Q1, Hard

Text 1

In southern and central Georgia, many buildings and other structures rest on soil that is expansive, meaning that it swells or shrinks as its moisture level changes. Civil engineer Jay X. Wang has noted that the effects of expansive soil appear slowly in the form of gradually growing cracks in foundations, walls, and pavements. Because these effects are incremental and can generally be repaired (though at some cost), structures in southern and central Georgia are typically not built to resist them.

Text 2

In a 2021 study, Rubayet Bin Mostafiz and colleagues calculated that in the state of Louisiana alone, the annual cost of damage caused by expansive soils reaches nearly $90 million. But they note that this damage can be mitigated: building vapor barriers between structural foundations and the soil can significantly reduce the effects of soil swelling and shrinking.

1 Mark for Review

Based on the texts, how would Rubayet Bin Mostafiz and colleagues (Text 2) most likely respond to the information presented in Text 1?

(A) They would encourage engineers in southern and central Georgia to insert vapor barriers between new structures' foundations and the surrounding soil.

(B) They would argue that engineers in southern and central Georgia have misjudged the effectiveness of the techniques they use to reduce the effects of expansive soil.

(C) They would suggest that engineers in southern and central Georgia consider the cost of reinforcing the vapor barriers between existing structural foundations and the soil.

(D) They would recommend that engineers in southern and central Georgia measure the moisture level in the soil beneath proposed structures before beginning construction.

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Q2, Hard

Text1

In parts of the Northwest Territories, Canada, the rough-legged hawk is a major predator of the collared lemming. Researcher Alice Kenney and colleagues found that when this predation pressure on collared lemmings was temporarily reduced, their numbers significantly increased. This finding illustrates a foundational ecological principle: predators control prey population numbers.

Text2

Robert D. Hayes and colleagues found that excluding wolves from a site in Yukon, Canada, where they typically prey on Dall sheep had no significant effect on Dall sheep abundance. Many other predation relief studies show an increase in prey abundance, but those studies often focus on small, rapidly reproducing prey, like birds, lemmings, and rabbits, rather than large, slowly reproducing prey, like Dall sheep, which could account for the difference between those results and Hayes and colleagues' results.

2 Mark for Review

Based on the texts, the author of Text 2 would most likely agree with which statement about the "principle" mentioned in Text 1?

(A) It has some evidential support, but it should not be regarded as universally applicable.

(B) It has been challenged by some studies, but the findings of those studies have not been widely accepted.

(C) It may be true for some predators but only because those predators share certain physical characteristics.

(D) It is plausible, but many of the studies that support it have methodological flaws.

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Q3, Hard

Text 1

Scholarship today overrepresents formal experimentation, such as William Carlos Williams' s use of minimalistic, image-based structures, well beyond the degree to which it actually influenced US poetry during the modernist period (roughly 1900-1945). Meanwhile, the work of Countee Cullen, who relied on conventional poetic forms associated with previous literary periods, attracts woefully little attention from scholars of modernism.

Text 2

Distant reading, or computer-assisted quantitative analysis of massive collections of digitized texts, can reveal stylistic elements that have heretofore escaped notice, despite being shared by numerous texts from the modernist period.For too long, scholars have focused on experimental versus conventional poetic forms, inhibiting inquiry into other points of stylistic correspondence among poems that would enrich our understanding of the modernist canon.

3 Mark for Review

Based on the texts, how would the author of Text 2 most likely regard the emphasis that Text 1 places on poetic form during the modernist period?

(A) As having the effect of forestalling consideration of the full stylistic dimensions of poetry written in the period

(B) As overestimating the impact that poetic form, whether experimental or conventional, has on the reading experience

(C) As being founded on a misconception about modernist poetry that has been called into question by distant reading

(D) As complementing the study of other stylistic features that distinguish the modernist period

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Q4, Hard

Text 1

When the 50-second-long film *Arrival of the Train*—which depicts what its title says, a train pulling into a station—was first shown publicly in 1896, spectators, naive to the new medium of film and seeing a train appearing to come directly at them, leaped from their seats and fled the room. This moment marks a major cultural shift: a new way of representing and seeing the world had arrived with that train, and nothing would ever be the same.

Text 2

The fact that there is no contemporary evidence that the first audience of *Arrival of the Train* was alarmed has not stopped the story from becoming canonical, even among film historians. But that phenomenon itself is highly revealing. Our belief that the coming of film was transformative is so strong that we invented and keep retelling a founding myth that divides cultural history into a (naïve) "before" and (sophisticated) "after."

4 Mark for Review

Based on the texts, the author of Text 2 would most likely agree with which statement about the description of the first showing of *Arrival of the Train* in Text 1?

(A) It is not based on evidence and reflects film historians' belief that they are more sophisticated than today's audiences.

(B) It expresses a view about the transformative nature of film that film historians tend to regard as naive.

(C) It is more motivated by a perception of the significance of the invention of film than by facts.

(D) It reflects a misconception that is widely believed because it captures early film audiences' sense that the new medium was alarming.

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Q5, Hard

Text 1

In separate studies, Stephen Meding and Robert J. Zasoski and Xinhua He and colleagues examined whether plants transfer nutrients to one another using a common mycorrhizal network (CMN) —a lattice of fungal strands in the soil. Meding and Zasoski excluded all pathways other than the CMN by using barriers to keep the plants' root systems separate while allowing mycorrhizal strands through—a crucial step He and colleagues' study did not take.

Text 2

Meding and Zasoski took the necessary precaution of separating the plants' root systems (thereby excluding root-to-root transmission). However, any barrier used must allow the thread-like hyphae of a CMN to pass through, and this permeability would also allow liquids through. Thus, the researchers' experimental design cannot ensure that any nutrient transfer observed can be attributed to a CMN and not to some other pathway.

5 Mark for Review

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

(A) The barriers used in Meding and Zasoski's study effectively excluded root-to-root transmission of nutrients.

(B) A barrier that is impervious to both roots and fungal strands is necessary to evaluate nutrient transfer via a CMN.

(C) Excluding root-to-root transfer of nutrients between plants is sufficient to ensure that any observed nutrient transfer must involve a CMN.

(D) He and colleagues' study did not find convincing evidence of nutrient transfer between individual plants.

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Q6, Hard

Text 1

Scholarship today overrepresents experimentally fragmented narrative structures, such as that of William Faulkner's *As I Lay Dying*, beyond the degree to which they actually influenced fiction in the United States during the modernist period (roughly 1900-1945). Meanwhile, Ellen Glasgow's *Barren Ground*, whose coherent, linear narrative structure recalls the fiction of previous centuries, attracts woefully little attention from scholars of modernism.

Text 2

Distant reading, or computer-assisted quantitative analysis of massive collections of digitized texts, can reveal stylistic elements that have heretofore escaped notice, despite being shared by numerous texts from the modernist period. For too long, scholars have focused on narrative fragmentation versus coherence, inhibiting inquiry into other points of stylistic correspondence among works that would enrich our understanding of the modernist canon.

6 Mark for Review

Based on the texts, both the author of Text 1 and the author of Text 2 would most likely agree with which statement about scholarship on the modernist period in the United States?

(A) Its primary methods for analyzing fiction written in the period are growing obsolete as computer technology advances.

(B) Instead of engaging in unproductive debates, it should work to rehabilitate the reputations of neglected modernist works.

(C) At present, it only partially captures the stylistic dimensions of the fiction written in the period.

(D) It must widen its focus to include aspects of modernist fiction beyond style, a productive but overrepresented site of inquiry.

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Q7, Hard

Text 1

Attempts to automate classification of music into genres have not been very successful. It is also unclear whether categorizing music by genre is useful, since genre categories are ambiguous, subjective, and simplistic. As Jin Ha Lee and Anh Thu Nguyen argue in their study of the South Korean band BTS, relationships between pieces of music may be best understood with concepts other than genre.

Text 2

Forró is a genre of music originally from Brazil that shares some harmonic and rhythmic similarities with the bolero genre. Automated genre classification systems typically struggle to draw distinctions in situations like this, but Yandre Costa and colleagues solved that problem by converting sound to images and having computers compare features of those images. Their approach could improve genre classification, which could have many benefits for users.

7 Mark for Review

Based on the texts, how would the author of Text 1 most likely respond to the claim about the potential benefits of Costa and colleagues' research in Text 2?

(A) By suggesting that future research may provide substantial advancements in the field of automated genre classification

(B) By asserting that genre classifications may not be the most helpful way to think about music

(C) By arguing that some genres are more easily recognized by classification systems than others

(D) By emphasizing that humans do not necessarily enjoy every recording in a genre they claim to prefer

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Q8, Hard

Text 1

The island of Grande Terre split from the former supercontinent Gondwana around 80 million years ago, carrying Gondwanan species from a variety of clades with it. The island was periodically submerged until 37 million years ago, but some researchers suggest that its current biota includes species from clades predating the split that took refuge on islands near Grande Terre during submergence events and then returned.

Text 2

Thomas R. Buckley et al. found that the crown age—the age of the most recent common ancestor of all species in the clade (i.e., the clade's founder) —of Grande Terre's clade of stick insects is 41.1 million years, which is among the oldest clade crown ages of species inhabiting the island today. Nearly all of Grande Terre's living species belong to clades that originated much more recently: for example, the crown age of the island's clade of Goodeniaceae plants is 2.0 million years.

8 Mark for Review

Based on the texts, the author of Text 2 would most likely agree with which statement about the "Gondwanan species" discussed in Text 1?

(A) Most of them began recolonizing Grande Terre from nearby islands around 2.0 million years ago.

(B) Clades to which they belong originated no earlier than 41.1 million years ago.

(C) Few if any of them were members of a clade that includes species currently inhabiting Grande Terre.

(D) Although most of them have living descendants on Grande Terre, the stick insects and Goodeniaceae plants do not.

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Q9, Hard

Text 1

Toni Morrison's 1973 novel *Sula*, a tale of two women's lives set in small-town Ohio from the 1910s to the 1960s, has been described as historical fiction. While it's inarguable that Morrison's book takes place in the past rather than in her own time, *Sula* is much richer and more complicated than the mere re-creation of the past suggested by the term "historical fiction."

Text 2

Some literary critics dismiss historical fiction as a shallow genre in which writers show off their knowledge of period details rather than tell meaningful stories. But historical fiction can be used to explore profound themes and complex characters—in fact, many writers find that writing about the past gives them a creative freedom they'd lack if they wrote about the present.

Mark for Review

Based on the texts, how would the author of Text 2 most likely respond to the claim about *Sula* advanced by the author of Text 1?

(A) By arguing that Morrison displays a thorough knowledge of historical details in *Sula*.

(B) By asserting that dissatisfaction with describing *Sula* as historical fiction reflects a misunderstanding of the genre.

(C) By conceding that the genre of historical fiction contains many works that are less sophisticated than *Sula* is.

(D) By claiming that the author of Text 1 has underestimated the richness and complexity of *Sula*.

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Q10, Hard

Text 1

The University of Pennsylvania and the investment bank Barclays are two of the many institutions offering training programs in entrepreneurship. But what results do such programs produce? In a study of business students and graduates in Scotland, researchers Laura Galloway and Wendy Brown addressed this question and reported that participants who received entrepreneurial training showed strong intentions to become entrepreneurs.

Text 2

While studies of entrepreneurial training typically report positive results, a close look at these studies reveals widespread methodological shortcomings. This research literature is plagued by unclear hypotheses, insufficient sample sizes, a lack of control groups, and failures to establish pretraining baselines for the measured attributes of participants.

Mark for Review

Based on the texts, the author of Text 2 would most like to know the answer to which question about Galloway and Brown's study that is not addressed in Text 1?

(A) Did the participants that Galloway and Brown included in the study share any characteristics or life circumstances?

(B) How many Scottish business students and graduates did Galloway and Brown include in the study?

(C) Did Galloway and Brown measure any attributes of the participants in the study after they had received the training?

(D) Did Galloway and Brown compare Scottish business students and graduates who received the training with a group of successful entrepreneurs who did not receive the training?

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Q11, Hard

Text 1

The University of Wisconsin and the online class provider Coursera are two of the many institutions offering training programs in entrepreneurship. But what results do such programs produce? In a study of aspiring entrepreneurs in the United States, researcher James Chrisman and colleagues addressed this question and reported that participants who received entrepreneurial training showed high performance at their jobs.

Text 2

While studies of entrepreneurial training typically report positive results, a close look reveals widespread methodological shortcomings that could explain those findings. These studies are plagued by insufficient sample sizes, a lack of control groups, and failures to establish pretraining baselines for the measured attributes of participants.

Mark for Review

Based on the texts, the author of Text 2 would most likely want to know if Chrisman and colleagues took steps to preclude which potential objection to the finding described in Text1?

(A) The participants would have shown greater responsiveness to the training if the training sessions had lasted longer.

(B) The participants would have been less likely to show high performance at their jobs if the study sample size had been smaller.

(C) The participants would have shown high performance at their jobs regardless of whether they received the training.

(D) The participants would have responded to the training differently if they had not known that they were participating in a study.

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Q12, Hard

Text 1

Isaac Asimov, author of Nemesis and The Stars, Like Dust, 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. Far 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 Asimov's thematic aims.

Mark for Review

Based on the texts.how would the author of Text 2 most likely respond to the evaluation of Asimov's writing style in the underlined claim in Text 1?

(A) By arguing that Asimov's writing style should be judged against the styles of historians rather than those of fiction writers

(B) By asserting that Asimov's minimal characterization is likely a conscious choice that helps him convey an important idea

(C) By pointing out that the flatness of Asimov's characters is a feature of *Nemesis* and *The Stars.Like Dust* but not of *Foundation*

(D) By agreeing that Asimov's prose is flawed but disagreeing about the quality of his characters

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Q13, Hard

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.

Mark for Review

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.

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Q14, Hard

Text 1

In parts of Australia, the feral cat is a major predator of the ash-grey mouse. Researcher Danielle A. Risbey and colleagues found that when this predation pressure on ash-grey mice was temporarily reduced, their numbers significantly increased. This finding illustrates a foundational ecological principle: predators control prey population numbers.

Text 2

Michel Crete and Hélène Jolicoeur found that excluding wolves from a site in Quebec, Canada, where they typically prey on moose had no significant effect on moose abundance. Many other predation relief studies show an increase in prey abundance, but those studies often focus on small, rapidly reproducing prey, like birds, mice, and rabbits, rather than large, slowly reproducing prey, like moose, which could account for the difference between those results and Crête and jolicoeur's results.

Mark for Review

Based on the texts, the author of Text 2 would most likely agree with which statement about Risbey and colleagues' findings (Text 1)?

(A) They may be partially attributable to physical characteristics of ash-grey mice that are not shared by moose.

(B) They may have been different if the ratio of the body size of feral cats to that of ash-grey mice was greater than it is.

(C) They may be partially explained by the fact that feral cats are smaller and reproduce more rapidly than wolves.

(D) They may reflect a response that does not tend to be observed in prey species other than ash-grey mice.

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Q15, Hard

Text 1

Studies contributing to the body of evidence that people generally enjoy socializing have routinely focused on interactions in ongoing relationships (from spouses to classmates), but psychologist Selin Salman-Engin and colleagues have demonstrated the benefit of making connections with strangers. Greater positive affect was reported by participants in their study who warmly thanked a shuttle driver than by those who didn't speak to the driver.

Text 2

Social relations research commonly draws on a model that centers an individual within three concentric circles. The innermost circle holds one's strongest ties (e.g., a treasured friend), the next holds close but less important ties (e.g., a teammate), and the outermost holds weak ties (those more distant but important enough to be counted as part of one's social network).

Mark for Review

Based on the texts, what would Salman-Engin and colleagues (Text 1) most likely say about the discussion of the model in Text 2?

(A) It underscores that most research on social interactions fails to capture a category of connection that has the capacity to contribute positively to individuals' sense of well-being.

(B) It reflects an overemphasis on relationship longevity in researchers' evaluations of the relative importance of various connections in an individual's social network.

(C) It explains researchers' observations that individuals typically expect interactions with familiar people to be more positive than their interactions with unfamiliar people would be.

(D) It emphasizes distinctions among types of close connections that aren't adequately represented in social relations research, since most studies categorize relationships as either close or casual.

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Q16, Hard

Text 1

In separate studies, Lingbo Meng and colleagues and Xinhua He and colleagues examined whether plants transfer nutrients to one another using a common mycorrhizal network (CMN)—a lattice of fungal strands in the soil. Meng and colleagues excluded all pathways other than the CMN by using barriers to keep the plants' root systems separate while allowing mycorrhizal strands through—a crucial step He and colleagues' study did not take.

Text 2

Meng and colleagues took the necessary precaution of separating the plants' root systems (thereby excluding root-to-root transmission). However, any barrier used must allow the thread-like hyphae of a CMN to pass through, and this permeability would also allow liquids through. Thus, the researchers' experimental design cannot ensure that any nutrient transfer observed can be attributed to a CMN and not to some other pathway.

Mark for Review

Based on the texts, the author of Text 1 and the author of Text 2 would most likely give the same answer to which question?

(A) Did He and colleagues' study effectively exclude any nutrient pathway other than a CMN?

(B) Are the barriers used in Meng and colleagues' study sufficient to ensure that nutrient transfer could only occur via a CMN?

(C) Is there an available barrier material that can block roots and liquids while allowing fungal strands through?

(D) Do plants that transfer nutrients through a root-to-root pathway also transmit nutrients via a CMN?

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Q17, Hard

Text 1

Uisdean Nicholson and his team have discovered evidence in seismic data of a 40-kilometer-wide subsurface crater beneath nearly a kilometer of water off the coast of West Africa that is consistent with a 400-meter-wide asteroid striking the seafloor. This structure, which the team named Nadir, exhibits all the telltale signs of a high-velocity impact crater: an elevated rim, a circular shape, a terraced floor, and a pronounced area of uplift at its center

Text 2

Both carbonate dissolution and subsurface salt withdrawal can cause craterlike depressions without the need for a high-velocity impact. However, carbonate dissolution is very unlikely to have occurred in the vicinity of Nadir, and although subsurface salt withdrawal could have plausibly occurred in this area and would result in a depression with a terraced floor or a circular shape, it would not exhibit the area of central uplift seen at Nadir.

Mark for Review

Which choice best describes a difference between the approach of Text 1 and the approach of Text 2?

(A) Text 1 dispassionately describes Nicholson and colleagues' findings and conclusions, whereas Text 2 attempts to convey the researchers' excitement on discovering Nadir.

(B) Text 1 focuses on features Nadir lacks, whereas Text 2 indicates features it shares with other geological depressions.

(C) Text 1 discusses a single plausible cause of Nadir, whereas Text 2 evaluates two possible causes.

(D) Text 1 emphasizes the evidence supporting an asteroid impact as the cause of Nadir, whereas Text 2 argues against that explanation.

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Q18, Hard

Text 1 is adapted from E. M. Forster's 1910 novel *Howards End*. Text 2 discusses *Howards End*. King's Cross and St. Pancras are adjacent railway terminals in London from which trains travel to the countryside.

Text 1

To Margaret the station of King's Cross had always suggested Infinity. Its very situation—withdrawn a little behind the facile splendours of St. Pancras—implied a comment on the materialism of life. Those two great arches, colourless, indifferent, shouldering between them an unlovely clock, were fit portals for some eternal adventure, whose issue might be prosperous, but would certainly not be expressed in the ordinary language of prosperity.

Text 2

The interplay between opposing ideological positions in *Howards End* is broadly articulated in the novel's organization of geographic space. On the one hand, the modern metropolis of London represents capitalism's emphasis on pragmatism and the accumulation of material wealth; on the other; the English countryside, accessible via King's Cross, fosters an idealism that values tradition, authentic personal connection, and the aesthetic—what the novel calls "the infinite."

Mark for Review

Based on the texts, the author of Text 2 would most likely agree with which statement about King's Cross, as it is depicted in Text 1?

(A) As a point of connection between London and the countryside, King's Cross suggests to Margaret the possibility of acquiring the intangible abundance promised by the kinds of authentic engagements that the novel's rural spaces seem to offer.

(B) Because it is situated at the beginning of Margaret's journey from the city to the country, King's Cross emblematizes the intrusion of the forces of materialism and modernity into the rural spaces that the novel associates with idealism and tradition.

(C) The austerity conveyed by King's Cross's appearance mirrors Margaret's disillusionment with the prospect of having authentic connections with other people in a world that chiefly values more conventional forms of prosperity.

(D) King's Cross has a relatively unassuming appearance whose sharp contrast with the more aesthetically pleasing appearance of St. Pancras suggests to Margaret the ascendancy of the pragmatic capitalistic outlook among London's inhabitants.

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Q19, Hard

Text 1

Hycean planets are a class of exoplanets (planets outside our solar system) with oceans of liquid water—critical to supporting life—and atmospheres rich in hydrogen. Computer models have determined that for potential hycean planets, the range of the habitable zone (HZ), the distance from a star that allows a planet to retain liquid water on its surface, begins at about 1 astronomical unit (AU). In 2021, Nilcku Madhusudhan et al. identified K2-18b as a hycean candidate, noting that the planet is located right on the inner edge of the HZ.

Text 2

In a 2023 paper, Shang-Min Tsai et al. claimed that the hydrogen-rich atmospheres of K2-18b and other hycean candidates admit wavelengths of light that cause elevated surface temperatures and increased water evaporation. Unlike earlier assessments, Tsal et al.'s calculations therefore placed the inner edge for these planets' HZ as far out as 3.85 AU.

Mark for Review

Based on the texts, how would Tsai et al. (Text 2) most likely respond to Madhusudhan et al.'s research, as presented in Text 1?

(A) By arguing that K2-18b and other hycean candidates are unlikely to support life because these planets are located too far from the stars they orbit

(B) By stating that the chemical composition of the atmosphere of the hycean candidate Madhusudhan et al. identified suggests that this planet's surface is unlikely to harbor liquid water

(C) By maintaining that Madhusudhan et al. relied on a model whose estimates of surface temperatures on hycean candidates are likely too high

(D) By observing that unlike the hycean candidate Madhusudhan et al. Discovered, most other types of planets with hydrogen-rich atmospheres are likely located within the HZ

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Q20, Hard

Text 1

A conservation group representing 11 tribal nations in the Great Lakes region reported to various state and federal natural resources agencies operating in the region that the northern wild rice plant (*manoomin* in the Ojibwe language) will likely fare significantly worse than the American crow (*aandeg* in Ojibwe) due to rising temperatures over the next 50 years. This collaborative approach has helped build trust between government and tribal groups, which will likely improve the quality of any joint conservation projects.

Text 2

State and federal natural resources agencies are increasingly incorporating traditional ecological knowledge from tribal groups in the agencies' plans to address threats to natural resources due to increasing temperatures. This approach has helped build positive relationships between tribal groups and these agencies and furthermore tends to lead to better conservation outcomes.

Mark for Review

Based on the texts, both authors would most likely agree with which statement?

(A) A collaborative approach to conservation is likely to help reduce the predicted temperature increases in the Great Lakes region.

(B) In the Great Lakes region, conservation efforts focused on the northern wild rice plant are likely to be more effective than those focused on the American crow.

(C) Natural resources conservation projects are likely to benefit from collaboration between tribal and government groups.

(D) In the Great Lakes region, it is more important to focus conservation efforts on the northern wild rice plant than it is to focus on the American crow.

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Q21, Hard

Text 1

In separate studies, Stephen Meding and Robert J. Zasoski and Xinhua He and colleagues examined whether plants transfer nutrients to one another using a common mycorrhizal network (CMN) —a lattice of fungal strands in the soil. Meding and Zasoski excluded all pathways other than the CMN by using barriers to keep the plants' root systems separate while allowing mycorrhizal strands through—a crucial step He and colleagues' study did not take.

Text 2

Meding and Zasoski took the necessary precaution of separating the plants' root systems (thereby excluding root-to-root transmission). However, any barrier used must allow the thread-like hyphae of a CMN to pass through, and this permeability would also allow liquids through. Thus, the researchers' experimental design cannot ensure that any nutrient transfer observed can be attributed to a CMN and not to some other pathway.

Mark for Review

Based on the texts, which choice best describes a point on which the author of Text 1and the author of Text 2 would most likely agree?

(A) Meding and Zasoski's study effectively excluded any explanation for nutrient transfer other than via a CMN.

(B) Excluding root-to-root transfer of nutrients between plants is sufficient to ensure that any observed nutrient transfer must involve a CMN.

(C) He and colleagues' study was not designed in a way that would allow it to produce compelling evidence that nutrient transfer occurred via a CMN.

(D) A barrier that is impervious to both roots and fungal strands is necessary to evaluate nutrient transfer via a CMN.

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Q22, Hard

Text 1

In separate studies, Marine Fernandez and colleagues and Hualiang Zhang and colleagues examined whether plants transfer nutrients to one another using a common mycorrhizal network (CMN) —a lattice of fungal strands in the soil. Fernandez and colleagues excluded all pathways other than the CMN by using barriers to keep the plants' root systems separate while allowing mycorrhizal strands through—a crucial step Zhang and colleagues' study did not take.

Text 2

Fernandez and colleagues took the necessary precaution of separating the plants' root systems (thereby excluding root-to-root transmission). However, any barrier used must allow the thread-like hyphae of a CMN to pass through, and this permeability would also allow liquids through. Thus, the researchers' experimental design cannot ensure that any nutrient transfer observed can be attributed to a CMN and not to some other pathway.

Mark for Review

Based on the texts, the author of Text 1 and the author of Text 2 would most likely give the same answer to which question?

(A) Is there an available barrier material that can block roots and liquids while allowing fungal strands through?

(B) Did Zhang and colleagues' study effectively exclude any nutrient pathway other than a CMN?

(C) Are the barriers used in Fernandez and colleagues' study sufficient to ensure that nutrient transfer could only occur via a CMN?

(D) Do plants that transfer nutrients through a root-to-root pathway also transmit nutrients via a CMN?

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Q23, Hard

Text 1
Scholarship today overrepresents experimentally fragmented narrative structures, such as that of Flann O'Brien's At Swim-Two-Birds, beyond the degree to which they actually influenced fiction in Britain and Ireland during the modernist period (roughly 1900-1945). Meanwhile, Elizabeth Bowen's The Last September, whose coherent, linear narrative structure recalls the fiction of previous centuries, attracts woefully little attention from scholars of modernism.

Text 2
Distant reading, or computer-assisted quantitative analysis of massive collections of digitized texts, can reveal stylistic elements that have heretofore escaped notice, despite being shared by numerous texts from the modernist period. For too long, scholars have focused on narrative fragmentation versus coherence, inhibiting inquiry into other points of stylistic correspondence among works that would enrich our understanding of the modernist canon.

Based on the texts, both the author of Text 1 and the author of Text 2 would most likely agree with which statement about scholarship on works from the modernist period in Britain and Ireland?

A) It must widen its focus to include aspects of modernist fiction beyond style, a productive but overrepresented site of inquiry.

B) Without a major shift in focus, the vision that it presents of fiction written in the period will continue to be unnecessarily limited.

C) Instead of engaging in unproductive debates, it should work to rehabilitate the reputations of neglected modernist works.

D) Its primary methods for analyzing fiction written in the period are growing obsolete as computer technology advances.

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Q24, Hard

Text 1
Chemically analyzing bulk rock-core samples from Australia's Mount McRae Shale, Ariel Anbar et al. found a transient but significant increase in molybdenum (Mo) at a point corresponding to roughly 2.5 billion years ago (Ga). On Earth, Mo is released mainly through oxidative weathering of minerals; Anbar et al. therefore concluded that atmospheric oxygen briefly increased 2.5 Ga, then returned to its earlier negligible level.

Text 2
Sarah Slotznick et al. reexamined the Mount McRae Shale core. Since chemically analyzing bulk samples can occlude contextual details, Slotznick et al. also employed high-resolution microscopy, which revealed volcanic debris—a known Mo host—around 2.5 Ga and microfractures in the surrounding matrix. The researchers assert that fluid could have reached the debris through the microfractures and initiated oxidative weathering long after debris deposition.

Based on the texts, Anbar et al. (Text 1) and Slotznick et al. (Text 2) would most likely disagree about the answer to which question about the portion of the Mount McRae Shale rock-core corresponding to 2.5 Ga?

A) Is the increase in Mo in that portion attributable to oxidative weathering of the material found in that portion?

B) Is the increase in Mo in that portion indicative of an increase in atmospheric oxygen dating to the same time?

C) Did chemically analyzing bulk samples lead to a false impression that there is an increase in Mo in that portion?

D) Does the increase in Mo in that portion suggest that atmospheric oxygen levels were not negligible before 2.5 Ga?

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Q25, Hard

Text 1
Ecologists have long wondered how thousands of microscopic phytoplankton species can live together near ocean surfaces competing for the same resources. According to conventional wisdom, one species should emerge after outcompeting the rest. So why do so many species remain? Ecologists' many efforts to explain this phenomenon still haven't uncovered a satisfactory explanation.

Text 2
Ecologist Michael Behrenfeld and colleagues have connected phytoplankton's diversity to their microscopic size. Because these organisms are so tiny, they are spaced relatively far apart from each other in ocean water and, moreover, experience that water as a relatively dense substance. This in turn makes it hard for them to move around and interact with one another. Therefore, says Behrenfeld's team, direct competition among phytoplankton probably happens much less than previously thought.

Based on the texts, how would Behrenfeld and colleagues (Text 2) most likely respond to the "conventional wisdom" discussed in Text 1?

A) By arguing that it is based on a misconception about phytoplankton species competing with one another

B) By asserting that it fails to recognize that routine replenishment of ocean nutrients prevents competition between phytoplankton species

C) By suggesting that their own findings help clarify how phytoplankton species are able to compete with larger organisms

D) By recommending that more ecologists focus their research on how competition among phytoplankton species is increased with water density

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You can check the correct answers in the following page.

Also, please make sure you check them according to the number of questions written **TOP LEFT** part of the page (e.g. Q1, Easy/Medium/Hard)

Don’t forget to share the files with others and follow the Telegram channel for more.

Enjoy 😊

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1. A
2. A
3. A
4. C
5. A
6. C
7. B
8. C
9. B
10. C
11. C
12. B
13. C
14. A
15. A
16. A
17. C
18. A
19. B
20. C
21. C
22. B
23. B
24. B
25. A

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