

Note that these questions have a different formatting from the first set! Still, consider these sentences as all relating first most to the given sentence and also to each other.

Instructions: Identify the option that does NOT belong.

1. Apex Inc. CEO Ronald Hartnett has announced that he is stepping down.

- ☐ (a) The news comes as a surprise, as Hartnett was appointed CEO just six months ago.
 - ☐ (b) The company stated the resignation was for personal reasons, but did not elaborate.
 - ☐ (c) However, analysts have linked the departure to disappointing third-quarter earnings.
 - ☐ (d) Apex Inc. is one of the largest imaging technology manufacturers in the nation.
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2. The North American bald eagle, once endangered by a pesticide called DDT, is flourishing again in the wild.

- ☐ (a) Initially, DDT use became widespread in many natural environments for its effectiveness against malaria.
 - ☐ (b) By the 1960s, however, it was discovered that the chemical causes eagle eggs to weaken and break during incubation.
 - ☐ (c) Paul Muller, the inventor of DDT, was awarded a Nobel Prize in 1948 for saving soldiers from disease in WWII.
 - ☐ (d) Thanks to a national DDT ban enacted in 1972, there are now approximately 5,000 pairs of nesting bald eagles in the US.
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3. While it may seem counterintuitive, the United States derives economic benefits from extending assistance to developing nations.

- ☐ (a) In fact, a large portion of the US national debt, which measures in the trillions of dollars, is owed to foreign nations.
- ☐ (b) When the US commits to large-scale international support efforts, the economies of these nations inevitably improve.
- ☐ (c) In turn, the large populations of these developing nations, now armed with better purchasing power, boost demand for US products.
- ☐ (d) Ultimately, support efforts are not only humanitarian but also improve the US's image abroad, consequently increasing exports.