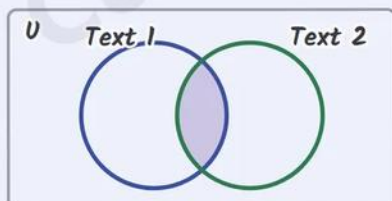


two short passages, one question about how they meet

## What this question puts in front of you

- two short passages, labelled Text 1 and Text 2, and a single question about the pair
- the two are always on the same subject and almost always take different positions on it, from agreeing with a reservation to flatly disagreeing
- the question never asks what either passage says on its own. It asks how the second stands towards the first
- the two most common stems: how would the author of Text 2 respond to the claim in Text 1, and which choice describes a point of agreement or disagreement



two circles inside the box of everything said, overlapping in a shaded lens. The lens is the shared ground; the two unshaded crescents are what only one of the pair claims

the shaded lens is where an agreement answer lives and the crescents are where a disagreement answer lives. Deciding which region the stem wants is half the question

## The order to read them in \*

- read the stem first: agreement and disagreement stems send you looking for opposite things
- read Text 1 and write its claim in your own five words in the margin
- read Text 2 the same way, then say the relation aloud before touching the options
- only then compare your one-line relation against each option



four named stops in order along one dashed path with no way back: the first claim, the second, the relation between them, and only last the options

students who read the options before naming the relation almost always pick the option that best describes one passage, which is the trap this domain is built on

## Name the relation in one word

- disagrees: Text 2 rejects the claim or its main support
- qualifies: Text 2 accepts the claim but narrows it to certain conditions, which is the most common relation and the least often chosen
- agrees: same position, usually reached by different evidence
- extends: Text 2 accepts the claim and applies it somewhere Text 1 never went

## How Text 2 meets Text 1



one root branching into four relations drawn side by side at the same level, none of them a step on the way to another