

Expression of Ideas: Rhetorical Synthesis

DIRECTIONS: The questions in this section are designed to test your reading and writing abilities. Each question will provide you with one or more passages. It is important to thoroughly read each passage and question before selecting the best answer based on the information provided. All of the questions in this section are multiple-choice and will have four options to choose from. There is only one correct answer for each question.

1. While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:

- The Great Barrier Reef is one of the world's most vital marine ecosystems.
- It is located off the coast of Queensland, Australia, and is the largest coral reef system.
- The reef supports a wide variety of marine life, including endangered species.
- Climate change, particularly ocean warming and acidification, poses a significant threat to the reef.
- Conservation efforts are underway, focusing on reducing pollution and mitigating climate change impacts.

The student wants to present the significance of the Great Barrier Reef. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

- A) The Great Barrier Reef, located off Queensland, is the largest coral reef and home to diverse marine life.
- B) The Great Barrier Reef, a crucial marine ecosystem, faces threats from climate change, highlighting the need for conservation efforts.
- C) While the reef supports various marine species, its significance is overshadowed by the larger environmental issues like ocean warming.
- D) Conservation efforts for the reef primarily focus on reducing pollution, with minimal emphasis on climate change impacts.

2. While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:

- Utilitarianism is a moral theory that advocates actions that maximize happiness and well-being for the majority.
- It was developed by philosophers like Jeremy Bentham and John Stuart Mill.
- Utilitarianism often involves making complex ethical decisions by weighing the consequences of actions.
- Critics argue that it can overlook individual rights in favor of the greater good.
- The theory has been influential in shaping legal and social policies.

The student wants to explain the principles and implications of utilitarianism. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

- A) Utilitarianism, focusing on maximizing overall happiness, has shaped policies despite criticism of potentially neglecting individual rights.
- B) Developed by Bentham and Mill, utilitarianism is primarily influential in philosophical debates but less so in practical policy-making.
- C) While utilitarianism emphasizes happiness for the majority, its application in legal policies is often debated for ethical complexity.
- D) Critics of utilitarianism mainly focus on its failure to address complex ethical decisions, rather than its impact on happiness.

3. While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:

- The ‘invisible hand’ is a concept in economics introduced by Adam Smith.
- It describes the self-regulating nature of the marketplace in guiding economic activities.
- Smith argued that individuals seeking personal gain inadvertently benefit society.
- This concept is a fundamental element of free-market capitalism.
- Critics argue that reliance on the ‘invisible hand’ can lead to economic inequalities and neglect social welfare.

The student wants to present the significance of Adam Smith’s ‘invisible hand’ theory. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

- A) The ‘invisible hand,’ introduced by Smith, describes marketplace self-regulation, but its impact on capitalism is debated.
- B) Adam Smith’s concept focuses on individual economic activities, with less emphasis on its role in shaping free-market capitalism.
- C) Critics of the ‘invisible hand’ mainly argue against its implications for personal gain rather than its broader economic impact.
- D) Smith’s ‘invisible hand’ theory, a cornerstone of free-market capitalism, is debated for potentially leading to economic inequalities.

4. While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:

- F. Scott Fitzgerald’s ‘The Great Gatsby’ is a novel set in the Roaring Twenties.
- The novel explores themes of idealism, decadence, and the American Dream.
- Its central character, Jay Gatsby, is a mysterious millionaire known for his lavish parties.
- The story is narrated by Nick Carraway, who witnesses the complexities of high society and Gatsby’s obsession with Daisy Buchanan.
- Fitzgerald’s work is a critique of the American upper class and their pursuit of happiness.

The student wants to present the significance of ‘The Great Gatsby’ in American literature. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

- A) ‘The Great Gatsby,’ set in the 1920s, focuses on the life of Jay Gatsby and his grand parties.
- B) Fitzgerald’s novel is primarily a story about Gatsby’s obsession with Daisy Buchanan and high society.
- C) The novel’s portrayal of the Roaring Twenties and the American Dream is notable but not central to its literary acclaim.
- D) ‘The Great Gatsby’ is celebrated for its critique of the American Dream and the decadence of the upper class in the 1920s.

5. While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:

- Deforestation is the clearing or thinning of forests by humans.
- It leads to habitat loss, reduction in biodiversity, and climate change.
- Deforestation is driven by agricultural expansion, logging, and urbanization.
- It contributes to carbon emissions, as trees that absorb carbon dioxide are removed.
- Reforestation and sustainable forestry practices are key methods to combat deforestation.

The student wants to explain the environmental impact of deforestation. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

- A) Deforestation, primarily caused by agricultural expansion, leads to the loss of forests and urbanization.
- B) Deforestation results in habitat loss, biodiversity reduction, and climate change, emphasizing the need for reforestation.
- C) While deforestation contributes to carbon emissions, its impact on biodiversity and climate change is minimal.
- D) The primary consequence of deforestation is the removal of trees, with its impact on the environment being secondary.

6. While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:

- The ‘gig economy’ refers to a labor market characterized by short-term contracts or freelance work.
- It contrasts with traditional employment models and offers flexibility for workers and employers.
- The gig economy includes a variety of industries, such as ride-sharing and freelance writing.
- Critics argue it can lead to job insecurity and lack of benefits for workers.
- Proponents claim it provides opportunities for entrepreneurship and income generation.

The student wants to present the significance of the gig economy in the modern labor market. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

- A) The gig economy, including industries like ride-sharing, provides a new model of employment contrasting traditional work.
- B) The gig economy offers flexibility and entrepreneurial opportunities, but faces criticism for job insecurity and lack of benefits.
- C) While offering income generation, the gig economy’s impact on traditional employment models and worker rights is minimal.
- D) Critics of the gig economy focus on its lack of benefits, overlooking its flexibility and variety of industries.