



Daily Article (Bharath's Reading list) - Answers and Explanations 11.08.2023

Article link : <https://bit.ly/45oRlwg> (**Could there be upsides to being a psychopath?**)

1. The article cites a study which suggests that first responders scored significantly higher than civilians on measures of psychopathy in order to:

- A. Argue that boldness is not necessarily a defining psychopathic trait
- B. Drive home the idea that some psychopathic traits could be positive
- C. Highlight the idea that some psychopaths can keep a lid on the worst of their behaviour
- D. Make the point that many psychopaths may come across as superficially charming and helpful

Explanation : B

Note the line before the quoted study: 'Some have even suggested that psychopathic traits and associated tendencies such as fearlessness and narcissism can make people behave in a heroic way'.

2. Based on the article, which of the following statements is Louise Wallace least likely to agree to?

- A. Boldness is a key trait in successful psychopaths
- B. Most of us have a little psychopathology inside
- C. High levels of meanness and disinhibition explain variance in self-reported antisocial behaviors
- D. Some psychopaths exhibit violent behavior

Explanation: C

If increased levels of meanness and disinhibition could explain the variance in self-reported

antisocial behaviors, boldness is irrelevant. But Wallace argues that boldness is a key trait to assess psychopathology.

3. Which of the following is incorrect, according to the article?

- A. The psychopathic profile originally envisioned by Hervey Cleckley is now being challenged by the new dimensional approach in psychiatry
- B. The screening checklist used by psychiatrists to identify and assess psychopathic traits was published by the Canadian psychologist Robert Hare in his book *The Psychopath Test*
- C. The traditional model of a psychopathic mind does not see psychopathy as a composite of interacting traits
- D. All of the above

Explanation: D

All given statements are incorrect. According to the article, the psychopathic profile originally envisioned by Cleckley was broad, but in the following decades it was associated with dangerous and violent criminals. *The Psychopath Test* was a 2011 book by Jon Ronson, not Robert Hare. The traditional model of a psychopathic mind also sees psychopathy as a composite of interacting traits- meanness and disinhibition, specifically.