

THE ELITE THINKING EXPEDITION 2027

A WEEKLY JOURNEY TO OC & SELECTIVE SUCCESS

SELECTIVE ANSWER PACK

11 October 2026 - N9_G-TS27-20261011-V5 - FINAL RELEASE



EXPEDITION CHECKPOINT

29 weeks to Selective

30 weeks to OC

Provisional May 2027 dates - updated when the official schedule is published

SELECTIVE

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

QUESTION 1

ANSWER: C

Step 1 - Understand the question

Count all equally likely codes, then count the codes that obey all three rules.

Step 2 - Use the strategy

Keep 12 together as one block. List positions for 5 before that block, then reject lists where 3 and 4 touch.

Step 3 - Apply the strategy

There are 120 codes in total. The six winning codes are 35124, 35412, 45123, 45312, 53124 and 54123. The chance is $6/120$, which simplifies to $1/20$.

Step 4 - Confirm the answer

C. The chance is $1/20$.

QUESTION 2

ANSWER: B

Step 1 - Understand the question

The council says the displays caused fewer missed connections and will work at other stops.

Step 2 - Use the strategy

Look for a fact that makes the drop more likely to be caused by the displays, not by another change.

Step 3 - Apply the strategy

B rules out a change to the number or timing of buses. A and C do not show what caused the drop, and D compares spending instead of missed connections.

Step 4 - Confirm the answer

B most strengthens the argument.

QUESTION 3

ANSWER: D

Step 1 - Understand the question

Test each parcel against both ways to be released.

Step 2 - Use the strategy

Check the green-seal route first. Then check approval together with no fragile label.

Step 3 - Apply the strategy

A passes the first route. B passes the second. C passes neither route and is correctly held. D also passes neither route, so it should not be released.

Step 4 - Confirm the answer

D. Parcel D is recorded incorrectly.

QUESTION 4

ANSWER: C**Step 1 - Understand the question**

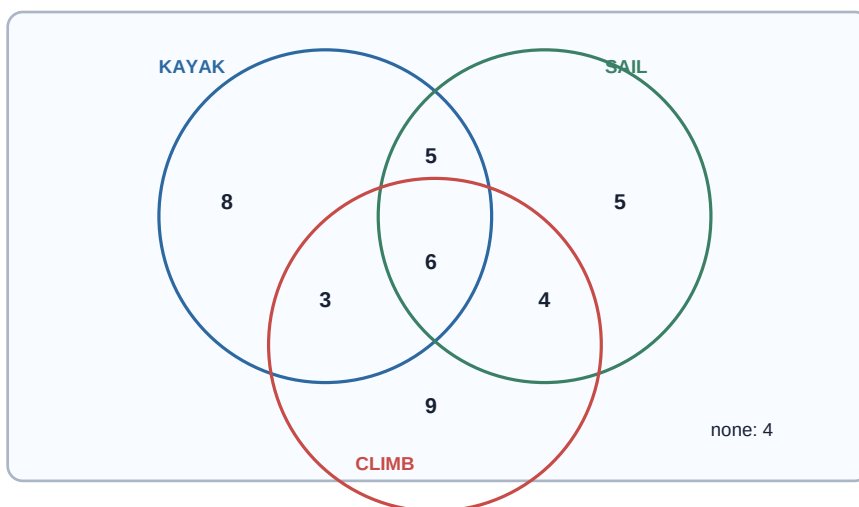
Fill the three-circle diagram and find the total inside the climbing circle.

Step 2 - Use the strategy

Add the three pair-only regions first. Use the half clue to find the centre, then work outward from the two known circle totals.

Step 3 - Apply the strategy

Exactly two is $5 + 3 + 4 = 12$, so all three is 6. Kayak only is $22 - 5 - 3 - 6 = 8$. Sail only is $20 - 5 - 4 - 6 = 5$. The known regions total 31, so climb only is $40 - 31 = 9$. The climbing total is $9 + 3 + 4 + 6 = 22$.

**Step 4 - Confirm the answer**

C. 22 children climbed.

QUESTION 5

ANSWER: B**Step 1 - Understand the question**

Trace the beam from the entry arrow until it leaves the box.

Step 2 - Use the strategy

At each mirror, turn the path through a right angle. Ignore mirrors the beam never reaches.

Step 3 - Apply the strategy

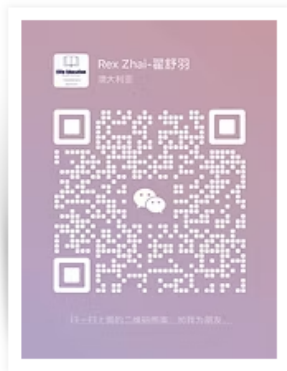
The beam turns up, right, down, left, up and then right. It leaves through the right edge of the top row.

Step 4 - Confirm the answer

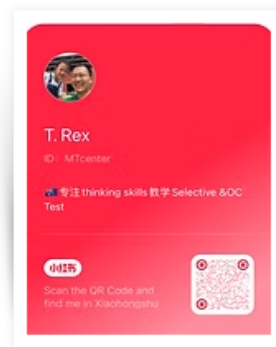
B shows the correct exit.

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Answers and four-step explanations

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