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1

Passage I (from Mark Oshiro's novel *Anger Is a Gift*): In the novel, Moss and his friends are on a subway train in Northern California.

“Lights from the outside world then filled the train car as it rose out of the ground and climbed the elevated track. As long as Moss had lived in West Oakland, he'd never tired of this **specific** view, so he pointed toward the windows. ‘Check it,’ he said, and the Port of Oakland began to pass by them”

As used in the text, what does the word “**specific**” most nearly mean?

- A) Imaginary
- B) Correct
- C) Energetic
- D) Particular



2

Passage (from Anne Spencer's 1922 poem *Translation*):

“We trekked into a far country,
My friend and I.
Our deeper content was never spoken,
But each knew all the other said.
He told me how calm his soul was laid
By the lack of anvil and strife.
The wooing kestrel,’ I said, ‘mutes his mating-note
To please the harmony of this sweet silence.’”



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Which choice best describes the function of the reference to the “**wooing kestrel**” (a type of bird) in the text as a whole?

- A) It emphasizes the speaker's belief that her friend is not sharing his true feelings with her.
- B) It suggests that nature has secrets that humans are fundamentally incapable of discovering.
- C) It illustrates the assertion that peace is a subjective state rather than an objective one.
- D) It presents the natural world as aligning with the experience of the speaker and her friend.

3

“Although the government of the Soviet Union attempted to ____ Georgi Vladimov's novel *Faithful Ruslan*, copies of the book circulated in secret among readers in several parts of the country.”

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- A) Replicate
- B) Import
- C) Suppress
- D) Critique



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Passage 2 (from John Matheus's 1925 short story *Fog*):

"The fog extended its tentacles over city and river, gradually obliterating traces of familiar landscapes. At five-thirty, the old Panhandle bridge, **supported** by massive sandstone pillars, stalwart, as when erected fifty years before to serve a generation now passed behind the portals of life, had become a spectral outline against the sky."

As used in the text, what does the word "**supported**" most nearly mean?

- A) Cherished
- B) Defended
- C) Held up
- D) Improved on

"Today, the mobile application Instagram is thought of exclusively as a photo- and video-sharing program, but image-sharing was originally ___ the app's main purpose, which was to allow users to indicate their locations to other users in real time. Only once it became clear how popular the secondary feature of image-sharing was did the company shift to making that the app's centerpiece."

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| A) Subordinate to | C) Extracted by |
| B) Duplicated in | D) Intrinsic to |



“A casual description of Scherezade Garcia’s 2019 mural Blame It on the Bean: The Power of Coffee can make the work seem ___ - a painting that is housed in a coffee shop and that depicts three women drinking coffee may not sound particularly ambitious but in fact the work is a complex, dynamic meditation on gender and the legacy of colonialism that demands serious attention.”

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- A) Incongruous
- B) Shrewd
- C) Pretentious
- D) Unassuming

“The Beirut Stock Exchange in Beirut, Lebanon, connects companies operating in Lebanon with potential investors. This is a valuable service since the time and expense necessary to find individual investors might otherwise be ___ for these companies: many of the companies could not operate if they had to do everything necessary to find investors for themselves.”

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| A) Distinctive | C) Prohibitive |
| B) Misconstrued | D) Beneficial |



“Some robots such as Actroid (developed in 2003) and Auriga (developed in 2011) are designed to resemble humans so that people will find it easier to interact with them. To that end, certain features such as bipedal locomotion can help people's feelings of comfort. but a robot that looks too human can fall into the ‘uncanny valley,’ meaning that its appearance unintentionally unsettles those who encounter it.”

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- A) Mitigate
- B) Constrict
- C) Repudiate
- D) Buttress



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Veronica L. Bura, Akito Y. Kawahara, and Jayne E. Yack investigated the evolution and function of sound production in silk moth and hawk moth caterpillars. They found that during harmless simulated attacks on caterpillars, 33% of the tested species produced sound, which ranged from clicks in *Antheraea pernyi* to whistles in *Phyllosphingia dissimilis*. A second research team has claimed that caterpillars use these sounds primarily to communicate with other members of their species.

Which finding, if true, would most directly challenge the second team's claim?

- A)** Among the caterpillar species that produced sound in response to simulated attacks, no individuals produced sound in the minute before the attacks, but the vast majority of individuals produced sound once the simulated attacks began.
- B)** Most of the caterpillar species that were found to not produce sound in response to simulated attacks have been observed producing sound during encounters with other members of their species.
- C)** Caterpillars that were found to produce sounds in response to simulated attacks are typically solitary and were tested in isolation.
- D)** The sounds caterpillars produced in response to the simulated attacks lacked acoustic characteristics that would make them audible to bats, lizards, or birds, some of the most frequent predators of caterpillars.



Text 1

Isaac Asimov, author of *The Naked Sun* and *The Gods Themselves*, is

highly regarded despite his mediocre writing style. His prose is workmanlike; his characters are flat and discuss ideas rather than emotions. That his work is enjoyable despite this is a testament to his prodigious imagination—even if people read his books only for the

ideas, they will have plenty to consider.

Text 2

Asimov is critiqued for his style, but it is wrong to fault a writer for failing to do what he never intended to do. For example, although most of his novel *Foundation* consists of people discussing science and politics and we find out little about his characters' lives, Asimov wanted to convey the vast sweep of human history over centuries, and one of his points is that at such a timescale, individuals don't matter. Thus his lack of characterization is central to his thematic aims.

Based on the texts, the author of Text 1 would most likely agree with the author of Text 2 on which point?

- A) *The Naked Sun* is more representative of Asimov's writing style than *Foundation* is.
- B) Asimov's writing style is often unfairly criticized.
- C) Asimov's characters can be concerned mainly with intellectual matters rather than emotions.
- D) Asimov was correct to suggest that individual humans have little influence over the course of human history.

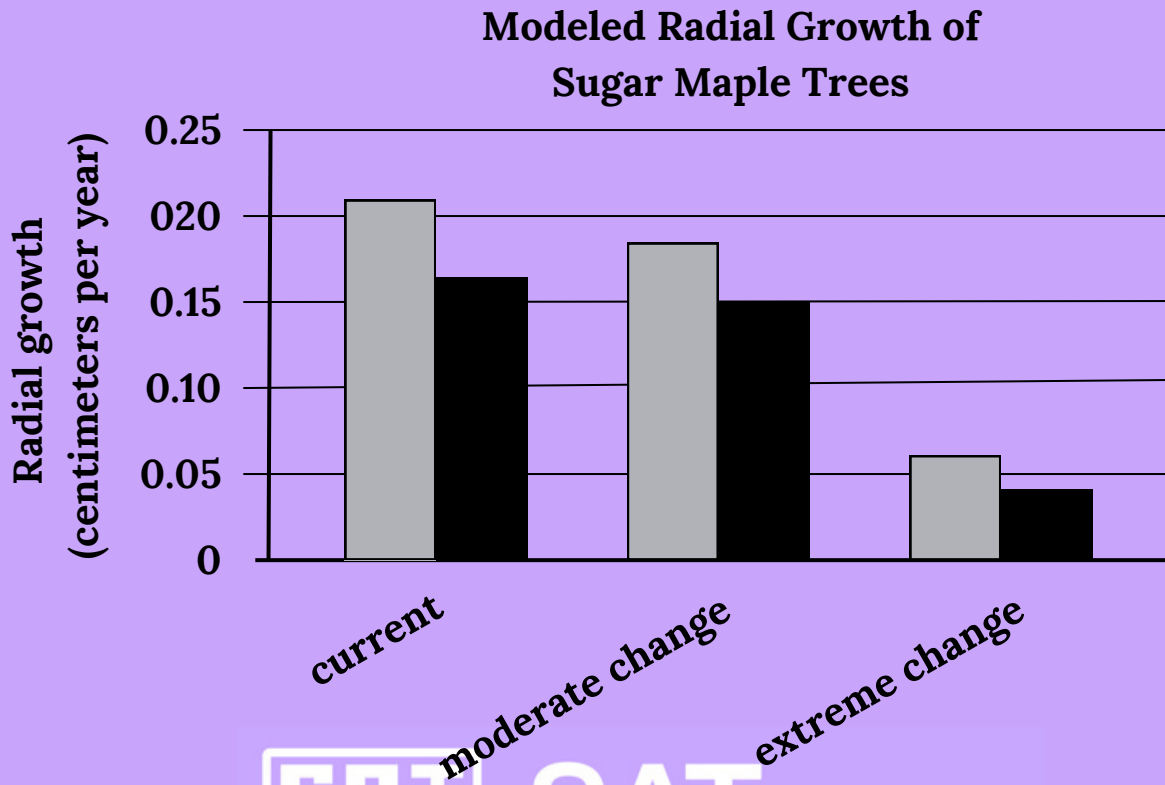


Under normal atmospheric pressure at Earth's surface, water molecules form a tetrahedral network stabilized by hydrogen bonds between adjacent molecules. Extreme high pressure, such as can be found in deep ocean waters, destabilizes these bonds and compresses water's structure, allowing water molecules within organisms to permeate proteins and impede crucial biological functions; yet deep-sea organisms known as piezophiles have adapted to extreme pressure. Studies have found a positive correlation between the depths that various piezophiles inhabit and concentrations of a compound called trimethylamine N-oxide (TMAO) in their muscle tissues, which has led a team of researchers to hypothesize that TMAO reduces water's compressibility.

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

- A)** Water molecules are found to be impervious to TMAO even when the water molecules' tetrahedral configuration has been distorted by high pressure.
- B)** Examination of TMAO's molecular structure shows that TMAO molecules retain their shape even as pressure increases.
- C)** A positive correlation is found between concentrations of TMAO and the rate at which water's molecular structure compresses as pressure increases.
- D)** Analysis of water's molecular structure under high pressure reveals that hydrogen bonds are more stable when TMAO is present than when it is not.





Ines Ibañez and colleagues studied a forest site in which some sugar maple trees receive periodic fertilization with nitrogen to mimic the broader trend of increasing anthropogenic nitrogen deposition in soil. Ibañez and colleagues modeled the radial growth of the trees with and without nitrogen fertilization under three different climate scenarios (the current climate, moderate change, and extreme change). Although they found that climate change would negatively affect growth, they concluded that anthropogenic nitrogen deposition could more than offset that effect provided that change is moderate rather than extreme.

Which choice best describes data from the graph that support Ibañez and colleagues' conclusion?



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- A) Growth with nitrogen under the current climate exceeded growth with nitrogen under moderate change, but the latter exceeded growth without nitrogen under extreme change.
- B) Growth without nitrogen under the current climate exceeded growth without nitrogen under moderate change, but the latter exceeded growth with nitrogen under extreme change.
- C) Growth with nitrogen under moderate change exceeded growth without nitrogen under moderate change, but the latter exceeded growth without nitrogen under extreme change.
- D) Growth with nitrogen under moderate change exceeded growth without nitrogen under the current climate, but the latter exceeded growth with nitrogen under extreme change.

13

The World Cup of men's soccer, one of the biggest sporting events on the planet, brought 32 national teams from six continents to the host country, Brazil, in 2014. The event, which is held every four years, has expanded greatly since it was played in Italy in 1934.

___ The World Cup included only 16 teams, most from Europe and the Americas.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

- A) On the other hand,
- B) As a result,
- C) Then,
- D) Similarly,



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Uncle Vanya: Scenes from Country Life in Four Acts is an 1898 play by Anton Chekhov, originally written in Russian. In the play, Professor Serebrakoff and his wife Helena have come to stay at their country estate, which Vanya manages with the help of Sonia, the professor's daughter from a previous marriage. Chekhov portrays the professor as being unable to adjust to living at the country estate, as is evident when ____.

Which quotation from *Uncle Vanya* most effectively illustrates the claim?

- A) Vanya says to himself, "I was proud of [Professor Serebrakoff] and of his learning; I received all his words and writings as inspired and now? Now he has retired, and what is the total of his life? A blank!"
- B) Professor Serebrakoff says, "I am a book-worm and am unfamiliar with practical affairs. I cannot, I find, dispense with the help of well-informed people."
- C) Professor Serebrakoff says to Helena, "You are young and healthy and beautiful, and longing for life, and I am an old dotard, almost a dead man already."
- D) Professor Serebrakoff says to Helena, "I am used to my library and the lecture hall and to the esteem and admiration of my colleagues. Now I suddenly find myself plunged into this wilderness [the estate], condemned to see the same stupid people from morning till night and listen to their futile conversations."



Percentages of New Year's Resolution Makers Who Make Certain Kinds of Resolutions

Type of Resolution	Age 18-29	Age 30-49	Age 50-64	Age 65+
Health and Exercises	79%	80%	79%	76%
Finances	68%	63%	56%	47%
Pesonal Relationships	63%	53%	58%	52%
Hobbies	65%	53%	51%	45%

A Pew Research Center survey conducted in January 2024 found that three out of ten U.S. adults make at least one New Year's resolution (a promise for the year ahead), while half of those who make a resolution make more than one. The survey asked participants what kinds of resolutions they made and separated them into several categories. The table presents percentages of people who make particular kinds of New Year's resolutions among those who choose to make them, indexed by age bracket.

Which choice best presents a conclusion about the habits of New Year's resolution makers that is best supported by information in the text and the table?



- A)** The majority of U.S. adults who make resolutions related to health and exercise also make resolutions in multiple additional categories.
- B)** Among all U.S. adults, people become less likely to make New Year's resolutions as they age, regardless of the type of resolution.
- C)** Resolution makers between the ages of **50-64** are more likely to make resolutions related to personal relationships and less likely to make resolutions related to finances than resolution makers between the ages of **30-49** are.
- D)** Resolution makers between the ages of **18-29** are more likely to make resolutions about health and exercise than resolution makers between the ages of **30-49** are.



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Notes on the Clovis First Hypothesis:

- The Clovis First hypothesis proposes that ancient humans known as Clovis were the first to populate North America.
- The Clovis arrived around 13,000 years ago.
- Stone tools found at the Satville site in Virginia date to approximately 16,000 years ago.
- These items support the idea that humans were present in North America before the Clovis population arrived.
- More than a dozen North American sites containing pre-Clovis items have been identified.

The student wants to explain the implications of the discovery at the **Satville site**. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

- A) It is the contention of the Clovis First hypothesis that the Clovis, an ancient human population, were the first to inhabit North America, arriving around **13,000** years ago.
- B) Located in Virginia, Saltville is one of more than a dozen North American sites where pre-Clovis items have been discovered.
- C) The approximately **16,000-year-old** stone tools found at Saltville, a site in Virginia, should not be overlooked: they have important implications for the Clovis First hypothesis.
- D) Contrary to the Clovis First hypothesis, the approximately **16,000-year-old** stone tools found at Saltville suggest that humans were in North America before the Clovis arrived.



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A number of artists associated with hyperpop, a movement in electronic music that emerged in the 2010s, aggressively manipulate their recorded voice. The singer Dorian Electra, for example, shifts the pitch of their vocals to be much deeper than that of Electra's natural range. And even the hyperpop artists who don't rely on pitch-shifting, such as Rina Sawayama, often distort their vocals using digital tools. By persistently modifying the voice, hyperpop invites the listener to reflect on the extent to which digital technology mediates the human experience today.

Which description of vocal manipulation in hyperpop is best supported by the text?

- A)** It serves as an example of digital technology's negative influence on daily life.
- B)** It represents the continuity of human experience despite social and historical change.
- C)** It functions as a commentary on contemporary social conditions.
- D)** It symbolizes the power of contemporary music to influence listeners' sense of self.



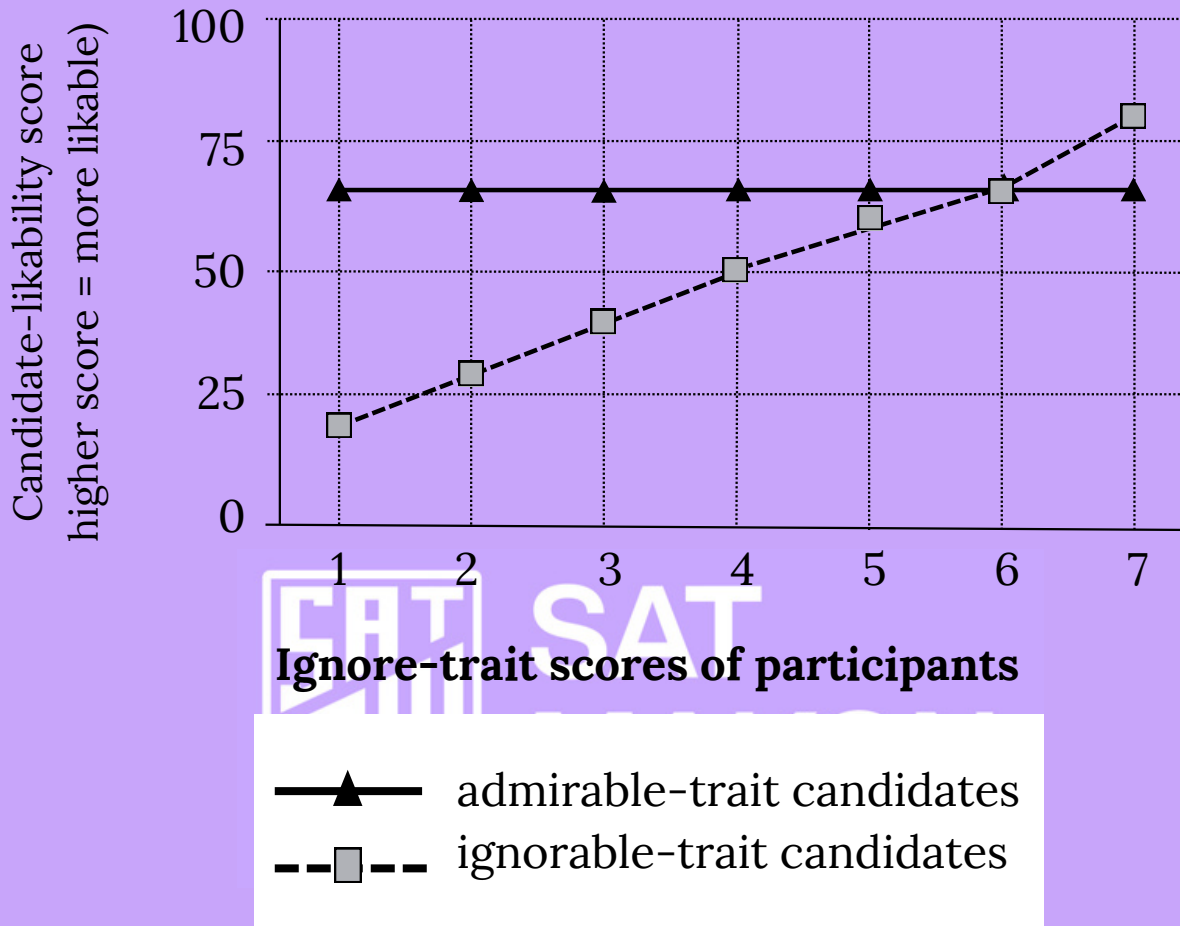
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Participants' Likability Ratings for Candidates by Candidates' Traits and Participants' Ignoble-Trait Scores



Alessandro Nai et al. presented study participants with vignettes about fictive political candidates, portraying them as embodying a personality trait widely considered admirable (e.g., agreeableness) or one considered ignoble (e.g., cynicism). A survey recorded participants' ratings of the candidates' likability and showed that across participants, ignoble-trait candidates were less likable than admirable-trait candidates. However, when the researchers factored in the participants' own personality-trait scores (on a scale of 1 [least ignoble] to 7 [most ignoble]), they concluded that this relative ranking of candidates persisted except among participants with high ignobility scores.



Which choice best describes data from the graph that support the researchers' conclusion?

- A)** Overall, participants rated admirable-trait candidates as quite likable, and that rating was not significantly affected by the participants' ignobility scores.
- B)** Participants with an ignobility score of 5 or less rated admirable-trait candidates as more likable than ignoble-trait candidates, whereas participants with an ignobility score of 6 or more rated ignoble-trait candidates as equally likable as or even more likable than admirable-trait candidates
- C)** Unlike participants with an ignobility score of 6, participants with an ignobility score either greater or less than 6 gave admirable-trait candidates and ignoble-trait candidates different likability ratings
- D)** There was a strong positive correlation between participants' ignobility scores and admirable-trait candidates' likability ratings, but there was no correlation between ignobility scores and ignoble-trait candidates' likability ratings.



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DECEMBER 2024 RESULTS

Out of 70 students, 52
crushed their desired scores
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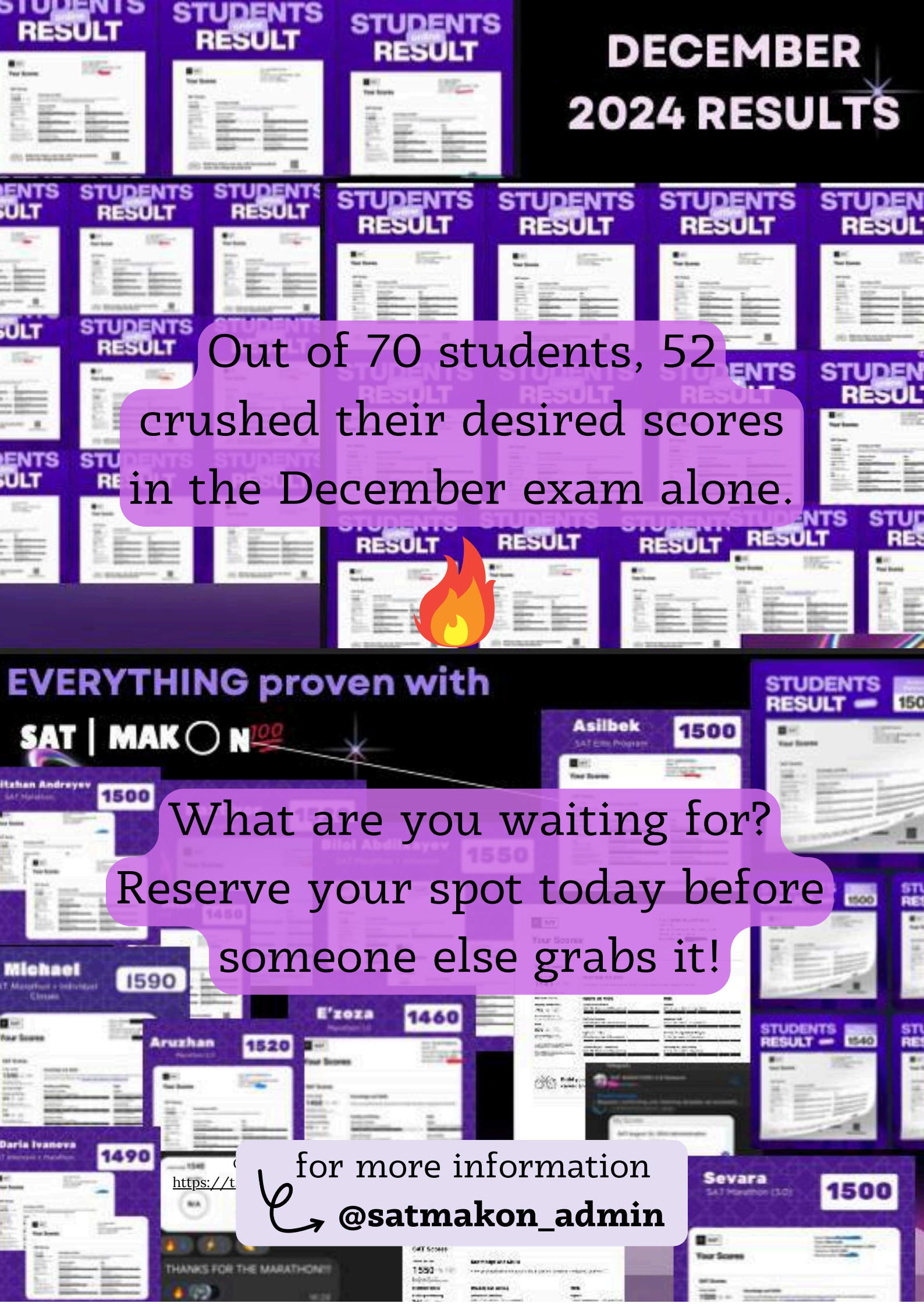


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