to spend more than \$10 million reformulating its skincare range. They did so even though the amount of formaldehyde present was so low that the average person would need to take 40 million baths per day before it posed any serious threat.

- Q21** Analyze the author's stance on the concept of chemophobia. Which of the following best encapsulates this stance?
- (A) Chemophobia is a rational response to the harmful effects of synthetic chemicals.
 - (B) Chemophobia represents an exaggerated fear of synthetic chemicals, ignoring their benefits.
 - (C) The author views chemophobia as a justified extension of environmental consciousness.
 - (D) Chemophobia is seen as a necessary precaution in an age of increasing chemical usage.
- Q22** The passage discusses the concept of chemophobia and its relation to the perception of natural and synthetic chemicals. Based on the passage, which of the following statements is least supported?
- (A) Natural chemicals are inherently safer than synthetic chemicals because they are less complex.
 - (B) The public often perceives synthetic chemicals as more harmful than natural ones, regardless of their actual toxicity.
 - (C) Natural and synthetic chemicals can both be harmful or beneficial, depending on their usage and dosage.
 - (D) The categorization of chemicals as natural or synthetic is a reliable indicator of their safety.

- Q23** The passage describes the chemical composition of a banana to illustrate a point. What is this point?
- (A) Natural products are simpler in composition compared to synthetic products.
 - (B) Bananas, like many natural products, have a complex chemical makeup that often goes unrecognized.
 - (C) The majority of a banana's composition is made up of rare and unique chemicals.
 - (D) Synthetic chemicals are necessary to enhance the nutritional value of natural products like bananas.
- Q24** The passage discusses formaldehyde in the context of public perception. Which option correctly represents this discussion?
- (A) There is a widespread misconception that only synthetic formaldehyde poses health risks, while natural sources are harmless.
 - (B) All forms of formaldehyde, natural or synthetic, are considered harmful.
 - (C) There is no difference in public perception between natural and synthetic formaldehyde.
 - (D) Only synthetic formaldehyde is dangerous, while natural sources are safe.
- Q25** Which of the following statements, if true, would most significantly weaken the passage's argument regarding the misconception between natural and synthetic chemicals?
- (A) Recent studies show that the majority of people can accurately distinguish between harmful and safe chemicals, whether natural or synthetic.



- (B) There is a growing trend of chemophobia, where people are increasingly fearful of synthetic chemicals without scientific basis.
- (C) Extensive research has proven that synthetic chemicals are inherently more harmful than natural ones, regardless of dosage and usage.
- (D) Organic products, which exclusively use natural chemicals, have been consistently rated higher for safety and efficacy by consumers.

Direction (26 - 30) Read the following passage and answer the given questions.

Often described as periodic transactions between nations, international trade is millions of daily, cross-border economic exchanges that individuals undertake voluntarily for their benefit. These international exchanges—which differ little from ones made between Americans in different U.S. cities or states—enable us to consume more (in both quantity and variety) and work less while improving broader economic growth and innovation in the process. “Free trade” simply gets the government (in the form of tariffs, quotas, etc.) out of our way.

Almost 96 percent of the world’s population lives outside U.S. borders. Enlarging markets to integrate more buyers, sellers, innovators, investors, and workers enables more refined specialization and economies of scale that, in turn, lead to greater wealth and living standards. Just as Americans in domestic markets specialize in certain jobs and use the money, we earn to purchase items that require different skills, so should we be able to harness the nation’s competitive advantages to achieve similar gains in the international marketplace. And just as making everything at home is costly and wasteful, so is making everything in America. The larger the market,

the greater the potential for specialization, exchange, invention, and economic growth. Trade’s most direct and obvious benefits accrue to consumers, mainly from imports that both provide cheaper, better, or more varied goods and services and promote competition and innovation here at home. The consumer gains from trade are a big reason that Americans today work far fewer hours to own more and better essentials than at any prior time in U.S. history.

Yet trade also benefits companies and workers, even in manufacturing. Companies benefit from imports, either by moving or selling foreign-made items in the United States or by using them to produce other, more sophisticated products. For example, wholesale trade, retail trade, and transportation and warehousing activities contributed USD 3.1 trillion to the U.S. gross domestic product (GDP) in 2019, much of which would not exist but for global trade. Companies also benefit from foreign direct investment (FDI)—dollars that overseas investors acquired from selling things to Americans—to grow and innovate. Total FDI assets (“stocks”) in the U.S. manufacturing sector alone hit USD 1.8 trillion in 2019, and majority-owned affiliates of all foreign multinational companies contributed USD 1.1 trillion to U.S. GDP that same year.

The “corporate” gains from trade inevitably translate to gains in American employment—trade directly or indirectly supports more than 40 million jobs in goods- and services-producing industries, and FDI supports about 8 million jobs. New research finds that the small share of American companies directly or indirectly involved in trading goods internationally has accounted for a majority of U.S. jobs created since the Great Recession—jobs that can pay better than those in



manufacturing, even for workers without a college degree.

Then there are the “unseen” contributions of trade to the U.S. economy. Trade is a cornerstone of “creative destruction”—the birth, life, and death of firms that breed domestic innovation and increase living standards. Much of this activity may be imperceptible, but it is doubtlessly driven by consumers and capital seeking more productive ends in the global marketplace. Through these invisible mechanisms, international competition has long pushed American companies (e.g., “Big 3” automakers) to improve their products or go out of business, and the money Americans save by buying cheaper, more basic foreign goods is often spent on, or invested in, domestic companies and their higher-skilled workers. The result of these unseen transactions is not just “cheaper stuff” but better and once-unimaginable goods, better jobs, better companies, and better lives.

Q26 What conclusions can be drawn about the subtle, less visible contributions of international trade to the U.S. economy based on the passage?

- (A) The unseen contributions of trade are about reducing labor costs and increasing domestic self-reliance, allowing the U.S. to produce a greater portion of goods domestically and reducing reliance on foreign products.
- (B) The invisible contributions of trade mainly involve the enhancement of American economic efficiency by encouraging international competition, which forces U.S. companies to innovate and invest in higher-skilled domestic jobs.
- (C) The unseen impacts of trade are largely concentrated on increasing

the wages of American workers by keeping more low-skilled manufacturing jobs in the U.S. and limiting outsourcing to foreign nations.

- (D) The hidden advantages of trade focus primarily on supporting American manufacturers, allowing them to achieve complete self-sufficiency and limit competition from foreign markets.

Q27 What conclusions can be drawn about the relationship between “corporate” gains from trade and the resulting impact on American employment?

- (A) The corporate gains from trade revolve around the manufacturing sector, where the vast majority of American jobs are created, and trade majorly influences service-producing industries.
- (B) Corporate benefits from trade translate to gains in American employment primarily through increased opportunities in lower-wage jobs, particularly in industries that rely on international goods movement and production.
- (C) Corporate gains from trade significantly contribute to American employment by encouraging the growth of both goods- and services-producing industries, directly and indirectly supporting millions of jobs.
- (D) The primary way corporate gains from trade contribute to American employment is by balancing domestic labor demand through increased outsourcing and foreign competition and creating high-quality jobs in the U.S.



Q28 Which of the following options does NOT provide evidence that international trade affects manufacturing companies and workers?

- (A) International trade helps manufacturing companies by allowing them to access cheaper imported goods, which they can then use to produce more advanced and innovative products.
- (B) Foreign direct investment (FDI) in the U.S. manufacturing sector has increased substantially, contributing to GDP growth and supporting millions of jobs in manufacturing industries.
- (C) International competition, driven by trade, forces American manufacturing companies to improve their products or risk going out of business, fostering innovation and higher-quality goods.
- (D) The primary benefit of international trade to manufacturing companies is the increase in foreign competition, allowing them to focus on domestic markets and making an effort to enhance import efficiency along with product quality.

Q29 In what ways do consumers in the U.S. benefit from international trade, based on the passage?

- (A) U.S. consumers primarily benefit from international trade because it reduces their dependence on domestic goods, allowing them to purchase internationally made items at lower prices.
- (B) International trade benefits U.S. consumers by allowing them to access a wider range of foreign products, which are often cheaper and better in quality, leading to

reduced work hours and improved living standards.

- (C) Consumers in the U.S. gain from international trade because it enhances domestic competition, allowing local companies to capture the market and offer goods at competitive prices.
- (D) The main advantage of international trade for U.S. consumers is the reduction of labor hours in foreign companies, which drives down global production costs, allowing consumers to buy more expensive products at a lower price.

Q30 Which of the following options is NOT factually correct regarding international trade statistics in the U.S.?

- (A) International trade supported over USD 3.1 trillion in U.S. GDP in 2019, with major contributions from wholesale trade, retail trade, and transportation and warehousing activities.
- (B) Foreign direct investment (FDI) in the U.S. manufacturing sector alone reached USD 1.8 trillion in 2019, and majority-owned affiliates of foreign multinational companies added USD 1.1 trillion to U.S. GDP.
- (C) Trade directly and indirectly supports more than 40 million jobs in both goods- and services-producing industries, with foreign direct investment (FDI) supporting an additional 8 million jobs in the U.S.
- (D) The majority of U.S. jobs in international trade have been created in the low-wage manufacturing sector, where American workers with no college degrees receive higher pay



compared to their counterparts in service industries.



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Answer Key

Q1 B
Q2 A
Q3 B
Q4 B
Q5 C
Q6 B
Q7 C
Q8 B
Q9 C
Q10 C
Q11 B
Q12 C
Q13 C
Q14 A
Q15 A

Q16 A
Q17 C
Q18 B
Q19 D
Q20 A
Q21 B
Q22 D
Q23 B
Q24 A
Q25 C
Q26 B
Q27 C
Q28 D
Q29 B
Q30 D



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Hints & Solutions

Note: scan the QR code to watch video solution

Q1. Text Solution:

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

This accurately captures the main point of the passage. The author argues that the 'reasonable person' in law is not just the average person, nor an entirely ideal person, but a blend of both — someone who is both common and good. This is emphasized throughout the passage with quotes, comparisons, and examples from legal theorists.

Option A:

Why it's wrong:

The passage mentions that many countries (UK, US, India, etc.) use the concept of reasonableness, but it does not argue that they define it differently based on culture. In fact, it stresses a common concept of reasonableness as a standard applied across legal systems.

Option C:

Why it's wrong:

The passage specifically refutes this idea. It emphasizes that the reasonable person is not the average person, and courts apply a legal/normative standard rather than relying on statistical averages or typical behavior.

Option D:

Why it's wrong:

While the UK and US are mentioned, the passage does not compare the complexity of legal standards across countries. The focus is on the general philosophical and legal meaning of the reasonable person — not a comparative legal analysis.

Video Solution:



Q2. Text Solution:

Correct Answer: A. Given little attention

Explanations:

A. Given little attention – Correct

"Neglected" here means something that has been overlooked or not properly considered.

B. Explained carefully – Incorrect

This is the opposite of "neglected." Something that is explained carefully is not being neglected.

C. Discussed in detail – Incorrect

This contradicts the meaning of "neglected." If something is discussed in detail, it is being focused on.

D. Remembered often – Incorrect

"Neglected" implies it is not being remembered or considered.

Video Solution:



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Q3. Text Solution:

Explanation for the correct answer:

Option B: It is correct. The passage explicitly states that the 'reasonable person' standard is used in determining legal responsibility in cases of accidents.

Explanation for incorrect answers:

Options A, C, D are the options that introduce contexts not mentioned in the passage, thus diverting from the specific applications highlighted in the text. Thus, they can be eliminated.

Video Solution:



Q4. Text Solution:

Explanation for the correct answer: Option B is correct. The passage describes 'ideal' theories as treating reasonableness as a normative measure, not based on average behavior.

Explanation for Incorrect answers:

Options A and D are traps, misconstruing 'ideal' theories as empirical or statistical, which the passage contradicts.

Option C: It Overgeneralization and not supported by the passage, which does not claim universal acceptance.

Video Solution:



Q5. Text Solution:

Explanation for the correct Option: Option C is accurate. The passage suggests that while courts define reasonableness, juries, reflecting ordinary people, also contribute to its interpretation.

Explanation for incorrect Options :

Option A: It is incorrect as the passage does not imply that juries are usually neglected.

Option B: It is Too extreme. It falsely claims sole responsibility, which the passage does not support.

Option D: This is Misleading, though it acknowledges the role of courts, it underplays the significance of juries mentioned in the passage.

Video Solution:





Q6. Text Solution:

Essence of the Question:

The essence of the question is to identify the one statement that is **not true** about the identity of a philosopher as described in the passage. The key to solving this is carefully distinguishing between statements that reflect the passage's ideas and the one that contradicts them.

Correct Answer:

B) The identity of a philosopher is officially conferred, much like the title of a doctor.

Explanation for the Correct Answer:

- The passage specifically argues that being a philosopher is **not an officially conferred title**. Unlike a doctor or knight, who receive formal recognition or titles, a philosopher's identity comes from actively engaging in the practice of philosophy. Thus, B contradicts the passage's argument, making it the correct answer.

Explanation for Incorrect Options:

- A) A philosopher is someone who actively engages in the practice of**

philosophy.

- True**, according to the passage, because it emphasizes that being a philosopher is based on activity ("you're a philosopher because you do philosophy") rather than any external recognition.

2. C) Defining what philosophy is can itself be considered a philosophical debate.

- True**, as the passage notes that even defining what philosophy is becomes part of a philosophical debate. The nature of philosophy is described as something that cannot easily be defined, leading to debates among philosophers.

3. D) Established philosophers have a significant role in shaping what qualifies as philosophy.

- True**, because the passage suggests that those who are already recognized as philosophers play a role in defining the boundaries of philosophy. It mentions a "loop" where recognized philosophers decide what counts as philosophy, thus reinforcing their own identity as philosophers.

Trap of the Question:

- The trap lies in the subtle comparison between philosophy and other titles like "doctor." If a reader skims through the passage, they might miss the distinction made between the **officially conferred** nature of titles like doctor or knight and the **activity-based** nature of the philosopher identity. A quick reader could mistakenly believe that B might be true since "philosopher" can sometimes



sound like a formal title, but the passage clearly explains otherwise.

Video Solution:



Q7. Text Solution:

Essence of the Question:

The question asks you to identify the **only statement that is true** regarding the challenges women face in philosophy. The task is to find the exception among statements that are false, meaning you must carefully read for details about gender-related obstacles women still face in the field, as discussed in the passage.

Correct Answer:

C) The predominance of men in philosophy is due to societal bias, including caring responsibilities that disproportionately affect women.

Explanation for the Correct Answer:

- **True**, according to the passage, which clearly mentions that caring responsibilities disproportionately affect women's academic careers compared to men. It also highlights the existence of societal biases that contribute to the predominance of men in the field. This

makes C the correct answer because it reflects the challenges outlined in the passage.

Explanation for Incorrect Options:

1. **A) Marriage obligations no longer impact women's ability to continue academic careers today.**
 - **False.** The passage states that while marriage was historically an obstacle, even today, caring responsibilities still disproportionately affect women. Although the specific issue of marriage may not be as dominant, related responsibilities continue to pose challenges.
2. **B) Women philosophers today do not face biases in their evaluations when applying for jobs.**
 - **False.** The passage explicitly states that gender bias in evaluations remains a significant challenge for women in philosophy. It notes that biases can affect women's chances of securing jobs, which makes this option incorrect.
3. **D) Women in philosophy today have the same opportunities as men in academia.**
 - **False.** The passage emphasizes that women do not have equal opportunities in philosophy due to gender biases, caring responsibilities, and other societal obstacles, making this statement incorrect.

Trap of the Question:

- The trap lies in the phrasing of the incorrect options, which might sound plausible if not read carefully. For



instance, **A** could be mistaken for true if a reader assumes modern times have removed all such barriers, and **B** could trick someone who assumes progress has eliminated gender bias. However, the passage clearly contradicts both statements. Option **D** may also lure readers into thinking gender equality has been achieved in academia, but the passage disproves this, showing how biases still exist.

Video Solution:



Q8. Text Solution:

Essence of the Question:

The question asks you to infer how historical women were treated or perceived in philosophy, based on the information provided in the passage. The key is to extract clues from the passage to deduce how women's contributions were acknowledged (or not) in their time.

Correct Answer:

B) They contributed significantly to philosophical debates but were rarely acknowledged during their time.

Explanation for the Correct Answer:

- **True**, according to the passage. It highlights the case of Elisabeth of Bohemia, who made significant contributions to philosophical discussions, particularly with Descartes. However, the passage also shows that even though she was influential, her recognition came much later, and her inclusion in curricula (like at the University of Copenhagen) met with resistance, suggesting she was rarely acknowledged during her time.

Explanation for Incorrect Options:

1. **A) They were often recognized equally alongside their male counterparts.**
 - **False.** The passage demonstrates that women were **not** equally recognized alongside men. For example, Elisabeth of Bohemia's contributions were important, but she was not given the same level of recognition, and her inclusion in modern curricula was controversial.
2. **C) Women philosophers had fewer ideas and contributions worth studying.**
 - **False.** The passage implies the **opposite**—that women like Elisabeth of Bohemia made valuable contributions to philosophical debates (e.g., challenging Descartes), indicating that their ideas were important but not given due attention historically.
3. **D) The inclusion of women philosophers in curricula is universally accepted and encouraged.**
 - **False.** The passage notes that the inclusion of Elisabeth of Bohemia in the University of Copenhagen's curriculum caused "chaos and discontent" among students,



indicating that the inclusion of women philosophers in curricula is **not universally accepted**.

Trap of the Question:

- The trap lies in **A** and **D**, as both might seem appealing if you assume progress has been made in recognizing women in philosophy. A quick reader might mistakenly choose **A**, thinking of modern efforts to highlight women's contributions, or **D**, assuming that philosophy curricula now embrace women's work without issue. However, the passage clearly indicates that women were **not** recognized equally in their time, and that their inclusion in modern curricula can still be controversial.

Video Solution:



Q9. Text Solution:

Essence of the Question:

The question is asking for the best summary of the **paradox** related to what it means to become a "real" philosopher, as discussed in the passage. The key is to identify the tension or contradiction around how someone is recognized as a philosopher and how the definition of philosophy is controlled by established figures.

Correct Answer:

C) The title of philosopher is open to everyone, yet the boundaries of what constitutes philosophy are defined by established philosophers.

Explanation for the Correct Answer:

- True**, because the passage explains that anyone can claim to be a philosopher by engaging in philosophy. However, a paradox emerges because the established philosophers (those already recognized) have the power to define what counts as philosophy. This creates a loop where those already accepted as philosophers set the standards, potentially excluding others, even though the title itself is not officially conferred.

Explanation for Incorrect Options:

- A) Philosophy students must study the great thinkers of the past but can never attain the same status as them.**
 - False.** While the passage mentions that students study canonical philosophers like Plato and Kant, it does not state that they can never attain the same status. The issue is more about who defines philosophy, not an absolute bar on reaching the same status.
- B) A philosopher must both reject traditional ideas and adhere to canonical philosophers to be considered real.**
 - False.** This option suggests a contradiction between rejecting and adhering to traditional ideas, but the passage focuses on the issue of **who** defines what philosophy is, not



on the need to both reject and follow canonical thinkers.

3. **D) Anyone who completes a philosophy degree automatically gains recognition as a real philosopher.**

- **False.** The passage explicitly states that completing a philosophy degree makes one a **philosophy professional** (or fagfilosof), but not necessarily a "real philosopher," who is recognized by more subjective standards set by established philosophers.

Trap of the Question:

- The trap lies in **A** and **D**, which might seem plausible because they reference the importance of studying past philosophers or attaining a degree. However, neither fully captures the **paradox** at the heart of the issue, which is the tension between the openness of the title "philosopher" and the control that established figures have over defining the field. **B** might mislead readers by focusing on the idea of rejecting traditional ideas, but the passage doesn't suggest that as a requirement.

Video Solution:



Q10. Text Solution:

Option (c): Gender Bias – Marriage Obligations – Self-silencing – Real Philosophers – Canonical Thinking

This is the best representation of the core themes in the passage.

- **Gender Bias:** A significant portion of the passage is devoted to explaining how gender bias impacts women in philosophy, both historically (e.g., marriage obligations) and in modern times (bias in evaluation, caring responsibilities, underperformance).
- **Marriage Obligations:** The passage points out that in the past, women had to leave academia due to marriage, and modern caregiving responsibilities still hinder their progress.
- **Self-silencing:** The passage discusses how the continuous alienation of women in philosophy leads to self-silencing, meaning they may feel discouraged from speaking up or pursuing the field fully.
- **Real Philosophers:** The author highlights the notion of "real" philosophers and how the field's boundaries are often controlled by those who already hold power in philosophy, reinforcing male dominance.
- **Canonical Thinking:** The passage critiques how philosophy as a discipline is traditionally shaped by canonical figures like Plato, Kant, and Hegel, which influences how women and their contributions are perceived (e.g., the protest over Elisabeth of Bohemia being included in the curriculum).

Option (a): Philosophy – Identity – Professional – Elisabeth of Bohemia – Protest



While some keywords here are relevant, this set misses critical aspects of the passage:

- **Philosophy – Identity:** The passage touches on philosophy as an identity-based activity, but it doesn't focus only on this point.
- **Professional:** The passage mentions the title "fagfilosof" (philosophy professional) but does not center around this term.
- **Elisabeth of Bohemia and Protest:** These terms are included but represent only one example in the passage, not the broader themes. The focus on Elisabeth is part of a larger discussion about gender bias and philosophical canons, but it's not the main thrust of the argument.

Option (b): Descartes – Dualism – Emotional Aspects – Curriculum – Copenhagen

This focuses narrowly on the example of **Elisabeth of Bohemia** and her correspondence with **Descartes**, but it misses the overarching themes of the passage, such as gender bias and the structure of philosophy:

- **Descartes and Dualism:** While Elisabeth challenged Descartes' dualism, this interaction serves only as an example of women's contributions being underappreciated.
- **Emotional Aspects:** This refers to Elisabeth's critique of Descartes, but again, it's a side point.
- **Curriculum – Copenhagen:** These terms refer to the specific controversy at the University of Copenhagen over Elisabeth's inclusion in the curriculum, but the discussion of curriculum change is used to illustrate a broader issue of

resistance to recognizing women as "real" philosophers.

Option (d): Academic Life – Kant – Plato – Gender Parity – Course Content

This option includes some valid points but misses critical aspects:

- **Academic Life:** This term fits, as the passage does discuss women leaving academia, but it's not a central focus of the overall argument.
- **Kant – Plato:** While these philosophers are mentioned as part of the philosophical canon, the passage does not specifically focus on their ideas, only their status as "real" philosophers in the traditional canon.
- **Gender Parity:** Although the passage does discuss gender disparities, the keyword "gender parity" implies a focus on achieving equality, whereas the passage mainly focuses on the obstacles and biases that prevent it.
- **Course Content:** This is related to the protest about Elisabeth of Bohemia being included in the curriculum, but the broader point is not about course content—it's about the exclusionary nature of the philosophical canon.

Conclusion:

Option (c) is the best answer because it captures the major themes of gender bias, historical and modern challenges for women in philosophy, the idea of "real" philosophers, and how canonical thinking shapes the field. The other options either focus too narrowly on individual examples or miss key aspects of the argument.

Video Solution:





Q11. Text Solution:

Question Essence: This question, of moderate difficulty, focuses on interpreting Nietzsche's perspective on suffering as presented in the passage.

- **Correct Option: B** - Humans are inherently drawn to suffering if it holds a deeper meaning or purpose.
- Nietzsche's view, as portrayed in the passage, is not about suffering being unavoidable or something to be actively sought for personal growth, nor about striving to overcome it. Instead, it emphasizes a human inclination towards suffering when it serves a meaningful purpose, aligning with Option B.
- **Incorrect Options Analysis:**
 - **Option A:** While suffering is a part of existence, Nietzsche's emphasis is on its acceptance when meaningful, not just its inevitability.
 - **Option C:** The idea of actively seeking suffering is an exaggeration of Nietzsche's view.
 - **Option D:** Nietzsche's perspective is not about overcoming suffering but understanding and accepting it when it has meaning.

Trap of the Question: The trap here lies in overgeneralizing Nietzsche's nuanced view on

suffering, especially in options A and C, which might seem plausible but miss the specific context of meaningful suffering.

Video Solution:



Q12. Text Solution:

Question Essence: This is a question of high complexity requiring a deep understanding of Nietzsche's quote in the given context.

- **Correct Option: C** - Suffering is acceptable to humans only if it serves a larger, meaningful purpose.
- The quote by Nietzsche is about the acceptance and even pursuit of suffering when it has a purpose or meaning. This aligns perfectly with Option C, which captures the essence of suffering being contingent on its meaningfulness.
- **Incorrect Options Analysis:**
 - **Option A:** This option misses the aspect of purposeful suffering, focusing only on its inevitability.
 - **Option B:** Nietzsche's quote doesn't imply that humans seek suffering without reason.
 - **Option D:** The quote does not suggest that suffering is a deliberate choice but rather a part of human experience that is embraced when meaningful.



Trap of the Question: The potential pitfall here is misinterpreting the quote's emphasis on the purposefulness of suffering, leading to a possible selection of Options A or D.

Video Solution:



Q13. Text Solution:

Question Essence: This is a relatively straightforward question about the narrator's reflections on their career choice.

- **Correct Option: C** - The narrator's choice is portrayed as one leading to unending satisfaction.
- Throughout the passage, the narrator reflects on their decision with a sense of ambiguity and occasional regret, not unending satisfaction. This makes Option C the statement that diverges from the central premise of their reflections.
- **Incorrect Options Analysis:**
 - **Option A:** The narrator does express regret, but it's not consistent, making this option incorrect.
 - **Option B:** This option aligns with the narrator's frequent pondering of 'what if', making it a valid inference.
 - **Option D:** The narrator does indeed consider alternate life scenarios, aligning with the passage's theme.

Trap of the Question: The trap lies in the absolute nature of Option C, which contradicts the narrator's more nuanced reflection on their choice. This may be missed if swayed by the familiarity of the other options.

Video Solution:



Q14. Text Solution:

Question Essence: This question assesses the ability to grasp the central theme of the passage.

- **Correct Option: A** - The exploration of life's choices and the contemplation of paths not taken.
- The central theme of the passage is the narrator's reflection on their life choices and the contemplation of alternate paths. This theme is best captured by Option A.
- **Incorrect Options Analysis:**
 - **Option B:** While quantum physics is mentioned, it's not the central theme of the passage.
 - **Option C:** The narrator's regret is a part, but not the central theme.
 - **Option D:** Nietzsche's philosophy is referenced but not the main focus of the passage.

Trap of the Question: The pitfall is in getting sidetracked by specific elements mentioned in the passage (like quantum physics or



Nietzsche's philosophy) and missing the overarching theme.

Video Solution:



Q15. Text Solution:

Question Essence: This question requires assessing which option would strengthen the idea of the narrator's contemplation of alternate life paths.

- **Correct Option: A** - The narrator often found their actual life lacking compared to imagined alternatives.
- If the narrator often found their real life lacking compared to imagined alternatives, it strengthens the theme of contemplating alternate paths, as it implies a consistent engagement with 'what if' scenarios.
- **Incorrect Options Analysis:**
 - **Option B:** Suggests the narrator didn't consider alternate paths, which would weaken the idea.
 - **Option C:** Implies satisfaction with the chosen path, which doesn't strengthen the idea of contemplating alternatives.
 - **Option D:** If 'possible worlds' were fictional, it would undermine, not strengthen, the idea of contemplating alternate paths.

Trap of the Question: The trap is in overlooking the implication of dissatisfaction in Option A, which directly reinforces the theme of contemplating alternate paths.

Video Solution:



Q16. Text Solution:

Question Essence and Hint: The question asks us to infer the role of augmented intelligence (IA) tools in transforming work environments and strategies. The correct answer will highlight how these tools support human intellect rather than replacing it, focusing on decision-making, problem-solving, and strategy enhancement through the accumulation and processing of data. Answer A is the correct answer because the passage clearly outlines that augmented intelligence tools assist in decision-making and strategy formulation by accumulating and processing big data. It states, "The main role of many augmented intelligence tools is to accumulate big data...and feed this back to aid human intellect." This data helps humans make better decisions and enhances the strategic approach in work environments. The tools amplify human intelligence rather than replicate it, making them essential in transforming work environments by improving the use of information technology for problem-solving and decision-making.

Why Other Options Are Incorrect:



Option B is incorrect because the passage clearly states that augmented intelligence tools do not automate decision-making processes. Instead, they assist human decision-making by providing data and insights. The passage says, "This isn't strictly artificial intelligence, as virtual assistants cannot make decisions based on this information." IA tools require human involvement for decision-making, but they do not automate the process entirely.

Option C is incorrect because the passage explicitly states that IA tools do not replicate human intelligence. It contrasts IA with artificial intelligence, saying, "In contrast to artificial intelligence, which aims to replicate the functions and consciousness of the mind, Intelligence Amplification is used to extend the abilities of the already existing mind." IA helps humans by amplifying their existing intelligence, not by enabling independent or AI-driven decision-making.

Option D is incorrect because although IA tools can assist in communication (as mentioned with smartwatches and earpieces), their primary function is broader and involves supporting decision-making through data processing. The passage mentions that IA tools help "track and provide information" but ultimately focus on amplifying human intelligence by aiding decision-making and problem-solving. Communication is just one small aspect of their capabilities.

Video Solution:



Q17. Text Solution:

Question Essence and Hint: This question is asking about how modern technology has enhanced human intelligence, based on the concept of Intelligence Amplification (IA) discussed in the passage. It focuses on how IA assists in decision-making, problem-solving, and processing information. However, one option will be incorrect, indicating that it does not align with how IA functions as described in the passage.

Correct Answer – Option C

Option C is correct because the passage clearly distinguishes Intelligence Amplification (IA) from Artificial Intelligence (AI). IA is described as a system that supports human decision-making but does not make decisions independently. The passage states, "This isn't strictly artificial intelligence, as virtual assistants cannot make decisions based on this information..." Therefore, IA helps with problem-solving, but it still requires human input to make final decisions.

Why Other Options are Incorrect:

Option A is incorrect because the passage explains that IA tools are designed to assist human decision-making through data accumulation. "The main role of many augmented intelligence tools is to accumulate big data...and feeding this back to aid human intellect." IA uses this data to help humans



make better decisions, which directly supports human intelligence.

Option B is incorrect because the passage confirms that technologies like virtual assistants use machine learning to provide personalized suggestions based on human patterns. "With algorithms that learn human patterns and provide personalized suggestions...machine learning helps it select more appropriate information based on previous interactions." This clearly shows how IA amplifies human intelligence by leveraging past interactions to improve suggestions.

Option D is incorrect because the passage directly supports this idea, stating that IA tools create a "symbiosis between the human brain and the Intelligence Amplification system, as they work together to tackle problem-solving." This collaborative relationship is a core concept of how IA enhances human intelligence by integrating both human cognition and technological support.

Video Solution:



Q18. Text Solution:

Question Essence and Hint: The question focuses on the comparison between Intelligence Amplification (IA) and cybernetics as discussed in the passage. It requires the identification of the correct inference from the passage regarding the relationship between the two concepts. The passage describes both,

highlighting their functions and differences, but also connecting them in certain ways.

Correct Answer – Option B

Option B is the correct inference. The passage indicates that while IA is focused on amplifying human intellect through tools and technologies, cybernetics involves more comprehensive research into the interaction between machines and biological systems. It mentions that organizations like MIT are working on "AI systems and brain-computer interfaces," which links cybernetics with human-machine integration. The passage also points out that IA is not about replicating intelligence but extending the abilities of the human mind, which aligns with the comparison made here between IA and cybernetics.

Why Other Options are Incorrect

Option A is incorrect. The passage draws a clear distinction between the two, stating that IA extends human intelligence rather than automating it. The passage explains that IA tools assist humans in decision-making, but they do not operate without human input. Cybernetics, on the other hand, explores more advanced interactions like brain-computer interfaces, but IA does not aim for full automation or independence from humans. Option C is incorrect. The passage explicitly states that IA is not the same as artificial intelligence and does not aim to replicate human consciousness. IA focuses on augmenting human capabilities, while cybernetics and AI are concerned with more autonomous systems. The passage highlights that virtual assistants using IA cannot make decisions independently, reinforcing the difference between IA and AI-driven automation.

Option D is incorrect because the passage mentions that machine learning is part of Intelligence Amplification, as it helps systems



like virtual assistants make better recommendations based on prior data. Additionally, IA heavily relies on technological tools like augmented reality, wearables, and big data, which aid human decision-making. Thus, IA is not solely dependent on human input but works symbiotically with technology.

Video Solution:



Q19. Text Solution:

Question Essence and Hint: The question focuses on identifying a factor that could enable the effective symbiosis between the human brain and an Intelligence Amplification (IA) system, as implied by the passage. It asks for a deep understanding of what the passage suggests could lead to the successful integration of human intelligence with IA tools.

Correct Answer – Option D

This is correct because the passage explicitly highlights the role of big data accumulation in enabling the symbiotic relationship between humans and IA systems. The passage states, "The main role of many augmented intelligence tools is to accumulate big data...and feeding this back to aid the human intellect," which directly supports the notion that effective data collection and processing play a central role in this symbiosis.

Why Other Options Are Incorrect:

Option A is incorrect because the passage focuses on IA aiding rather than solving

problems autonomously or even with minimal human intervention. The passage clearly states that IA helps amplify human intellect rather than solving problems itself. The system assists humans with decision-making, not by independently solving problems using human intervention.

Option B is incorrect because the passage differentiates IA from AI, where AI aims to replicate the mind. IA, on the other hand, does not aim to replicate human thought processes but instead extends the mind's existing abilities. The passage says, "In contrast to artificial intelligence, which aims to replicate the functions and consciousness of the mind, Intelligence Amplification is used to extend the abilities of the already existing mind." IA does not involve replicating human cognition through neural networks.

Option C might seem close, but it is incorrect because the passage emphasizes that virtual assistants are just one application of IA, and their role is cognitive augmentation, not creating the full symbiosis between the brain and IA. The passage explains that virtual assistants "cannot make decisions based on this information" but simply assist by amplifying available intelligence. The broader symbiosis mentioned in the passage involves more than just virtual assistants, with a primary focus on big data accumulation.

Video Solution:





Q20. Text Solution:

Question Essence and Hint: This question requires a deep understanding of how the passage differentiates between Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Intelligence Amplification (IA). The passage outlines the roles and goals of both concepts, contrasting their fundamental functions.

Option A is the right answer.

This is the correct answer because the passage differentiates AI and IA in this way: "In contrast to artificial intelligence, which aims to replicate the functions and consciousness of the mind, Intelligence Amplification is used to extend the abilities of the already existing mind." AI tries to mimic human cognition, while IA supports and amplifies human thought processes without replication.

Incorrect Options

Option B is incorrect. The passage does not state that AI is focused on data accumulation.

AI is described as attempting to replicate human consciousness and cognition, while IA supports human decision-making and problem-solving by using data. The passage also explains that IA tools collect and process big data, indicating that IA is also involved in data accumulation, but in a supporting role.

Option C is incorrect because the passage specifically emphasizes that IA assists human decision-making rather than automating tasks. It mentions that virtual assistants using IA

"cannot make decisions based on this information" and are designed to augment human intelligence, not operate independently. Moreover, this is more like finding a commonality between both topics rather than differentiating.

Option D is incorrect because the passage makes it clear that IA is not focused on automating decision-making processes. Instead, it helps humans by extending their cognitive abilities. The passage describes IA as a tool to "aid human decisions" and "influence problem-solving by amplifying the intelligence available to use," rather than automating decision-making as AI might aim to do.

Video Solution:



Q21. Text Solution:

Essence of the Question: This question falls under moderate difficulty. It primarily tests the comprehension of the author's viewpoint on chemophobia. The key here is to identify the author's nuanced position, rather than general perceptions.

- **Correct Answer - B:** Chemophobia represents an exaggerated fear of synthetic chemicals, ignoring their benefits. This option aligns perfectly with the author's stance. He portrays chemophobia as an unwarranted fear, highlighting the irrationality of



categorizing all synthetic chemicals as harmful. The passage suggests that the fear of synthetic chemicals has overshadowed their potential benefits, which is precisely what Option B states.

• **Incorrect Options Analysis:**

- **A:** This is a classic trap, using the common fear of synthetic chemicals to lure you in. However, the passage criticizes chemophobia, not supports it.
- **C:** It seems appealing as it aligns with environmental concerns, but it's a misrepresentation of the author's critical view of chemophobia.
- **D:** This option might seem cautious and hence reasonable. But, it's a subtle distortion of the author's view, which is critical of unwarranted fear, not advocating for it.

Trap of the Question: The trap lies in the seemingly plausible options (C and D) that align with general environmental concerns but deviate from the author's actual critique of chemophobia.

Video Solution:



Q22. Text Solution:

Essence of the Question: This is a more challenging question. It involves identifying the

least supported statement in the context of the passage's discussion on chemicals.

- **Correct Answer - D:** The categorization of chemicals as natural or synthetic is a reliable indicator of their safety. This option is least supported by the passage, which argues against the black-and-white distinction between natural and synthetic chemicals regarding safety.
- **Incorrect Options Analysis:**
 - **A:** This is incorrect, but it's a common misconception that might align with some readers' beliefs, making it a potential trap.
 - **B:** The passage explicitly states this perception, making it a supported statement.
 - **C:** This aligns with the author's argument that both types of chemicals can be harmful or beneficial.

Trap of the Question: Option A might tempt those who skim through the passage and hold preconceived notions about natural chemicals being safer.

Video Solution:



Q23. Text Solution:

Essence of the Question: The question is of moderate difficulty, asking to identify the point of a specific example in the passage.



- **Correct Answer - B:** Bananas, like many natural products, have a complex chemical makeup that often goes unrecognized. This reflects the passage's intent to demonstrate that natural products can be chemically complex, challenging the simplistic notion of 'natural equals safe.'
- **Incorrect Options Analysis:**
 - **A:** Contrary to the passage's point, this option simplifies the composition of natural products.
 - **C:** Misleads by focusing on rarity instead of complexity.
 - **D:** This introduces an unrelated concept of enhancing nutritional value, not mentioned in the passage.

Trap of the Question: Option A seems straightforward and might mislead those who miss the passage's emphasis on the complexity of natural products.

Video Solution:



Q24. Text Solution:

Essence of the Question: This is a tricky question, focusing on understanding the nuanced discussion of formaldehyde in the passage.

- **Correct Answer - A:** There is a widespread misconception that only

synthetic formaldehyde poses health risks, while natural sources are harmless. This directly mirrors the passage's discussion of the public's skewed perception of formaldehyde, regardless of its natural or synthetic origin.

- **Incorrect Options Analysis:**
 - **B:** Overgeneralizes the perceived harmfulness of formaldehyde.
 - **C:** Incorrect as the passage clearly states there is a difference in public perception.
 - **D:** This is a reversal of the passage's point, claiming only synthetic formaldehyde is dangerous.

Trap of the Question: Option D might seem logical to those who skimmed the passage and caught only parts of the formaldehyde discussion.

Video Solution:



Q25. Text Solution:

Essence of the Question: This question is complex, requiring the identification of a statement that would weaken the passage's argument.

- **Correct Answer - C:** Extensive research has proven that synthetic chemicals are inherently more harmful than natural ones, regardless of dosage and usage. If this were true, it would directly contradict



the passage's argument that the distinction between natural and synthetic chemicals in terms of safety is misleading..

• **Incorrect Options Analysis:**

- **A:** While it seems to counter the passage's point, it doesn't directly challenge the core arguments about the misconception.
- **B:** This option actually supports the passages' argument rather than weakening.
- **D:** This introduces consumer preferences, which doesn't directly challenge the scientific argument in the passage.

Trap of the Question: Option B might appear to weaken the argument but actually reinforces the passage's point about the irrational fear of synthetic chemicals.

Video Solution:



Q26. Text Solution:

Essence and Hint of the Question: The question probes an understanding of the nuanced and often overlooked contributions of international trade to the U.S. economy, focusing on how competition, innovation, and the allocation of savings into higher-skilled jobs contribute to unseen economic growth.

Correct Answer: Option B

This option is correct because the passage emphasizes that trade is central to "creative destruction"—a process where firms are pushed to innovate or risk failure due to global competition. It also mentions how the savings from cheaper foreign goods are reinvested into domestic companies and higher-skilled workers, contributing to better jobs, better companies, and improved living standards. The passage states, "international competition has long pushed American companies...to improve their products or go out of business" and "the money Americans save...is often spent on, or invested in, domestic companies and their higher-skilled workers."

Incorrect Answers:

Option A is incorrect because the passage argues that producing everything domestically is "costly and wasteful," emphasizing that trade allows for specialization and access to foreign goods that improve efficiency. It states, "Just as making everything at home is costly and wasteful, so is making everything in America." Therefore, self-reliance is not portrayed as a benefit of trade in the passage.

Option C is incorrect because the passage highlights that international trade, including foreign direct investment, supports high-skilled jobs rather than preserving low-skilled manufacturing positions. It points out that trade supports "jobs that can pay better than those in manufacturing, even for workers without a college degree," and it underscores the importance of higher-skilled domestic jobs over low-skilled ones.

Option D is false because the passage highlights that trade enhances competition rather than insulating American manufacturers. It stresses that international competition compels companies to improve, stating that "trade is a cornerstone of 'creative destruction'...domestic innovation and increase living standards." The idea of limiting



competition contradicts the central message of the passage, which praises competition for fostering innovation.

Video Solution:



Q27. Text Solution:

Essence and Hint of the Question: The question examines the connection between corporate gains from international trade and the broader impact on American employment, focusing on how trade creates jobs in both goods and services sectors, supports high-paying roles, and leads to overall economic growth.

Correct Answer: Option C

This option is correct because the passage states that trade supports a broad range of jobs, both in goods-producing and services-producing industries. It mentions that "trade directly or indirectly supports more than 40 million jobs in goods- and services-producing industries," and highlights that foreign direct investment (FDI) further supports about 8 million jobs. This shows that corporate gains from trade have a wide-reaching impact on employment across various sectors, not just in manufacturing.

Explanation of Incorrect Answers:

Option A is incorrect because the passage explicitly states that trade supports both goods- and services-producing industries.

While manufacturing is affected, the majority

of U.S. jobs created by trade are not limited to manufacturing. The passage explains that "trade directly or indirectly supports more than 40 million jobs in goods- and services-producing industries." Therefore, the idea that trade primarily affects manufacturing is misleading.

Option B is incorrect because the passage explains that many jobs created through trade pay better than traditional manufacturing jobs, even for workers without a college degree. It notes, "jobs that can pay better than those in manufacturing, even for workers without a college degree." This shows that trade does not primarily create low-wage jobs, but rather helps support higher-paying positions across various industries.

Option D is false because the passage focuses on how trade directly creates jobs domestically rather than simply balancing labor through outsourcing. It highlights that trade supports millions of jobs within the U.S., stating, "trade directly or indirectly supports more than 40 million jobs." The mention of foreign competition relates to fostering innovation and better products, but it does not suggest that outsourcing is the key driver of job creation.

Video Solution:



Q28. Text Solution:



Essence and Hint of the Question: The question explores the impact of international trade on manufacturing companies and workers, specifically focusing on how trade influences competition, innovation, and the use of imports in production. The correct answer identifies a false statement about trade reducing foreign competition, which contradicts the passage's emphasis on the pressure trade places on manufacturers to innovate.

Correct Answer: Option D

This option is incorrect because the passage explains that international competition forces American companies to improve their products or risk going out of business, rather than allowing them to focus on domestic markets. The passage states that "international competition has long pushed American companies...to improve their products or go out of business." It does not suggest that trade enables companies to narrow their focus to domestic markets or merely improve import efficiency.

Explanation of Incorrect Answers:

Option A is correct based on the passage, which explains that companies benefit from imports by using them to create more sophisticated products. The passage mentions, "Companies benefit from imports, either by moving or selling foreign-made items in the United States or by using them to produce other, more sophisticated products." This highlights how trade positively impacts manufacturing companies by lowering costs and encouraging innovation.

Option B is correct, as the passage provides detailed figures about the impact of FDI in the U.S. manufacturing sector. It states that "Total FDI assets in the U.S. manufacturing sector alone hit USD 1.8 trillion in 2019, and majority-owned affiliates of all foreign multinational companies contributed USD 1.1 trillion to U.S.

GDP." These numbers show the substantial role of FDI in supporting GDP growth and employment in the manufacturing industry. Option C is correct as well. The passage emphasizes that international competition encourages U.S. manufacturers to innovate. It states, "International competition has long pushed American companies (e.g., 'Big 3' automakers) to improve their products or go out of business." This shows that trade fosters innovation and higher-quality products by putting pressure on companies to stay competitive.

Video Solution:



Q29. Text Solution:

Essence and Hint of the Question: This question examines how U.S. consumers benefit from international trade by focusing on the availability of cheaper, better-quality goods and the overall impact on living standards and work hours. The correct answer highlights the passage's emphasis on trade's ability to provide consumer gains through imports.

Correct Answer: Option B

This option is correct because the passage explains that consumers benefit directly from trade through access to cheaper, better, and more varied products. It states, "Trade's most direct and obvious benefits accrue to consumers, mainly from imports that both provide cheaper, better, or more varied goods



and services.” Additionally, it highlights that consumer gains from trade have led to improved living standards, with Americans working fewer hours to afford more and better goods: “Americans today work far fewer hours to own more and better essentials than at any prior time in U.S. history.”

Explanation of Incorrect Answers:

Option A is incorrect because the passage doesn’t mention reducing dependence on domestic goods as a primary consumer benefit. Instead, it focuses on the advantages of accessing more and better products through imports, not a shift away from domestic products. The key is that consumers benefit from variety and competition, not just lower prices for foreign goods.

Option C is false because the passage suggests that competition from foreign products drives innovation and competitive pricing, not just domestic competition. It states that imports “promote competition and innovation here at home,” but this does not imply that local companies capture the market—rather, they must compete with foreign goods.

Option D is incorrect because the passage does not mention foreign labor hours or global production costs as primary consumer benefits. Instead, it focuses on how U.S. consumers benefit directly from cheaper imports, improved product variety, and the overall impact on living standards. The idea of foreign labor reductions driving down costs is not supported by the passage.

Video Solution:



Q30. Text Solution:

Essence and Hint of the Question: The question tests understanding of factual data about how international trade impacts U.S. employment and GDP. The correct answer highlights the misconception that trade creates mostly low-wage manufacturing jobs, while the passage demonstrates that trade-related jobs, especially in services, offer competitive wages and contribute broadly to economic growth.

Correct Answer: Option D

This option is factually incorrect because the passage explicitly states that jobs related to international trade, including those for workers without a college degree, often pay better than traditional manufacturing roles. It mentions “jobs that can pay better than those in manufacturing, even for workers without a college degree,” indicating that service industry jobs created through trade can offer higher pay than manufacturing jobs, not the other way around.

Explanation of Incorrect Answers:

Option A is accurate. The passage provides specific figures, stating that “wholesale trade, retail trade, and transportation and warehousing activities contributed USD 3.1 trillion to the U.S. gross domestic product (GDP) in 2019,” showing that these sectors were significantly impacted by international trade.



Option B is also correct. The passage clearly outlines that “total FDI assets in the U.S. manufacturing sector alone hit \$1.8 trillion in 2019,” and “majority-owned affiliates of all foreign multinational companies contributed USD 1.1 trillion to U.S. GDP.” These figures reflect the importance of FDI to the U.S. economy.

Option C is correct based on the passage, which states that “trade directly or indirectly supports more than 40 million jobs in goods- and services-producing industries,” and “FDI supports about 8 million jobs.” These figures

highlight the extensive impact of trade on U.S. employment.

Video Solution:



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