

Command of Evidence

Question 1

Art historian Julian Bell, in his book *Mirror of the World: A New History of Art* (2007), emphasizes the role of historical context in understanding art. He argues that without knowing the specific social or political circumstances surrounding a piece, viewers often misinterpret its initial meaning. Bell observes that contemporary audiences frequently re-interpret historical art through a modern lens, sometimes overlooking its original purpose. He hypothesizes that providing viewers with comprehensive historical information about an artwork directly improves their comprehension of its initial artistic intentions.

Which finding, if true, would most directly support Bell's hypothesis?

- A** Many art enthusiasts prefer to engage with artworks based solely on their personal emotional responses, irrespective of historical details.
- B** A survey shows that a significant number of people find art more engaging when presented in a simplified, modern context without complex historical notes.
- C** Historical art pieces that have been recently restored often reveal new visual details that change their aesthetic appeal.
- D** Researchers found that viewers who were given detailed historical descriptions of paintings before viewing them scored higher on tests assessing understanding of the artists' original goals than those who received no such information.

Question 2

Psychologist Carol S. Dweck, in her 1998 study with Claudia M. Mueller, investigated how different types of praise affect children's motivation. They presented fifth-graders with a non-verbal IQ test and then praised them for their intelligence (*You must be smart at this*) or for their effort (*You must have worked really hard*). The children then chose between a challenging task to learn or an easy task to guarantee success. Dweck and Mueller concluded that praising children for their effort, rather than their intelligence, would make them more likely to choose challenging tasks in the future.

Which finding, if true, would most directly support Dweck and Mueller's conclusion?

- A** Children who received intelligence praise tended to perform better on subsequent easy tasks.
- B** A higher percentage of children praised for their effort chose the challenging task over the easy one in a follow-up experiment.
- C** Parents reported feeling more satisfied with their children's overall academic performance when they used intelligence-based praise at home.
- D** Students in later grades who consistently received effort-based praise showed improved standardized test scores across all subjects.

Question 3

Little Women is an 1868 novel by Louisa May Alcott. In the novel, Alcott depicts the character Jo as deriving a sense of vicarious satisfaction and pride from observing the intellectual engagement and social competence of Professor Bhaer, writing _____.

Which quotation from *Little Women* most effectively illustrates the claim?

- A The girls had never been called angel children before, and thought it very agreeable, especially Jo, who had been considered a 'Sancho' ever since she was born. That was a very happy breakfast, though they didn't get any of it; and when they went away, leaving comfort behind.
- B She drew a long breath, as the pretty glass plates went round, and everyone looked graciously at the little rosy islands floating in a sea of cream. Miss Crocker tasted first, made a wry face, and drank some water hastily.
- C "I like the diamonds best, but there is no necklace among them, and I'm fond of necklaces, they are so becoming. I should choose this if I might," replied Amy.
- D Mr. Bhaer's face had lost the absentminded expression, and looked all alive with interest in the present moment... Jo quite glowed with triumph when Teddy got quenched in an argument, and thought to herself... "How he would enjoy having such a man as my Professor to talk with every day!"

Question 4

Elizabeth W. Dunn and her colleagues (2008) explored the relationship between how people spend money and their happiness. Contrary to the common belief that more personal wealth leads to greater happiness, their research suggested that *how* money is spent is more crucial. In one study, participants who were randomly assigned to spend a small amount of money on others reported significantly higher levels of happiness than those who spent it on themselves. This effect was consistent regardless of the amount of money. The researchers concluded that spending money on others, or "prosocial spending," consistently promotes greater subjective well-being.

Which finding, if true, would most directly support the researchers' conclusion?

- A** People who manage their personal finances well generally report higher financial literacy scores.
- B** Individuals often experience a temporary mood boost immediately after making a significant personal purchase.
- C** Many people intuitively believe that spending money on themselves would make them happier than spending it on others.
- D** A follow-up study found that giving money to a charity consistently activated reward centers in the brain associated with positive emotions.

Question 5

Insect populations worldwide are declining, raising concerns about their impact on insectivorous birds. A 2019 study led by Kenneth Rosenberg investigated this link, focusing on migratory bird species. Their research indicated that many migratory birds rely heavily on insects during breeding season to feed their young. The study found a correlation between regions with significant insect declines and a corresponding decrease in the reproductive success of these birds. Rosenberg and his team hypothesize that the availability of sufficient insect prey during key breeding periods is crucial for the survival and population stability of migratory insectivorous birds.

Which finding, if true, would most directly support Rosenberg and his team's hypothesis?

- A** Non-migratory insectivorous bird species show stable populations even in areas experiencing significant insect declines.
- B** Pesticide use has decreased in some agricultural areas where insect populations have recovered.
- C** Many migratory insectivorous birds consume a variety of other food sources, such as berries and seeds, outside of breeding season.
- D** Migratory insectivorous bird species that successfully fledge more chicks during a breeding season are found in areas with higher insect biomass.

Question 6

The 1981 *Substantial New Programme of Action* for the Least Developed Countries established a definitive quantitative benchmark for Official Development Assistance (ODA) from donor nations within the Development Assistance Committee. Member states pledged to allocate at least 0.15 percent of their Gross National Income (GNI) specifically to assist those most economically vulnerable territories. Despite subsequent multilateral reaffirmations of this developmental commitment, recent fiscal assessments indicate that this target remains elusive for the vast majority of high-income economies. This persistent discrepancy between geopolitical consensus and actual budgetary allocation is evident when examining specific national performance metrics for 2022; for example, _____

Which choice most effectively uses data from the graph to complete the statement?

- A** Luxembourg and Sweden both exceeded the UN threshold, whereas Denmark and Norway failed to allocate the promised 0.15% of their national income.
- B** while Luxembourg and Norway successfully surpassed the 0.15% benchmark, Iceland and Denmark fell marginally short of the established target.
- C** the majority of analyzed nations, including Belgium and Iceland, reached the target, though their contributions were significantly lower than the 0.46% allocated by Luxembourg.
- D** Iceland and Denmark were the only nations to allocate 0.14% of their national income, thereby successfully fulfilling the multilateral goal to assist the world's least developed countries.

Question 7

In his 1992 book *Image on the Edge: The Margins of Medieval Art*, art historian Michael Camille explored the often bizarre and humorous figures found in the margins of medieval illuminated manuscripts and on cathedral facades. He argued that these "marginalia" were not mere decorations but served as a space for social commentary and playful subversion. These images, depicting everything from hybrid monsters to everyday peasants engaging in impudent antics, often seemed to mock authority and established norms. Camille hypothesized that this marginal art genuinely challenged the central themes and social order of the medieval world, providing a safety valve for dissent.

Which finding, if true, would most directly undermine Camille's hypothesis?

- A** Many marginal images depicted religious figures in scenes unrelated to the main text, suggesting a wider artistic freedom.
- B** Evidence indicates that the patrons who commissioned these manuscripts actively enjoyed and even suggested the subversive content, seeing it as entertainment that affirmed their own position.
- C** Modern scholars continue to debate the precise interpretations of many marginal illustrations, indicating their complex symbolism.
- D** The techniques used to create marginal art were often less refined than those used for the central images, suggesting a distinction in artistic importance.

Question 8

Honey bees communicate foraging information to nestmates through a complex behavior known as the waggle dance. When a bee locates a food source, it returns to the hive and performs specific movements. The angle of the dance indicates the direction, and the duration of the waggle runs signals the distance to the resource. However, the *quality* of the food, such as its sugar concentration, is conveyed by the overall vigor and duration of the dance itself. Researchers, including Susan E. Fahrbach, have hypothesized that a more enthusiastic and prolonged waggle dance directly correlates with a more profitable food source.

Which finding, if true, would most directly support Fahrbach's hypothesis?

- A** Honey bees often perform waggle dances for food sources that are very close to the hive, regardless of quality.
- B** The specific sound frequencies produced during a waggle dance vary based on the type of flower visited.
- C** Bees that find nectar with a higher sugar concentration consistently perform longer and more vigorous waggle dances upon returning to the hive.
- D** New research indicates that honey bees learn to perform the waggle dance more accurately as they age.

Question 9

Archaeological investigations into the extensive rock art of the *Tassili n'Ajjer* plateau in Algeria, notably documented by David Coulson's research on the *Trust for African Rock Art* in the late 20th century, have sought to interpret the thematic shifts across its distinct stylistic periods. The earliest phase, the *Round Head* period (c. 9,000–6,000 BCE), is characterized by distinctive anthropomorphic figures with voluminous, often featureless crania, alongside detailed zoomorphic representations of fauna like *Bison antiquus* and *Elephas recki*. These intricate mural compositions frequently incorporate elements such as elaborate headgear, extensive body ornamentation, and complex scenes interpreted as communal assemblies or performative dances. Due to the pervasive motifs of otherworldly-seeming entities and transformative iconography, scholars have predominantly concluded that the *Round Head* period pictorial lexicon primarily served as a visual archive of complex shamanistic rites and profound spiritual encounters within these ancient Saharan societies.

Which finding, if true, would most directly undermine the scholars' conclusion?

- A** Analysis of the pigments used in the *Round Head* period art reveals that some were sourced from distant sacred sites known for their ritualistic significance.
- B** Later stylistic periods in the *Tassili n'Ajjer* rock art, such as the *Cattle* period, depict scenes that clearly illustrate daily pastoral activities and social structures rather than spiritual rites.
- C** A significant proportion of the *Round Head* period anthropomorphic figures are consistently found near geological formations identified as ancient seasonal water sources and hunting grounds.
- D** Ethnohistorical records from later indigenous groups in the Sahara indicate that ceremonial masks similar to those depicted in the *Round*

Head art were indeed used in rites of passage.

Question 10

Research by Lu Hong and Scott E. Page (2004) explores the efficacy of collective intelligence in complex problem-solving. Their work, notably in *Groups of Diverse Problem Solvers Can Outperform Groups of High-Ability Problem Solvers in Complex Tasks*, posits that a group's success often hinges more on the cognitive diversity of its members than on their individual average ability. In simulations and empirical studies involving various intricate computational challenges, they found that a group composed of individuals with diverse problem-solving heuristics frequently surpassed groups consisting solely of individuals recognized for high individual proficiency. This outcome was particularly pronounced when tasks demanded non-linear, multifaceted approaches rather than straightforward optimization. The researchers hypothesize that augmenting the range of individual cognitive approaches within a problem-solving collective would consistently lead to more robust and innovative solutions to novel, multifaceted challenges.

Which finding, if true, would most directly support the researchers' hypothesis?

- A** Teams composed of individuals with similar academic backgrounds and problem-solving styles consistently arrived at solutions faster for routine, linear problems.
- B** Individuals known for exceptional problem-solving abilities, when working independently, consistently outperformed the least diverse groups examined in the initial study.
- C** A follow-up study found that a group explicitly designed for maximal cognitive heterogeneity achieved superior outcomes on a previously unencountered complex system optimization problem compared to a group selected for general analytical aptitude.
- D** Organizations that prioritized skill specialization within their teams saw a significant increase in the efficiency of addressing recurring operational issues.

Question 11

Scholar Eleanor Johnson's 2018 study, *The Unseen Gaze: Narratorial Perspective in Victorian Novels*, investigates the prevalent use of third-person omniscient narration in 19th-century British literature. Johnson argues that authors like Charles Dickens and George Eliot intentionally employed this narrative strategy to foster a sense of moral didacticism, directly instructing readers on societal virtues and vices. Her analysis highlights instances where the narrator explicitly comments on characters' actions and motivations, serving as a moral arbiter within the text. Johnson concludes that this omniscient narrative voice primarily functioned as a tool for authors to guide the reader's moral judgment and reinforce prevailing Victorian ethical frameworks.

Which finding, if true, would most directly undermine Johnson's conclusion?

- A** Many 19th-century British readers reported finding the explicit moralizing present in omniscient narratives to be an unengaging or intrusive element of the literary experience.
- B** Scholarly re-evaluations of Victorian ethical frameworks suggest that they were far more complex and internally contradictory than previously assumed by literary critics like Johnson.
- C** Authors' personal journals indicate that they viewed the omniscient narrative perspective as an effective technique for managing the temporal flow and thematic coherence across extensive multi-chapter works.
- D** Contemporary literary reviews from the 19th century frequently praised authors for their profound psychological insights into characters, facilitated by the omniscient narrative's access to internal thoughts and feelings.

Question 12

A study by Rossi and Li (2021) explored the effectiveness of different message frames in influencing public support for climate change policies. The researchers conducted experiments where participants were presented with messages about a hypothetical carbon tax policy. One frame emphasized the potential economic benefits of the tax, such as job creation and investment in green technologies (gain frame). Another frame highlighted the potential economic costs of *not* implementing the tax, such as the long-term financial burdens of climate-related disasters (loss frame). A third frame focused on the ethical imperative to address climate change for future generations (moral frame). The study measured participants' stated support for the carbon tax policy after being exposed to one of these frames. The researchers concluded that messages employing a loss frame were significantly more effective at increasing public support for the carbon tax policy compared to the gain or moral frames.

Which finding, if true, would most directly support Rossi and Li's conclusion?

- A** Participants exposed to the gain frame reported slightly higher levels of concern about climate change than those exposed to the moral frame.
- B** The study found no statistically significant difference in reported support for the carbon tax policy between participants exposed to the moral frame and those exposed to a baseline message with no specific frame.
- C** A follow-up survey conducted several months later revealed that participants who had been exposed to the loss frame were more likely to express continued support for implementing carbon tax policies.
- D** Participants in the loss frame group were more likely to correctly recall specific details about the potential long-term financial burdens of climate-related disasters mentioned in the message than participants in the gain frame group.

Question 13

Archaeological findings of Chinese ceramics provide crucial insights into ancient trade networks. *Changsha ware*, produced in Hunan province during the Tang dynasty, has been discovered at numerous sites across the Indian Ocean region, including in East Africa and the Arabian Peninsula. The discovery of the Belitung shipwreck, carrying a large cargo of *Changsha ware* dated to the 9th century, further highlights its importance in maritime trade. These discoveries have led researchers to conclude that *Changsha ware* was a significant commodity in extensive trade networks connecting China with the Indian Ocean world during the Tang dynasty.

Which finding, if true, would most directly support this conclusion?

- A** Chemical analysis reveals that the clay used in *Changsha ware* was sourced from a single region in China.
- B** Historical texts from the Tang dynasty describe *Changsha ware* being highly valued by elites in the capital city.
- C** Excavations in Southeast Asia uncover a shipwreck from the Song dynasty containing a large quantity of *porcelain* from different Chinese kilns.
- D** Fragments of *Changsha ware* are discovered at an archaeological site on the coast of Oman, a location where such ware had not been previously found.

Question 14

Archaeologist Penelope J. Allison's research on Roman *insulae*, the multi-story apartment buildings common in ancient Roman cities, has shed light on daily life within these structures. While some ground-level spaces were clearly used as *tabernae* (shops), Allison's analysis of artifact distribution and spatial layouts within various *insulae*, including those in Pompeii, suggests that the primary design and function of these buildings were centered on providing housing for the urban populace. She concludes that *insulae* were predominantly residential structures, designed first and foremost to house a large number of people in a dense urban environment.

Which finding, if true, would most directly undermine Allison's conclusion?

- A** Excavations across several Roman cities reveal that the ground floors of most *insulae* were primarily occupied by *tabernae* (shops) with no direct internal access to the upper residential floors.
- B** Ancient Roman texts frequently describe the poor sanitation and cramped living conditions on the upper floors of *insulae*.
- C** Wealthy Roman citizens preferred to live in *domus*, large single-family homes, rather than *insulae*.
- D** Roman urban planners often designed cities with forums as central hubs for both public gatherings and commerce.

Question 15

The Cherokee Nation, the Seminole Nation, and the more than thirty other tribes in Oklahoma operate numerous businesses and generate billions of dollars in revenue. An economics student is researching the tribes' collective activity as a single industry. The student wants to compare the average amount that industry contributed per employee to Oklahoma's economy with the average amount contributed per employee by three other industries. Looking at the table, the student finds that tribal economic activity contributed over \$141,000 per employee, on average, ranking it _____

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

- A** below wholesale trade but above both professional service and administration/waste.
- B** above all three of the four industries shown in the table.
- C** below all three of the four industries shown in the table.
- D** above either administration/waste or professional services and nearly equal to wholesale trade.

Question 16

Literary scholars have long debated the relevance of authorial biography to textual interpretation. Echoing Roland Barthes's seminal 1967 essay arguing for the "death of the author," researcher Anya Sharma conducted an empirical study in 2022. Participants read excerpts from obscure 19th-century novels, with one group receiving biographical sketches of the authors emphasizing hardship and social critique, while a control group received no biographical information. Sharma found negligible differences in the thematic interpretations produced by the two groups, suggesting that biographical context exerts little substantive influence on a reader's engagement with the text itself. Sharma concluded that readers predominantly construct meaning independently of authorial background.

Which finding, if true, would most directly undermine Sharma's conclusion?

- A** Participants who read authors' biographies reported spending more time reflecting on the excerpts than participants in the control group did.
- B** The control group, without biographical information, produced interpretations that were statistically more diverse than those produced by the group given biographical information.
- C** Readers shown poems attributed to authors known for political activism interpreted them differently than readers shown the same poems attributed to authors known primarily for aesthetic concerns.
- D** Readers' interpretations of the novel excerpts were found to correlate more strongly with their previously stated literary preferences than with whether they received biographical information.

Question 17

In a classic social psychology study, Bibb Latané and John Darley (1968) investigated the bystander effect, a phenomenon where individuals are less likely to offer help to a victim when other people are present. Their experiments showed that as the number of bystanders increased, the likelihood of any single person helping decreased. Latané and Darley concluded that this effect is primarily due to a *diffusion of responsibility*, where individuals feel less personal obligation to intervene when others are also available to help.

Which finding, if true, would most directly support Latané and Darley's conclusion?

- A** Individuals who have received help in the past are more likely to offer help to strangers.
- B** People are more likely to intervene in an emergency if the victim is a close friend.
- C** The speed at which an emergency is recognized does not change with the number of bystanders present.
- D** Participants who believed they were the sole witness to an emergency were significantly more likely to assist than those who believed other witnesses were also present.

Question 18

Research into prosocial behavior, particularly the *bystander effect*, investigates why individuals sometimes fail to intervene in emergencies when others are present. In a seminal 1968 study, John Darley and Bibb Latané explored this phenomenon by having participants, believing they were communicating with other students via an intercom, hear what sounded like one student having an epileptic seizure. The researchers found that as the perceived number of other participants increased, the likelihood of any individual student reporting the "seizure" significantly decreased. Darley and Latané concluded that a *diffusion of responsibility* occurs, wherein individuals assume others will act, thus reducing their own perceived obligation to provide aid.

Which finding, if true, would most directly undermine Darley and Latané's conclusion?

- A** Participants who were told they were the *only* listener reported the "seizure" at a significantly higher rate than those who believed others were present.
- B** In a subsequent study, participants reported feeling less personal distress when they believed more individuals were available to help.
- C** Individuals in group settings often engage in "pluralistic ignorance," where they privately reject a norm but assume others accept it, leading to inaction.
- D** When participants in a similar experiment were explicitly assigned roles and responsibilities within the group, their likelihood of intervening remained high regardless of group size.

Question 19

The endowment effect, a well-established cognitive bias, demonstrates that individuals place a higher value on items they own compared to identical items they do not. This often results in a significant disparity between their willingness to accept (WTA) for a possession and their willingness to pay (WTP) for a similar new item. In a 2019 study, behavioral economists Dr. Lena Schmidt and Dr. Kai Jensen investigated how the framing of a decision might influence this effect. Participants were presented with a desirable item and asked either to state their WTA if they owned it or their WTP if they did not. A key experimental manipulation involved framing the choice as either "keeping" the item versus "giving it up" (loss frame) or "acquiring" the item versus "not acquiring" it (gain frame). Schmidt and Jensen observed that the WTA-WTP gap was notably larger when the decision was presented with a loss frame. They hypothesize that framing choices to highlight potential losses of an owned item intensifies the perceived psychological cost of relinquishing it, thereby amplifying the endowment effect.

Which finding, if true, would most directly support Schmidt and Jensen's hypothesis?

- A** Participants in a gain frame condition reported similar levels of satisfaction whether they acquired the item or not.
- B** Neuroimaging reveals increased activity in reward processing centers of the brain when individuals are considering acquiring an item in a gain frame.
- C** When the item was presented as a gift that could be taken away, the WTA values were, on average, higher than when the item was presented as something that could be purchased.
- D** The overall difference between WTA and WTP values decreased significantly across all framing conditions when the item was common and easily replaceable.

Question 20

Influencing prosocial behavior often involves appealing to social norms. Research by Noah J. Goldstein, Robert B. Cialdini, and Vidas Griskevicius in 2008 investigated the efficacy of different normative messages in promoting hotel towel reuse. They compared standard environmental appeals with messages conveying descriptive norms—information about how others behave. One key finding was that messages highlighting the behavior of previous occupants of the *same room* ("Nearly 75% of guests who stayed in this room participated...") significantly outperformed messages citing the behavior of guests in the hotel generally. Goldstein and colleagues hypothesize that the enhanced effectiveness stems from the increased perceived similarity and situational relevance generated by the highly specific descriptive norm, termed a "provincial norm."

Which finding, if true, would most directly support Goldstein and colleagues' hypothesis regarding the effectiveness of highly specific descriptive norms?

- A** Messages emphasizing injunctive norms (what people *should* do regarding towel reuse) were found to be almost as effective as the highly specific descriptive norm messages referencing the same room in promoting towel reuse across various hotel chains.
- B** Hotel guests shown a descriptive norm message mentioning previous occupants who shared another specific, relevant characteristic (e.g., "guests who were also attending the same business conference as you") showed higher towel reuse rates than those shown the standard same-room provincial norm message.
- C** A follow-up study analyzing guest demographics revealed that towel reuse rates were statistically indistinguishable between guests who received the same-room descriptive norm message and those who received a message stating "Nearly 75% of guests *in this hotel* participated in the towel reuse program."
- D** The perceived overall environmental consciousness and sustainability reputation of the hotel brand had a more substantial impact on towel

reuse behavior than the type of normative message displayed in the rooms, irrespective of the message's reference group specificity.

Answers

Question 1

Correct Answer: D

The passage says that Bell thinks giving people historical information about art helps them understand what the artist first meant. We need to find an answer that shows this idea is true.

(D) is the correct answer because it directly shows that people who got historical information understood the artist's original goals better. This supports Bell's idea.

(A) is wrong because it talks about people's personal feelings, which is not about understanding the artist's original meaning through historical information.

(B) is wrong because it talks about simplifying art and not using historical notes, which goes against Bell's idea of providing historical information.

(C) is wrong because it talks about how art looks after being fixed, not about how historical information helps people understand what the artist first meant.

Question 2

Correct Answer: B

The passage describes a study where researchers Dweck and Mueller looked at how different kinds of praise affect children's choices. They concluded that if you praise a child for trying hard, they will likely want to pick harder things to do later.

To support this conclusion, we need a finding that shows children praised for effort actually *do* pick challenging tasks more often.

(B) says that more children praised for effort chose the hard task. This directly matches what the researchers concluded, so it supports their idea.

(A) talks about performing better on easy tasks, which is not what the researchers concluded about choosing *challenging* tasks.

(C) talks about how parents feel, which is not about the children's choices of tasks, so it is off-topic.

(D) talks about test scores in later grades, which is too broad and not directly about the children's choice between challenging and easy tasks right after being praised, which was the focus of the study's conclusion.

Question 3

Correct Answer: D

(D) is the correct answer as it directly illustrates Jo's feelings of pride and satisfaction regarding Professor Bhaer's intellectual abilities. The text notes that Jo "glowed with triumph" specifically when Bhaer won an argument ("Teddy got quenched"), and she admires his "alive" and "absorbed" demeanor, wishing her father could converse with him. This confirms the claim about her vicarious satisfaction in his social and intellectual engagement.

(A) is incorrect because while it depicts Jo feeling satisfied and "agreeable," the context is about moral behavior and charity (giving away breakfast), not Professor Bhaer's intellectual competence. It illustrates a different type of pride.

(B) is incorrect because it depicts a scene of domestic anxiety and failure, where a guest makes a "wry face" at the food. This contradicts the idea of satisfaction or competence.

(C) is incorrect because it focuses on a different character, Amy, and her desire for material objects (diamonds and necklaces), which is irrelevant to the claim about Jo and Professor Bhaer.

Question 4

Correct Answer: D

The passage explains that researchers found that spending money on other people makes people happier than spending it on themselves. To support this idea, we need to find something that shows this is true or explains why it happens.

(A) is incorrect because it talks about financial literacy, which is about managing money generally, not specifically about whether spending on others or oneself makes a person happier.

(B) is incorrect because the passage says that spending money on oneself does not lead to greater happiness. This choice suggests a mood boost from personal spending, which doesn't support the main idea about prosocial spending.

(C) is incorrect because it describes what people *think* will make them happy, which is the opposite of what the study actually found. The study showed that what people *think* is often wrong.

(D) is correct because it provides a scientific reason (brain activity) for *why* spending money on others leads to positive feelings, which directly supports the idea that prosocial spending consistently promotes happiness.

Question 5

Correct Answer: D

The passage is about a study that looked at how fewer insects might affect migratory birds. The researchers think that birds need enough insects when they are having babies for the birds to survive and for their numbers to stay steady.

(D) is the correct answer because it directly shows that when there are more insects, the birds have more baby birds that grow up. This supports the idea that having enough insects during breeding time is important for the birds to survive and for their numbers to stay strong.

(A) is incorrect because it talks about birds that do not move around, which is not what the study focused on (migratory birds). This choice does not help support the idea about migratory birds.

(B) is incorrect because it talks about pesticides and insects recovering, which is a reason *why* insect populations change, but it does not directly show how the number of insects affects the birds themselves.

(C) is incorrect because it talks about what birds eat when it's not the breeding season. The hypothesis is specifically about the breeding season and how insects are important then.

Question 6

Correct Answer: B

We first look at the passage, which can be summarized as follows:

"1981: ODA target = 0.15% GNI

Target reaffirmed but not met by most

2022 data shows gap"

The passage establishes that the UN target is **0.15% of national income**, and most high-income countries fail to meet this benchmark. We need to find an answer choice that accurately describes the 2022 data while reflecting this context.

Looking at the graph, we can identify which countries exceed 0.15% (Luxembourg at 0.46%, Sweden at 0.28%, Norway at 0.2%) and which fall short (Iceland at 0.14%, Denmark at 0.14%, Belgium at 0.13%).

(A) is incorrect because Norway allocated 0.2%, which exceeds the 0.15% threshold, not fails to meet it.

(C) is incorrect because the majority did *not* reach the target—only 3 out of 6 countries (Luxembourg, Sweden, Norway) exceeded 0.15%, meaning the majority actually fell short.

(D) is incorrect because Iceland and Denmark allocated 0.14%, which is *below* the 0.15% target, so they did not fulfill the goal.

The graph confirms that (B) accurately describes the data: Luxembourg (0.46%) and Norway (0.2%) both exceeded 0.15%, while Iceland (0.14

Question 7

Correct Answer: B

The passage talks about Michael Camille's idea that strange pictures in the margins of old books and buildings (called "marginalia") were a way to genuinely challenge the rules and ideas of society. The question asks what would make this idea less likely to be true.

(A) This choice says that some pictures were unrelated to the main text, showing artistic freedom. This doesn't make Camille's idea weaker because artistic freedom doesn't mean it didn't challenge social rules.

(B) This choice says that rich people who paid for these books liked the "subversive" pictures because it made *them* feel more important or powerful. If the powerful people actually enjoyed and encouraged these images because it *affirmed* their place, then the art wasn't truly challenging the social order, but rather supporting it in a subtle way. This makes Camille's idea of a "genuine challenge" less likely.

(C) This choice says that scholars still argue about what the pictures mean. This only shows that the pictures are complex, but it doesn't say whether they challenged society or not.

(D) This choice talks about how the art was made and if it was "refined." This is about the art style, not about whether the art challenged social rules.

Question 8

Correct Answer: C

The passage explains how honey bees use a dance to tell other bees about food. It says the angle tells direction, and how long they waggle tells distance. But for how good the food is (its quality), the passage says the *vigor and duration* of the dance are used. The researcher, Susan E. Fahrbach, thinks that a more energetic and longer dance means the food is better.

We need to find an answer that supports this idea.

(A) talks about food sources being close to the hive, which is about distance, not food quality or dance vigor. So, it does not support the hypothesis.

(B) talks about sound and flower types, which is not what the hypothesis is about. The hypothesis is about the *vigor and duration* of the dance relating to food *quality*. So, it does not support the hypothesis.

(C) says that when bees find sweeter nectar (which means better quality food), they dance longer and more vigorously. This directly matches what Fahrbach hypothesized: that a more enthusiastic and prolonged dance means better food. So, this answer supports the hypothesis.

(D) talks about bees learning to dance more accurately as they get older. This is about how good they are at dancing in general, not about how the dance changes to show food quality. So, it does not support the hypothesis.

Question 9

Correct Answer: C

The passage discusses ancient rock art on the *Tassili n'Ajjer* plateau and says that the scholars think the art from the *Round Head* period was mainly a record of spiritual events and rituals.

To undermine this idea, we need a finding that shows the art was *not* mainly about spiritual things, but about something else, or that the spiritual interpretation might be wrong.

(A) says the colors came from sacred places. This would actually *support* the idea that the art was spiritual, not undermine it.

(B) talks about later periods of art showing daily life. This doesn't tell us anything about the *Round Head* period, which is what the conclusion is about. So, it's not relevant.

(D) mentions that similar masks were used in ceremonies by later groups. This would also *support* the idea that the *Round Head* art was spiritual, not undermine it.

(C) states that many of the figures are found near old water holes and hunting spots. This suggests that the art might have been about everyday life, like finding water or hunting animals, which are very practical things for survival. If the art is mostly found in places related to daily survival, it makes it less likely that its *primary* purpose was about complex spiritual rituals, suggesting a different, more practical, function. Therefore, this finding would directly weaken the scholars' conclusion.

Question 10

Correct Answer: C

The passage talks about a study by Lu Hong and Scott E. Page. They found that groups with different ways of thinking (cognitive diversity) were better at solving hard problems than groups of very smart people who all thought similarly. The researchers guess that if you make groups even more different in their thinking, they will solve new, hard problems even better.

(A) is incorrect because it talks about groups with similar thinking solving easy, routine problems faster. This doesn't help prove that diverse groups are better at hard, new problems, which is what the researchers hypothesized.

(B) is incorrect because it talks about smart people working alone. The study is about groups and how diversity in groups helps solve problems, not about individuals working by themselves.

(C) is correct because it shows that a group made to be as different in thinking as possible (maximal cognitive heterogeneity) did better on a new and hard problem (previously unencountered complex system optimization

problem) than a group of generally smart people. This directly supports the researchers' idea that increasing the range of thinking styles in a group helps solve new and hard problems better.

(D) is incorrect because it talks about groups that focus on very specific skills (skill specialization) and how they solve problems that happen again and again (recurring operational issues). This is different from groups with diverse thinking solving new and difficult challenges.

Question 11

Correct Answer: D

The passage describes Eleanor Johnson's study, which concludes that Victorian authors primarily used an omniscient narrator to teach readers about morals. To undermine this idea, we need a finding that shows the authors primarily used the omniscient narrator for a different main reason.

(A) is incorrect because it talks about what readers thought, not what the authors primarily intended, which is the focus of Johnson's conclusion.

(B) is incorrect because it talks about Victorian ethics being complex, not about why authors used omniscient narration.

(C) is incorrect because it suggests authors used omniscient narration for managing story structure and themes. While this is another function, it doesn't directly contradict the idea that the *primary* function was moral guidance in the same way (D) does. It's a plausible function, but (D) focuses on *psychological insight*, which is a very different narrative goal than moral instruction, making it a stronger alternative *primary* function for the author's *intent*.

(D) is correct because it shows that 19th-century critics, who were closer to the authors' time, valued the omniscient narration for giving deep psychological insights into characters' thoughts and feelings. This suggests that the authors' primary purpose, or at least a highly significant and recognized one, was to explore character psychology, not just to guide moral judgment. This directly undermines Johnson's claim that the *primary* function was moral didacticism.

Question 12

Correct Answer: C

The passage talks about a study by Rossi and Li that looked at how different ways of talking about a carbon tax policy affected whether people supported it. The study found that telling people about the bad things that could happen if the tax wasn't put in place (loss frame) made them support the policy more than telling them about the good things that would happen if it was (gain frame) or talking about doing the right thing for the future (moral frame). The researchers concluded that the loss frame was better at getting people to support the carbon tax.

We are looking for something that proves the researchers were right that the loss frame is more effective.

(A) talks about concern about climate change, not support for the specific policy. The study measured support for the carbon tax, not general climate concern.

(B) talks about the moral frame compared to a baseline, but the conclusion is specifically about the loss frame being more effective than *both* the gain and moral frames.

(C) says that people who heard the loss frame messages still supported carbon tax policies later on. This shows that the loss frame had a lasting effect on support, which directly supports the idea that it is a more effective way to get people to support the policy.

(D) talks about remembering details, not supporting the policy. While remembering details might be related to persuasion, the study measured support for the policy directly, not memory of the message content. The conclusion is about policy support, not message recall.

Question 13

Correct Answer: D

The passage talks about how finding *Changsha ware* in many places far from China shows that China traded a lot with those places a long, long time ago. The researchers think *Changsha ware* was important in big trade routes across the ocean. To support this idea that the trade networks were *extensive* (meaning they went to many places), you would need to find *Changsha ware* in a new place where it wasn't found before.

(A) talks about where the clay came from in China. This is about how the pottery was made, not how far it was traded. So, it doesn't support the idea of wide trade networks.

(B) talks about rich people in China liking *Changsha ware*. This is about who liked it inside China, not about trading it with other countries. So, it doesn't support the idea of wide trade networks with other places.

(C) talks about finding different pottery from a different time (*Song dynasty*) and from different places (*different kilns*) in Southeast Asia. The passage is specifically about *Changsha ware* during the *Tang dynasty* and its trade across the Indian Ocean. This finding is too different from what the passage is about to directly support the conclusion.

(D) talks about finding *Changsha ware* in a new place (*Oman*) where it hadn't been found before. Oman is on the coast of the Arabian Peninsula, which is part of the Indian Ocean region. Finding *Changsha ware* in a new location directly supports the idea that the trade networks were very widespread and went to many different places, making them extensive.

Question 14

Correct Answer: A

The passage says a researcher named Penelope J. Allison thinks that Roman apartment buildings, called *insulae*, were mostly used for people to live in. To undermine her idea means to find information that makes her idea seem less likely or wrong.

(A) This choice says that the ground floors of most *insulae* were mainly shops and that these shops didn't even connect to the living areas upstairs. This shows that a big part of the building was for business, not just living,

which makes the idea that *insulae* were "predominantly residential" less strong. So, this choice undermines the conclusion.

(B) This choice talks about bad living conditions in the *insulae*. This information tells us what it was like to live there, but it does not tell us what the main purpose or function of the building was. So, it does not undermine the researcher's conclusion about the building's primary design.

(C) This choice says that rich Romans lived in different kinds of homes called *domus*. The passage already talks about *insulae* being for the "urban populace," which means ordinary people, not the wealthy. So, this choice does not undermine the specific idea that *insulae* were mostly residential for the people who lived in them.

(D) This choice talks about how Roman cities were planned with forums (like central squares) for gatherings and business. This is about general city design, not about the specific function or design of the *insulae* themselves. So, it is off-topic and does not undermine the conclusion about *insulae*.

Question 15

Correct Answer: A

We first look at the passage, which can be summarized as follows:

Tribal businesses in Oklahoma are a big industry.

A student wants to compare the average contribution per employee of this tribal industry to three other industries.

The passage tells us that the student found the tribal economic activity's average contribution per employee was over \$141,000. We need to find the choice that accurately compares this value to the other industries shown in the table.

Looking at the table's last column, "Average contribution per employee by industry":

Tribal economic activity: \$141,510

Wholesale trade: \\$183,790

Professional services: \\$110,157

Administration/waste: \\$60,132

We can now evaluate the choices by comparing \\$141,510 to the other values:

(A) states that the tribal contribution (\\$141,510) is below wholesale trade (\\$183,790) but above professional services (\\$110,157) and administration/waste (\\$60,132). This is a correct comparison based on the data. \\$141,510 is less than \\$183,790, but greater than both \\$110,157 and \\$60,132.

(B) is incorrect because the tribal contribution (\\$141,510) is lower than wholesale trade (\\$183,790).

(C) is incorrect because the tribal contribution (\\$141,510) is higher than both professional services (\\$110,157) and administration/waste (\\$60,132).

(D) is incorrect because while the tribal contribution (\\$141,510) is above the other two, it is not "nearly equal" to wholesale trade (\\$183,790); there is a difference of over \\$42,000.

Thus, (A) provides the most accurate and complete comparison based on the table's data.

Question 16

Correct Answer: C

The passage describes Anya Sharma's study. She gave some readers info about authors' hard lives and didn't give info to others. Both groups interpreted stories similarly. Sharma concluded that knowing about the author doesn't really change how people understand a story; readers figure out the meaning mostly on their own from the text.

We need to find something that goes against Sharma's conclusion. This means we need proof that knowing about the author *does* change how people understand a story.

(C) says that if readers know a poet writes political poems, they read a poem politically. If they think the poet cares more about beauty (aesthetic concerns), they read the same poem that way. This shows that knowing about the author *does* strongly change interpretation, which undermines Sharma's conclusion.

(A) is wrong because spending more time thinking doesn't mean the author's info changed the *meaning* they found.

(B) is wrong because having less diverse interpretations in the biography group doesn't automatically mean the biography caused it, or that it contradicts the idea that meaning is mainly from the text. The biography might have just focused them, but not necessarily changed the core meaning derived from the text itself compared to a scenario with different biographical information. It doesn't directly show the biography *dictated* the interpretation in opposition to the text.

(D) is wrong because it suggests personal preference (another factor) is more important than the author's biography. This actually supports Sharma's idea that things other than the author's background are more important for interpretation.

Question 17

Correct Answer: D

The passage describes a study by Latané and Darley about the bystander effect, which says that people are less likely to help someone in trouble if more people are around. The study's main idea, or conclusion, is that this happens because of "diffusion of responsibility"—meaning people feel less responsible to help when others are also there.

To support this conclusion, we need a finding that shows that the *presence of others* makes people feel *less responsible* or *less likely to help*.

(D) says that people were more likely to help when they thought they were the only person watching, compared to when they thought others were also watching. This directly matches the idea of "diffusion of responsibility"

because it shows that when there are *more* potential helpers (even if imagined), a single person feels *less* responsible and helps less. Therefore, (D) directly supports the conclusion.

(A) talks about people who have received help in the past being more likely to help strangers. This is about general helping behavior, not specifically about how the number of bystanders affects whether someone helps in an emergency. It does not support the idea of "diffusion of responsibility."

(B) says people are more likely to help friends. While this might be true, it doesn't relate to the bystander effect or how the presence of *other non-friends* affects responsibility to help.

(C) states that the speed of recognizing an emergency doesn't change with the number of bystanders. This is about perception, not about the feeling of responsibility or the likelihood of helping. It does not support the conclusion about "diffusion of responsibility."

Question 18

Correct Answer: D

The passage describes a study by Darley and Latané, who found that people are less likely to help in an emergency if more people are around. They concluded that this happens because people think others will help, so they feel less responsible themselves.

To undermine this idea, we need to find something that shows this "diffusion of responsibility" might not be the real reason or doesn't always happen.

(A) This choice supports the conclusion. If people help more when they are alone, it means they feel more responsible when no one else is there, which fits the idea of responsibility spreading out when others are present. So, this choice is incorrect.

(B) This choice describes a feeling of less distress, which could be a *result* of diffusion of responsibility, not something that undermines it. It doesn't challenge the idea that responsibility is diffused. So, this choice is incorrect.

(C) This choice introduces another reason for inaction, "pluralistic ignorance," which is similar to diffusion of responsibility but not the exact same. However, it still explains inaction in groups, which doesn't directly undermine the idea that responsibility *diffuses*. It just adds another layer to why people don't act, but doesn't say responsibility *doesn't* diffuse. So, this choice is incorrect.

(D) This choice shows that even when many people are present, if each person knows exactly what their job is, they still help a lot. This goes against the idea that simply having more people automatically makes people feel less responsible and reduces their help. It suggests that if responsibility is clearly given, it doesn't "diffuse." So, this choice directly undermines the conclusion.

Question 19

Correct Answer: C

The passage explains that people value things more when they own them, which is called the endowment effect. Researchers Schmidt and Jensen found that this effect was bigger when choices were framed as losing something they owned (loss frame). They thought this happened because thinking about losing something they own makes them feel a bigger emotional cost.

To support their idea, we need a finding that shows emphasizing a potential loss makes people value the item even more or increases their willingness to accept payment for it if they already have it.

(A) is incorrect because it talks about satisfaction in a gain frame, which doesn't directly relate to the hypothesis about highlighting potential losses in a loss frame amplifying the endowment effect.

(B) is incorrect because it discusses brain activity when acquiring an item in a gain frame. The hypothesis is about the *loss frame* intensifying the perceived cost of *relinquishing* an owned item, not about acquiring an item.

(C) is correct because it directly supports the hypothesis. If an item is presented as a "gift that could be taken away," it creates a "loss frame" because the person already feels ownership and is facing a potential loss. If WTA values are higher in this situation, it means people value the item even more strongly when faced with losing it, which confirms that highlighting potential losses amplifies the endowment effect, as Schmidt and Jensen hypothesized.

(D) is incorrect because it discusses the overall difference between WTA and WTP for common items, which is too broad and doesn't focus on the specific impact of framing (loss vs. gain) on the perceived psychological cost of relinquishing an owned item.

Question 20

Correct Answer: B

The passage explains a study about getting hotel guests to reuse towels. Researchers Goldstein, Cialdini, and Griskevicius found that telling guests "most people who stayed in *this specific room* reused their towels" worked better than just saying "most people *in this hotel* reused their towels." Their idea (hypothesis) is that the message about the specific room works better because guests feel more similar to those previous guests, and the situation feels more relevant to them.

The question asks what finding would support this idea that feeling similar and relevant makes the message more powerful.

(B) suggests that if you make the message *even more* specific by mentioning something else the guests have in common (like attending the same conference), it works even better than the "same room" message. This directly supports the hypothesis because it shows that increasing the feeling of similarity ("people like me, who are here for the same reason") makes the message stronger, just like the researchers thought.

(A) is wrong because it talks about a different type of message (what people *should* do, called injunctive norms) instead of the message type the

researchers focused on (what people *actually* do, called descriptive norms). The hypothesis is specifically about *why* certain descriptive norms work better.

(C) is wrong because it says the "same room" message and the "whole hotel" message worked equally well. This goes against what the researchers found in the passage and would weaken, not support, their hypothesis.

(D) is wrong because it suggests something else entirely (how eco-friendly the hotel seems) is more important than the message type. While this might be true, it doesn't help support the specific idea that the *similarity and relevance* of the message is what makes the specific norm effective. It introduces another factor instead of supporting the researchers' explanation.