RW question 4

Participants' Evaluation of the Likelihood That Robots Can Work Effectively in Different Occupations

Occupation	Somewhat or very unlikely (%)	Neutral (%)	Somewhat or very likely (%)
television news anchor	24	9	67
teacher	37	16	47
firefighter	62	9	30
surgeon	74	9	16
tour guide	10	8	82

Rows in table may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Georgia Tech roboticists De'Aira Bryant and Ayanna Howard, along with ethicist Jason Borenstein, were interested in people's perceptions of robots' competence. They recruited participants and asked them how likely they think it is that a robot could do the work required in various occupations. Participants' evaluations varied widely depending on which occupation was being considered; for example, _____

Which choice most effectively uses data from the table to complete the example?

A) 82% of participants believe that it is somewhat or very likely that a robot could work effectively as a tour guide, but only 16% believe that it is somewhat or very likely that a robot could work as a surgeon.

B) 47% of participants believe that it is somewhat or very likely that a robot could work effectively as a teacher, but 37% of respondents believe that it is somewhat or very unlikely that a robot could do so.

C) 9% of participants were neutral about whether a robot could work effectively as a television news anchor, which is the same percent of participants who were neutral when asked about a robot working as a surgeon.

D) 62% of participants believe that it is somewhat or very unlikely that a robot could work effectively as a firefighter.

Key	A
Domain	Information and Ideas
Skill	Command of Evidence (Quantitative)

Key Explanation: Choice A is the best answer. This choice supports the claim by contrasting two occupations that survey participants gave widely divergent probabilities of robots working effectively in: tour guide (82 percent) and surgeon (16 percent).

Distractor Explanations: Choice B is incorrect because it focuses on only one occupation—that of teacher—and therefore does not illustrate how survey participants' views of the likelihood of robots working effectively vary widely by occupation. **Choice C** is incorrect because although it does compare survey participants' views of robots working effectively in two occupations, the percentages cited for television news anchor and surgeon are the same, not widely varied. **Choice D** is incorrect because it focuses on only one occupation—that of firefighter—and therefore does not illustrate how survey participants' views of the likelihood of robots working effectively vary widely by occupation.