Statements about the Social Nature of Scientific Research

Write “A” for Agree and “D” for Disagree in the space before each statement. Write a brief explanation about why you feel that way. When you are finished, talk your ideas over with another student.

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| \_\_\_\_ 1. Scientists’ opinions, biases and personal beliefs influence their research. **Explain your answer:** | \_\_\_\_ 7. Scientists usually stick to the “scientific method” which is used to test a hypothesis by controlling and manipulating variables.  **Explain your answer:** |
| **\_\_\_\_** 2. A scientific idea is not valid in the scientific community until it has stood up to the scrutiny and critique of other scientists.  **Explain your answer:** | \_\_\_\_ 8. Science is able to prove or disprove theories, facts, and laws once and for all.  **Explain your answer:** |
| \_\_\_\_ 3. Scientists can look at the same set of data and come up with different valid interpretations.  **Explain your answer:** | **\_\_\_\_** 9. A scientific fact is absolute, fixed, permanent. It never changes.  **Explain your answer:** |
| \_\_\_\_ 4. Scientists will critically assess and evaluate each other’s work, even if they agree with the results of that work. **Explain your answer:** | **\_\_\_\_** 10. Scientists have solved most of the major mysteries of nature.  **Explain your answer:** |
| \_\_\_\_ 5. A good scientist is one who gets the results he or she was expecting. **Explain your answer:** | **\_\_\_**\_ 11. Anything done scientifically is always accurate and reliable.  **Explain your answer:** |
| \_\_\_\_ 6. Science is universal and is not affected by the society in which it is practiced.  **Explain your answer:** | \_\_\_\_ 12. Science can prove anything, solve any problem, or answer any question.  **Explain your answer:** |