

Conform

1. The translator of poetry must realize that word-for-word equivalents do not exist across languages, any more than piano sounds exist in the violin. The violin can, however, play recognizably the same music as the piano, but only if the violinist is guided by the nature and possibilities of the violin as well as by the original compositions.

As applied to the act of translating poetry from one language into another, the analogy above can best be understood as saying that

- (A) poetry cannot be effectively translated because, unlike music, it is composed of words with specific meanings
- (B) some languages are inherently more musical and more suitable to poetic composition than others
- (C) the translator should be primarily concerned with reproducing the rhythms and sound patterns of the original, not with transcribing its meaning exactly
- (D) the translator must observe the spirit of the original and also the qualities of expression that characterize the language into which the original is translated
- (E) poetry is easier to translate if it focuses on philosophical insights or natural descriptions rather than on subjective impressions

2. It has been claimed that an action is morally good only if it benefits another person and was performed with that intention; whereas an action that harms another person is morally bad either if such harm was intended or if reasonable forethought would have shown that the action

was likely to cause harm.

Which one of the following judgments most closely conforms to the principle cited above?

- (A) Pamela wrote a letter attempting to cause trouble between Edward and his friend; this action of Pamela's was morally bad, even though the letter, in fact, had an effect directly opposite from the one intended.
- (B) In order to secure a promotion, Jeffrey devoted his own time to resolving a backlog of medical benefits claims; Jeffrey's action was morally good since it alone enabled Sara's claim to be processed in time for her to receive much-needed treatment.
- (C) Intending to help her elderly neighbor by clearing his walkway after a storm, Teresa inadvertently left ice on his steps; because of this exposed ice, her neighbor had a bad fall, thus showing that morally good actions can have bad consequences.
- (D) Marilees, asked by a homeless man for food, gave the man her own sandwich; however, because the man tried to talk while he was eating the sandwich, it caused him to choke, and thus Marilees unintentionally performed a morally bad action.
- (E) Jonathan agreed to watch his three-year-old niece while she played but, becoming engrossed in conversation, did not see her run into the street where she was hit by a bicycle; even though he intended no harm, Jonathan's action was morally bad.

3. A major theft from a museum was remarkable in that the pieces stolen clearly had been carefully selected. The criterion for selection, however, clearly had not been greatest estimated market value. It follows that the theft was specifically carried out to suit the taste of some individual collector for whose private collection the pieces were destined.

The argument tacitly appeals to which one of the following principles?

- (A) Any art theft can, on the evidence of the selection of pieces stolen, be categorized as committed either at the direction of a single known individual or at the direction of a group of known individuals.
- (B) Any art theft committed at the direction of a single individual results in a pattern of works taken and works left alone that defies rational analysis.
- (C) The pattern of works taken and works left alone can sometimes distinguish one type of art theft from another.
- (D) Art thefts committed with no preexisting plan for the disposition of the stolen works do not always involve theft of the most valuable pieces only.
- (E) The pattern of works taken and works left alone in an art theft can be particularly damaging to the integrity of the remaining collection.

4. Many environmentalists have urged environmental awareness on consumers, saying that if we accept moral responsibility for our effects on the environment, then products that directly or indirectly harm the environment ought to be avoided. Unfortunately it is usually impossible for consumers to assess the environmental impact of a product, and thus impossible for them to consciously restrict their purchases to environmentally benign products. Because of this impossibility there can be no moral duty to choose products in the way these environmentalists urge, since _____.

Which one of the following principles provides the most appropriate completion for the argument?

- (A) a moral duty to perform an action is never based solely on the effects the action will have on other people
- (B) a person cannot possibly have a moral duty to do what he or she is unable to do
- (C) moral considerations should not be the sole determinants of what products are made available to consumers
- (D) the morally right action is always the one whose effects produce the least total harm
- (E) where a moral duty exists, it supersedes any legal duty and any other kind of duty