

VARC

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow:

Denialism is an expansion, an intensification, of denial. At root, denial and denialism are simply a subset of the many ways humans have developed to use language to deceive others and themselves. Denial can be as simple as refusing to accept that someone else is speaking truthfully. Denial can be as unfathomable as the multiple ways we avoid acknowledging our weaknesses and secret desires. Denialism is more than just another manifestation of the humdrum intricacies of our deceptions and self-deceptions. It represents the transformation of the everyday practice of denial into a whole new way of seeing the world and – most important – a collective accomplishment. Denial is furtive and routine; denialism is combative and extraordinary. Denial hides from the truth, denialism builds a new and better truth.

In recent years, the term has been used to describe a number of fields of “scholarship”, whose scholars engage in audacious projects to hold back, against seemingly insurmountable odds, the findings of an avalanche of research. They argue that the Holocaust (and other genocides) never happened, that anthropogenic (human-caused) climate change is a myth, that Aids either does not exist or is unrelated to HIV, that evolution is a scientific impossibility, and that all manner of other scientific and historical orthodoxies must be rejected.

In some ways, denialism is a terrible term. No one calls themselves a “denialist”, and no one signs up to all forms of denialism. In fact, denialism is founded on the assertion that it is not denialism. In the wake of Freud (or at least the vulgarisation of Freud), no one wants to be accused of being “in denial”, and labelling people denialists seems to compound the insult by implying that they have taken the private sickness of denial and turned it into public dogma.

But denial and denialism are closely linked; what humans do on a large scale is rooted in what we do on a small scale. While everyday denial can be harmful, it is also just a mundane way for humans to respond to the incredibly difficult challenge of living in a social world in which people lie, make mistakes and have desires that cannot be openly acknowledged. Denialism is rooted in human tendencies that are neither freakish nor pathological.

All that said, there is no doubt that denialism is dangerous. In some cases, we can point to concrete examples of denialism causing actual harm. In South Africa, President Thabo Mbeki, in office between 1999 and 2008, was influenced by Aids denialists such as Peter Duesberg, who deny the link between HIV and Aids (or even HIV’s existence) and cast doubt

on the effectiveness of anti-retroviral drugs. Mbeki's reluctance to implement national treatment programmes using anti-retrovirals has been estimated to have cost the lives of 330,000 people. On a smaller scale, in early 2017 the Somali-American community in Minnesota was struck by a childhood measles outbreak, as a direct result of proponents of the discredited theory that the MMR vaccine causes autism, persuading parents not to vaccinate their children.

1. The passage suggests that a key difference between a person engaging in simple denial and a group engaging in denialism is:

- A. the level of scientific evidence available to refute their claims.
- B. the transformation of a private coping mechanism into a collective, ideological crusade.
- C. the sincerity of their belief in their own deception.
- D. the presence of a single charismatic leader to direct the group's actions.

2. The primary function of the third paragraph is to:

- A. acknowledge a potential objection to the author's chosen terminology to add nuance to the argument.
- B. introduce the Freudian psychological roots of denial as the main cause of the phenomenon.
- C. definitively argue that the term "denialist" is an unhelpful insult and should be abandoned.
- D. suggest that denialism is a modern phenomenon resulting from the vulgarization of Freud.

3. The CEO of a major oil company privately acknowledges the overwhelming scientific consensus on anthropogenic climate change but continues to fund lobbying groups that publicly dispute its existence and promote doubt. According to the passage's definitions, the CEO's funding of these groups is an example of promoting:

- A. simple denial, as it is a routine business practice to protect profits.
- B. denialism, because it supports a collective, combative project to build an alternative truth.
- C. self-deception, as the CEO is trying to convince himself that climate change is not real.
- D. a pathological and freakish tendency to deceive the public.

4. The author's claim that denialism is rooted in human tendencies that are "neither freakish nor pathological" would be most seriously weakened if which of the following were discovered?

- A. A historical analysis shows that denialist movements are most successful during times of significant social or economic instability.
- B. A sociological survey finds that adherents to denialist movements are often from similar educational and socioeconomic backgrounds.

- C. Many prominent leaders of denialist movements admit in private that they do not actually believe their own public statements.
- D. A neuroscientific study reveals that individuals who strongly subscribe to denialist ideologies consistently share a rare and specific cognitive disorder.

5. *There is a sentence that is missing in the paragraph below. Look at the paragraph and decide where (option 1, 2, 3, or 4) the following sentence would best fit.*

Sentence: Astronomers now suspect that microbial life could survive in subsurface oceans beneath the icy crust.

Paragraph: Jupiter's moon Europa has long fascinated planetary scientists. ____ (1) _____. Its cracked surface hints at a hidden ocean kept liquid by tidal heating. ____ (2) _____. Probes have detected chemical signatures that suggest complex interactions between rock and water. ____ (3) _____. These discoveries make Europa one of the most promising candidates in the search for extraterrestrial life. ____ (4) _____.

- A. Option 1
B. Option 2
C. Option 3
D. Option 4

6. *There is a sentence that is missing in the paragraph below. Look at the paragraph and decide where (option 1, 2, 3, or 4) the following sentence would best fit.*

Sentence: Aristotle insisted that true friendship was grounded in virtue rather than utility or pleasure.

Paragraph: Philosophers since antiquity have puzzled over the nature of friendship. ____ (1) _____. Different traditions distinguish between fleeting companionships and lasting bonds. ____ (2) _____. For the ancients, friendship was not just personal but political, shaping the life of the city. ____ (3) _____. The debate continues today in light of digital connections and social media. ____ (4) _____.

- A. Option 1
B. Option 2
C. Option 3
D. Option 4

7. *The four sentences (labelled 1, 2, 3 and 4) given below, when properly sequenced, would yield a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper sequencing of the order of the sentences and key in the sequence of the four numbers as your answer.*

1. A defendant's risk of reoffending, for example, is sometimes calculated using data that reflects racial or economic biases.
2. The consequences of such errors can shape lives in profoundly damaging ways.

3. As predictive algorithms become more common in the justice system, critics warn that they can perpetuate existing inequalities.
4. This means that the very systems intended to improve fairness might actually reinforce prejudice.

8. The four sentences (labelled 1, 2, 3 and 4) given below, when properly sequenced, would yield a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper sequencing of the order of the sentences and key in the sequence of the four numbers as your answer.

1. If so, the familiar pattern of creative destruction may become more destructive than creative.
2. The question with artificial intelligence is whether the pace of change will outstrip the ability of workers to adapt.
3. Yet history shows that automation often creates new industries alongside the ones it disrupts.
4. Every wave of technological change has raised fears of job destruction.

9. The passage given below is followed by four alternate summaries. Choose the option that best captures the essence of the passage.

Many compassionate people, including many clinicians, think shame can serve no useful role in recovery from addiction. There are two arguments. First, that shame is uniquely toxic because, like the shame I just described, it is often global, a negative emotional evaluation of who one is: I am a failure as a person. It makes little sense to think that such an evaluation could seed or motivate a healthy confidence that one can overcome the addiction. It makes much more sense to think that experiencing the shame of addiction provides a new reason to use. Second, the current enlightened view is that addiction is a disease, and diseases are not the kind of thing one has control over or responsibility for getting, or not getting, or un-getting.

- A. Shame is considered harmful in addiction recovery because it deepens feelings of failure and is inconsistent with the understanding of addiction as a disease beyond personal control.
- B. Since addiction is increasingly viewed as a disease rather than a moral weakness, shame can still play a role by helping individuals confront their denial and take responsibility for recovery.
- C. Many clinicians believe that shame, though distressing, can have a corrective effect by prompting addicts to reflect on their choices, but it is only effective when balanced with empathy and support.
- D. While some argue that shame might motivate recovery, many clinicians hold that it is counterproductive because it deepens self-blame and undermines the belief that change is possible.

10. Five jumbled-up sentences (labelled 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5), related to a topic, are given below. Four of them can be put together to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the odd sentence and key in the number of that sentence as your answer.

1. Along with his colleague Frauke Sachse of the University of Bonn, he has identified multiple dialects and languages in the same handwritten book.
2. A bishop named Diego de Landa convinced a Mayan scribe, Gaspar Antonio Chi, to match, letter for letter, the signs of the Mayan script and the Spanish alphabet.
3. The scribe's frustration with de Landa is evident in the last exercise that he completed for the bishop. Asked to pen any sentence in Mayan hieroglyphs, Chi wrote: "I don't want to."
4. When the scribe heard the Spanish pronunciation of the letter 'b,' says Pallán, he wrote the sign for bih, which means "road."
5. The long line of code-breakers to take on Mayan hieroglyphs started with Spanish colonists in the sixteenth century.



DILR

A garment store has t-shirts from 5 brands: Allen Solly, Monte Carlo, Nike, Numero Uno, and Provogue. For each of these brands, t-shirts are available in five sizes: S, M, L, XL, and XXL. Partial information is known about the number of t-shirts of these sizes. The total number of t-shirts of every brand is known, and the number of t-shirts of sizes S and M is given. Apart from that, the ratios M:XL and L:XXL are given in the table below:

Brand	S	M	M:XL	L:XXL	Total
Allen Solly	385	306	17:13	5:7	1501
Monte Carlo	279	315	9:7	13:10	1322
Nike	320	225	5:6	7:8	1430
Numero Uno	188	343	7:6	3:4	1413
Provogue	254	248	8:11	7:5	1371

11. Let Q_1 , Q_2 and Q_3 represent the quantities of t-shirts of sizes L, XL and XXL of the five brands. Which of the following relations is correct?

- A. $Q_1 > Q_2 > Q_3$
- B. $Q_1 < Q_2 > Q_3$
- C. $Q_1 > Q_2 < Q_3$
- D. $Q_1 < Q_2 < Q_3$

12. How many brands have more than 300 L-sized t-shirts?

- A. None
- B. 1
- C. 2
- D. 3

13. What is the median number of L-sized t-shirts across the five brands?

14. For how many brands are XL-sized t-shirts less than XXL-sized t-shirts?

15. For which brand XXL-sized t-shirts, as a percentage of the total number of t-shirts the highest?

- A. Numero Uno
- B. Allen Solly
- C. Nike
- D. Provogue

Three men, Akshay, Bipin and Charles, along with their wives, are sitting in a row. Each of them is either facing north or south. No pair of husband and wife is facing the same direction. Each of the six people belongs to a different profession: pilot, lawyer, nurse, author, singer and chef. Also:

1. The chef and the lawyer are facing the same direction, and both of them are to the left of the singer.
2. Tripti, the nurse, is the wife of the chef, who is sitting at one of the ends.
3. The pilot is facing south, and he is the husband of Shipra, the singer.
4. None adjacent to Usha is facing south, and none is sitting to the left of Akshay, the author.

16. *Who among the following is to the immediate right of Usha?*

- A. Tripti
- B. Shipra
- C. Bipin
- D. Charles

17. *Who among the following cannot be to the immediate right of Akshay?*

- A. Charles
- B. Tripti
- C. Bipin
- D. Shipra

18. *If Shipra is adjacent to Charles, then who among the following is adjacent to Akshay?*

- A. Usha
- B. Tripti
- C. Bipin
- D. Shipra

19. *Who among the following cannot be a neighbour of Shipra?*

- A. Usha
- B. Tripti
- C. Charles
- D. None of the above

20. *Which of the following statements is definitely true?*

- A. No pair of husband and wife is adjacent to each other.
- B. Exactly one pair of wife and husband is adjacent to each other.
- C. At most one pair of wife and husband is adjacent to each other.
- D. At least one pair of wife and husband is adjacent to each other.

QA

21. A mango vendor sells 50% of his stock each day. 10% of the remaining stock spoils overnight. After three nights, he calculates that a total of 1322 mangoes have spoiled. Assuming the vendor purchased his entire stock only on the first day, how many mangoes did he start with?

22. Which of the following exponentials is the largest?

- A. 3^{34}
- B. 5^{18}
- C. 7^{16}
- D. 16^{12}

23. Find the maximum value of the function: $y = \frac{70}{|x+2| + |x| + |x-1| + |x-2| + |x-3|}$.

24. If the coordinates of the vertices of triangle ABC are A(-3, -3), B(-1, 3), and C(11, -1), find the length of the median AD.

- A) $5\sqrt{2}$
- B) $4\sqrt{5}$
- C) $10\sqrt{2}$
- D) 10

25. Anil and Bhanu together can complete a work in 35 days, and Anil, Bhanu, and Capil together can complete the same work in 17.5 days. If the ratio of the efficiencies of Capil and Dhinesh is 3:2, then in how many days can Anil, Bhanu and Dhinesh together complete the work?

- A. 21
- B. 28
- C. 20
- D. 25

26. If $\log_3 4 = x$, and $\log_4 5 = y$, express $\log_{20} 12$ in terms of x and y.

- A. $\frac{y+1}{xy+y}$
- B. $\frac{x+1}{xy+y}$
- C. $\frac{y+1}{xy+x}$
- D. $\frac{x+1}{xy+x}$

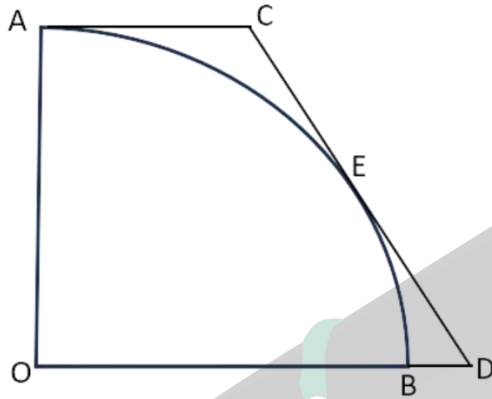
27. The grass in a field grows at a constant rate. If 70 cows can eat all the grass in 24 days, and 30 cows can eat the same amount of grass in 60 days, how many cows will eat all the grass in 96 days?

- A. 16
- B. 18
- C. 20
- D. 24

28. Find the sum of all integer solutions to the inequality given below:

$$(\sqrt{5}-2)^{x^2} > (\sqrt{5}-2)^{4x}.$$

29. The given figure, AOB, is a quarter circle. AC and CD are two tangents meeting the quarter-circle at A and E, respectively. If AC = 4 cm, and ED = 6 cm, find the radius of the quarter-circle.



- A. 7.5 cm
- B. 8 cm
- C. 9 cm
- D. 10 cm

30. In a company, the average salary of top management is Rs. 3 lakhs/month, of middle management is Rs. 1.6 lakhs/month, and of lower management is Rs. 60000/month. The average salary of top and middle management is Rs. 2 lakhs/month, and of top and lower management is Rs. 1 lakh/month. If there are 20 employees in top management, find the number of employees in middle and lower management altogether.

- A. 120
- B. 125
- C. 150
- D. 200

MBA KARO