

# *British Council*

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## Question: 1

What is the main problem Connor is having?

- A. He wants to become a chemistry tutor.
- B. He cannot find time to make it to office hours.
- C. He is struggling to understand the chemistry material.
- D. He does not know where the Student Resource Center is.

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

The student is having trouble understanding the chemistry material, particularly balancing equations and different types of bonds. This is evident in the first several exchanges between Connor and his professor. Choice A is incorrect because he needs a chemistry tutor but does not want to become one. Choice B is wrong because he says he can make it to office hours and Choice D is true, in that Connor does not know where the Student Resource Center is, but this is not the main problem he was having. Instead, it is a secondary question that arises during the conversation about his difficulty with the chemistry material.

## Question: 2

What is meant by Connor's statement: "Availability wasn't the limiting factor; I think it was my pride."

- A. I honestly felt proud about how I performed on the exam.
- B. I honestly wasn't too busy; I think I just didn't want to admit that I needed help.
- C. I honestly am not really busy but I wanted to make you proud.
- D. There is a limit to how much time I can spend on this and still be proud of myself.

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

"Availability wasn't the limiting factor; I think it was my pride" is best equated in the sentence: "I honestly wasn't too busy; I think I just didn't want to admit that I needed help." The limiting factor refers to what got in the way of accomplishing or doing something. Connor says availability (or time) was not the limiting factor, so he is not "too busy." When "pride gets in the way" it means that a person does not want to show or reveal that he or she doesn't understand something because that would be embarrassing and would negatively impact his or her self-esteem.

## Question: 3

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The cost for a graduate student to use the Student Resource Center:

- A. Free
- B. A nominal fee

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

Connor's professor tells him that graduate students pay a nominal fee to use the Student Resource Center.

### Question: 4

The cost for an undergraduate student to use the Student Resource Center:

- A. Free
- B. A nominal fee

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

The Student Resource Center is free for undergraduate students since it is included in their student fees.

### Question: 5

What does the professor argue is a strength of Shakespeare's plays and a quality that makes him a successful playwright in history?

- A. The fact that people have read his plays for centuries and his works are well-preserved
- B. That his works consider the complexities of human nature through character development
- C. The fact that he persuades audience members to be deviant
- D. The fact that his works teach readers about people and places from a vibrant period in history

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

The professor argues that the strength of Shakespeare's plays and a quality that makes him a successful playwright in history is the fact that his works consider the complexities of human nature through character development. At the beginning of the lecture, she says: "As we've been discussing, one element of Shakespeare's writing that sets him apart from his predecessors, and arguably made him a great playwright, was his ability to create characters with intricate and interesting psychologies... These complexities um... evoke his audience's sympathies, and subsequently heightens their interest in the play." Choice A is a true statement, but it doesn't answer why he is considered a great playwright. While some of his characters are deviant (such as Lady Macbeth), Shakespeare's plays don't necessarily persuade audience members to be deviant, so

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Choice C is incorrect. Choice D is not really mentioned in the lecture: while specific characters and kings are named, this is not emphasized as Shakespeare's lasting literary impact.

### Question: 6

What does the professor mean when she says, "I can see I'm losing some of you.,,"?

- A. Her students do not agree with her argument.
- B. Her students are dropping her course because it is too challenging.
- C. Her students are about to graduate.
- D. Her students are losing focus because they are worried about their exams.

**Answer: D**

Explanation:

When the professor says, "I can see I'm losing some of you..." she is implying that her students are losing focus (she is losing their attention on her lecture). In this case, she believes it is because they are worried about their exam grades. She says: "I can see I'm losing some of you because I bet many of you have your minds on last week's midterm, so let's end our discussion here today and go over your test..." The other answer choices do not correctly translate this figure of speech.

### Question: 7

Which of the following sentences contains an opinion on the part of the author?

- A. James was recognized to be a practicing Catholic, and his commitment to Catholicism would prove to be his downfall.
- B. James' son King Charles I proved himself to be less committed to the Protestant Church of England.
- C. The movement was soundly defeated at the Battle of Culloden in 1746, and England and Scotland have remained Protestant ever since.
- D. Scholars in the 21st century are far too hasty in dismissing the role of religion in political disputes, but religion undoubtedly played a role in the problems that faced England and Scotland.

**Answer: D**

Explanation:

All other sentences in the passage offer some support or explanation. Only the sentence in answer choice D indicates an unsupported opinion on the part of the author.

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