

The passage below is accompanied by a set of 5 questions. Choose the best answer for each question.

What does it take to be a good person? What makes someone a good doctor, therapist or parent? What guides policy-makers to make wise and moral decisions? Many believe that empathy — the capacity to experience the feelings of others, and particularly others' suffering — is essential to all of these roles. I argue that this is a mistake, often a tragic one.

Empathy acts like a spotlight, focusing one's attention on a single individual in the here and now. This can have positive effects, but it can also lead to short-sighted and unfair moral actions. And it is subject to bias — both laboratory studies and anecdotal experiences show that empathy flows most for those who look like us, who are attractive and who are non-threatening and familiar.

When we appreciate that skin color does not determine who we should care about, for example, or that a crisis such as climate change has great significance — even though it is an abstract threat — we are transcending empathy. A good policy maker makes decisions using reason, aspiring toward the sort of fairness and impartiality empathy doesn't provide. Empathy isn't just a reflex, of course. We can choose to empathize and stir empathy for others. But this flexibility can be a curse. Our empathy can be exploited by others, as when cynical politicians tell stories of victims of rape or assault and use our empathy for these victims to stoke hatred against vulnerable groups, such as undocumented immigrants.

For those in the helping professions, compassion and understanding are critically important. But not empathy — feeling the suffering of others too acutely leads to exhaustion, burnout and ineffective work. No good therapist is awash with anxiety when working with an anxious patient. Some distance is required. The essayist Leslie Jamison has a great description of this, in writing about a good doctor who helped her: "His calmness didn't make me feel abandoned, it made me feel secure," she wrote. "I wanted to look at him and see the opposite of my fear, not its echo." Or consider a parent dealing with a teenager who is panicked because she left her homework to the last minute. It's hardly good parenting to panic along with her. Good parents care for their children and understand them, but don't necessarily absorb their suffering.

Rationality alone isn't enough to be a good person; you also need some sort of motivation. But compassion — caring for others without feeling their pain — does the trick quite nicely. Empathy and compassion are distinct: Recent neuroscience studies, including some fascinating work on the power of meditation, show that compassion is distinct from empathy, with all its benefits and few of its costs. Many of life's deepest pleasures, such as engagement with novels, movies and

1) According to the author, wise and moral decisions are guided by ...

- ☐ Empathy, rationality and compassion.
- ☐ Rationality, guided by a genuine motivational factor.
- ☒ Rationality, fairness and impartiality. ✓
- ☐ Both empathy and compassion in equal measure.

Video Explanation:

Explanation:

Paragraph 3 states explicitly that "A good policy maker makes decisions using reason, aspiring toward the sort of fairness and impartiality empathy doesn't provide." Option 1 is an incorrect reading of the passage — the author implies that empathy and rationality cannot exist together. Option 2 makes one a good person (Last paragraph). Option 4 is incorrect as empathy and compassion are distinct — may not exist together. Hence, [3].

Correct Answer:

Time taken by you: **367 secs**

Avg Time taken by all students: **176 secs**

Your Attempt: **Correct**

% Students got it correct: **53 %**

2) Which of the following is TRUE about empathy?

- ☒ Decisions based on empathy are potentially prejudicial to others and ill-considered. ✓
- ☐ Empathy is an involuntary emotion that enables one to put oneself in another's shoes.
- ☐ Empathy forms an irreplaceable part of helping professions like nursing and counselling.
- ☐ Only when empathy is combined with rationality can we lend wise help to those in need.

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“Empathy acts like a spotlight, focusing one's attention on a single individual in the here and now. This can have positive effects, but it can also lead to short-sighted and unfair moral actions.” This idea is paraphrased in option 1. Therefore, option [4] is incorrect. Refer paragraph 4: “For those in the helping professions, compassion and understanding are critically important. But not empathy...” Thus, option [3] contradicts the passage in saying that empathy is a vital part of helping professions. The word ‘involuntary’ invalidates option [2]—empathy is only one of the many alternatives to being a good person. As long as we can choose not to empathize with someone, it’s a voluntary emotion. Refer paragraph 2: “And it is subject to bias — both laboratory studies and anecdotal experiences show that empathy flows most for those who look like us, who are attractive and who are non-threatening and familiar.” Therefore, option [1] is true in what it says about empathy. Hence, [1].

Correct Answer:

Time taken by you: 51 secs

Avg Time taken by all students: 71 secs

Your Attempt: Correct

% Students got it correct: 52 %

3) Which of the following best describes what the passage is trying to convey?

- ☐ Reason, rather than empathy, should guide action as it aspires to fairness and impartiality.
- ☐ The terms empathy and compassion are often incorrectly used interchangeably.
- ☐ It is not just empathy that embodies humaneness, but also compassion and reason.
- ☒ There are many alternatives available to shaping yourself into a better fellow human.

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Paragraph 5 says that “empathy and compassion are distinct...” Though, nowhere does the passage say that they are often used interchangeably. All through the passage, the author tries to discard the unnecessary importance that we attribute to empathy with regard to providing assistance to somebody in need. Therefore, option [3] is incorrect in associating empathy with humaneness (as far as the passage is concerned). Refer paragraph 5: “Empathy has its place. But when it comes to being a good person, there are better alternatives.” Though, the passage is not all about the many alternatives we can avail in the process of being a good person, as option [4] claims. It aims to enlighten its readers about the ineffectiveness of empathy when it comes to being of use to another person. Option [1] rightly states the author’s central argument.Hence, [1].

Correct Answer:

Time taken by you: 36 secs

Avg Time taken by all students: 39 secs

Your Attempt: Wrong

% Students got it correct: 33 %

4) According to the author, when do we “transcend empathy” (Paragraph 3)?

- When we ‘feel with’ another person, identify with them and sense the abstract threats they're experiencing.
- When we give up our sense of individuality and identify with those belonging to other groups, gender, tribes, nations, races or classes.
- When distinctions of ethnicity, religion and other identity badges determine our ability to experience the suffering of others.
- When we pay attention to the emotions of people who differ from us in terms of ethnicity, nationality and the like.

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Explanation:

Option 1 is empathy itself hence not the transcending of it. Option 2 is incorrect, because we do not transcend by giving up our identity with the other— e.g., a white man need not give up his identity and identify himself with blacks. Even this may be the conventional definition of empathy and not transcending it. In other words, ‘trying to be in another person’s shoes’ is not transcending empathy. Option 3 is the convenient form of empathy - for people who are like us. Option 4 is correct. The passage states: “When we appreciate that skin color does not determine who we should care about, for example, or that a crisis such as climate change has great significance — even though it is an abstract threat — we are transcending empathy.” In effect, we choose to care about people without the distinction of ethnicity or ideology, we transcend empathy. Hence option 4 expresses the same idea. Hence, [4].

Correct Answer:

Time taken by you: **104 secs**

Avg Time taken by all students: **30 secs**

Your Attempt: **Skipped**

% Students got it correct: **22 %**

5) Which of the following, if true, would make the author’s thesis less supportable?

- ☐ Many people believe that empathy — in the sense of feeling others' feelings — is central to being a good person.
- ☐ Empathy includes not only emotion-sharing but sharing, thinking about, and caring for others’ suffering.
- ☒ When people believe that empathy is under their control, they start identifying with the emotions of people who are different from them. ✖
- ☐ When people rely on reason to guide morality they have a tendency to confirm what they already believe.

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The main idea of the passage is that reason should guide action and not empathy. Empathy creates bias and unfair moral actions but reason is objective and moral. Option 4 states that reason itself is flawed as people can’t be objective and through reason they merely confirm their biases. This weakens the emphasis on reason. Option 1 does not affect the author’s argument — “many people believe...” is a divergent opinion which does not make his argument less supportable. Options 2 and 3 expand the scope of empathy and do not make the author’s argument less supportable. Hence, [4].

Correct Answer:

Time taken by you: **67 secs**

Avg Time taken by all students: **29 secs**

Your Attempt: **Wrong**

% Students got it correct: **31 %**

Loading...

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BREXIT is such an all-consuming process for the British—at once a drama, a muddle and a mess—that it is easy to forget that it is part of something bigger: a crisis of liberalism in the west. A growing number of countries have had their own equivalents of Brexit: ...Donald Trump, the populist government in Italy; the revolt in Spain, the rise of populist authoritarians in Russia, Hungary, Poland and, to some extent, India.

It's worth taking a break from the ins-and-outs of Brexit to look at the bigger picture, partly because the bigger picture helps us to understand Brexit better and partly because... we need to understand the causes of popular discontent. Why is liberalism in such a mess? And how can (we) get out of it? But ... what does this slippery word mean?

There are two misleading definitions of "liberalism". The first is the American idea that liberalism means left-wing progressivism. This definition was foisted on the American left by Republicans in the 1970s: the likes of Richard Nixon and George Bush senior liked to talk about "limousine liberals" who advocated "progressive" policies on crime and social integration so long as they could protect themselves from the consequences of those policies, e.g., by sending their children to private schools and living in gated communities. Since then some progressives have worn the badge with pride. But American progressivism, particularly in its current iteration, with its growing obsession with group rights and group identities, is incompatible with the liberalism as I'm going to use it. The second is the classical idea that liberalism means small-government libertarianism.

I'm going to use liberalism in the British sense: to mean a philosophy that began as small-government libertarianism but has acquired many new meanings over the years. Liberalism was inspired by the three great revolutions of the late 18th century—the American Revolution, the French Revolution and the Industrial Revolution. It began as a small-government philosophy..., but later made its peace with bigger government. Liberalism is a pragmatic philosophy that is constantly evolving. The central idea of liberalism is the primacy of the individual rather than the collective. But in his brilliant history, "Liberalism: the Life of an Idea", Edmund Fawcett makes clear that liberalism involves four other ideas: the inescapability of conflict, distrust of power, faith in progress, and civic respect.

Discussions of the crisis of liberalism usually emphasize practical things. The global financial crisis (2008) destroyed people's faith in both the wisdom of technocrats and the fairness of the system. Liberal icons such as Tony Blair and Barack Obama over-reached—Mr Blair in Iraq and Mr Obama in the culture wars. A magic circle of companies and entrepreneurs piled up too much wealth. I want to suggest a more wide-ranging explanation that focuses on the life of the mind: liberalism as a philosophy has been captured by a technocratic-managerial-cosmopolitan elite. A creed that started off as a critique of the existing power structure—that, indeed, has suspicion of concentrations of power at the molten core of its philosophy—is being misused as a tool by one of the most powerful elites in history. Liberalism has, in effect, been turned on its head and become the opposite of what it was when it started out. It is

1) According to the author, which of the following is the "crisis of liberalism in the west"?

- ☐ The hypocrisy of the left wing progressivism obsessed with group rights and identities.
- ☐ The failure of liberalism to incorporate the four ideas of Edmund Fawcett.
- ☐ The loss of faith in liberalism owing to the failure of technocrats and world leaders.
- ☒ The capture of liberalism by technocratic-managerial-cosmopolitan elite. ✓

Video Explanation: ▼

Explanation: ▼

The crisis of liberalism in the west is mentioned in the first paragraph and then examined in the last paragraph. In between, the author traces the meaning of liberalism and how liberalism has evolved in time. In the last paragraph he states that, "Discussions of the crisis of liberalism usually emphasize practical things... I want to suggest a more wide-ranging explanation that focuses on the life of the mind: liberalism as a philosophy has been captured by a technocratic-managerial-cosmopolitan elite." As a result, "liberalism has, in effect, been turned on its head and become the opposite of what it was when it started out." This idea is repeated in option 4. Options 1 and 3 are not stated as the crisis, but anecdotes in the evolution of liberalism. Option 2 is not suggested by the passage. Hence, [4].

Correct Answer: ▼

Time taken by you: **414 secs**

Avg Time taken by all students: **155 secs**

Your Attempt: **Correct**

% Students got it correct: **41 %**

2) The term "limousine liberals" [Paragraph 3] is used: —

- ☐ as a deprecatory term to illustrate the hypocritical behavior of the upper class.
- ☒ as the ideal products of left wing progressivism in America. ✗
- ☐ as a pejorative term to describe the American liberals of the Right wing.
- ☐ as a description of the elite egalitarians who believed in mass education.

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Explanation: ▼

The author mentions ‘limousine liberals’ as those who subscribed to “left wing progressivism.’ The term refers to people who advocated equality (progressive policies on social integration) while they themselves led luxurious lives. Thus they are hypocritical. Option1 brings this out. Option 2 is incorrect as they are not products but advocates of left wing liberalism. Option 3 is incorrect as there is no mention of right wing liberals, if any. Nixon and Bush (Republicans) spoke about ‘limousine liberals,’ they are not termed as limousine liberals. Option 4 is adistracter. Limousine liberals are not related to any particular group’s view on education. Hence, [1].

Correct Answer: ▼

Time taken by you: **53 secs**Avg Time taken by all students: **80 secs**Your Attempt: **Wrong**% Students got it correct: **70 %**

3) Which of the following governments will be conforming to the author’s concept of liberalism? —

- ☒ A small government which effectively guides policy and regulates private sector, and allows for legitimate checks on individual freedom. ✖
- ☐ A government that may be large but with minimal involvement in public policy and private sector, and which allows maximum individual freedom.
- ☐ A small government with maximum governance.
- ☐ Self-governed societies based on voluntary and cooperative institutions, and marked by the absence of a central government.

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The 4th paragraph has details about what the author thinks of liberalism. “I’m going to use liberalism ... to mean a philosophy that began as small-government libertarianism but has acquired many new meanings over the years. ... It began as a small-government philosophy..., but later made its peace with bigger government. ...The central idea of liberalism is the primacy of the individual rather than the collective.” The writer would also want to factor in Edmund Fawcett’s four ideas. Option 2 best summarizes this idea. Options 1 and 3 almost mean the same thing. The author wouldn’t be for maximum governance, besides “governance” being vague. Option 4 is the absence of government. There is no information in the passage that the author would prefer such a system.Hence, [2].

Correct Answer: ▼

Time taken by you: **67 secs**

Avg Time taken by all students: **51 secs**

Your Attempt: **Wrong**

% Students got it correct: **43 %**

4) According to the author, all of the following undermine ‘liberalism’ EXCEPT: —

- ☐ The rise of populist authoritarian governments in several countries in the world.
- ☒ The flexibility of liberalism in responding to social and political challenges. ✓
- ☐ The capture of liberalism by the elite as a tool to uphold its own power.
- ☐ The concentration of wealth in a miniscule percentage of the population.

Video Explanation: ▼

Explanation: ▼

The rise of populist and authoritarian governments is said to be the crisis in liberalism in the first paragraph, thus it undermines liberalism. ‘A magic circle of companies and entrepreneurs piling up wealth and the capture of liberalism by the elite are examples of how liberalism is undermined. These are examples in the last paragraph. So options 3 and 4 are eliminated. In the fourth paragraph the author says that liberalism is a pragmatic philosophy that is constantly evolving. So the flexibility shown by liberalism will not undermine it but strengthen it.Hence, [2].

Correct Answer: ▼

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BREXIT is such an all-consuming process for the British—at once a drama, a muddle and a mess—that it is easy to forget that it is part of something bigger: a crisis of liberalism in the west. A growing number of countries have had their own equivalents of Brexit: ...Donald Trump, the populist government in Italy; the revolt in Spain, the rise of populist authoritarians in Russia, Hungary, Poland and, to some extent, India.

It's worth taking a break from the ins-and-outs of Brexit to look at the bigger picture, partly because the bigger picture helps us to understand Brexit better and partly because... we need to understand the causes of popular discontent. Why is liberalism in such a mess? And how can (we) get out of it? But ... what does this slippery word mean?

There are two misleading definitions of “liberalism”. The first is the American idea that liberalism means left-wing progressivism. This definition was foisted on the American left by Republicans in the 1970s: the likes of Richard Nixon and George Bush senior liked to talk about “limousine liberals” who advocated “progressive” policies on crime and social integration so long as they could protect themselves from the consequences of those policies, e.g., by sending their children to private schools and living in gated communities. Since then some progressives have worn the badge with pride. But American progressivism, particularly in its current iteration, with its growing obsession with group rights and group identities, is incompatible with the liberalism as I’m going to use it. The second is the classical idea that liberalism means small-government libertarianism.

I’m going to use liberalism in the British sense: to mean a philosophy that began as small-government libertarianism but has acquired many new meanings over the years. Liberalism was inspired by the three great revolutions of the late 18th century—the American Revolution, the French Revolution and the Industrial Revolution. It began as a small-government philosophy..., but later made its peace with bigger government. Liberalism is a pragmatic philosophy that is constantly evolving. The central idea of liberalism is the primacy of the individual rather than the collective. But in his brilliant history, “Liberalism: the Life of an Idea”, Edmund Fawcett makes clear that liberalism involves four other ideas: the inescapability of conflict, distrust of power, faith in progress, and civic respect.

Discussions of the crisis of liberalism usually emphasize practical things. The global financial crisis (2008) destroyed people’s faith in both the wisdom of technocrats and the fairness of the system. Liberal icons such as Tony Blair and Barack Obama over-reached—Mr Blair in Iraq and Mr Obama in the culture wars. A magic circle of companies and entrepreneurs piled up too much wealth. I want to suggest a more wide-ranging explanation that focuses on the life of the mind: liberalism as a philosophy has been captured by a technocratic-managerial-cosmopolitan elite. A creed that started off as a critique of the existing power structure—that, indeed, has suspicion of concentrations of power at the molten core of its philosophy—is being misused as a tool by one of the most powerful elites in history. Liberalism has, in effect, been turned on its head and become the opposite of what it was when it started out. It is

Avg Time taken by all students: 46 secs

Your Attempt: Correct

% Students got it correct: 72 %

5) The main objective of the passage is:

- ☐ To understand why liberalism is currently in a mess, and to examine the causes of rising popular discontent.
- ☐ To try to understand the bigger picture behind Brexit, and why Brexit is such an all-consuming drama and a mess.
- ☐ To examine the recent rise of populist authoritarianism in the West and in a growing number of countries in the world.
- ☒ To present the perspective on how liberalism is no longer what it was meant to be and to highlight the need to reclaim it.

Video Explanation:

Explanation:

The main purpose of the passage is succinctly stated in the last sentence of the passage: “Liberalism has, in effect, been turned on its head and become the opposite of what it was when it started out. It is time to put it back on its feet.” In order to make this purpose explicit the author begins with the example of Brexit as a ‘crisis of liberalism’ (options 1 and 2 are thus only a starting point and not the main purpose); the author states that Brexit is not an isolated phenomenon (option 3 is thus a broader example and not the main purpose), and then tries to define liberalism and how liberalism has changed its meaning over the years. The author then concludes by stating that there is a need to reclaim liberalism for what it was meant to be. Option 4 is a precise statement of that purpose. Hence, [4].

Correct Answer:

Time taken by you: 20 secs

Avg Time taken by all students: 71 secs

Your Attempt: Correct

% Students got it correct: 65 %

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Loading...

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The passage below is accompanied by a set of 5 questions. Choose the best answer for each question.

One of the biggest questions in ageing research is whether there is a ceiling on how long human beings can live. A recent study, published in Science, suggests there isn't. The study measured the survival probabilities of 3,896 people in Italy aged 105 and older. It found that, while we are much more likely to die at 75 than at 55, once we reach about 105, the odds of death remain about the same each year of life.

This effect is often referred to as a "mortality plateau". If it were impossible to live past a certain age, we would expect mortality rates to continue rising as people age, rather than plateau. The fact that the odds of dying don't appear to increase past 105 suggests that we have not yet approached our maximum lifespan as a species. But is potentially living for over a century something we ought to look forward to? Here, philosophy can offer some important insights.

Of course, we still don't know for sure that there is no ceiling. Some researchers argue that there is a natural "expiration date" for human beings, at about 125 years. Chiyo Miyako is currently the oldest known person in the world, at 117 years old. Jeanne Calment, who died in 1997, had the longest recorded lifespan, at 122 years. In the UK, the number of people over the age of 100 has more than doubled since 2002, and could reach 36,000 by 2030. If there is a mortality plateau, by the year 2300 the oldest person alive could be about 150 years old.

Would a maximum lifespan of 150 make our lives better or just longer? One way of thinking about this is in terms of pleasure and pain: the more pleasure (and the less pain) we have over the course of our lives, the better our lives are. Other things being equal, a life which lasts 100 years is better than one that lasts 80 years, as long as the extra 20 years contain more pleasure than they do pain.

How likely an outcome is this? As people age, they are much more likely to develop degenerative conditions that could lead to a lower quality of life. But these conditions can be mitigated by a healthy lifestyle and adequate support services. While elderly life may be restricted in some ways, there is no reason that it cannot be, on balance, pleasurable.

The late philosopher Ronald Dworkin distinguished between "experiential interests" and "critical interests" to shed light on how people may view their life goals. Experiential interests are for things like pleasure – anything we enjoy

1) The author suggests that confirming the limits, if any, of the human life span is: —

- ☐ A fundamental aspect of understanding the process by which humans age.
- ☒ An unavoidable outcome of the various scientific studies that are ongoing. ✗
- ☐ Dependent on the number of years lived after reaching the "mortality plateau."
- ☐ Never going to be easy as there are too many variables involved.

Video Explanation: ▼

Explanation: ▼

The author only asserts option 1. None of the others are implied by her. Refer the second line of the passage: "One of the biggest questions in ageing research is whether there is a ceiling on how long human beings can live." The first four paragraphs discuss this 'ceiling' if any as a fundamental idea that can help answer the question of whether a long life is desirable or not. The fifth paragraph begins by stating: "Would a maximum lifespan of 150 make our lives better or just longer?" Hence, [1].

Correct Answer: ▼

Time taken by you: **421 secs**

Avg Time taken by all students: **59 secs**

Your Attempt: **Wrong**

% Students got it correct: **17 %**

2) In the author's opinion, the human life span: —

- ☐ must have a limit beyond which it cannot extend.
- ☐ is determined largely by healthy lifestyle and available support services.
- ☒ is unknown. ✓
- ☐ is about 125 years.

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Explanation: ▼

The author is unclear about whether the human life span has a limit. Refer the first line of paragraph 3: "Of course, we still don't know for sure that there is no ceiling." In paragraph 5, he states: "If there is a mortality plateau..." The author makes no speculation whether life 'must have' a limit. Hence 1 is incorrect. Option 2 is said about the quality of life in later life. Option 4 is the estimate of some researchers. Hence, [3].

Correct Answer: ▼

Time taken by you: **10 secs**

Avg Time taken by all students: **74 secs**

Your Attempt: **Correct**

% Students got it correct: **60 %**

3) Which of the following best expresses the overall argument of the passage? —

- ☐ Essential interests must be met for a long life span to be useful.
- ☐ Critical interests are more important than experiential interests to sustain a long life.
- ☐ Avoiding indignities in the later stage of life is essential to a successful long life.
- ☒ Philosophers offer insights on whether a long life makes our lives better or just longer. ✓

Video Explanation: ▼

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One of the biggest questions in ageing research is whether there is a ceiling on how long human beings can live. A recent study, published in Science, suggests there isn't. The study measured the survival probabilities of 3,896 people in Italy aged 105 and older. It found that, while we are much more likely to die at 75 than at 55, once we reach about 105, the odds of death remain about the same each year of life.

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The passage is structured into two halves: the first part refers to the research on life span ceiling and the second part dwells on the philosophical basis on which to evaluate longer life spans. Paragraph 2 also states: "But is potentially living for over a century something we ought to look forward to? Here, philosophy can offer some important insights." Thus, the correct answer is option 4. Options 1, 2 and 3 directly or indirectly are supported by the passage, but they do not express the main argument. Hence, [4].

Correct Answer: ▼

Time taken by you: **91 secs**

Avg Time taken by all students: **54 secs**

Your Attempt: **Correct**

% Students got it correct: **54 %**

4) Which of the following, if true, casts the most serious doubt on the conclusion that '... we have not yet approached our maximum lifespan as a species' [Paragraph 2]? —

- ☐ The years of birth of people who claimed to be more than a century old were largely speculative and based on their own unreliable memory.
- ☐ Studies on multiple species other than humans suggest that at the far end of their lifespan the probability of dying increases.
- ☐ Studies on multiple species, including humans, have found that the probability of death slows, or even plateaus beyond the age of 105.
- ☒ A variety of factors including demography, ethnicity, lifestyle habits, genetics etc., have the effect of producing a slowing of apparent mortality at the end of the lifespan. ✖

Video Explanation: ▼

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The conclusion appears in the passage with the following justification: " (Study) found that, while we are much more likely to die at 75 than at 55, once we reach about 105, the odds of death remain about the same each year of life. This effect is often referred to as a "mortality plateau". If it were impossible to live past a certain age, we would expect mortality rates to continue rising as people age, rather than plateau. The fact that the odds of dying don't appear to increase past 105 suggests that we have not yet approached our maximum lifespan as a species. But is potentially living for over a century something we ought to look forward to?" Effectively, the conclusion is based on the observation that probability of death slows/plateaus after 105 years. Option 1 challenges this fact as 100 year old people had poor memories and their ages were speculative. The study can no longer be relied upon. "Multiple species' eliminates option 2. Option 3 strengthens the conclusion. Option 4 is irrelevant to the study related to life span. Hence, [1].

Correct Answer:

Time taken by you: **42 secs**

Avg Time taken by all students: **39 secs**

Your Attempt: **Wrong**

% Students got it correct: **34 %**

5) In paragraph 6, the interrogative: "How likely an outcome is this?" is:

- ☐ a predictive question linking long life and pleasure.
- ☐ a rhetorical question to indicate the opposite.
- ☒ a query intended to lead from theory to rationale. ✓
- ☐ a retort to the statement that having fun at a much older age is plausible.

Video Explanation:

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Refer paragraphs 5 and 6. "Other things being equal, a life which lasts 100 years is better than one that lasts 80 years, as long as the extra 20 years contain more pleasure than they do pain. How likely an outcome is this? While elderly life may be restricted in some ways, there is no reason that it cannot be, on balance, pleasurable." (Eliminates option 2) The following sentences after the query state that the hypothesis stated prior to the query, is perfectly plausible given certain facts." Thus the phrase is intended to lead from theory to rationale. Hence, [3].

Correct Answer: ▼

Time taken by you: **74 secs**

Avg Time taken by all students: **26 secs**

Your Attempt: **Correct**

% Students got it correct: **25 %**

Loading...

The passage below is accompanied by a set of 5 questions. Choose the best answer for each question.

Faced with unfavourable, often seasonal, changes in climate or habitat quality, animals, from birds to butterflies and wildebeests to sea turtles, migrate vast distances—often thousands of miles—in search of more favourable conditions. They return the following year, in many cases to the exact location where their journey began. ... We know that some species use the Earth’s magnetic field to navigate with GPS-like precision and others gaze skyward and guide their migration by the stars. We are just now learning that for some animals, the key to a successful migration is all in their heads—complex thought and memory are also necessary for a successful migration. For nearly a decade, we have studied the roles of cognition, learning and memory in the migration of a fairly atypical species—the painted turtle, common to neighbourhood ponds and roadside ditches.

They’re not as charismatic as sea turtles, and they sure don’t travel as far ... but what they lack in outward charisma they make up in tenacity. When these turtles take to land each summer, migrating to new habitats when their home ponds dry up, they face seemingly insurmountable odds: scorching heat, dehydration, the crushing tug of gravity, new predatory threats from both land and air, and the ever-present threat of vehicles when crossing a road.

Painted turtles at our research site, which is on conservation land within a patchwork of old growth woodlands and agricultural fields, follow long, intricate routes with amazing precision—specific to within a few meters—to far-off, permanent water sources year after year, returning home again when the seasons next change. ... To see just where this incredible migratory behaviour came from, we introduced into our site animals without any experience migrating there and monitored their ability to respond to seasonal changes in their habitats. Naive juveniles under four years old learned to navigate the complex paths just as precisely as experienced local turtles and were able to locate far-off water sources. Naive adults could not.

How can a turtle possibly think its way through migration? They do it the same way that we do: they form and remember memories of space and place using the neurotransmitter acetylcholine. Acetylcholine has long been known to play a role in spatial memory in mammals. To test whether the turtle brain also works this way, we gave freely migrating turtles (both experienced adults and naive juveniles) mind-altering drugs that temporarily block acetylcholine in their brains.

While the drugs were active and the turtles were without access to spatial memory, the adults with previous experience in the system wandered aimlessly and were unable to follow their traditional migration routes. As soon as the drugs wore off, they got right back on track and were able to successfully migrate to their winter home. And what about naive juvenile turtles? They were unaffected by the drug; they followed the paths perfectly whether on the drug or not. Why? They had no memory to disrupt! This demonstrates that adults use spatial memory to navigate during migration, and that they form these memories as juveniles prior to the age of four. This type of higher-order cognitive processing during migration has been previously attributed only to birds and mammals.

- 1) Based on information provided in the passage, we can infer that,
- Painted turtles use neither Earth’s magnetic field nor stars to migrate.
- Painted turtles can’t navigate migratory path if the neurotransmitter acetylcholine is blocked.
- Migration of naïve juveniles of painted turtles is still an unexplained phenomenon.
- There is a critical learning period in which animals must learn to migrate.

Video Explanation:

Explanation:

We don’t have information in the passage to make the inference that painted turtles don’t use either Earth’s magnetic field or stars to migrate. Option [2] is incorrect because naïve painted turtles migrated even when under the effect of the mind-altering drug that temporarily blocked acetylcholine in their brains. The second part of the passage deals with the migratory pattern of painted turtles. Refer the last paragraph: “... adults use spatial memory to navigate during migration... they form these memories as juveniles prior to the age of four. This type of higher-order cognitive processing during migration has been previously attributed only to birds and mammals.” Here, they refers to painted turtles. The importance of a critical learning period is evident in the case of painted turtles; but, we have insufficient data to extend this conclusion to animals in general (as option 4 does). Option 3 is inferable; the passage only conveys that the neurotransmitter helps turtles form and remember memories of space and place thus enabling migration. Nevertheless, what enabled naïve juveniles (who had no memory) to migrate is still unanswered. Hence, [3].

Correct Answer:

Time taken by you: 214 secs

Avg Time taken by all students: 71 secs

Your Attempt: Correct

% Students got it correct: 12 %

- 2) Which of the following is NOT true about migration?
- Every migrating species is endowed with special faculties in order to undertake migration.
- Migration is an involuntary response to unfavourable changes in climate or habitual quality.
- Migration involves travelling long distances, often covering up to thousands of miles.
- Migration mostly ends with the species returning to the exact location from where it started.

Video Explanation:

Questions: 16 to 34 Section : Verbal Ability & Reading Comprehension		Explanation:	Change Section here ▼
The passage below is accompanied by a set of 5 questions. Choose the best answer for each question.		The first paragraph talks about migration. We can conclude option 1 to be correct from the stated fact that some species use earth’s electromagnetic field, and some are guided by the stars while some use their memory, in order to undertake a successful migration. Refer to the 1 st sentence: “Faced withunfavourable ...changes in climate or habitat quality, animals...migrate vast distances...in search of more favourable conditions.” The word involuntary makes an otherwise correct statement (option 2) incorrect. Migration is clearly not an involuntary phenomenon— if it was, naïve adult turtles would have been able to migrate just like the others. Options 3 and 4 are just a rephrasing of the first and second statements from the 1 st paragraph. Hence, [2].	
		Correct Answer:	▼
		Time taken by you: 50 secs	
		Avg Time taken by all students: 35 secs	
		Your Attempt: Correct	
		% Students got it correct: 34 %	
		3) What advantage did naïve juveniles have over naïve adults in the experiment?	—
		<input type="radio"/> The mind-altering drugs had no effect on naïve juvenile turtles.	
		<input type="radio"/> Naïve juveniles were less than four years old.	
		<input type="radio"/> Efficiency of the cognitive mechanism in turtles decreases with aging.	
		<input checked="" type="radio"/> Juveniles had no memory to disrupt while adults were blocked from theirs.	✗
		Video Explanation:	▼
		Explanation:	▼
		The passage talks about two experiments—one that involved naïve adults and another that did not. The one that included naïve adults involved introducing both naïve adults and juveniles to unfamiliar migratory grounds. And the other experiment involved injecting a mind altering drug intofreely migrating turtles (both experienced adults and naïve juveniles). In the first experiment juveniles, though inexperienced, responded well to migration while naïve adults did not. Refer to the last paragraph: “They had no memory to disrupt! This demonstrates that adults use spatial memory to navigate during migration, and that they form these memories as juveniles prior to the age of four.” Options 1 and 4 are incorrect as they mix up both experiments. Option 3 is merely a distracter—the passage doesn’t talk about a gradual decrease in cognitive mechanism. Hence, [2].	
		Correct Answer:	▼
		Time taken by you: 36 secs	
		Avg Time taken by all students: 3 secs	
		Your Attempt: Wrong	
		% Students got it correct: 3 %	
		4) All of the following aid animals in the process of migration EXCEPT:	—
		<input type="radio"/> Celestial Bodies	
		<input type="radio"/> Electromagnetic Field	
Previous	Next	Exit Review	

The passage below is accompanied by a set of 5 questions. Choose the best answer for each question.

Faced with unfavourable, often seasonal, changes in climate or habitat quality, animals, from birds to butterflies and wildebeests to sea turtles, migrate vast distances—often thousands of miles—in search of more favourable conditions. They return the following year, in many cases to the exact location where their journey began. ... We know that some species use the Earth’s magnetic field to navigate with GPS-like precision and others gaze skyward and guide their migration by the stars. We are just now learning that for some animals, the key to a successful migration is all in their heads—complex thought and memory are also necessary for a successful migration. For nearly a decade, we have studied the roles of cognition, learning and memory in the migration of a fairly atypical species—the painted turtle, common to neighbourhood ponds and roadside ditches.

They’re not as charismatic as sea turtles, and they sure don’t travel as far ... but what they lack in outward charisma they make up in tenacity. When these turtles take to land each summer, migrating to new habitats when their home ponds dry up, they face seemingly insurmountable odds: scorching heat, dehydration, the crushing tug of gravity, new predatory threats from both land and air, and the ever-present threat of vehicles when crossing a road.

Painted turtles at our research site, which is on conservation land within a patchwork of old growth woodlands and agricultural fields, follow long, intricate routes with amazing precision—specific to within a few meters—to far-off, permanent water sources year after year, returning home again when the seasons next change. ... To see just where this incredible migratory behaviour came from, we introduced into our site animals without any experience migrating there and monitored their ability to respond to seasonal changes in their habitats. Naive juveniles under four years old learned to navigate the complex paths just as precisely as experienced local turtles and were able to locate far-off water sources. Naive adults could not.

How can a turtle possibly think its way through migration? They do it the same way that we do: they form and remember memories of space and place using the neurotransmitter acetylcholine. Acetylcholine has long been known to play a role in spatial memory in mammals. To test whether the turtle brain also works this way, we gave freely migrating turtles (both experienced adults and naive juveniles) mind-altering drugs that temporarily block acetylcholine in their brains.

While the drugs were active and the turtles were without access to spatial memory, the adults with previous experience in the system wandered aimlessly and were unable to follow their traditional migration routes. As soon as the drugs wore off, they got right back on track and were able to successfully migrate to their winter home. And what about naive juvenile turtles? They were unaffected by the drug; they followed the paths perfectly whether on the drug or not. Why? They had no memory to disrupt! This demonstrates that adults use spatial memory to navigate during migration, and that they form these memories as juveniles prior to the age of four. This type of higher-order cognitive processing during migration has been previously attributed only to birds and mammals.

Video Explanation:



Explanation:



Refer paragraph 1: “We know that some species use the Earth’s magnetic field to navigate with GPS-like precision and others gaze skyward and guide their migration by the stars.” Clearly, celestial bodies and electromagnetic field (options [1] and [2]) aid migration. Option 4 is correct as found in the first paragraph, “...complex thought and memory are also necessary for a successful migration.” Mind altering drugs at best hinders migration.Hence, [3].

Correct Answer:



Time taken by you: 11 secs

Avg Time taken by all students: 32 secs

Your Attempt: Correct

% Students got it correct: 87 %

5) “The higher-order cognitive processing during migration...” [Last Paragraph] most likely refers to which of the following?



- ☐ The ability to navigate with precision using natural markers.
- ☐ The ability to learn a skill during a critical learning period in life.
- ☒ The capability of complex thought and memory during migration.✔
- ☐ The ability to react to unfavourable changes in habitat quality.

Video Explanation:



Explanation:



The phrase appears in the last paragraph: “This demonstrates that adults use spatial memory to navigate during migration...This type of higher-order cognitive processing during migration has been previously attributed only to birds and mammals.” Refer paragraph 1: “We know that some species use the Earth’s magnetic ...and others ...guide their migration by the stars. We are just now learning that for some animals, the key to a successful migration...complex thought and memory...” Natural markers in option 1 must be referring to Earth’s magnetic field and the stars. These clearly are separate from ‘complex thought and memory’ orthe higher-order cognitive processing. Option 2 talks in a general sense—the passage is specifically about migration skills, rather that skills in general. Option 4 talks of the ability to undertake migration—this would also include navigating using stars or Earth’s electromagnetic field, which are (as already stated) separate from what the passage calls “the higher-order cognitive processing during migration...” Hence, [3].

Correct Answer:



Time taken by you: 62 secs

Avg Time taken by all students: 44 secs

Your Attempt: Correct

% Students got it correct: 53 %

The passage below is accompanied by a set of 5 questions. Choose the best answer for each question.

Faced with unfavourable, often seasonal, changes in climate or habitat quality, animals, from birds to butterflies and wildebeests to sea turtles, migrate vast distances—often thousands of miles—in search of more favourable conditions. Loading... return the following year, in many cases to the exact location where their journey began. ... We know that some species use the Earth’s magnetic field to navigate with GPS-like precision and others gaze skyward and guide their migration by the stars. We are just now learning that for some animals, the key to a successful migration is all in their heads—complex thought and memory are also necessary for a successful migration. For nearly a decade, we have studied the roles of cognition, learning and memory in the migration of a fairly atypical species—the painted turtle, common to neighbourhood ponds and roadside ditches.

They’re not as charismatic as sea turtles, and they sure don’t travel as far ... but what they lack in outward charisma they make up in tenacity. When these turtles take to land each summer, migrating to new habitats when their home ponds dry up, they face seemingly insurmountable odds: scorching heat, dehydration, the crushing tug of gravity, new predatory threats from both land and air, and the ever-present threat of vehicles when crossing a road.

Painted turtles at our research site, which is on conservation land within a patchwork of old growth woodlands and agricultural fields, follow long, intricate routes with amazing precision—specific to within a few meters—to far-off, permanent water sources year after year, returning home again when the seasons next change. ... To see just where this incredible migratory behaviour came from, we introduced into our site animals without any experience migrating there and monitored their ability to respond to seasonal changes in their habitats. Naive juveniles under four years old learned to navigate the complex paths just as precisely as experienced local turtles and were able to locate far-off water sources. Naive adults could not.

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The passage below is accompanied by a set of 4 questions. Choose the best answer for each question.

Antarctic glaciers have been melting at an accelerating pace over the past four decades thanks to an influx of warm ocean water — a startling new finding that researchers say could mean sea levels are poised to rise more quickly than predicted in coming decades.

The Antarctic lost 40 billion tons of melting ice to the ocean each year from 1979 to 1989. That figure rose to 252 billion tons lost per year beginning in 2009, according to a study published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. That means the region is losing six times as much ice as it was four decades ago, an unprecedented pace in the era of modern measurements.

“I don’t want to be alarmist,” said Eric Rignot, an Earth-systems scientist for the University of California at Irvine and NASA who led the work. But he said the weaknesses that researchers have detected in East Antarctica — home to the largest ice sheet on the planet — deserve deeper study.

The places undergoing changes in Antarctica are not limited to just a couple places,” Rignot said. “They seem to be more extensive than what we thought. That, to me, seems to be reason for concern.”

The findings are the latest sign that the world could face catastrophic consequences if climate change continues unabated. In addition to more-frequent droughts, heat waves, severe storms and other extreme weather that could come with a continually warming Earth, scientists already have predicted that seas could rise nearly three feet globally by 2100 if the world does not sharply decrease its carbon output. But in recent years, there has been growing concern that the Antarctic could push that even higher.

That kind of sea-level rise would result in the inundation of island communities around the globe, devastating wildlife habitats and threatening drinking-water supplies. Global sea levels have already risen seven to eight inches since 1900.

The ice of Antarctica contains 57.2 meters, or 187.66 feet, of potential sea-level rise. This massive body of ice flows out into the ocean through a complex array of partially submerged glaciers and thick floating expanses of ice called ice shelves.

The outward ice flow is normal and natural, and it is typically offset by some 2 trillion tons of snowfall atop Antarctica each year, a process that on its own would leave Earth’s sea level relatively unchanged. However, if the ice flow speeds up, the ice sheet’s losses can outpace snowfall volume. When that happens, seas rise.

That’s what the new research says is happening. Scientists came to that conclusion after systematically computing gains and losses across 65 sectors of Antarctica where large glaciers — or glaciers flowing into an ice shelf — reach the sea.

West Antarctica is the continent’s major ice loser. The research affirms that finding, detailing how a single glacier, Pine Island, has lost more than a trillion tons of ice since 1979. Thwaites Glacier, the biggest and potentially most vulnerable in the region, has lost 634 billion. The entire West Antarctic ice sheet is capable of driving a sea-level rise of 5.28 meters, or 17.32 feet, and is now losing 159 billion tons every year.

1) What is the most pivotal research finding the author discusses in this passage?

- Climate change has long impacted Antarctica and continues to do so even today.
- Climate change could have catastrophic effects that would destroy wildlife, deplete water supplies and inundate islands.
- Global sea levels that have already risen seven to eight inches since 1900 seas could rise nearly three feet globally by 2100 if the world does not reduce carbon output.
- If the outward ice flow in the Antarctic region continues to outpace the snowfall volume, global sea levels are set to rise faster than predicted.

Video Explanation:

Explanation:

The question asks to identify the most pivotal finding that the author discusses. Option 4 is the correct answer since the author is predominantly discussing a new finding that has discovered how warm ocean water is causing weaknesses in the ice sheets, which will result in causing sea levels to rise much sooner than earlier research had predicted (Paragraph 1, sentence 1; Paragraph 2, sentence 1,2). Option 1 can be ruled out as it is far more general, and overarching than the most pivotal finding. Option 2 is an outcome based on the finding, and Option 3 is data that supports the research finding. Hence, [4]

Correct Answer:

Time taken by you: 315 secs

Avg Time taken by all students: 154 secs

Your Attempt: Wrong

% Students got it correct: 49 %

2) All of the following agree with the facts outlined in passage EXCEPT:

- Modern measurements have helped establish that Antarctica is currently losing at least six times as much ice as it was, four decades ago.
- The outward flow and melting of Antarctic ice shelves is a natural and normal phenomenon as long as it doesn't exceed the snowfall volume.
- The warming of the Antarctic and the consequent rise in sea levels seen since 1900 are directly attributable to human activities.
- As per current estimates The Thwaites Glacier in West Antarctica has lost the most amount of ice so far.

Video Explanation:

Questions: 21 to 34 Section : Verbal Ability & Reading Comprehension		Explanation:	Change Section here ▼
The passage below is accompanied by a set of 4 questions. Choose the best answer for each question.			
Antarctic glaciers have been melting at an accelerating pace over the past four decades thanks to an influx of warm ocean water — a startling new finding that researchers say could mean sea levels are poised to rise more quickly than predicted in coming decades.			
The Antarctic lost 40 billion tons of melting ice to the ocean each year from 1979 to 1989. That figure rose to 252 billion tons lost per year beginning in 2009, according to a study published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. That means the region is losing six times as much ice as it was four decades ago, an unprecedented pace in the era of modern measurements.			
“I don’t want to be alarmist,” said Eric Rignot, an Earth-systems scientist for the University of California at Irvine and NASA who led the work. But he said the weaknesses that researchers have detected in East Antarctica — home to the largest ice sheet on the planet — deserve deeper study.			
The places undergoing changes in Antarctica are not limited to just a couple places,” Rignot said. “They seem to be more extensive than what we thought. That, to me, seems to be reason for concern.”			
The findings are the latest sign that the world could face catastrophic consequences if climate change continues unabated. In addition to more-frequent droughts, heat waves, severe storms and other extreme weather that could come with a continually warming Earth, scientists already have predicted that seas could rise nearly three feet globally by 2100 if the world does not sharply decrease its carbon output. But in recent years, there has been growing concern that the Antarctic could push that even higher.			
That kind of sea-level rise would result in the inundation of island communities around the globe, devastating wildlife habitats and threatening drinking-water supplies. Global sea levels have already risen seven to eight inches since 1900.			
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		Answer Option 3 is not in agreement with the facts outlined in the passage. Option 1 is presented as factual data presented in sentence 1 and 2 of paragraph 2.(The Antarctic lost 40 billion tons of melting ice to the ocean each year from 1979 to 1989. That figure rose to 252 billion tons lost per year ... the region is losing six times as much ice as it was four decades ago, an unprecedented pace in the era of modern measurements.). Option 2 is supported by paragraph 7, “The outward ice flow is normal and natural, and it is typically offset by some 2 trillion tons of snowfall atop Antarctica each year, a process that on its own would leave Earth’s sea level relatively unchanged. “ Option 4 can be inferred from the last paragraph, “West Antarctica is the continent’s major ice loser ... Thwaites Glacier, the biggest and potentially most vulnerable in the region, has lost 634 billion” implies that the loss is the highest there. The writer does not attribute the rise in sea levels to human activities directly. It is said that emissions (carbon output) are responsible for the phenomenon. Though he states that “if the world does not sharply decrease its carbon output” sea levels can further increase, he does not attribute the phenomenon itself to human activities. The implication is that it may be accelerated by human activities. Hence, [3].	
		Correct Answer:	▼
		Time taken by you: 52 secs	
		Avg Time taken by all students: 48 secs	
		Your Attempt: Wrong	
		% Students got it correct: 35 %	
		3) Based on the passage what function do these sentences serve:	—
		“I don’t want to be alarmist,” said Eric Rignot... but he said the weaknesses that researchers have detected in East Antarctica — home to the largest ice sheet on the planet — deserve deeper study. [Paragraph 3]	
		<div><div></div> Weaken the central premise of the discussion.</div> <div><div></div> Validate the central premise by way of an example.</div> <div><div></div> Add credibility to the discussion.</div> <div><div></div> Add narrative value to the central topic.</div>	
		Video Explanation:	▼
		Explanation:	▼
		Since the quote is followed by the credentials of the scientist EricRignot, and he, is in favor of the discussion, the quote adds credibility to the discussion at hand. Option 1 is incorrect because it does not weaken the central premise of the discussion- it supports the central premise that research is finding that there are regions in Antarctica undergoing changes in structure, that might have led to the new finding that sea levels are prone to rise. Option 2 is incorrect because the opinion of Eric Rignot is not an example, but rather a supporting claim. Option 4 is incorrect because the author does not use it as a mere narrative element, but attempts to impart authenticity and credibility to his narrative by quoting scientists involved in the study. Hence, [3].	
		Correct Answer:	▼
		Time taken by you: 14 secs	
		Avg Time taken by all students: 31 secs	
		Your Attempt: Skipped	
		% Students got it correct: 39 %	
Previous	Next	Exit Review	

Questions: 21 to 34

Section : Verbal Ability & Reading Comprehension

Change Section here

The passage below is accompanied by a set of 4 questions. Choose the best answer for each question.

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The Antarctic lost 40 billion tons of melting ice to the ocean each year from 1979 to 1989. That figure rose to 252 billion tons lost per year beginning in 2009, according to a study published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. That means the region is losing six times as much ice as it was four decades ago, an unprecedented pace in the era of modern measurements.

“I don’t want to be alarmist,” said Eric Rignot, an Earth-systems scientist for the University of California at Irvine and NASA who led the work. But he said the weaknesses that researchers have detected in East Antarctica — home to the largest ice sheet on the planet — deserve deeper study.

The places undergoing changes in Antarctica are not limited to just a couple places,” Rignot said. “They seem to be more extensive than what we thought. That, to me, seems to be reason for concern.”

The findings are the latest sign that the world could face catastrophic consequences if climate change continues unabated. In addition to more-frequent droughts, heat waves, severe storms and other extreme weather that could come with a continually warming Earth, scientists already have predicted that seas could rise nearly three feet globally by 2100 if the world does not sharply decrease its carbon output. But in recent years, there has been growing concern that the Antarctic could push that even higher.

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4) All of the following would undermine the findings of the study EXCEPT:

Carbon dioxide emissions increased exponentially from 1800 to 1900 and since the 1950s, they have become constant or actually declined.

Even if the outward ice flow is normal and natural over the next few years and the snowfall is consistent, internal weaknesses will continue to deepen in the Antarctic region having far reaching consequences.

Research on the Antarctic region has always been debatable due to the lack of systematic access to the vast array of glaciers and ice shelves.

Even if sea levels rise by 2100 as predicted, the extent of damage to wildlife, habitat and the potential threat to water supply are often exaggerated and speculative projections made by researchers.

Video Explanation:

Explanation:

It does not undermine the arguments presented by the author, but instead reinforces the discussion outlined by the author talks about- in stating that internal weaknesses will have consequences on the Antarctic region. Option 1 is incorrect, because, it shows that CO2 emissions have actually declined and still Antarctica continues to lose. This undermines the study which calls for a ‘sharp reduction in CO2 emissions to address the issue. . Option 3 too would undermine what the author is discussing because if there wasn’t a systematic access to the glaciers, it is not possible for research findings to be credible. Option 4 flouts the findings evidently, by stating that researchers make speculative and exaggerated projections. Hence, [2].

Correct Answer:

Time taken by you: 32 secs

Avg Time taken by all students: 44 secs

Your Attempt: Correct

% Students got it correct: 46 %

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Exit Review

The passage given below is followed by four summaries. Choose the option that best captures the author’s position.

Last month, the Deep Carbon Observatory announced an astounding fact: the mass of the microbes living beneath Earth’s surface amounts to 15 to 23 billion tons of carbon, a sum some 245 to 385 times greater than the carbon mass of all humans. That’s amazing. A growing number of papers published in the last decade indicate that bacteria living – many of them in a hydrated, active state -- in sediments, in rocks, and in pockets and fissures buried deep underground are old beyond belief – 300 million years. They are not alive in the sense that the bacteria in your gut are alive. Rather, dried up and in suspended animation. To sum up, Earth’s crust appears to be simply lousy with idling, ancient bacteria parked in power-save mode, ready at nearly a moment’s notice to throw the gearshift into drive.

- ☐ A number of papers claim the existence of an amazing mass of microbes as old as 300 million years living inside the earth ready to come to life at a moment’s notice.
- ☐ In a surprising announcement, the Deep Carbon Observatory said that the mass of subterranean microbes and their age were hundreds of times greater than those of all humans.
- ☐ Inside the Earth, microbes approach immortality in a state of being almost dead, but slightly alive and ready for revivification at a moment’s notice.
- ☒ Inside earth there is an amazing mass of ancient bacteria parked in suspended animation ready to spring to life even after millions of years.✔



Congratulations, you got it correct!

Video Explanation

Explanation:

Option 1 states, “...as old as 300 million years living inside the earth....” This is a misrepresentation. It gives the impression that microbes were living for 300 million years. The significance of “suspended animation of 300 million years...” is lost in this option. Option 2 does not capture the author’s position - on the contrary, it emphasizes the announcement made by Deep Carbon Observatory – which is only incidental to the author’s position. Option 3 is figuratively correct but missesthe “amazing” mass of the microbes inside the earth. Option 4 summarizes the passage and captures the author’s position. Hence, [4].

Correct Answer:

Time taken by you: **102 secs**

Avg Time taken by all students: **84 secs**

Your Attempt: **Correct**

% Students got it correct: **43 %**

The passage given below is followed by four summaries. Choose the option that best captures the author’s position.

As a view within political philosophy, egalitarianism has to do both with how people are treated and with distributive justice. Civil rights movements reject certain types of social and political discrimination and demand that people be treated equally. Distributive justice is another form of egalitarianism that addresses life outcomes and the allocation of valuable things such as income, wealth, and other goods. Is egalitarianism about subjective feelings of well-being, about wealth and income, about a broader conception of resources, or some other alternative? This leads us to the question of whether an equal distribution of the preferred metric deals with the starting gate of each person’s life or with equality of life outcomes.

- ☐ Definition of equality is muddled by lack of consensus among political philosophers, civil rights movements and by those insisting on distributive justice.
- ☐ Whether egalitarianism is equality of treatment in society, distributive justice or based on some other alternative leads to further questions that cannot be resolved.
- ☒ The ideal metric for egalitarianism and whether this metric should deal with equality during initial or later stage of a person’s life are contentious issues. ✓
- ☐ In political philosophy, egalitarianism means equality at the beginning of each person’s life irrespective of life’s outcomes.



Congratulations, you got it correct!

Video Explanation

Explanation:



The author states the various issues related to the concept of egalitarianism. Briefly, in political philosophy there are two aspects: 1. how people are treated 2.how resources are distributed. Civil rights movements deal with the treatment aspect. Distributive justice is about allocation of valuable things such as income, wealth, and other goods. The writer also asks whether other metrics like subjective feelings or other broader concepts should be used to understand egalitarianism. The question whether equality is at the initial position or later is also pertinent. The author’s position briefly is that these are contentious issues in understanding what egalitarianism is. ‘muddled by a lack of consensus’ in option 1, ‘cannot be resolved’ in option 2, and the lack of mention of the metrics in option 4 eliminate them.Hence, [3].

Correct Answer:



Time taken by you: **121 secs**

Avg Time taken by all students: **66 secs**

Your Attempt: **Correct**

% Students got it correct: **41 %**

The passage given below is followed by four summaries. Choose the option that best captures the author’s position.

German sociologist Max Weber contextualised the role of journalism in relation to academic scholarship. He wrote: “Not everyone realizes that to write a really good piece of journalism is at least as demanding intellectually as the achievement of any scholar. This is particularly true when we recollect that it has to be written on the spot, to order, and that it must create an immediate effect, even though it is produced under completely different conditions from that of scholarly research. It is generally overlooked that a journalist’s actual responsibility is far greater than the scholar’s.” While many recognise the act of verification as the central function of journalism, very few recognise journalism’s role of bearing witness to events. It remains the voice of the people.

- ☐ Few realize that journalism and academic scholarship are different in scope, responsibility and function.
- ☒ The role and responsibility of journalism is to report events instantly and act as a voice of the people. ✖
- ☐ Journalism and academic scholarship though intellectually demanding have different levels of responsibility.
- ☐ Max Weber contextualizes journalism and academic scholarship at intellectual and functional levels.



Oops, you got it wrong!

**Explanation:**

The author quotes Max Weber to highlight the difference between journalism and academic scholarship. He concludes, “While many recognize the act of verification as the central function of journalism, very few recognize journalism’s role of bearing witness to events. It remains the voice of the people.” So, the author’s purpose is to highlight how journalism is different from academic scholarship. Option 1 best encapsulates the position of the author. Option 2 does not highlight the difference. Option 3 highlights only the responsibility part. Option 4 summarizes Max Weber’s position and not the author’s. Hence, [1].

Correct Answer:

Time taken by you: **81 secs**

Avg Time taken by all students: **25 secs**

Your Attempt: **Wrong**

% Students got it correct: **14 %**

The four sentences labelled (1, 2, 3, 4) given in this question, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labelled with a number. Decide on the proper sequence of order of the sentences and key in this sequence of four numbers as your answer.

1. Moral order commonly designates a system of obligations that defines and organizes the proper—good, right, virtuous—relations among individuals and groups in a community.
2. But moral order is more than rules, expectations, and mutual obligations and includes those features of the world we designate as sacred and infuse with moral significance.
3. Moral order may be an unfamiliar concept.
4. These systems are expressed explicitly in rules, laws, and moral codes, as well as implicitly in the various roles, rites, and rituals of social life.



Congratulations, you solved the question correctly and took less than average time!

Explanation:

Sentences 1 and 3 can be considered for the starter. Sentence 3 is a better starter as we can make no headway if we start the paragraph with sentence 1. Sentence 3 is followed by sentence 1 – because 1 explains the ‘unfamiliar concept’ mentioned in 3. 31 is then followed by sentence 4 as ‘these systems’ in 4 refers to ‘system of obligations ... proper relations’ of sentence 1. Sentence 2 then concludes the paragraph by stating that "moral is much more than the rules..." etc. Hence, 3142.

Correct Answer:

Time taken by you: **55 secs**

Avg Time taken by all students: **65 secs**

Your Attempt: **Correct**

% Students got it correct: **48 %**

The four sentences labelled (1, 2, 3, 4) given in this question, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labelled with a number. Decide on the proper sequence of order of the sentences and key in this sequence of four numbers as your answer.

1. These mini-cultures, based on everything from ethnic identities to hobbies to life-stages, do indeed “identify and isolate an idea, issue, or group.”
2. Social critic Philip Rieff famously dubbed it an “anti-culture,” and its deficiencies, including its therapeutic ethos, partly account for the multitude of mini-cultures that have emerged from it.
3. The affiliations and ties provided by such mini-cultures are ultimately fragile and contingent.
4. The deep culture of modernity is almost an exclusive celebration of the autonomous individual loosed from all strong commitments and guided only by his or her appetites and preferences.



Congratulations, you got it correct!

**Explanation:**

Only sentences 4 can be at the beginning of the paragraph. The pronoun “it” refers to the ‘deep culture of modernity’ in sentence 4. Hence sentence 1 follows sentence 4. “These mini cultures” in sentence 1 refers to ‘the multitude of mini-cultures’ in sentence 1. So 421 is a logical sequence, which is then concluded by sentence 3 by commenting on the nature of the mini cultures. Hence, 4213.

Correct Answer:

Time taken by you: **81 secs**

Avg Time taken by all students: **73 secs**

Your Attempt: **Correct**

% Students got it correct: **57 %**

The four sentences labelled (1, 2, 3, 4) given in this question, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labelled with a number. Decide on the proper sequence of order of the sentences and key in this sequence of four numbers as your answer.

1. Free time is nothing more than a shadowy continuation of labor; or free time is mere recovery time.
2. The problem of figuring out when work is “over,” in an economy in which knowledge workers spend their job hours tweeting and their evening hours doing unpaid housework and child care, has never seemed more perplexing.
3. The category of “free” time is not only defined by its opposite, i.e., time “free” of work; but it is subordinated to it.
4. The sorry state of our leisure is a consequence of an economy in which we are never fully detached from the demands of work.



Oops, you got it wrong!

Explanation:

In comparison, sentence 4 is the best starter for the paragraph – which introduces the topic of our leisure today being in sorry state because of the demands of the economy. Sentence 1 and 3 both seem to be fit after 4. We can evaluate 413 vs. 431 sequences. Since sentence 2 has to be placed after sentence 1 because 2 explains the ‘shadowy continuation of labor’ mentioned in 1. 3124 also appears plausible. However, Sentence 2 talks about how our work as well as free time is spent – “job hours tweeting and their evening hours doing unpaid housework and child care.” This is ‘a shadowy continuation of labor’ (sentence 2) rather than “ ... never fully free form the demands of work’ (Sentence 4). Hence sentence 4 can only be introduction and not the conclusion. Hence the best sequence is 4312.

Correct Answer:

Time taken by you: 137 secs

Avg Time taken by all students: 3 secs

Your Attempt: Wrong

% Students got it correct: 2 %

The four sentences labelled (1, 2, 3, 4) given in this question, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labelled with a number. Decide on the proper sequence of order of the sentences and key in this sequence of four numbers as your answer.

1. Public universities also serve to provide economically accessible opportunities for citizens to advance their private interests through career advancement.
2. In this way, public universities are part of an effort to garner the best talent for the professions and to serve class mobility in a competitive economy of a democratic society.
3. To serve these functions, public higher education must be of high quality and economically accessible to qualified students, regardless of their class background.
4. One of the public interests served by public universities is to provide job training in the professions.



Oops, you got it wrong!

Explanation:

Sentence 4 states one of the functions of public universities and begins the paragraph. Sentence 1 follows sentence 4 because “public universities also serve...” is a logical continuation from sentence 4. Sentence 2 comes next as it summarizes the ideas of the 4-1 pair. Sentence 3 comes at the end as ‘to serve these functions...’ in 3 refers to back to the gist of the other three sentences. Hence, 4123.

Correct Answer:

Time taken by you: **93 secs**

Avg Time taken by all students: **22 secs**

Your Attempt: **Wrong**

% Students got it correct: **18 %**

Five sentences related to a topic are given below. Four of them can be put together to form a meaningful and coherent short paragraph. Identify the odd one out. Choose its number as your answer and key it in.

1. Reports and opinion pieces are together expected to help us understand reality.
2. The gap between reportage and opinion writers is worrying.
3. The opinion pieces that remain in a reader's memory are those that are also validated by solid reporting.
4. Reporting is the bedrock of journalism, while opinion pieces provide certain gravitas to the profession.
5. The role of journalism is to cut the rhetorical clutter and help the reader understand the truth.



Congratulations, you got it correct!



Explanation:



Sentences 4 and 5 almost state the same thing – that “reporting is the bedrock of journalism...” and “the role of journalism is to ... help the reader understand the truth.” So the out of context sentence can't be 4 or 5. Sentence 4 also compares reporting with opinion pieces. Sentence 1 is related to sentence 4 because it puts the importance of both reports and opinion pieces in perspective. So, sentences 4, 5 and 1 are on the theme of reports and opinion pieces and what they do. Between sentences 2 and 3, sentence 3 is related to this theme as it talks about the relationship between the two – reports and opinion pieces. However, sentence 2 is about the gap between them, and on a different theme. Hence, 2.

Correct Answer:



Time taken by you: **119 secs**

Avg Time taken by all students: **33 secs**

Your Attempt: **Correct**

% Students got it correct: **33 %**

Five sentences related to a topic are given below. Four of them can be put together to form a meaningful and coherent short paragraph. Identify the odd one out. Choose its number as your answer and key it in.

1. Leopards have been stashing their prey in caves for millions of years, and cougars have made enough of a habit of stashing kills in hard-to-get places.
2. Carnivores are cast in the role of natural enemies of paleontologists.
3. Owls and other birds of prey, for example, have kept a long-running record of small mammals in the pellets they deposit.
4. The more paleontologists and anthropologists look at the fossil record, the more it's apparent that meat-eating animals have helped make the fossil record we now study.
5. Even lions, who were thought to almost never accumulate bones, can sometimes stash impressive skeletal assemblages.



Oops, you got it wrong!

Explanation:

Sentences 1, 3, and 5 talk about different animals stashing their kills in different places – leopards do it, owls and other birds of prey do the same, and even lions stash impressive skeletal assemblages. These are examples of how “meat-eating animals have helped make the fossil record we now study...” as stated in sentence 4. So beginning with sentence 4, sentences 1, 3, and 5 form a paragraph complete in itself. Sentence 2 implies the opposite of this theme. Hence, 2.

Correct Answer:

Time taken by you: **45 secs**

Avg Time taken by all students: **45 secs**


Your Attempt: **Wrong**

% Students got it correct: **47 %**

Five sentences related to a topic are given below. Four of them can be put together to form a meaningful and coherent short paragraph. Identify the odd one out. Choose its number as your answer and key it in.

1. Because of animal agriculture's leading role as a greenhouse gas emitter, the search for more sustainable protein sources could be one such alternative.
2. Food tech entrepreneurs are now producing increasingly better plant-based burgers, deli slices and nuggets that look and taste like meat, but with a much lower carbon footprint.
3. Some in the meat industry are embracing the new and investing in these alt-protein companies.
4. New technologies, however, bring the risk of obsolescence, in turn leading to great resistance.
5. With the climate crisis unfolding before our eyes, the race is on to find alternatives that will help humanity leave a smaller footprint on our planet.

2

 Oops, you got it wrong!

Video Explanation

Explanation:



Correct Answer:



Time taken by you: 72 secs

Avg Time taken by all students: 109 secs

Your Attempt: **Wrong**

% Students got it correct: 55 %

