SKIP THE TRAPS · SOLVE THE SCALABLES

THE PASSAGE | READING COMPREHENSION

> Medieval merchants risked the hazards of the Silk Road to reach the markets of China; Portuguese caravels in the 15th century sailed beyond the bounds of the known world, searching less for knowledge than for gold and spices. Historically, the driver for opening frontiers has always been the search for resources. Science and curiosity are weaker drivers. The only way to open up space, whether the space of solar system or interstellar space, is to create an economic engine and that engine is resource extraction.

Which one of the following statements best sums up the passage given above?

Sum Up the Passage | Scope Match | Hidden Trap: an option wider than the passage

(a) Wealth generation is the primary motive for any human endeavour.
Too wide. The passage is about opening frontiers, not every human endeavour.

(b) Space, whether space in solar system or interstellar space, will govern our future economy.
Space is only the last example. The passage makes no forecast about the future economy.

(c) Human beings are motivated to explore new frontiers principally by economic considerations. ✓
Matches the claim: the driver for opening frontiers is the search for resources.

(d) Wealth generation is based on the risk-taking behaviour of some men.
Risk appears in the examples (merchants, sailors), not in the claim.

CRACK THE HIDDEN RULE

A sum-up option must cover the whole passage at the right scope: not wider, and not a side detail. Find the claim sentence, then match its scope.

Here two examples come first, and the claim follows the word 'Historically'.

Right scope = frontiers + resources, no wider and no narrower.

EXAMPLES	CLAIM	SCOPE
Silk Road, caravels	**Resource search drives frontiers**	**Exploration, not all endeavour**

WORKED IN 3 CLEAN STEPS

1 Spot the pattern
Two historic examples, then a claim: the driver for opening frontiers has always been the search for resources. Science and curiosity are weaker drivers.

2 State the claim at its own scope
Exploring new frontiers is driven mainly by economic motives.

3 Match the scope
(a) is wider than frontiers, (b) turns an example into a forecast, (d) lifts risk from the examples. Only (c) fits.

ANSWER: (c) Human beings are motivated to explore new frontiers principally by economic considerations

THE 3-SECOND SHORTCUT

Underline the claim sentence after 'Historically', then drop options that widen it (any endeavour) or turn an example into the point.

examples first, claim next | match the scope | example is not the point

→ The word 'any' in (a) is the tell: the passage never leaves frontiers.
→ Option (b) uses space as a forecast. The passage uses it as a case.

WHY ASPIRANTS LOSE MARKS HERE

1. **Choosing (a) because wealth sounds like the theme.** The passage limits itself to opening frontiers.
2. **Choosing (d) because the voyages were risky.** Risk is in the examples, not in the claim.
3. **Choosing (b) because space is mentioned last.** Last mentioned is not the main point.

ATTEMPT	FLAG	SKIP
~40 sec	if (a) and (c) look close	never
One claim sentence, easy scope check.	Choose the one that stays inside frontiers.	A dependable mark.

THE ONE-LINE TAKEAWAY

A good sum-up keeps the passage's own scope. Wider is wrong, and so is narrower.

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