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## Lesson 4

## Response 2 – Long Writing

### Prompt

Should scientists go back and reanalyze established conclusions and facts? Should we spend time on new questions and new research instead? Explain your position, build an argument, and provide support.

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### Response

I feel that it is important for scientists to spend time on both new research as well as reanalyzing established conclusions. I believe this because it is important to question the world around us based on what we already know, which helps us to build new questions and start new research. For example, if scientists never went back and reanalyzed already established ideas, then we would still believe that the sun revolves around the earth. On the other hand, if scientists did not forge ahead and research new things, then we would not have made the advances in modern medicine that keep us all healthy.

It is stated in the reading that many “historical accounts are written by people who have their own standpoints on social, religious, and political issues.” Thus, going back and revisiting what has already been accepted as true is beneficial because we are able to gain a more thorough understanding of the world around us. However, if we only focus our research on what has already been discovered then we will not be able to make any new discoveries that can make people’s lives better; we would only be correcting the past. As such, in the lecture, the professor talks about multiple theories on animal domestication. These theories were most likely discovered by using a combination of questioning the existing theories, and asking questions that had not been asked before and therefore doing new research and establishing new conclusions.

The process of questioning the old and researching the new can be applied to science in the same way that it is applied to history. In science, there are already established facts and conclusions that can be, and have been, questioned, as well as new frontiers to be discovered. This shows that reanalyzing facts and searching for new conclusions are very important to discovering the world around us and influencing how we live.