

THE ELITE THINKING EXPEDITION 2027

A WEEKLY JOURNEY TO OC & SELECTIVE SUCCESS

OPPORTUNITY CLASS ANSWER PACK

17 September 2026 - N9_TS27-20260917-V4 - FINAL



EXPEDITION CHECKPOINT

31 weeks to Selective

32 weeks to OC

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

OPPORTUNITY CLASS

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

QUESTION 1

ANSWER: D

Step 1 - Understand the question

Each square becomes a face of the cube; find the face across from the star, not a face that touches it.

Step 2 - Use the strategy

Follow the strip of four squares. In a four-face strip, the first and third faces are opposite, and the second and fourth faces are opposite.

Step 3 - Apply the strategy

The star is the second face in the strip, and the ring is the fourth. Folding the strip places these two faces across from each other. The dot and triangle touch the star, while the diamond folds beside it.

Step 4 - Confirm the answer

D. The ring is opposite the star.

QUESTION 2

ANSWER: A

Step 1 - Understand the question

You need a number that works even for the unluckiest order of colours.

Step 2 - Use the strategy

Delay both targets as long as possible. Take no more than 1 red and 2 blue, but take all the green and yellow counters.

Step 3 - Apply the strategy

That unlucky collection can contain 1 red, 2 blue, 3 green and 2 yellow: 8 counters without either target. Every counter left is red or blue, so the next one makes either 2 red or 3 blue.

Step 4 - Confirm the answer

A. The ninth counter guarantees one of the two targets.

QUESTION 3

ANSWER: B

Step 1 - Understand the question

The two statements tell you what must be true of anyone who opens the dome.

Step 2 - Use the strategy

Join the two certain links: opens the dome means has a bronze key, and has a bronze key means completed training.

Step 3 - Apply the strategy

An opener must therefore be trained. A trained person need not have a key, and a key holder need not open the dome. Watching another person open it breaks no rule.

Step 4 - Confirm the answer

B. An untrained volunteer cannot open the dome under these rules.

QUESTION 4

ANSWER: C

Step 1 - Understand the question

The club's premise is that covered trays stay damp longer, while its conclusion is that more seedlings will survive.

Step 2 - Use the strategy

Find the support gap: why should staying damp help survival in hot weeks? Choose a fact that links the existing premise to the conclusion.

Step 3 - Apply the strategy

C supplies that missing link. A and B do not connect dampness to survival. D gives a possible disadvantage of shade cloth, so it points against the conclusion.

Step 4 - Confirm the answer

C. Moist soil making drying-out less likely gives the dampness finding a reason to matter.

QUESTION 5

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

Match each person with one pet and one border colour, with no pet or colour repeated.

Step 2 - Use the strategy

Make a matching table. Put in the direct clues first, then carry each pet-colour clue over to its owner.

Step 3 - Apply the strategy

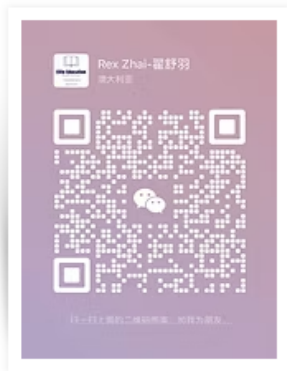
Elin has the blue-card cat, and Farah has the fish. The dog is red, leaving amber and green for fish and rabbit. The rabbit is not amber, so it is green. Hugo's card is not green, leaving Gus with the rabbit.

Step 4 - Confirm the answer

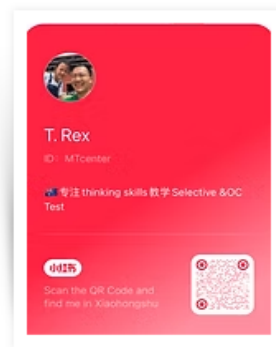
B. Gus brought the green-card rabbit.

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Answers and four-step explanations

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