

1. Which inference can be drawn from the passage regarding the susceptibility of qubits to environmental noise?

○ Correct Answer: C. Decoherence caused by environmental noise is a major challenge in quantum computing.

■ Explanation: The passage discusses the issue of qubit coherence and highlights decoherence due to environmental noise as a significant challenge.

■ A is incorrect because qubits cannot maintain their state indefinitely without interference.

■ B is incorrect because the passage emphasizes the significant impact of environmental noise.

■ D is incorrect because isolating qubits only mitigates, not completely eliminates, errors.

2. What is the conclusion drawn from the sentence: "The global race to achieve quantum supremacy reflects the high stakes involved"?

○ Correct Answer: C. Achieving quantum supremacy has significant implications and benefits, driving intense global competition.

■ Explanation: The sentence indicates that the high stakes, or significant implications and benefits, are driving the intense global competition for quantum supremacy.

■ A is incorrect because it suggests limited interest, contrary to the passage.

■ B is incorrect because it overgeneralizes the goal of all technological research.

■ D is incorrect because it contradicts the stated significance of the global race.

3. The author would most likely agree with all the following statements except:

○ Correct Answer: B. The development of quantum-resistant algorithms is unnecessary.

■ Explanation: The passage suggests that quantum computing could break current encryption methods, indicating the need for quantum-resistant algorithms.

■ A is incorrect because the potential to outperform classical supercomputers is mentioned.

■ C is incorrect because advancements in hardware are essential for scalability, as stated in the passage.

■ D is incorrect because overcoming coherence and scalability issues is critical for practical quantum computing, as mentioned in the passage.

4. Which of the following scenarios is most parallel to the challenges faced in scaling up quantum computers?

○ Correct Answer: D. Designing a new transportation system that requires an entirely new infrastructure to be effective.

■ Explanation: Scaling up quantum computers involves creating robust systems and infrastructure to handle a large number of qubits, similar to designing a new transportation system that needs new infrastructure.

■ A is incorrect because it focuses on fuel efficiency rather than systemic challenges.

■ B is incorrect because it involves innovative materials, not systemic scaling.

■ C is incorrect because it involves software compatibility, not infrastructure and system design.

5. Which of the following would most strengthen the author's argument about the potential impact of quantum computing on cryptography?

○ Correct Answer: B. Studies showing that quantum computers have successfully broken existing encryption algorithms.

■ Explanation: This evidence directly supports the argument that quantum computing can impact cryptography by breaking current encryption methods.

■ A is incorrect because it involves classical supercomputers, not quantum computers.

■ C is incorrect because it shows preparedness, not the current impact.

■ D is incorrect because it contradicts the expected speed and impact of quantum computers.

6. The author would most likely agree with which of the following statements?

○ Correct Answer: C. Both Hezbollah and Israel need to take steps to de-escalate the conflict.

■ Explanation: The passage suggests that the cycle of violence is self-defeatist and peace can be

achieved only if both parties reset the current hostility and calm the borders.

■ A is incorrect because the author indicates skepticism towards Hezbollah's claim of non-involvement.

■ B is incorrect because the author criticizes both sides, indicating that Israel's hands are not clean.

■ D is incorrect because the author explicitly links the regional crisis to the war on Gaza.

7. Identify the potential flaw in the author's reasoning:

○ Correct Answer: D. The author assumes that ending the Gaza war will automatically lead to regional peace.

■ Explanation: The author suggests that ending the Gaza war is the first step to calming tensions, which assumes it will lead to broader peace without addressing other complex factors.

■ A is incorrect because the author does not claim Hezbollah's stronger military guarantees victory.

■ B is incorrect because the author does not explore external parties in depth but does acknowledge Hezbollah's possible involvement.

■ C is incorrect because the author does consider historical context, mentioning the 2006 war and previous occupations.

8. Which scenario is most parallel to the author's reasoning regarding the Majdal Shams attack and the ensuing conflict?

○ Correct Answer: A. A long-standing feud between two families escalating after an accidental death at a family gathering.

■ Explanation: This scenario parallels the accidental nature of the rocket attack and the subsequent escalation of long-standing hostilities between Israel and Hezbollah.

■ B is incorrect because it relates to business tactics, not long-standing conflicts.

■ C is incorrect because it involves espionage, not an accidental incident escalating a feud.

■ D is incorrect because it involves a sports context and an unintended foul, not an escalation of violence in a political conflict.

9. What course of action does the author suggest to address the regional crisis?

○ Correct Answer: C. Ending the war on Gaza as a preliminary step to calm tensions.

■ Explanation: The author explicitly states that ending the war on Gaza is the obvious first step to de-escalate the regional crisis.

■ A is incorrect because the author does not call for immediate military intervention by international forces.

■ B is incorrect because the author does not suggest negotiations without preconditions.

■ D is incorrect because the author does not advocate for increased sanctions on Iran.

10. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the author's argument that the Majdal Shams attack has significantly escalated the conflict?

● Correct Answer: C. Reports that Israel has mobilized additional troops to the northern border following the Majdal Shams attack.

○ Explanation: Mobilizing additional troops indicates that the attack has escalated the conflict, supporting the author's argument.

○ A is incorrect because it suggests the attack was unrelated to Hezbollah or Israel, weakening the argument about escalation between them.

○ B is incorrect because it would imply that the attack was not part of an intentional escalation by Hezbollah.

○ D is incorrect because it suggests progress towards peace, which contradicts the idea of escalation following the attack.

16. Which piece of evidence from the passage supports the argument that there is a disparity in healthcare access between urban and rural areas?

● Correct Answer: B. The migration of healthcare professionals to urban centers.

○ Explanation: The passage states that healthcare professionals move to cities for better

opportunities, leaving rural areas under-resourced, which supports the argument of disparity.

- A is incorrect because it pertains to the prevalence of diseases, not access disparity.
- C is incorrect because it highlights a positive initiative, not disparity.
- D is incorrect because improved vaccination coverage does not address disparity.

17. The author would most likely agree with which of the following statements?

- Correct Answer: C. Telemedicine can help mitigate the urban-rural healthcare divide.
- Explanation: The passage mentions leveraging technology like telemedicine to bridge the gap in healthcare access.
- A is incorrect because the passage indicates that urban facilities are better equipped than rural centers.
- B is incorrect because NCDs are noted to be rising in rural areas as well.
- D is incorrect because the Ayushman Bharat scheme is highlighted as successful.

18. Identify the flawed reasoning in the argument that the increase in non-communicable diseases is solely due to urban lifestyles.

- Correct Answer: C. It fails to consider the changes in dietary habits and stress levels in rural areas.
- Explanation: The passage mentions that NCDs are rising in rural areas due to similar factors affecting urban areas, such as diet and stress.
- A is incorrect because the argument about urban lifestyles does not need to address genetics.
- B is incorrect because vaccination coverage is unrelated to the argument about NCDs.
- D is incorrect because the Ayushman Bharat scheme is not directly linked to the argument about NCDs.

19. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the argument that urban healthcare facilities are significantly better than rural ones?

- Correct Answer: A. Reports indicating that urban hospitals are facing a severe shortage of medical staff.
- Explanation: If urban hospitals are also facing severe shortages, it weakens the argument that they are significantly better than rural facilities.
- B is incorrect because increased funding for rural centers does not directly compare their quality to urban centers.
- C is incorrect because the rise of NCDs in urban areas does not address the quality of healthcare facilities.
- D is incorrect because improved vaccination coverage does not address the quality comparison between urban and rural facilities.

20. Describe the relationship between the bold-faced statements in the passage: "Urban centers are equipped with state-of-the-art medical facilities and specialists" and "This urban-rural divide is exacerbated by the migration of healthcare professionals to cities."

- Correct Answer: B. The second statement offers a reason that supports the condition described in the first statement.
- Explanation: The second statement explains why urban centers are well-equipped – because healthcare professionals migrate there, leaving rural areas under-resourced.
- A is incorrect because the second statement supports, not counters, the first.
- C is incorrect because the statements are connected; the second explains the first.
- D is incorrect because the first statement is not refuting the second but is being explained by it.

11. If the information in the passage is correct, which of the following must necessarily be true?

- Correct Answer: B. People who view America as a homeland are more likely to oppose immigration.
- Explanation: The passage states that those who emphasize America as a homeland see resources being squandered on outsiders and the needs of citizens being brushed aside, indicating a tendency to oppose immigration.
- A is incorrect because nationalism is presented as partly a reaction, but not purely due to

globalization and technological advancements.

- C is incorrect because the passage does not claim that viewing a country as an idea leads to a stronger sense of national identity.
- D is incorrect because the passage mentions the working class but does not limit the appeal to them alone.

12. The author would most likely disagree with which of the following statements?

- Correct Answer: A. A sense of place is unnecessary for civic engagement.
- Explanation: The author argues that a sense of place is crucial for living purposeful lives of self-government and civic engagement.
- B is incorrect because the author notes the MAGA movement's appeal due to a sense of duty to one's homeland.
- C is incorrect because the author mentions the modern world creating a sense of placelessness.
- D is incorrect because the author states that people with a global outlook support immigration and free trade.

13. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the argument that viewing America as a homeland leads to opposition to immigration?

- Correct Answer: A. Historical data shows that countries with a strong sense of homeland are more welcoming to immigrants.
- Explanation: If historical data shows that a strong sense of homeland correlates with welcoming immigrants, it would weaken the argument that viewing America as a homeland leads to opposition to immigration.
- B is incorrect because it suggests complexity but does not directly weaken the argument.
- C is incorrect because it introduces another factor but does not directly counter the link between homeland view and immigration opposition.
- D is incorrect because constant immigration levels do not address the sentiment of opposition.

14. What assumption does the author make when he says that "being from somewhere specific obliges us to grapple with the problems of the people who live there"?

- Correct Answer: C. A sense of belonging to a specific place leads to greater accountability and responsibility.
- Explanation: The author assumes that being from a specific place creates a sense of obligation to address local issues.
- A is incorrect because the author does not assume unwillingness but rather a sense of obligation.
- B is incorrect because the author does not prioritize local over global issues explicitly.
- D is incorrect because the author does not compare the significance of local problems to universal ideas.

15. Which of the following represents a paradox in the passage?

- Correct Answer: A. The rise of nationalism despite the increase in global interconnectedness.
- Explanation: The passage discusses the rise of nationalism as people lose their ties to places due to global interconnectedness, presenting a paradox of increasing nationalism in a more interconnected world.
- B is incorrect because the passage does not discuss simultaneous support for free trade and opposition to immigration.
- C is incorrect because the passage focuses on the working class and does not mention the wealthy elite.
- D is incorrect because the passage suggests a shift between universal ideas and a sense of homeland, not their coexistence.

21. Which piece of evidence from the passage supports the argument that there is a disparity in healthcare access between urban and rural areas?

- Correct Answer: B. The migration of healthcare professionals to urban centers.



- Explanation: The passage states that healthcare professionals move to cities for better opportunities, leaving rural areas under-resourced, which supports the argument of disparity.
- A is incorrect because it pertains to the prevalence of diseases, not access disparity.
- C is incorrect because it highlights a positive initiative, not disparity.
- D is incorrect because improved vaccination coverage does not address disparity.

22. The author would most likely agree with which of the following statements?

- Correct Answer: C. Sustainable practices in agriculture and industry are essential for long-term ecological health.
- Explanation: The passage highlights the need for sustainable economic practices to balance development with environmental preservation, indicating the author's agreement with this statement.
- A is incorrect because the author advocates for balancing economic development with conservation.
- B is incorrect because NCDs are noted to be rising in rural areas as well.
- D is incorrect because the Ayushman Bharat scheme is highlighted as successful.

23. Which of the following will most effectively implement the author's recommendations?

- Correct Answer: C. Schools and universities incorporating comprehensive ecological education into their curricula.
- Explanation: The author recommends increasing investment in ecological research and education to foster a culture of sustainability, making this option the most effective implementation of the recommendations.
- A is incorrect because the author advocates for involving local communities, not imposing regulations without consultation.
- B is incorrect because increasing industrial output without sustainable practices contradicts the author's recommendations.
- D is incorrect because it directly opposes the goal of conservation.

24. From the passage, it can be inferred that:

- Correct Answer: C. There is a direct link between deforestation and changes in regional weather patterns.
- Explanation: The passage explicitly mentions that deforestation of the Amazon rainforest is linked to changes in regional weather patterns, allowing this inference to be made.
- A is incorrect because the passage clearly states the significant impact of human activities on natural habitats.
- B is incorrect because the author stresses the importance of local community involvement for successful conservation.
- D is incorrect because the passage advocates for increased ecological research to develop effective conservation techniques.