

Exercise in critical thinking, Class XI, Spring 21

Watch the following video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CH-ky_rmdhl

PART 1. Choose **at least 3** from the following claims. Research and try to validate them based on available data. Look for information on the internet, or use any other sources – Czech or foreign – you might find. Verify claims from multiple sources. State sources and reliability of the sources used. Your findings may be refuting or confirming the claims. Either way is equally valid for the purposes of this exercise. Be prepared to present and justify your findings. Present your findings in writing in a structured way, in English on Teams platform. Submit your work on time.

Claim 1. Test swabs are carcinogenic.

Claim 2. Tests are bound to show negative results, because they are wrongly selected.

Claim 3. There are „morgellons“ – a type of nanobots (morgelony) in some test swabs.

Claim 4. Tests are not approved by „Státní ústav pro kontrolu léčiv“ or European Medicines Agency (EMA)

Claim 5. We do not have medical data to confirm, whether Covid - 19 can be transmitted to adults by children with no symptoms, therefore... Government's decision to test children before joining the class was made for political reasons, not for health reasons.

Claim 6. Presence of children in schools has no impact on the spread of Covid-19.

PART 2. Free deliberation. Write your opinion on the claim below. This does not have to – but may – be based on facts. 100 words.

Claim 7. Requirement of negative test at „Maturita“ and university entry exams would constitute discrimination.

Student answers:

1. Ethylene oxide, that is used to sterilizing a test swabs, is truly poisonous and carcinogenic gas. But it can't threaten our lives. Almost all the gas is removed using vacuum. Because the gas can pervade through the cover of the swabs, it can kill all the microbes and then just go away. If it would stayed there, it could destroyed the virus and the test will be useless.
<https://tn.nova.cz/clanek/antigenni-testy-zpusobuji-rakovinu.html>
<https://www.niszp.cz/cs/proc-se-ke-sterilizaci-odberovych-tamponutycinek-ktere-jsou-mimo-jine-pouzivany-taktez-k-odberu-pri>
2. Everybody knows that the antigen tests aren't as good as a PCR. They will be positive at the top of an illness when the person is infective the most. It can't recognize the illness before the virus is widespread. That's the part when the person isn't infective. If you are negative, that does not necessarily mean that you don't have it. There is some percent of false positive or false negative people.
<https://euc.cz/clanky-a-novinky/clanky/antigenni-testy-na-covid-19/>
(Skupina **EUC**, dříve Euroclinicum, je českou akciovou společností působící v ČR v oblasti zdravotních služeb.)
3. Every meeting will affect the spreading of the virus, even at school. The virus doesn't choose the place like „I will spread in the shop, outside in the streets but not at school“ It spread there also

but not that much. Closed schools can have impact on mental health of the children, maybe more than the actual sickness.

Requirement of a negative Covid test before taking an entry or “maturita” exams is discriminatory.

I don't understand why discrimination. I will understand if the tests are dangerous and not everybody wants to take the risk but they are not. The whole world is doing everything to stop it. It's their decision, no one will force them to go there. If they want, they can but they must undergo the test to not endanger the other people they meet. Someone can die because of it and that's not fun. Ask the two million people that died, if they think it's discrimination, or everybody's choice to cause that someone die. It's not and I don't understand it. PF

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The request of the test can be a problem for people who are incapable to test themselves, either due to the problem of testing itself or from personal beliefs. For these people, it can be discriminating, because everyone has the right for their opinion and shouldn't be excluded from such an important event as entrance exams or maturita because of their opinion. Also, people who get a positive test result are at a disadvantage, because they have been preparing for this test for a long time and cannot do it on a stated day. In general, I think it isn't fair to people. DK