



Daily Article (Bharath's Reading list) - Answers and Explanations 04.05.2023

Article link : <https://bit.ly/3HE1rje> (The Quest for Longevity Is Already Over)

1.Which of the following best explains why the author says, "But statistics is a cruel science, and Gompertz knew that too"?

- A.Though his data suggested that the annual chance of death leveled off at 25 percent per year when humans reach the age of 92, it suggested that just one person can statistically live to 192.
- B.Though the risk of dying at age 92 is very high, even for those who live beyond 92, the mortality rates past the age of 100 start to rise rapidly, putting a cap on human lifespan of around 125 years.
- C.There was nothing in his data suggesting that humans couldn't live for many centuries but three million humans had to live beyond 92 in order for the upper limit for human aging to reach 192
- D.Based on his data, three million humans had to make it past 92 for him to know the real mortality rates at very advanced ages

Explanation :D

Refer to the lines following the quoted line: "According to his data, the risk of dying at age 92 was so high that you would need an unthinkable large number of humans to reach that age before you found just one person who lived to 192. Three trillion humans, to be precise—30 times more than have ever been born....So few humans made it past the age of 90 that it was hard for him to really know what mortality rates were like at very advanced ages. "

2.The article mentions all the following problems researchers face when trying to analyze longevity data except:

- 2.The article mentions all the following problems researchers face when trying to analyze longevity data except:
- A.Data available for calculating the mortality plateau isn't very good as different data sets categorize centenarians in different groups
 - B.Tightening data privacy regulations mean that more recent data coverage is patchy

- C. In countries that produce good data, the process of validating and tracking down birth records that can date back to the early 19th century is still laborious and frustrating
- D. Japan, which has more centenarians per capita than anywhere in the world, does not publicly publish any data on its centenarians post 2007

Explanation: D

The article does not say Japan is no longer publicly publishing data post 2007; only that this data is reduced and no longer very useful.

3. According to Olshansky and Jylhävä, the key to healthy aging can be found by analyzing:

- A. Data on when and why younger people start the decline into ill health
- B. Genealogical and lifestyle factors influencing longevity in supercentenarians
- C. Frailty scores at the age of 65, so that lifestyles of the elderly are suitably adjusted/improved
- D. All the above

Explanation:

Correct option **A**

Refer to the lines, “ Jylhävä says this is a sign that assessing frailty at age 65 is too late. Rather than looking to the ultra-old for the key to healthy aging, we should actually be looking at when and why younger people start the decline into ill health.”

