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### Passage 011

The participation of women in the economy of Britain's North American colonies in the eighteenth century has been underrated because of the assumption that household production could not become commercial. Such an assumption ignores the reality that women produced goods at home for exchange and sale. Barter among neighbors knitted the women of a community into vital trade networks that constituted the **underground** economy of eighteenth-century colonial North America. Unlike other informal local trade networks in early America, the economy of women never totally ceased to exist. The informal nature of the transactions did not provide the women who made them with much economic power, but it did allow them a small measure of control over how they spent their time.

**Consider each of the choices separately and select all that apply.**

1. According to the passage, the underground economy of women in eighteenth-century colonial North America differed from other informal trade networks in which of the following ways?
  - A. It continued after other informal trade networks had disappeared.
  - B. It did not provide its participants with much economic power.
  - C. It gave its participants a certain degree of control over how they spent their time.
  
2. In the context indicated, "underground" most nearly means
  - A. subversive
  - B. secretive
  - C. subterranean
  - D. alternative
  - E. antiestablishment



## Passage 012

Becker hypothesizes that the mass extinction 250 million years ago was caused by environmental consequences from a meteorite or comet impact like the one that many think caused the extinction of the dinosaurs 65 million years ago. Evidence of the latter impact includes the unusually high iridium content in **European clay sediments** dating from the period. Iridium is a rare metal that comes mostly from meteorites, interplanetary dust, and other cosmic debris. An iridium spike has also been found in 250-million-year-old sediments, but it is only about a tenth as large as the one in the 65-million-year-old sediments. This finding could imply a modest-size meteorite, not one big enough to cause a worldwide extinction. **But some meteorites contain very little iridium, and comets which are mostly ice, contain none.**

1. The author of the passage mentions “European clay sediments” primarily in order to
  - A. explain how evidence of an impact 65 million years ago was initially discovered
  - B. make a distinction between different kinds of evidence scientists use to determine the cause of a mass extinction
  - C. suggest that evidence pointing to an impact 250 million years ago is as compelling as the evidence pointing to an impact 65 million years ago
  - D. help to rule out explanations other than an impact for a mass extinction 65 million years ago
  - E. identify some of the grounds for concluding that a mass extinction 65 million years ago was caused by an impact
2. Which of the following best describes the function of the last sentence of the passage?
  - A. It corrects a misinterpretation of Becker’s hypothesis.
  - B. It suggests an alternative to Becker’s hypothesis.
  - C. It provides information that could reconcile Becker’s hypothesis with certain evidence.
  - D. It clarifies a distinction central to Becker’s hypothesis
  - E. It illustrates a paradox central to Becker’s hypothesis



### Passage 013

Female Australian *Dunatothrips* [small, sap-sucking insects] create tent-like structures on the surface of leaves to protect themselves and their eggs and larvae from **desiccation** in the arid Australian climate. Bono and Crespi compared survival and reproduction of thrips that founded structures alone with those in groups of two or more individuals. They found that although per capita egg production fell with increasing group size, foundresses were more likely to survive and lay eggs in groups than when alone. Several studies of other species of nest-building insects have concluded that foundress associations are beneficial to all parties. It is likely that the relative success of groups is at least in part accounted for by a reduction of energy use in the modification of a shared nest.

1. The author would most likely agree with which of the following claims about Australian *Dunatothrips*?
  - A. Their offspring survival rates increase when larger groups cooperate to modify nests.
  - B. Their effect on the leaves used to support their tent-like structures is not necessarily permanent.
  - C. They expend as much energy to create tent-like structures as they do to produce broods.
  - D. They exhibit an effect from collective activity that is also found in certain other insect species.
  - E. They modify nests in different ways depending on what other species are present in their vicinity.
2. The author mentions “desiccation” primarily to
  - A. describe an environment suitable for one species reproduction
  - B. characterize a stage in an insect species developmental cycle
  - C. analyze an environmental challenge faced by some insect species
  - D. exemplify a changing feature of a particular climate
  - E. identify the purpose served by a particular behavior



### Passage 014

In 1838 twenty-nine years before publishing his translation of Dante's *Inferno*, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote that "to understand Dante..., it is absolutely necessary to understand the Italian Language." How true was Longfellow to his own dictum? Judging by the problems he had in composing a simple inscription, his ability to express himself in Italian was probably modest. However, this does not mean his understanding of the written language was inadequate. Longfellow's translation is on the whole not only correct but accurate and attentive to the semantic nuances of the original. Indeed, the literalness of his translation shows he understood Dante's language so well that he felt duty bound to render into English its extraordinary precision, richness, and variety.

1. The author cites Longfellow's remarks from 1838 in order to
  - A. emphasize the number of years Longfellow had spent lecturing and writing about Dante before publishing his translation
  - B. contrast Longfellow's approach to Dante as a scholar with his approach as a translator
  - C. summarize Longfellow's approach to literary study
  - D. provide a criterion by which to evaluate Longfellow's translation
  - E. clarify the objection made by Longfellow during the 1830s to previous translations of Dante's works

**Consider each of the choices separately and select all that apply.**

2. Which of the following does the author cite as support in assessing Longfellow's knowledge of the Italian language?
  - A. The difficulty with which he composed in Italian
  - B. The richness and variety of his scholarly writings on Dante
  - C. The literal nature of his translation



### Passage 015

In California's Mojave Desert, archaeologists found two fluted projectile points, one on the surface, one buried, both similar to classic Clovis stone points from the American Plains. They obtained a radiocarbon date of 8,470 years from material associated with the buried point, a date far more recent than the known time range for Clovis points. There are three ways of accounting for this date. First it is possible that fluted points were in use in this region around 8,470 years ago. Second, this point may somehow have been deposited at the California site long after its creation. Third, the 8,470-year date may be wrong a second date from the same context providing an age of 4,360 years was rejected by archaeologists as incorrect.

**Consider each of the choices separately and select all that apply.**

1. If the first explanation is the only one of the three that is correct, then it can be inferred that
  - A. the material associated with the buried point and the point itself are not from the same time period
  - B. there may be other fluted points in the region that date from about 8,470 years ago
  - C. the accepted time range for classic Clovis points may need to be reconsidered.
2. It can be inferred that the second and the third explanations have which of the following in common?
  - A. Each implies that the known time range for classic Clovis points will need to be revised.
  - B. Each leaves open the possibility that the California fluted points were created contemporaneously with classic Clovis points.
  - C. Each suggests that the radiocarbon dating used at the California site produced unreliable results.
  - D. Each implies that 8,470 years ago, fluted points were more widely used on the American Plains than in the region of the California site.
  - E. Each is based on the assumption that the buried fluted point did not originate at the California site.



### Passage 016

As a classic text on alchemy, George Ripley's *Compound of Alchemy* (1471) has received substantial scholarly attention, primarily focused on the English print editions published by Ralph Rabbards (1591). However, the work known to sixteenth-and early seventeenth-century Europe was not the *Compound* known today from Rabbards editions. Rabbards strived to produce the fullest possible version of the text including two prefatory poems. **“Prologue” and “Preface”** and an associated dedicatory poem. Yet no authoritative “master text” dates from Ripley's lifetime in which all of these elements are preserved. Rather, the *Compound*'s text was adapted over a century of circulation in the form of multiple copies, later reassembled by **diligent scribes**-a process that continued even after the work's translation into Latin and European vernaculars.

1. The passage suggests which of the following about “Prologue” and “Preface”?
  - A. They may have been originally written by someone other than George Ripley.
  - B. They were not included in copies of the *Compound* until long after Ripley's death
  - C. They have been largely ignored by scholars who focused on the Rabbards' editions.
  - D. They may not have appeared together in every sixteenth-century copy of the *Compound*.
  - E. Their overall content and style changed considerably over a century of circulation.

**Consider each of the choices separately and select all that apply.**

2. The passage suggests which of the following about “diligent scribes”?
  - A. They were instrumental in translating the *Compound* into Latin in the seventeenth century.
  - B. Their efforts had a considerable impact on later scholarly investigations of the *Compound*.
  - C. Many of them were guided in their work by Ralph Rabbards' print editions of the *Compound*.



### Passage 017

Having a larger assortment to choose from increases consumers' expectations about matching their preferences. The heightened expectations seem logical since assortments containing more or more varied items should increase the degree to which preferences can be matched. In practice, however, as assortment size increase, the degree to which consumers realize better preference matches often rises relatively little. Larger assortments may not actually offer more variety; the market may simply not supply an envisioned offering or in the absence of sophisticated search tools, consumers may miss a better preference match even if it is available. Therefore, larger assortments can increase the likelihood that expectations will not be met, **leaving consumers less satisfied with options chosen from larger rather than smaller assortments.**

1. In the highlighted portion of the passage, the author assumes that
  - A. consumers' attitude toward the assortment of choices they are presented with depends almost exclusively on the size of the range
  - B. consumers who have clear preferences make their choices more quickly than those whose preferences are relatively vague
  - C. consumers' anticipation of meeting specific expectations directly affects their satisfaction with a selected option
  - D. consumers presented with an assortment of choices often adjust the preferences they had beforehand
  - E. consumers presented with a larger assortment of choices often make their decisions too quickly
2. Which of the following best describes the function of the first sentence in the author's argument as a whole?
  - A. It states a premise on which the author's conclusion is based.
  - B. It provides information to support the inference made in the following sentence.
  - C. It introduces a concept that the author proves is illogical.
  - D. It summarizes a position that the author proceeds to dispute.
  - E. It presents the phenomenon the argument is intended to explain





### Passage 018

Motivated reasoning, however, is subject to “reasonableness constraints.” For example, the accuracy of decision making is enhanced when the stakes for the decision are higher, when the decision must be justified, and when the decision will be made public. Such **circumstances** often apply to judicial decisions. The presence of stronger arguments contrary to preferences reduces the influence of motivations. The limitations of the power of motivated reasoning are apparent from the numerous unanimous opinions of the **United States Supreme Court** [whose members generally represent a range of ideological predispositions] and other cases in which justices appear to vote contrary to their ideological preferences. One would anticipate that the influence of such motivated reasoning is at its apex when the law is relatively less determinate, which is consistent with the findings of empirical research.

1. The author suggests which of the following about motivated reasoning?
  - A. It allows judges to take into consideration on a wide range of views beyond those that they themselves hold
  - B. It has a greater impact on the decision of judges with certain kinds of policy preferences than on the decisions of judges with other preferences.
  - C. It is unlikely to result in ideologically biased judicial decisions in cases where the law is open to multiple interpretations.
  - D. Its effects on a decision may be mitigated by exposure to compelling arguments that challenge the decision maker’s biases.
  - E. Its impact on judicial decision making may be more evident in decisions rendered by the United States Supreme Court than in decisions rendered by other courts.
2. It can be inferred that the author uses the United States Supreme Court to illustrate the argument because of a belief that the
  - A. Supreme Court is obligated to render its decisions without regard to its members ideological predispositions
  - B. record of the Supreme Court shows it to be roughly similar to other courts in the frequency with which its decision particular policy preference
  - C. extent to which decisions made by the Supreme Court are affected by reasonableness constraints is relatively easy to determine
  - D. unanimous decisions sometimes handed down by the Supreme Court would be unlikely to come from an ideologically diverse court if motivated reasoning were unchecked



- E. members of the Supreme Court provide clear and extended explanations of the reasoning that has informed their decisions
3. The author suggests which of the following about the "circumstances" mentioned in the passage?
- A. They allow decision makers to rationalize lapses in their objectivity
  - B. They tend to undermine the efficacy of reasonableness constraints
  - C. They may weaken the effect of policy preferences on decisions.
  - D. They are insufficiently distinguished from one another by attitudinalists.
  - E. They can disguise the extent to which a decision has been influenced by motivated reasoning



### Passage 019

Scholars generally estimate subscribers to *Freedom's Journal* (1827-182) the United States' first African American newspaper, at around 800, based on subscriptions to *The Rights of All*, an African American newspaper founded in 1829 as a successor to *Freedom's Journal* by a former editor of that newspaper. But Gross argues that many more than 800 readers probably subscribe to *Freedom's Journal* because many of its subscribers, dissatisfied with the direction ultimately taken by the paper, refused to subscribe to *The Rights of ALL*. In any case, the figure of 800 subscribers would make the circulation of *Freedom's Journal* close to that of other weekly papers of the time. Its number of readers, however, would have been much larger: copies were often shared, and African American organizations subscribed to *Freedom's Journal*, providing nonsubscribers access to the paper.

1. African American organizations' subscriptions to *Freedom's Journal* are mentioned in the passage primarily in order to
  - A. dispute Gross's claim about the probable number of readers of *Freedom's Journal*
  - B. identify the primary subscribers to both *Freedom's Journal* and *The Rights of All*
  - C. help account for a possible difference between the number of subscribers to *Freedom's Journal* and to *The Rights of All*
  - D. cite a factor that cast doubt on most scholars' assumptions about the number of Subscribers to *Freedom's Journal*
  - E. illustrate why the readership numbers for *Freedom's Journal* should be distinguished from the subscription number
2. Which of the following, if true, would most tend to undermine Gross's argument mentioned in the highlighted portion of the passage?
  - A. A larger number of African American organizations subscribed to *Freedom's Journal* than to *The Rights of All*
  - B. While many of the subscribers to *Freedom's Journal* did become dissatisfied with the paper over time, most of its readers were initially highly supportive of the paper.
  - C. Many people who had not subscribed to *Freedom's Journal* bought subscriptions to *The Rights of All*
  - D. The editorial direction of *The Rights of All* followed closely the direction that *Freedom's Journal* had taken.
  - E. Copies of *The Rights of All* were shared more frequently with nonsubscribers than were copies of *Freedom's Journal*.



### Passage 020

Dartmoor and Bodmin Moor in southwest England are for many the typical granite landscape open, treeless, grassy, with abundant rock outcrops including tors (rocky pinnacles) and extensive block and boulder fields. Blanket peats and poor difficult-to-use soils add to the impression of little human interference. In fact, the granite uplands of southwest England have a long history of human impact, and their present-day landscape contains few natural ingredients other than tors and boulders. The shaping of this land began in Neolithic times more than 5,000 years ago, but accelerated approximately 4,000 years ago, during the Bronze Age. Neolithic and Bronze Age stone monuments appear to be the main witnesses to human presence, but the land cover is the most impressive legacy of human impact.

1. It can be inferred that many people assume which of the following about the landscapes of Dartmoor and Bodmin Moor?
  - A. Their land cover is a completely natural feature.
  - B. They have been shaped by humans in various and subtle ways.
  - C. Their history of human impact began less than 5,000 years ago.
  - D. They have more rock outcrops than does the typical granite landscape.
  - E. Their soils have been made difficult to use by human activity.

**Consider each of the choices separately and select all that apply.**

2. According to the passage, which of the following factors have contributed to the impression that humans have had little impact on Dartmoor and Bodmin Moor?
  - A. Soils that are of poor quality
  - B. Blanket peats
  - C. The presence of tors and boulders

