

## Passage 1

One of the biggest questions facing the art world today is the dilemma over the repatriation of cultural treasures. Although the subject has not been widely noted by the general public, in recent decades museums and art dealers have repeatedly faced off against the representatives of nations and ethnic groups whose cultural legacies have been robbed by the rapacious collecting of these so-called art experts. Advocates of repatriation have argued that cultural treasures should be returned to their nations of origin, both because of basic fairness and because the artwork and cultural artifacts in question are best understood within their local context.

Several prominent museums, most notably the British Museum in London and the Louvre in Paris, have defended themselves on the grounds that they can better protect and preserve these cultural treasures than can the developing nations and impoverished ethnic groups that frequently seek their return. They further argue that more people can see the treasures if they are proudly displayed in a major museum, as opposed to some poorly funded national museum in a backwater country; evidently, the quantity of viewers is more important than the relevance of the art and artifacts to the viewer.

The arguments of the museum curators fall apart in an instance such as the Elgin Marbles. These majestic marble sculptures, which once graced the Parthenon on the Acropolis in Athens, were stolen by Lord Elgin in the nineteenth century and given to the British Museum, which holds them to this day. The people of Athens have built a beautiful, modern museum on the Acropolis to display the Elgin Marbles and other treasures from the Greek cultural heritage, so there can be no valid argument that the Greeks are unable to house the sculptures properly. Furthermore, more people visit the Acropolis every day than visit the British Museum.

1. Of the following, the most appropriate title for the passage above would be:
  - A. The Elgin Marbles: Timeless Symbols of the Glory That Was Greece
  - B. The Role of Great Museums in the Preservation of Cultural Artifacts
  - C. Repatriation of Cultural Treasures: The British Museum's Dirty Little Secret
  - D. The Value of Cultural Treasures in Defining National Identity
  - E. A Curious Curator: Lord Elgin and the Rise of the British Museum
2. The third paragraph plays what role in the passage?
  - A. It summarizes all the points expressed in the first two paragraphs.
  - B. It raises new arguments that expand on those previously expressed.
  - C. It suggests a possible area for useful research in the future.
  - D. It rejects the arguments expressed in the first paragraph.
  - E. It provides concrete evidence against arguments expressed in the second paragraph.
3. The situation involving the repatriation of the Elgin Marbles to Athens is most similar to which of the following?
  - A. A Native American tribe in Oregon requests that a museum in Chicago return some ceremonial masks that could help in fundraising efforts to build a proposed museum in Portland.
  - B. The nation of Peru in South America threatens the nation of Ecuador with military action if Ecuador does not hand over various gold artifacts of the Inca Empire, which originated in Peru.
  - C. The National Archeology Museum of Cairo in Egypt requests that the Louvre return eight mummies from the time of Ramses the Great for the Cairo Museum's new exhibit hall dedicated

to artifacts from Ramses' court.

D. The nation of Greece requests the nation of Turkey to provide Greek archeologists with free access to ancient Greek sites on the Ionian coast of Turkey, and to transfer any cultural artifacts found there to the National Archeology Museum in Athens.

E. A museum in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, requests that the Texas History Museum in Austin, Texas, send the original "Lone Star" flag to Baton Rouge for a new exhibit entitled, "Texas: Our Neighbor to the East."

Elites Grid

## PASSAGE 2

In contrast to traditional analyses of minority business, the sociological analysis contends that minority business ownership is a group-level phenomenon, in that it is largely dependent upon social-group resources for its development. Specifically, this analysis indicates that support networks play a critical role in starting and maintaining minority business enterprises by providing owners with a range of assistance, from the informal encouragement of family members and friends to dependable sources of labor and clientele from the owner's ethnic group. Such self-help networks, which encourage and support ethnic minority entrepreneurs, consist of "primary" institutions, those closest to the individual in shaping his or her behavior and beliefs. They are characterized by the face-to-face association and cooperation of persons united by ties of mutual concern. They form an intermediate social level between the individual and larger "secondary" institutions based on impersonal relationships. Primary institutions comprising the support network include kinship, peer, and neighborhood or community subgroups.

A major function of self-help networks is financial support. Most scholars agree that minority business owners have depended primarily on family funds and ethnic community resources for investment capital. Personal savings have been accumulated, often through frugal living habits that require sacrifices by the entire family and are thus a product of long-term family financial behavior. Additional loans and gifts from relatives, forthcoming because of group obligation rather than narrow investment calculation, have supplemented personal savings. Individual entrepreneurs do not necessarily rely on their kin because they cannot obtain financial backing from commercial resources. They may actually avoid banks because they assume that commercial institutions either cannot comprehend the special needs of minority enterprise or charge unreasonably high interest rates.

Within the larger ethnic community, rotating credit associations have been used to raise capital. These associations are informal clubs of friends and other trusted members of the ethnic group who make regular contributions to a fund that is given to each contributor in rotation. One author estimates that 40 percent of New York Chinatown firms established during 1900-1950 utilized such associations as their initial source of capital. However, recent immigrants and third or fourth generations of older groups now employ rotating credit associations only occasionally to raise investment funds. Some groups, like Black Americans, found other means of financial support for their entrepreneurial efforts. The first Black-operated banks were created in the late nineteenth century as depositories for dues collected from fraternal or lodge groups, which themselves had sprung from Black churches. Black banks made limited investments in other Black enterprises. Irish immigrants in American cities organized many building and loan associations to provide capital for home construction and purchase. They, in turn, provided work for many Irish home-building contractor firms. Other ethnic and minority groups followed similar practices in founding ethnic-directed financial institutions.



1. Based on the information in the passage, it would be LEAST likely for which of the following persons to be part of a self-help network?

- (A) The entrepreneur's childhood friend
  - (B) The entrepreneur's aunt
  - (C) The entrepreneur's religious leader
  - (D) The entrepreneur's neighbor
  - (E) The entrepreneur's banker
2. Which of the following illustrates the working of a self-help support network, as such networks are described in the passage?
- (A) A public high school offers courses in book-keeping and accounting as part of its open-enrollment adult education program.
  - (B) The local government in a small city sets up a program that helps teen-agers find summer jobs.
  - (C) A major commercial bank offers low-interest loans to experienced individuals who hope to establish their own businesses.
  - (D) A neighborhood-based fraternal organization develops a program of on-the-job training for its members and their friends.
  - (E) A community college offers country residents training programs that can lead to certification in a variety of technical trades.
3. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage about rotating credit associations?
- (A) They were developed exclusively by Chinese immigrants.
  - (B) They accounted for a significant portion of the investment capital used by Chinese immigrants in New York in the early twentieth century.
  - (C) Third-generation members of an immigrant group who started businesses in the 1920's would have been unlikely to rely on them.
  - (D) They were frequently joint endeavors by members of two or three different ethnic groups.
  - (E) Recent immigrants still frequently turn to rotating credit associations instead of banks for investment capital.
4. The passage best supports which of the following statements?
- (A) A minority entrepreneur who had no assistance from family members would not be able to start a business.
  - (B) Self-help networks have been effective in helping entrepreneurs primarily in the last 50 years.

(C) Minority groups have developed a range of alternatives to standard financing of business ventures.

(D) The financial institutions founded by various ethnic groups owe their success to their unique formal organization.

(E) Successful minority-owned businesses succeed primarily because of the personal strengths of their founders.

5. Which of the following best describes the organization of the second paragraph?

(A) An argument is delineated, followed by a counter-argument.

(B) An assertion is made and several examples are provided to illustrate it.

(C) A situation is described and its historical background is then outlined.

(D) An example of a phenomenon is given and is then used as a basis for general conclusions.

(E) A group of parallel incidents is described and the distinctions among the incidents are then clarified.

6. According to the passage, once a minority-owned business is established, self-help networks contribute which of the following to that business?

(A) Information regarding possible expansion of the business into nearby communities

(B) Encouragement of a business climate that is nearly free of direct competition

(C) Opportunities for the business owner to reinvest profits in other minority-owned businesses

(D) Contact with people who are likely to be customers of the new business

(E) Contact with minority entrepreneurs who are members of other ethnic groups

7. It can be inferred from the passage that traditional analyses of minority business would be LEAST likely to do which of the following?

(A) Examine businesses primarily in their social contexts

(B) Focus on current, rather than historical, examples of business enterprises

(C) Stress common experiences of individual entrepreneurs in starting businesses

(D) Focus on the maintenance of businesses, rather than means of starting them

(E) Focus on the role of individual entrepreneurs in starting a business

8. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage about the Irish building and loan associations mentioned in the last paragraph?
- (A) They were started by third- or fourth-generation immigrants.
  - (B) They originated as offshoots of church-related groups.
  - (C) They frequently helped Irish entrepreneurs to finance business not connected with construction.
  - (D) They contributed to the employment of many Irish construction workers.
  - (E) They provided assistance for construction businesses owned by members of other ethnic groups.

### RC Passage 3

Eating fish and other foods rich in omega-3 fatty acids could help people maintain healthy brains as they age as well as protect their hearts, new research suggests. Per this research, participants with low levels of omega-3 fatty acids in their blood had slightly smaller brains and scored lower on memory and cognitive tests than people with higher blood levels of omega-3s.

The researchers then looked at and ranked the level of omega-3 fatty acids in the participants' blood. People who scored in the bottom 25% in omega-3 fatty acid levels were compared with the rest of the study participants. Researchers found that those who had the lowest level of omega-3 fatty acid levels in their blood had lower brain gray matter volume compared with those with higher levels.

Gray matter volume is crucial to brain health. When it remains higher, brain health is being maintained. Decrease in gray matter volume indicates that brain cells are shrinking. The findings showed that consumption of baked or broiled fish on a weekly basis was positively associated with retention of gray matter volume in several areas of the brain. In fact the greater hippocampal, posterior cingulate, and orbital frontal cortex volumes obtained by optimal fish consumption led to reduced risk of contracting MCI or Alzheimer's by almost five-fold.

The most recent U.S. dietary guidelines—released last year—recommend at least two servings of seafood a week. Some doctors and diet experts recommend that patients consume fish three times a week or take fish-oil supplements so they get enough omega-3 fatty acids to obtain health benefits.

1) According to the passage, people who eat foods rich in Omega 3 acids experience which of the following benefits

- A) Improve memory and retention
- B) Increase gray matter volume that leads to improved analytical skills
- C) Do not suffer from diseases such as Alzheimer's
- D) Are on an average at a much lower risk of contracting Alzheimer's when compared to the general population, regardless of their family history
- E) Are able to maintain a healthy brain for longer as they age

2) The experiment discussed in paragraph 2 suggests

- A) People who scored in the top quartile took Omega 3 supplements while those who scored lower did not.
- B) For people in any age group, there is a direct correlation between Omega 3 and the amount of gray matter.
- C) There is a high probability that people with extremely low levels of Omega 3 in blood will also have low gray matter volume
- D) The reason why kids don't do as well in Maths and science is due to the low intake of Omega 3.
- E) Taking Omega 3 beyond a point has little impact on the amount of grey matter volume build up.

3) The author's main purpose in writing the passage is

- A) Describing a research and presenting its findings
- B) Comparing the benefits provided by Omega 3 in regards to preventing MCI or Alzheimer's.
- C) Discussing the utility of various varieties of fish as a source of Omega 3.
- D) Comparing how the risk of contracting MCI or Alzheimer's reduces with the corresponding increased intake of fish rich in Omega 3.
- E) Justifying the reason that U.S. dietary guidelines recommend at least two servings of seafood a week.

4) The passage suggests the following about diet and gray matter volume

A) Regular consumption of foods rich in Omega 3 help maintains gray matter volume for longer periods.

B) People who eat foods richer in Omega 3 tend to have higher than average gray matter volume.

C) It is important to maintain gray matter volume above a certain level to avoid risk of MCI or Alzheimer's.

D) Any irregularity in consuming foods rich in Omega 3 would result in reduction in brain gray matter volume.

E) Once the gray matter volume reduces, it is not possible to increase the same by consuming foods rich in Omega 3.