

Command of Textual Evidence Worksheet

Group Exercise

1. **Vocabulary:** Check the meanings of the vocabulary list below, you may return to check these meanings when completing the exercise.
2. **Exercise:** In groups. Answer each of the four questions below. Write down your answers.

Pre-Exercise Vocabulary

aesthetic — related to beauty or appearance
astrophysicists — scientists who study stars, planets, and space
depictions — ways of showing or describing something
detachment — feeling separate from something
disputes — says something is not true or not right
distinct phases — two separate stages or periods
edging out — slowly forcing someone to leave or lose their place
enhancing — making something better
exhilarating — making you feel excited and happy
fares forth — starts a journey
foster — help something develop or grow
gentrification — when a place becomes more expensive and poorer people are forced to leave
merit — value or worth
seclusion — being alone or away from other people
subverts — changes or goes against the usual idea

What is the claim?

Find the claim in the passage then find the evidence of the claim in the options.

Q1. *The Land of Enchantment* is a 1906 travel book by Lilian Whiting. In the book, which describes the experience of traveling through the southwestern United States by train, Whiting reflects on the escape from everyday life that such a journey provides: _____

Which quotation from *The Land of Enchantment* most effectively illustrates the claim?

Choose 1 answer:

- a) “The social and the picturesque charm of the long journey is singularly enhanced by the leisurely stops made for refreshment.”
- b) “One experiences a certain sense of detachment from ordinary day and daylight duties that is exhilarating.”
- c) “The real journey begins, of course, at Chicago, and as these trains leave in the evening the traveller fares forth in the seclusion of his berth.”
- d) “The opportunities and advantages already offered and constantly increasing are greater than would at first be considered possible.”

Q2 In her 1921 poem “Spring,” Edna St. Vincent Millay subverts conventional depictions of springtime. Instead of celebrating growth and renewal, Millay disputes the merit of the season entirely: _____

Which quotation from “Spring” most effectively illustrates the claim?

Choose 1 answer:

- a) "The sun is hot on my neck as I observe / The spikes of the crocus."
- b) "The smell of the earth is good. / It is apparent that there is no death."
- c) "To what purpose, April, do you return again? / Beauty is not enough."
- d) "Life in itself / Is nothing, / An empty cup, a flight of uncarpeted stairs."

Q3 The High Line in New York City, transformed from an old railway track into a popular urban park, has been praised for enhancing city life and providing a public space for relaxation and socialization. Critics argue that while the High Line has aesthetic and social benefits, it has also contributed to gentrification in the surrounding areas, attracting high-priced real estate developments and edging out established lower-income neighbors. Robert Hammond, one of the project's designers and co-founder of nonprofit group Friends of the High Line, has argued that the park has the potential to foster community interaction by providing a shared space that encourages social activities among locals.

Which finding from a study, if true, would most directly support Robert Hammond's claim that the High Line fosters community interaction?

Choose 1 answer:

- a) The High Line has become a major tourist attraction, drawing millions of visitors from around the world each year.
- b) Surveys conducted among local residents indicate that their usage of the High Line for community events, social gatherings, and public performances has increased since its opening.
- c) Property values and commercial rents in the neighborhoods adjacent to the High Line have increased since the park's development.
- d) New businesses and art installations have proliferated along the High Line since its inception.

Q4 The Milky Way galaxy is composed of millions of stars in a relatively flat structure containing a thin disk and a thick disk. Based on computer simulations and analysis of data on the brightness, position, and chemical composition of about 250,000 stars in the thick disk (collected from two telescopes, one in China and one orbiting in space), astrophysicists Maosheng Xiang and Hans-Walter Rix claim that the thick disk of the Milky Way formed in two distinct phases rather than a single one.

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

Choose 1 answer:

- a) There's an age difference of about 2 billion years between certain stars in the thick disk.
- b) The stars in the Milky Way tend to have very similar chemical compositions.
- c) The thin disk contains about twice as many stars that can be seen from Earth as the thick disk does.
- d) The telescopes used by the researchers have detected stars of similar ages in galaxies other than the Milky Way.

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