

DIYALOG E-YDS 2019

1. Jean:

- Almost all the science fiction films produced recently are remakes of the famous films from the 1950s and 60s. They're newer but I think most of them fall far short of their originals.

Paul:

- Are you kidding? Have you seen Tim Burton's 2001 remake of *Planet of the Apes*. It's vastly superior to the original as a work of visual art.

Jean:

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Paul:

- What else would you need? Are you talking about actors? Or is it the decline in importance of cinema with the appearance of DVDs?

Jean:

- None of those. I think a sci-fi is at its best not when celebrating the spectacle but when it offers intelligent social and political commentary. That's what the new remakes lack.

- A) You may be right. Still, its being a remake doesn't change the reality that it simply relies on nostalgia.
- B) Your reaction is understandable given that your taste in cinema lies only in the fame of a film's director.
- C) I see what you mean, but making a good sci-fi film is more than using impressive special effects.
- D) That's right as long as one cares more for the popularity of the original film than that of the remake.
- E) Yes, it's easy to see Burton's unique flair but the film lacks the energy and impact of the original.

2. Alissa:

-Do you know the Roman theatre in the 3,000-year-old city of Volterra is currently being immortalised with three-dimensional (3D) scanning techniques for visiting?

Brian:

-Wow, that's great when you think about all the important structures destroyed due to natural disasters and conflicts. So, how are historic buildings preserved digitally?

Alissa:

-Scientists use laser scanning and drones to take full 3D scans of architecture and artefacts. These then can be reconstructed in a computer to produce identical 3D models.

Brian:

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Alissa:

- Exactly! I can't wait to see some 13th-century medieval castles without even getting out of my apartment.

A) I guess 3D technology is even likely to help scientists unearth historical truths if used properly.

B) Virtual tours are already possible thanks to the virtual reality technology. And this has made the job of archaeologists and art historians more visible.

C) So, this means now we can put on our virtual reality headset and virtually visit them whenever we want. That's cool!

D) Actually, the biggest contribution of the 3D technology is to attract the attention of people uninterested in history.

E) As virtual tourists, we all appreciate the benefits of virtual reality and 3D technologies. They've made it possible to visit important modern buildings as well.

3. Rick:

-After that presentation today, I have to agree that Henry Ford was really a business pioneer.

Sarah:

-I'm not sure we can define him as "pioneer."

Rick:

-Why not? He was the first to realize that in addition to focusing on providing a quality product at an affordable price, companies also need to understand that employees are potential customers.

Sarah:

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Rick:

- Exactly! If your workers become your customers, your business will thrive.

A) So if your employees are involved in the decision making process, they can help to boost sales as well.

B) I see. That's why he doubled his employees' wages - so they could afford to buy his products?

C) Right, so he saw that while the production line was more efficient, his workers were still unhappy with their work.

D) But aren't low-wage workers the ones that make the products for middle- and upper-class consumers?

E) Ok, that might have been useful in that century, but can this strategy be applied to today's businesses?

4. Sam:

- **Have you heard some companies are now seriously thinking about mining asteroids?**

Ashley:

- **Really? I've never thought asteroids could offer commercial value. You know, it must be too costly even to go near an asteroid.**

Sam:

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Ashley:

- **Oh, now I see why they're highly motivated to mine asteroids. But it may lead to rivalries and even hostilities among companies over who has the right to mine which asteroid.**

A) The real problem is to determine which asteroids are economically viable to exploit and how mining operations can be done reliably.

B) As a matter of fact, asteroids could help humans in many ways, including telling us about our place in the Solar System.

C) Well, the organic compounds and water in asteroids could provide us with the raw materials we need in our exploration of the Solar System.

D) Incredibly, a metallic asteroid could contain enough gold, platinum, and nickel to make it worth thousands of billions of dollars.

E) I think with inadequate laws and regulations, the race for asteroid-mining could lead to serious problems.

5. Professor:

- **Astrobiologists are searching for signs of past life on Mars, where they'll probably never go.**

Student:

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Professor:

- **They designed a very complicated instrument to send to the surface of the planet.**

Student:

- **Do you mean a robot?**

Professor:

- **It looks like a lunch box. It'll move across the surface with three pairs of legs in tiny 100-micron size steps and analyse the chemical make-up of different areas.**

- A) What do astrobiologists hope to discover without going to the planet?
- B) How are they examining the planet from such a distance?
- C) How different is their research from previous Mars investigations?
- D) Why are they insisting on finding evidence of ancient life on Mars?
- E) Do you think they will be successful in this new Mars mission?

6. Journalist:

- **Recently, images of sea turtles that drowned from becoming entangled in plastic bags have been widely shared on social media.**

Ecologist:

- **Very upsetting! These sea turtles are especially young ones. They're at greater risk of being affected by plastic pollution in the oceans than their elders.**

Journalist:

- **What makes them more vulnerable to death from plastic?**

Ecologist:

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Journalist:

- **So, because younger turtles encounter higher concentrations of plastic debris, their risk of death is higher.**

A) Drowning is not the only threat from plastic bags. Sea turtles mistake plastic bags as jellyfish and ingest them, which leads to blockage or starvation.

B) Whether it's a plastic bag or any other kind of plastic material, plastic pollution impacts sea turtles at every stage of their life.

C) I think governments should increase their efforts to clean up plastic trash from the world's oceans, as it affects not only young sea turtles, but also many other sea creatures.

D) They tend to swim near the surface, where plastic floats, and thus they generally drift with plastic-rich currents.

E) Everything from cosmetics, cleaning products, toys to household items include bits of plastic that may eventually end up in the ocean.

7. Journalist:

-Why do you write?

Author:

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Journalist:

- What do you feel your strengths are as an author? How have you developed these qualities?

Author:

- My goal has always been to be honest. Honest to the characters, honest to the people who experience in real life what the character goes through on the page, honest to myself and the vision I hold.

A) Since my job is, in part, to write dialogue, I think I have, over the years, gotten better and better at finding that honesty through what the characters say and leave unsaid.

B) I can go for long stretches when I don't write anything, but there's always an idea brewing.

C) I love being in the flow that comes when you're open to anything happening on the page, and I love reading what comes out as a result.

D) The process is never perfect, and since I rarely work from an outline, there's a lot of time spent just sitting and waiting for the next idea to come.

E) These days when I have a project in mind, I write at weekends unless I'm on a deadline. That way, I can allocate enough time for my businesses and my creative work.



8.Reporter:

- Your area of expertise is the Enlightenment period. Can you briefly describe the period?

Historian:

- Of course! The Enlightenment refers to a period in European history from the late seventeenth to late eighteenth century. It was an intellectual time when scholars sought to shift inquiry away from the supernatural towards physical and human nature.

Reporter:

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Historian:

- Print culture plus the creation of a literate middle-class. This expanding audience with more leisure time had access to pamphlets, essays, novels and such. And this allowed knowledge to be disseminated more quickly and be debated in salons and coffee houses.

- A) What else changed among the middle-class along with the new way of thinking?
- B) What developments would you say aided in the proliferation of this type of critical thinking?
- C) In your opinion, how did the printing press help in the Enlightenment period?
- D) Were there any factors that impeded the progress of this new thinking style?
- E) How would you explain the impact of leisure time on people's access to new information?

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9. Kelly:

- I've been on a diet and jogging for over a month, but I haven't lost any pounds yet. Look at you! You're always very fit. What's your secret, Jason?

Jason:

- **Just change your workout pattern. Instead of jogging for 30 or 60 minutes, mix up short, intense bursts of activity with less hardcore moves in between. Try 4-minute intense workouts followed by 10 seconds of a moderate activity. It's called high intensive interval training - also called HUT.**

Kelly:

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Jason:

- **Oh no, it's the other way around. In fact, studies have shown that you burn more calories and fat soon after you start.**

A) Is there a faster and more successful method you can advise because I can't cut down on fatty foods?

B) Oh, its advantages outweigh those of other types of training? I think it's a common way of training.

C) It must be the latest trend. Don't you think being healthy is more important than burning calories?

D) It sounds awesome, and in your case it seems to have worked. Do I have to do it in the gym?

E) Does it really work? To be honest, I don't think it can be as effective as longer workouts that gradually build in intensity.

10. Andy:

- It's a tough time to be a teen. Cyberbullying and this new selfie culture pile on the pressure to always look good.

Bill:

-I completely agree. My daughter lives in a virtual world. Sometimes I think she lives to display her life online.

Andy:

-Oh, that's such a pity! Experts warn that teenagers are in the midst of a mental health crisis: self-harm and depression are soaring, especially among girls.

Bill:

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Andy:

- First, don't judge her. She's living in a sensitive age, so you need to sympathize with her. But if I were in your shoes. I'd encourage her to engage in some social activities, such as sport or art clubs.

- A) We don't know how to cope with it. She doesn't seem to recognize our worries at all.
- B) Well, we don't want to criticise her actions and decisions. We just want her to be happy.
- C) Don't you think as parents we exert more pressure on her by talking about this issue all the time?
- D) Do you think we should ask her to put herself into our shoes to make her understand how we feel?
- E) We really care about her, but this doesn't mean that we can interfere in her business.

11. Professor:

- So, Hanna, I heard you're interested in becoming a historian?

Hanna:

- That's true. I'm fascinated by history, but maybe you can tell me more about what a historian does.

Professor:

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Hanna:

- That sounds very exciting, but challenging as well. Trying to understand all the dimensions of an event must be quite engaging, I think.

A) Sure. A historian is not generally a well-paid position, though it's possible to earn a good salary if you publish ground breaking research.

B) Certainly. In a nutshell, historians conceptualize, describe, explain, and interpret the past. That is, they answer questions like "What happened, how, and why?".

C) That might be difficult. The job of a historian is not easily defined. There is a number of different, sometimes contradictory, definitions.

D) Well, in my personal experience, history is no longer an interesting discipline since technology has made many aspects of the career unnecessary.

E) Of course. We historians focus on "why" questions: "Why did this event happen?" We leave the questions of "what" and "how" to writers.

12. Ian:

- **According to some estimates, there are now more than one billion videogames in the world.**

Michael:

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Ian:

- **Well, they offer a lot with their fantastic environments, fabulous design, some social content, and competition. There are many people addicted to online games.**

Michael:

- **I agree. I do hear stories about people who just play games endlessly and start to ignore the other aspects of their lives.**

A) The media and some experts often talk about some potential risks of gaming, like violent video games. What's the current thinking on that?

B) How do you think we could integrate some educational content to videogames so that young people would benefit from them?

C) I think play is ubiquitous. I mean, everybody likes to play. Even most animals enjoy playing. But why do you think videogames are particularly popular?

D) We've witnessed dramatic changes in both content and design of the videogames over the past several decades. Where do you think games might be heading?

E) When we talk about addiction we mean a psychological condition. Is it really possible to associate videogaming to addiction or dependence?

13. Researcher:

- **There are some studies claiming that the higher a family's socioeconomic status, the more successful their children will be at school.**

Education expert:

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Researcher:

- **Then, can you explain what makes a child do well at school?**

Education expert:

- **IQ levels, cognitive abilities, learning styles, personality characteristics, or goals for the future. These all have an important role to play in children's school success.**

A) I absolutely disagree. Children from disadvantaged homes are often more successful than those of high-income families, as they recognize the fact that they must succeed at school to find a job and earn their living in the future.

B) I don't believe that it is possible to predict a child's academic potential just by looking at his or her family's income. There are many other variables that should be taken into account.

C) That might be true. Children of affluent families go to prestigious schools, and there's no doubt that school quality has much to do with children's school success.

D) Studies also show that impoverished upbringing affects some regions of the brain responsible for mental processing. So, growing up poor may have a negative impact on children's cognitive abilities.

E) There is a common tendency to think that children who live in poverty get lower grades at school, and most studies have proven this.

14. Clare:

- A current study has revealed that some caterpillars can consume 92 milligrams of plastic in half a day.

Andy:

- Amazing! That's fast, considering it takes at least 100 years for a plastic bag to decompose naturally. How on earth can they do that?

Clare:

Andy:

- If this is the case, I can picture a scenario in the future where they can isolate it, produce it on a large scale, and use that to biodegrade plastics.

- A) Scientists believe that a single enzyme is what breaks down the plastic.
- B) The study suggests that there is an unknown mechanism at work.
- C) Scientists want to make sure caterpillars digest plastic rather than just bite it.
- D) A biotech company has organized detailed plans, but they don't have the funds to test the idea.
- E) Not sure. It hasn't been made clear yet if they can consume it faster or not.

15. Maggie:

- I California's Central Valley, industrial activities, farming and traffic have made the air quality so bad that four areas in the region now rank among the top 10 dirtiest cities in the US.

Judith:

- What a terrible result for those who live there! It must be threatening their health.

Maggie:

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Judith:

- Well then, the government must take necessary precautions as soon as possible to protect people.

A) Well, for a start, using electrical power in cars can cut as much as three tons of smog emissions.

B) As far as I know, exposure to pollutants can cause memory impairment and weaken the immune system.

C) A group of environmentalists have recently launched a health campaign to deal with air pollution.

D) In fact, local residents seem reluctant to suggest practical measures as they believe the government is doing its best to protect their health.

E) State funds are not sufficient alone to cope with air pollution, so people living in those areas should also take immediate action.

16. Professor:

- Can you please tell me what the science of psychology is?

Student:

- It focuses on people's emotions, perceptions, and thoughts. It's also concerned with the consistency and change in an individual's behaviour.

Professor:

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Student:

- Even so, most people think of psychology as a field that particularly studies how we behave in certain situations.

A) It's very important to recognise the relevance of basic concepts and principles of psychology to real-life situations.

B) I certainly agree that studying psychology helps us a lot to better understand others' feelings and behaviours.

C) So you mean psychologists often limit themselves to the study of outward, observable behaviour.

D) It deals with not just what people think or feel, but it also studies our mental processes, personality traits, dreaming and motivation.

E) It has many subfields such as educational psychology, but most people think that it focuses solely on human behaviour.

17.Interviewer:

- You have a very unique and important job – you de-ice aeroplane wings. What you tell us about this job?

Aeroplane Tech:

- As you know, aeroplanes are designed to cope with extreme temperatures. But, even a little build-up of ice can change the shape of the wings which can change their ability to generate lift.

Interviewer:

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Aeroplane Tech:

-Well, yes, but in severe conditions they can be inadequate. That means people like me need to be on hand to apply high pressure blasts of antifreeze to ensure a safe flight.

- A) Can de-icing systems cause damage to the aeroplane itself?
- B) Don't aeroplanes have de-icing systems built into them?
- C) Are there any examples of crashes because of insufficient de-icing?
- D) Is it possible for de-icing systems to fall short in reducing the ice on the wings?
- E) Are people like you important in the decision to de-ice a plane?

18. Greg:

-Traditional cheese making is a lengthy process. Modern production methods are much faster, but they make the cheese less tasty. How do you deal with this?

Tom:

- Well, we're experimenting with a technique that uses sound waves to speed up the rate of natural cream-milk separation. Smaller fat globules are retained in this process, and this gives a creamier taste.

Greg:

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Tom:

- We've been able to carry out this process in just five minutes, as opposed to the normal 6 hours.

Greg:

- That's amazing!

- A) How long does it take for the cheese to be delivered to the supermarket?
- B) How much faster is this method compared to the natural separation process?
- C) How many days in total do you need to produce cheese using this process?
- D) When did you carry out the first cream-milk separation using sound waves?
- E) So, how exactly do you produce this creamier taste with your new technique?

1.	C
2.	C
3.	B
4.	C
5.	B
6.	D
7.	C
8.	B
9.	E
10.	A
11.	B
12.	C
13.	B
14.	A
15.	B
16.	D
17.	B
18.	B