

Dialogues – “Milk and Aesthetics”

Phillip: Mmmm, chocolate milk is so good.

Mimi: Yeah, but plain milk is better.

Phillip: hmm, I disagree.

Mimi: Well, we can't both be right, right?

Phillip: I don't know. That's a good question. How could we ever discover if one of us is *actually* “right” about a question involving *aesthetic* value judgments?

Mimi: Hmm, maybe if we ask enough people which they like better, then we will find an answer.

Phillip: An interesting *hypothesis*. Let's do it.

Mimi: Okay, sounds like a plan to me. Let's ask Logan.

Phillip: Okay.

Mimi: Hey Logan, what is better, plain milk or chocolate milk?

Logan: Chocolate milk, for sure.

Phillip: Okay. So, that's one vote for chocolate milk. Now let's ask Nina and Billy.

Mimi: Alright. Hey Nina, what do you think is better: Chocolate milk or plain milk?

Nina: I like chocolate milk, *personally*.

Mimi: And what about you Billy, chocolate or plain?

Billy: I'd probably have to go with chocolate as well.

Phillip: Haha, I win!

Mimi: It wasn't a contest Phillip.

Phillip: Oh yeah, sorry. Well, we do know that chocolate milk is better, don't we?

Mimi: Yeah, but only for you, Logan, Nina, and Billy!



Questions:

- 1) What do Phillip and Mimi disagree about?
 - A. The taste of chocolate milk
 - B. Whether chocolate milk is better than plain milk
 - C. If plain milk is better than chocolate milk
 - D. Both B and C are correct.
- 2) Why does it seem difficult to discover who is actually right about a question involving aesthetic value judgments?
 - A. Because aesthetic value judgments are absolute
 - B. Because aesthetic value judgments are relative
 - C. Because different people like different things
 - D. Both B and C are correct.
- 3) How do Phillip and Mimi endeavor to discover who is right?
 - A. They consult an almanac.
 - B. They consult their friends.
 - C. They consult an encyclopedia.
 - D. They consult previous studies done on the aesthetic values of various milk products.
- 4) According to the dialogue, which is better: Chocolate milk or plain milk?
 - A. Plain milk
 - B. Plain milk for Mimi
 - C. Chocolate milk for Phillip, Logan, Nina, and Billy
 - D. Both B and C are correct.

Vocabulary:

- 1) A good synonym for **actually** is...
 - A. pretty much.
 - B. truly.
 - C. really.
 - D. Both B and C are correct.
- 2) **Aesthetic** value judgments are value judgments about...
 - A. sensory things.
 - B. intellectual things.
 - C. ideas.
 - D. none of the above.
- 3) A **hypothesis** is...
 - A. a conclusive explanation of facts.
 - B. a probable explanation of facts.
 - C. a random guess.
 - D. all of the above.
- 4) Nina says that she likes chocolate milk, "**personally**." This means...
 - A. she really likes chocolate milk.
 - B. she kind of likes chocolate milk.
 - C. that her answer only pertains to herself.
 - D. that answer pertains to most people.