



Daily Article (Bharath's Reading list) - Answers and Explanations 01.06.2023

Article link : <https://bit.ly/3WleGFS> (How did Moscow's stray dogs learn to navigate the metro?)

1. The main motivation for Moscow's stray dogs to venture into the metro system is:

- A. The dogs associating subways with food and warmth
- B. The metro being a comfortable place for the dogs to relax and sleep
- C. Their need to integrate themselves into human customs and practices
- D. None of the above

Explanation : A

Note the lines, 'It seems likely that the metro dogs have learned to associate the subways with warmth and food. So the strays return, time and time again, much like the pet dog that repeatedly "acquires" dinner from the kitchen counter.'

2. The article suggests all the following possible explanations why metro dogs are able to navigate the underground transport system except:

- A. Metro dogs use sensory cues such as smell, lighting, passenger movement and perhaps even specific people to get their bearings
- B. Metro dogs use the ability to learn words to identify stations by name from announcements
- C. These dogs associate the subway with warmth and food and the regular routines of the metro with positive experiences
- D. Metro dogs have the ability to time their journeys and to identify where to board, and where to alight

Explanation: D

Refer to the lines, 'The final puzzle is how the dogs are able to time their journeys. This is a tough one, because it's difficult to prove that dogs can even grasp the concept of time: many pet

owners will receive identical welcome responses from their dogs, whether they have been absent for one minute or one hour.'

3. According to the article, there is a strong suggestion of a degree of convergent evolution between dogs and humans as:

- A. The social skills of Moscow's metro dogs and their ability to know who to approach and who to steer clear of suggests that they have developed coping mechanisms similar to those of their fellow human commuters while adapting to the shared environment of the metro
- B. The ability of Moscow's stray dogs to navigate the metro suggests that these dogs have had a common ancestor with humans and have changed to become increasingly different over time
- C. Moscow stray dogs' ability to adapt to a world built for humans, by humans suggests diversification of the species into various forms to adapt to different surroundings to survive
- D. None of the above

Explanation: A

Refer to the lines, 'These social skills strongly suggest a degree of convergent evolution between dogs and humans. This occurs when different species evolve similar traits while adapting to a shared environment. So, the abilities of the metro dogs might even suggest that they have developed coping mechanisms similar to those of their fellow human commuters.'