

# 新 GRE 官方指南真题解析

## Version 1.0

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杭州新东方 GRE/GMAT 教研组全国首发

2011.4

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## GRE® revised General Test 官方指南 填空部分解析 By 陈少宇

### P.54, SET1

- 1, Dominant interests often benefit most from \_\_\_\_\_ of governmental interfere in business, since they are able to take care of themselves if left alone.

A, intensification 强化  
B, authorization 授权  
C, centralization 集中化  
D, improvisation 即兴创作  
E, elimination 消除

题型：同义因果 since

思路：1, 题目逻辑结构 A= since B

2, dominant interests= they=themselves

3, 空格\* governmental interfere in business= left alone

4, 因为 governmental interfere in business 和 left alone 为相反评价，  
所以空格必为负评价词，选项 E, elimination（消除）为正确答案

- 2, Kagan maintains that an infant's reactions to its first stressful experiences are part of a natural process of development, not harbingers of childhood unhappiness or \_\_\_\_\_ signs of adolescent anxiety.

A, prophetic 先知的  
B, normal 正常的  
C, monotonous 单调的  
D, virtual 实质上的；虚拟的  
E, typical 典型的

题型：同义并列 or

思路：1, 题目逻辑结构 A or B

2, of childhood unhappiness = of adolescent anxiety

3, harbingers（先驱们）= 空格\*signs

4, 空格=选项 A, prophetic（先知的）

- 3, An investigation that is \_\_\_\_\_ can occasionally yield new facts, even notable ones, but typically the appearance of such facts is the result of a search in a definite direction.

A, timely 及时的  
B, unguided 未被引导的  
C, consistent 坚持的  
D, uncomplicated 简单的  
E, subjective 主观的

题型：反义转折 but

思路：1, 题目逻辑结构 A, but B

2, new facts= such facts, yield= the result of, an investigation= a search

3, 空格= Not\*in a definite direction=选项 B

- 4, It is (i) \_\_\_\_\_ that so many portrait paintings hang in art museums, since the subject matter seems to dictate a status closer to pictures in the family photograph album than to high art. But perhaps it is the artistic skill with which the portraits are painted that (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ their presence in art museums.

Blank(i) A, surprising 令人惊讶的

B, understandable 可以理解的

C, irrelevant 不相关的, 不重要的

Blank(ii) D, challenged 挑战

E, justifies 证明...正确

F, changes 改变

(i) 题型: 同义因果 since + 反义直接对比 more...than

思路: 1, 题目逻辑结构 closer to A than to B 相当于 A=-B

2, 空格(i)要表达出这种对比, 所以空格(i)=选项 A

(ii) 题型: 反义转折 but

思路: 1, Not 空格(ii)= 空格(i) = Not surprising

2, 可以让"their presence in art museums"达到 Not surprising 状态的选项只有 E

- 5, In stark contrast to his later (i) \_\_\_\_\_, Simpson was largely (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ politics during his college years, despite the fact that the campus he attended was rife with political activity.

Blank(i) A, activism 行动主义,激进行动

B, apathy 冷漠

C, affability 和蔼

Blank(ii) D, devoted to 致力于

E, indifferent to 对...冷漠

F, shaped by 被塑造

(i) 题型: 反义直接对比 in contrast to, 时间对比 later

思路: 1, 题目逻辑结构 In contrast to A, B, despite C

2, -A=B=-C 相当于 C= Not B= A

3, C= rife with political activity, 所以 A=空格(i)= C= 选项 A

(ii) 题型: 反义转折 but

思路: 1, 题目逻辑结构 In contrast to A, B, despite C

2, -A=B=-C 相当于 C= Not B= A

3, C= rife with political activity, 所以 B=空格(ii)= -C= 选项 E

- 6, As my eyesight began to \_\_\_\_\_, I spent a lot of time writing about it — both poem and "eye journals" — describing what I saw as I looked out through damaged eyes.

A, deteriorate 恶化

B, sharpen 变锋利

C, improve 改善

D, decline 下降

E, recover 恢复

F, adjust 调整

题型：同义因果

思路：1，题目逻辑结构 As A, B 相当于 A=B

2，空格=eyesight 的性质

3，B 部分的 damaged eyes 说明了 eyesight 的性质是 “damaged”，于是选项 A 和 D 是答案。

7, The judge's standing in the legal community, though shaken by phony allegations of wrongdoing, emerged, at long last, \_\_\_\_\_.

A, unqualified 不合格，不胜任的

B, undiminished 未缩减的

C, undecided 未决定的

D, undamaged 未被破坏的

E, unresolved 未解决的

F, unprincipled 无原则的

题型：反义转折

思路：1，题目逻辑结构 A though B 相当于 A=-B

2，B=shaken, A=Not shaken，所以选项 B 和 D 为答案。

8, Modern agricultural practices have been extremely successful in increasing the productivity of major food crops, yet despite heavy use of pesticides, \_\_\_\_\_ losses to diseases and insect pests are sustained each year.

A, incongruous 不协调的

B, reasonable 合理的

C, significant 重大的

D, considerable 重要的，大量的

E, equitable 公平的

F, fortuitous 意外的，偶然的

题型：反义转折

思路：1，题目逻辑结构 A, yet (despite B,C)

2，C=-B=-A,且 A= successful in increasing, B=heavy use of pesticides

3，C= 产量没有增加=用了大量杀虫剂（但产量没有增加）

4，空格用来加强 loss，所以选项 C 和 D 是答案。

GRE® revised General Test 官方指南 填空部分解析 By 陈少宇

P.60, SET3

1, It comes as no surprise that societies have codes of behavior; the character of the codes, on the other hand, can often be \_\_\_\_\_.

- A, predictable 可预言的
- B, unexpected 意外的, 意想不到的
- C, admirable 令人钦佩的
- D, explicit 明确的
- E, confusing 令人困惑的

题型: 反义转折 on the other hand

思路: 1, 题目逻辑结构 -A= on the other hand, B 相当于 A=-B  
2, A= no surprise, 所以 B= surprise  
3, 选项 B 是正确答案

2, Like Bela Bartok, Ruth Crawford not only brought a composer's acumen to the notation of folk music, she also had a marked (i) \_\_\_\_\_ the task. This was clear in her agonizing over how far to try to represent the minute details of a performance in a written text, and this (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ makes her work a landmark in ethnomusicology.

- Blank(i) A, reverence for 对...尊敬  
B, detachment from 对...持有冷漠或超然的态度  
C, curiosity about 对...好奇
- Blank(ii) D, fastidious 挑剔的, 难以取悦的  
E, didacticism 喜欢教训人, 教训主义  
F, iconoclasm 反传统, 打破旧习

(i) 题型: 同义递进 not only, also

思路: 1, not only A, also B, 相当于 A=B  
2, 空格(i)= acumen, 所以最能和 acumen(敏锐, 聪明)构成同义递进只有选项 A。

(ii) 题型: 同义并列 and

思路: 1, C, and D, 相当于 C=D  
2, this\*空格(ii)= her agonizing (苦苦思索) ...  
3, 空格(ii)最近接选项 D

3, Political advertising may well be the most (i) \_\_\_\_\_ kind of advertising: political candidates are usually quite (ii) \_\_\_\_\_, yet their campaign advertisements often hide important differences behind smoke screens of smiles and empty slogans.

- Blank(i) A, polemical 有争议的  
B, effective 有效的  
C, deceptive 欺诈的

Blank(ii) D, interchangeable 可互换的

E, dissimilar 不相似的

F, vocal 声音的

(i) 题型：同义解释

思路：1, A:B,yet C 相当于 A=Not C

2, 空格(ii)= hide important differences behind smoke screens,能够体现“烟幕之后有重大不同之处”同义重复的选项只有 C。

(ii) 题型：反义

思路：1, A:B,yet C 相当于 B=Not C

2, 句意是“政治候选人们通常(ii) \_\_\_\_\_，但他们的竞选广告在笑容和空洞口号烟幕之后都隐藏着重大的不同。”

3, 最优选项为 B。句意连贯起来“(尽管)政治候选人们不尽相同，但他们(所有人)的竞选广告在笑容和空洞口号烟幕之后都隐藏着重大的不同(指政治许诺与真正目的不一致)。”

4, Richard M. Russell said 52 percent of the nation's growth since the Second World War had (i) \_\_\_\_\_ invention. He said, (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ research, the government's greatest role in assuring continuing innovation is promoting a strong, modern patent office. "Unless we can (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ original ideas, we will not have invention," Mr.Russell said. Speculating on the state of innovation over the next century, several inventors agreed that the future lay in giving children the tools to think creatively and the motivation to invent.

Blank(i) A, been at the expense of 以...为代价

B, no bearing on 与...无关

C, come through 通过...而来

Blank(ii) D, in addition to restricting 除了限制之外

E, aside from supporting 除了支持之外

F, far from exaggerating 完全不夸大

Blank(iii)G, evaluate 评价

H, protect 保护

I, disseminate 散布

这道题通读之后，先选择关系最明确的空格(iii)来做

(iii) 题型：反义重复

思路：1, Unless A, B 相当于 A= Not B

2, 因为 B=not have invention, 所以空格(iii)\*original ideas=have invention

3, 只有选 H,protect (保护) 原创创意，我们才能有发明。

(i) 题型：同义并列重复

思路：1, 因为末句表达的主旨是“创造和发明是好的”，也就是对保护发明进行了正评价。所以第一至第三句与末句呈同义并列重复关系。

2, 空格(i)符合“创造和发明是好的”含义的选项只有 C。

(ii) 题型：同义并列重复

思路：1, 空格(ii)也要表达“创造和发明是好的”的正评价态度，并且空格(ii)和“assuring continuing innovation”的施动主语都是“the government”。

2, 所以空格(ii)和“assuring continuing innovation”为同义重复。所以只有 E 为正确答案。

5, Statements presented as fact in a patent application are (i) \_\_\_\_\_ unless a good reason for doubt is found. The invention has only to be deemed “more likely than not” to work in order to receive initial approval. And, although thousands of patents are challenged in court for other reasons, no incentive exists for anyone to expend effort (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ the science of an erroneous patent. For this reason the endless stream of (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ devices will continue to yield occasional patents.

Blank(i) A, presumed verifiable 被假设为可被证实的

B, carefully scrutinized 被仔细审查的

C, considered capricious 被认为反复无常的

Blank(ii) D, corroborating 证实，支持

E, advancing 促进

F, debunking 揭穿

Blank(iii) G, novel 新的

H, bogus 伪造的

I, obsolete 废弃的，过时的

(i) 题型：反义重复

思路：1, Unless A, B 相当于 A= Not B

2, 因为 B= a good reason for doubt is found(可以被质疑), 所以空格(i)= 不可被质疑。所以选项 A 为正确答案。

(ii) 题型：反义转折重复

思路：1, although A, B 相当于 A=Not B

2, A= patents are challenged, B= no incentive exists ...to expend effort (ii)

3, 空格(ii)=challenged,所以选项 F, debunking(揭穿)为正确答案

(iii) 题型：同义因果重复

思路：1, 因为 A, 所以 B 相当于 A=B

2, A=没有人有 incentive 去揭穿错误专利

3,选项 H, bogus（伪造的）最接近 A 能导致的结果，也就是“不断地会有伪造的设备不断产生不必然的专利”



## GRE® revised General Test 官方指南 阅读部分解析 By 陈曲

## P. 47 Sample Question Set

Questions 1 to 3 are based on the following reading passage.

Reviving the practice of using elements of popular music in classical composition, an approach that had been in hibernation in the United States during the 1960s, composer Philip Glass (born 1937) embraced the ethos of popular music without imitating it. Glass based two symphonies on music by rock musicians David Bowie and Brian Eno, but the symphonies' sound is distinctively his. Popular elements do not appear out of place in Glass's classical music, which from its early days has shared certain harmonies and rhythms with rock music. Yet this use of popular elements has not made Glass a composer of popular music. His music is not a version of popular music packaged to attract classical listeners; it is high art for listeners steeped in rock rather than the classics.

**[解析] 阅读笔记**

根据上课讲的几类重点词语，关注文章的转折等逻辑。

Reviving the practice of using elements of popular music in classical composition, an approach that had been in hibernation in the United States during the 1960s, composer Philip Glass (born 1937) embraced the ethos of popular music without imitating it. Glass based two symphonies on music by rock musicians David Bowie and Brian Eno, but the symphonies' sound is distinctively his. Popular elements do not appear out of place in Glass's classical music, which from its early days has shared certain harmonies and rhythms with rock music. Yet this use of popular elements has not made Glass a composer of popular music. His music is not a version of popular music packaged to attract classical listeners; it is high art for listeners steeped in rock rather than the classics.

**词汇伴侣**

\*请各位注意：少量生词不是阅读的绊脚石，理解才是。

Hibernation n. 动词 hibernate, 冬眠

Ethos n. the set of ideas and moral attitudes belong to a person or group 精神特质

Steep v. (一般作 be steeped in) surround or fill with a quality or influence 使沉浸

**[解析] 长句心法**

1. Reviving the practice of using elements of popular music in classical composition, an approach that had been in hibernation in the United States during the 1960s, composer Philip Glass (born 1937) embraced the ethos of popular music without imitating it.

**【类型 1】层次鲜明。仔细品味英语句子的逻辑性。**

第一个逗号前：PG 使流行元素混在古典风里这种方式得以复兴；

第二个逗号前：这样的方式却在美国 1960s 一直沉睡（第一部分 why）；

最后的句号前：PG 采纳了流行音乐的特质，但不模仿（第一部分 how）。

2. Popular elements do not appear out of place in Glass's classical music, which from its early days has shared

certain harmonies and rhythms with rock music.

【类型 2】双重否定。GRE 中经常使用的手法。

Popular elements do not appear out of place in Glass's classical music

= Popular elements appear in place in Glass's classical music

流行元素在 G 的古典音乐中得以呈现。

全文一共五句话，一个句首大转折 yet 将文章分成了两个层次。

### [解析] 题目解答

Select only one answer choice.

1. The passage addresses which of the following issues related to Glass's use of popular elements in his classical compositions?
  - A. How it is regarded by listeners who prefer rock to the classics
  - B. How it has affected the commercial success of Glass's music
  - C. Whether it has contributed to a revival of interest among other composers in using popular elements in their composition
  - D. Whether it has had a detrimental effect on Glass's reputation as a composer of classical music
  - E. Whether it has caused certain of Glass's works to be derivative in quality

【技巧 1】关键词排除法。

一般出错的位置：1. 定语语添油加醋（如 AC）2. 关键词排除法（如 BD）

关键词排除法可以迅速排除答案，而不需要阅读琐碎的句子。

B. 这篇文章并没有提到 PG 音乐的商业价值

D. 这篇文章并没有提到 PG 风格的负面影响

正确答案 E，第二句话解答了这个问题，derivative（衍生的）有点隐晦，需要好好体会。

Select only one answer choice.

2. The passage suggests that Glass's work displays which of the following qualities?
  - A. A return to the use of popular music in classical compositions
  - B. An attempt to elevate rock music to an artistic status more closely approximating that of classical music
  - C. A long-standing tendency to incorporate elements from two apparently disparate musical styles

【技巧 2】比较级排除法。

将文章本无联系的两样东西进行无谓的比较，是 ETS 的出题一大手法。

比如 B 这句话间接的比较了两种音乐风格（genre），似乎 rock music 没有 classical music 来的有艺术性，文章只说了 PG 将两种艺术形式混合，根本没有对这两种音乐风格进行比较。

今后关于比较级的选项，请多斟酌比较的两者是否在文章中有对比，否则即为错误选项。

A 和 C 均是第一句话第一部分的改写。

3. Select the sentence that distinguishes two ways of integrating rock and classical music.

由于写得关键词是 rock and classical music，所以一定最后三句筛选。

由于文章还有关键词 two ways，所以一定是最后一句话。

答案：His music is not a version of popular music packaged to attract classical listeners; it is high art for listeners steeped in rock rather than the classics.

**[解析] 扩展阅读**

节选自: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philip\\_Glass](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philip_Glass), 剩下部分有兴趣继续上网读。

维基百科是我上课推荐给各位同学的扩展阅读资料, 请记得提高自己的硬实力和知识面, GRE 的阅读一定没有问题。

**Philip Morris Glass** (born January 31, 1937) is an American music composer. He is considered to be one of the most influential composers of the late 20th century and is widely acknowledged as a composer who has brought art music to the public (along with precursors such as Richard Strauss, Kurt Weill and Leonard Bernstein).

Although his music is often (controversially) described as *minimalist*, for his later work he distances himself from this label, describing himself instead as a composer of “music with repetitive structures.” Though his early mature music shares much with what is normally called ‘minimalist’, he has since evolved stylistically. Currently, he describes himself as a “Classicist”, pointing out that he is trained in harmony and counterpoint and studied such composers as Franz Schubert, Johann Sebastian Bach and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart with Nadia Boulanger.

Glass is a prolific composer: he has written works for his own musical group which he founded, the Philip Glass Ensemble (with which he still performs on keyboards), as well as operas, musical theatre works, nine symphonies, ten concertos, solo works, chamber music including string quartets and instrumental sonatas, and film scores. Three of his film scores have been nominated for Academy Awards.

Glass counts many artists among his friends and collaborators, including visual artists (Richard Serra, Chuck Close), writers (Doris Lessing, David Henry Hwang, Allen Ginsberg), film and theatre directors (including Errol Morris, Robert Wilson, JoAnne Akalaitis, Godfrey Reggio, Paul Schrader, Martin Scorsese, Christopher Hampton, Bernard Rose, and many others), choreographers (Lucinda Childs, Jerome Robbins, Twyla Tharp), and musicians and composers (Ravi Shankar, David Byrne, the conductor Dennis Russell Davies, Foday Musa Suso, Laurie Anderson, Linda Ronstadt, Paul Simon, Joan LaBarbara, Arthur Russell, David Bowie, Brian Eno, Roberto Carnevale, Patti Smith, Aphex Twin, Lisa Bielawa, Andrew Shapiro, John Moran, Bryce Dessner and Nico Muhly). Among recent collaborators are Glass's fellow New Yorker Woody Allen, Stephen T. Colbert, and poet and songwriter Leonard Cohen.

## GRE 写作 ISSUE 新题库分析 By 罗琼

GRE 改革之后，ISSUE 新题库发生了比较大的变化。首先，题目的数量下降了，从 244 题变成了 149 题。另外，ISSUE 新题库中出现了大量的类似题，即同一道题目换成了不同的问法。

现把相似题目归类如下：

3 / 35 / 37

6 / 14 / 96 / 116

8 / 111 / 149

10 / 125 / 148

11 / 99

12 / 25

13 / 46 / 70 / 102 / 112

15 / 32 / 98 / 129 / 135 / 136

17 / 68

20 / 39

22 / 122

23 / 36 / 72

24 / 29 / 52

28 / 113 / 120 / 121 / 127 / 145

30 / 83

40 / 90

44 / 75 / 84

45 / 138

49 / 76 / 118

50 / 86 / 115

51 / 71

63 / 67

74 / 133 / 134

79 / 146

80 / 88

81 / 95

82 / 97 / 100 / 124

104 / 107

106 / 126

108 / 110

剔除这些类似的题目，其实题库中最后的数量是 95 题，这样就大大简化了备考过程。

但是，改革之后 ISSUE 取消了二选一，这样高频题就少下来了；同时，由于刚刚实行新机考，几乎没有机经和高频题，备考的任务又重了。

## 附：ETS 官网公布的 ISSUE 新题库

This page contains the Issue topics for the Analytical Writing section of the GRE® revised General Test. When you take the test, you will be presented with one Issue topic from this pool.

Each Issue topic consists of an issue statement or statements followed by specific task instructions that tell you how to respond to the issue. The wording of some topics in the test might vary slightly from what is presented here. Also, because there may be multiple versions of some topics with similar or identical wording but with different task instructions, it is very important to read your test topic and its specific task directions carefully and respond to the wording as it appears in the actual test.

1 As people rely more and more on technology to solve problems, the ability of humans to think for themselves will surely deteriorate.

2 To understand the most important characteristics of a society, one must study its major cities.

3 Educational institutions have a responsibility to dissuade students from pursuing fields of study in which they are unlikely to succeed.

4 Scandals are useful because they focus our attention on problems in ways that no speaker or reformer ever could.

5 Claim: Governments must ensure that their major cities receive the financial support they need in order to thrive.

Reason: It is primarily in cities that a nation's cultural traditions are preserved and generated.

6 A nation should require all of its students to study the same national curriculum until they enter college.

7 Some people believe that government funding of the arts is necessary to ensure that the arts can flourish and be available to all people. Others believe that government funding of the arts threatens the integrity of the arts.

8 Claim: In any field—business, politics, education, government—those in power should step down after five years.

Reason: The surest path to success for any enterprise is revitalization through new leadership.

9 In any field of endeavor, it is impossible to make a significant contribution without first being strongly influenced by past achievements within that field.

10 Nations should pass laws to preserve any remaining wilderness areas in their natural state, even if these areas could be developed for economic gain.

- 11 People's behavior is largely determined by forces not of their own making.
- 12 Governments should offer a free university education to any student who has been admitted to a university but who cannot afford the tuition.
- 13 Universities should require every student to take a variety of courses outside the student's field of study.
- 14 A nation should require all of its students to study the same national curriculum until they enter college.
- 15 Educational institutions should actively encourage their students to choose fields of study that will prepare them for lucrative careers.
- 16 Some people believe that in order to be effective, political leaders must yield to public opinion and abandon principle for the sake of compromise. Others believe that the most essential quality of an effective leader is the ability to remain consistently committed to particular principles and objectives.
- 17 Formal education tends to restrain our minds and spirits rather than set them free.
- 18 The well-being of a society is enhanced when many of its people question authority.
- 19 Governments should focus on solving the immediate problems of today rather than on trying to solve the anticipated problems of the future.
- 20 Some people believe that college students should consider only their own talents and interests when choosing a field of study. Others believe that college students should base their choice of a field of study on the availability of jobs in that field.
- 21 Laws should be flexible enough to take account of various circumstances, times, and places.
- 22 Claim: The best way to understand the character of a society is to examine the character of the men and women that the society chooses as its heroes or its role models.
- Reason: Heroes and role models reveal a society's highest ideals.
- 23 Governments should place few, if any, restrictions on scientific research and development.
- 24 The best way to teach is to praise positive actions and ignore negative ones.
- 25 Governments should offer college and university education free of charge to all students.
- 26 The luxuries and conveniences of contemporary life prevent people from developing into truly strong and independent individuals.
- 27 In any field of inquiry, the beginner is more likely than the expert to make important contributions.
- 28 The surest indicator of a great nation is represented not by the achievements of its rulers, artists, or scientists, but by the general welfare of its people.
- 29 The best way to teach—whether as an educator, employer, or parent—is to praise positive actions and ignore negative ones.
- 30 Teachers' salaries should be based on their students' academic performance.

31 Society should make efforts to save endangered species only if the potential extinction of those species is the result of human activities.

32 College students should base their choice of a field of study on the availability of jobs in that field.

33 As we acquire more knowledge, things do not become more comprehensible, but more complex and mysterious.

34 In any situation, progress requires discussion among people who have contrasting points of view.

35 Educational institutions should dissuade students from pursuing fields of study in which they are unlikely to succeed.

36 Governments should not fund any scientific research whose consequences are unclear.

37 Society should identify those children who have special talents and provide training for them at an early age to develop their talents.

38 It is primarily through our identification with social groups that we define ourselves.

39 College students should be encouraged to pursue subjects that interest them rather than the courses that seem most likely to lead to jobs.

40 Claim: When planning courses, educators should take into account the interests and suggestions of their students.

Reason: Students are more motivated to learn when they are interested in what they are studying.

41 The greatness of individuals can be decided only by those who live after them, not by their contemporaries.

42 Students should always question what they are taught instead of accepting it passively.

43 The increasingly rapid pace of life today causes more problems than it solves.

44 Claim: It is no longer possible for a society to regard any living man or woman as a hero.

Reason: The reputation of anyone who is subjected to media scrutiny will eventually be diminished.

45 Competition for high grades seriously limits the quality of learning at all levels of education.

46 Universities should require every student to take a variety of courses outside the student's field of study.

47 Educators should find out what students want included in the curriculum and then offer it to them.

48 Educators should teach facts only after their students have studied the ideas, trends, and concepts that help explain those facts.

49 Claim: We can usually learn much more from people whose views we share than from those whose views contradict our own.

Reason: Disagreement can cause stress and inhibit learning.

- 50 Government officials should rely on their own judgment rather than unquestioningly carry out the will of the people they serve.
- 51 Young people should be encouraged to pursue long-term, realistic goals rather than seek immediate fame and recognition.
- 52 The best way to teach is to praise positive actions and ignore negative ones.
- 53 If a goal is worthy, then any means taken to attain it are justifiable.
- 54 In order to become well-rounded individuals, all college students should be required to take courses in which they read poetry, novels, mythology, and other types of imaginative literature.
- 55 In order for any work of art—for example, a film, a novel, a poem, or a song—to have merit, it must be understandable to most people.
- 56 Many important discoveries or creations are accidental: it is usually while seeking the answer to one question that we come across the answer to another.
- 57 The main benefit of the study of history is to dispel the illusion that people living now are significantly different from people who lived in earlier times.
- 58 Learning is primarily a matter of personal discipline; students cannot be motivated by school or college alone.
- 59 Scientists and other researchers should focus their research on areas that are likely to benefit the greatest number of people.
- 60 Politicians should pursue common ground and reasonable consensus rather than elusive ideals.
- 61 People should undertake risky action only after they have carefully considered its consequences.
- 62 Leaders are created by the demands that are placed on them.
- 63 There is little justification for society to make extraordinary efforts—especially at a great cost in money and jobs—to save endangered animal or plant species.
- 64 The human mind will always be superior to machines because machines are only tools of human minds.
- 65 Every individual in a society has a responsibility to obey just laws and to disobey and resist unjust laws.
- 66 People who are the most deeply committed to an idea or policy are also the most critical of it.
- 67 Some people believe that society should try to save every plant and animal species, despite the expense to humans in effort, time, and financial well-being. Others believe that society need not make extraordinary efforts, especially at a great cost in money and jobs, to save endangered species.
- 68 Some people believe that the purpose of education is to free the mind and the spirit. Others believe that formal education tends to restrain our minds and spirits rather than set them free.
- 69 Some people believe it is often necessary, even desirable, for political leaders to withhold information from the public. Others believe that the public has a right to be fully informed.



70 Claim: Universities should require every student to take a variety of courses outside the student's major field of study.

Reason: Acquiring knowledge of various academic disciplines is the best way to become truly educated.

71 Young people should be encouraged to pursue long-term, realistic goals rather than seek immediate fame and recognition.

72 Governments should not fund any scientific research whose consequences are unclear.

73 Colleges and universities should require all faculty to spend time working outside the academic world in professions relevant to the courses they teach.

74 Knowing about the past cannot help people to make important decisions today.

75 In this age of intensive media coverage, it is no longer possible for a society to regard any living man or woman as a hero.

76 We can usually learn much more from people whose views we share than from people whose views contradict our own.

77 The most effective way to understand contemporary culture is to analyze the trends of its youth.

78 People's attitudes are determined more by their immediate situation or surroundings than by society as a whole.

79 Claim: The best test of an argument is its ability to convince someone with an opposing viewpoint.

Reason: Only by being forced to defend an idea against the doubts and contrasting views of others does one really discover the value of that idea.

80 Nations should suspend government funding for the arts when significant numbers of their citizens are hungry or unemployed.

81 All parents should be required to volunteer time to their children's schools.

82 Colleges and universities should require their students to spend at least one semester studying in a foreign country.

83 Teachers' salaries should be based on the academic performance of their students.

84 It is no longer possible for a society to regard any living man or woman as a hero.

85 Some people believe that in order to thrive, a society must put its own overall success before the well-being of its individual citizens. Others believe that the well-being of a society can only be measured by the general welfare of all its people.

86 Some people believe that government officials must carry out the will of the people they serve. Others believe that officials should base their decisions on their own judgment.

87 Claim: Any piece of information referred to as a fact should be mistrusted, since it may well be proven false in the future.

Reason: Much of the information that people assume is factual actually turns out to be inaccurate.

88 Claim: Nations should suspend government funding for the arts when significant numbers of their citizens are hungry or unemployed.

Reason: It is inappropriate—and, perhaps, even cruel—to use public resources to fund the arts when people's basic needs are not being met.

89 Claim: Many problems of modern society cannot be solved by laws and the legal system.

Reason: Laws cannot change what is in people's hearts or minds.

90 Educators should take students' interests into account when planning the content of the courses they teach.

91 The primary goal of technological advancement should be to increase people's efficiency so that they have more leisure time.

92 Educators should base their assessment of students' learning not on students' grasp of facts but on the ability to explain the ideas, trends, and concepts that those facts illustrate.

93 Unfortunately, in contemporary society, creating an appealing image has become more important than the reality or truth behind that image.

94 The effectiveness of a country's leaders is best measured by examining the well-being of that country's citizens.

95 All parents should be required to volunteer time to their children's schools.

96 A nation should require all of its students to study the same national curriculum until they enter college.

97 Colleges and universities should require their students to spend at least one semester studying in a foreign country.

98 Educational institutions should actively encourage their students to choose fields of study in which jobs are plentiful.

99 People's behavior is largely determined by forces not of their own making.

100 Colleges and universities should require their students to spend at least one semester studying in a foreign country.

101 Although innovations such as video, computers, and the Internet seem to offer schools improved methods for instructing students, these technologies all too often distract from real learning.

102 Universities should require every student to take a variety of courses outside the student's field of study.

103 The best ideas arise from a passionate interest in commonplace things.

104 To be an effective leader, a public official must maintain the highest ethical and moral standards.

105 Claim: Imagination is a more valuable asset than experience.

Reason: People who lack experience are free to imagine what is possible without the constraints of established habits and attitudes.

106 In most professions and academic fields, imagination is more important than knowledge.

107 To be an effective leader, a public official must maintain the highest ethical and moral standards.

108 Critical judgment of work in any given field has little value unless it comes from someone who is an expert in that field.

109 Some people believe that scientific discoveries have given us a much better understanding of the world around us. Others believe that science has revealed to us that the world is infinitely more complex than we ever realized.

110 Critical judgment of work in any given field has little value unless it comes from someone who is an expert in that field.

111 In any profession—business, politics, education, government—those in power should step down after five years.

112 Requiring university students to take a variety of courses outside their major fields of study is the best way to ensure that students become truly educated.

113 Claim: The surest indicator of a great nation is not the achievements of its rulers, artists, or scientists.

114 Any leader who is quickly and easily influenced by shifts in popular opinion will accomplish little.

115 Government officials should rely on their own judgment rather than unquestioningly carry out the will of the people whom they serve.

116 A nation should require all of its students to study the same national curriculum until they enter college.

117 It is primarily in cities that a nation's cultural traditions are generated and preserved.

118 We can learn much more from people whose views we share than from people whose views contradict our own.

119 When old buildings stand on ground that modern planners feel could be better used for modern purposes, modern development should be given precedence over the preservation of historic buildings.

120 Claim: The surest indicator of a great nation must be the achievements of its rulers, artists, or scientists.

Reason: Great achievements by a nation's rulers, artists, or scientists will ensure a good life for the majority of that nation's people.

121 Some people claim that you can tell whether a nation is great by looking at the achievements of its rulers, artists, or scientists. Others argue that the surest indicator of a great nation is, in fact, the general welfare of all its people.

122 The best way to understand the character of a society is to examine the character of the men and women that the society chooses as its heroes or its role models.

123 The best way for a society to prepare its young people for leadership in government, industry, or other fields is by instilling in them a sense of cooperation, not competition.

124 All college and university students would benefit from spending at least one semester studying in a foreign country.

125 Some people claim that a nation's government should preserve its wilderness areas in their natural state. Others argue that these areas should be developed for potential economic gain.

126 In most professions and academic fields, imagination is more important than knowledge.

127 The surest indicator of a great nation is not the achievements of its rulers, artists, or scientists, but the general well-being of all its people.

128 Some people argue that successful leaders in government, industry, or other fields must be highly competitive. Other people claim that in order to be successful, a leader must be willing and able to cooperate with others.

129 College students should base their choice of a field of study on the availability of jobs in that field.

130 Some people believe that corporations have a responsibility to promote the well-being of the societies and environments in which they operate. Others believe that the only responsibility of corporations, provided they operate within the law, is to make as much money as possible.

131 Claim: Researchers should not limit their investigations to only those areas in which they expect to discover something that has an immediate, practical application.

Reason: It is impossible to predict the outcome of a line of research with any certainty.

132 Some people believe that our ever-increasing use of technology significantly reduces our opportunities for human interaction. Other people believe that technology provides us with new and better ways to communicate and connect with one another.

133 Claim: Knowing about the past cannot help people to make important decisions today.

Reason: The world today is significantly more complex than it was even in the relatively recent past.

134 Claim: Knowing about the past cannot help people to make important decisions today.

Reason: We are not able to make connections between current events and past events until we have some distance from both.

135 Educational institutions should actively encourage their students to choose fields of study that will prepare them for lucrative careers.

136 Educational institutions should actively encourage their students to choose fields of study in which jobs are plentiful.

137 Educational institutions have a responsibility to dissuade students from pursuing fields of study in which they are unlikely to succeed.

138 Some people believe that competition for high grades motivates students to excel in the classroom. Others believe that such competition seriously limits the quality of real learning.

139 Claim: Major policy decisions should always be left to politicians and other government experts.

Reason: Politicians and other government experts are more informed and thus have better judgment and perspective than do members of the general public.

140 Some people believe that universities should require every student to take a variety of courses outside the student's field of study. Others believe that universities should not force students to take any courses other than those that will help prepare them for jobs in their chosen fields.

141 It is more harmful to compromise one's own beliefs than to adhere to them.

142 Claim: Colleges and universities should specify all required courses and eliminate elective courses in order to provide clear guidance for students.

Reason: College students—like people in general—prefer to follow directions rather than make their own decisions.

143 No field of study can advance significantly unless it incorporates knowledge and experience from outside that field.

144 True success can be measured primarily in terms of the goals one sets for oneself.

145 The general welfare of a nation's people is a better indication of that nation's greatness than are the achievements of its rulers, artists, or scientists.

146 The best test of an argument is the argument's ability to convince someone with an opposing viewpoint.

147 The effectiveness of a country's leaders is best measured by examining the well-being of that country's citizens.

148 Nations should pass laws to preserve any remaining wilderness areas in their natural state.

149 In any field—business, politics, education, government—those in power should be required to step down after five years.