

Reading Summary: The UK's Digital ID Initiative

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Current Event:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-digital-id-scheme-to-be-rolled-out-across-uk>

Logic and Reasoning study lesson on video replay.

Summary:

The United Kingdom has announced a new **digital identification system** designed to modernize access to public services and strengthen enforcement against illegal working. By the end of the current Parliament, having a digital ID will become **mandatory for Right to Work checks**, allowing all UK citizens and legal residents to verify their identity electronically. Officials say the system will streamline processes that currently rely on paper documents, making it easier to apply for services like driving licenses, welfare, and childcare. The digital ID will be stored securely on mobile devices, using encryption and biometric technology similar to contactless payments or the NHS App.

Prime Minister **Keir Starmer** described the initiative as a major step in the government's *Plan for Change*, intended to create fairer opportunities while protecting borders. The policy aims to **deter illegal migration** by preventing those without legal status from obtaining work—eliminating a key “pull factor” for unlawful entry. Supporters argue the measure will not only enhance border security but also protect legitimate workers and help law enforcement target employers who exploit illegal labor. The government points to success in other countries, including Estonia, Denmark, and India, where digital identity systems have improved efficiency, reduced fraud, and simplified access to public services.

While the plan has been praised for its potential to reduce bureaucracy and identity theft, it has also raised **concerns about privacy and inclusion**. Critics warn that making digital ID mandatory for employment could marginalize those without smartphones or those uncomfortable with digital technology. In response, the government says the system will be designed with “inclusion at its heart,” offering face-to-face support and alternative options. A national consultation later this year will gather public feedback on how to balance convenience, security, and individual rights. The initiative represents both a technological leap forward and a test of public trust in a more data-driven model of governance.

1. Which statement from the passage is most clearly a fact?

- A. The digital ID will protect privacy better than paper documents.
 - B. Many citizens distrust government technology.
 - C. Digital ID may harm vulnerable communities.
 - D. Prime Minister Starmer said the system will create fairer opportunities.
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2. The government assumes that requiring digital ID for Right to Work checks will...

- A. Increase illegal migration.
 - B. Reduce the need for passports.
 - C. Deter people from entering the UK unlawfully.
 - D. Limit smartphone access.
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3. Which of the following would most strengthen the government's argument?

- A. Reports showing illegal work decreased after digital ID rollout.
 - B. Surveys showing people are excited for new technology.
 - C. Evidence that most citizens already use smartphones.
 - D. Testimonials from privacy experts.
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4. Which is an assumption behind the Prime Minister's statement about fairness?

- A. That citizens trust digital systems.
 - B. That migrants are treated unfairly.
 - C. That fair systems depend on technology.
 - D. That paper systems are inherently corrupt.
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5. Which of the following shows a false cause fallacy if presented as evidence?

- A. "Other countries saved money with digital IDs."
 - B. "Since arrests rose 50%, the digital ID already works."
 - C. "Citizens can access welfare more easily."
 - D. "Encryption makes data more secure."
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6. What is the main inference about the government's strategy?

- A. It seeks both immigration control and modernization.
 - B. It wants to replace all IDs with passports.
 - C. It intends to eliminate welfare programs.
 - D. It is primarily focused on technology companies.
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7. Which claim would be considered an opinion, not a fact?

- A. "The government will hold a consultation in 2025."
 - B. "Digital ID is mandatory for Right to Work checks."
 - C. "The system uses biometric verification."
 - D. "The policy will help create a fairer Britain."
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8. If privacy advocates argue that mandatory digital ID violates personal freedom, which logical flaw could weaken their claim if overstated?

- A. Strawman
 - B. Faulty analogy
 - C. Ad hominem
 - D. Slippery slope
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9. Which evidence would undermine the government's claim of inclusion?

- A. Partnerships with tech charities for outreach.
 - B. Free smartphone programs for older adults.
 - C. Reports that homeless people can't access the system.
 - D. Launching face-to-face support centers.
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10. The statement "Digital ID will protect legitimate workers" relies on which reasoning type?

- A. Deductive
 - B. Faulty analogy
 - C. Inductive
 - D. Overgeneralization
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11. What information is missing that would help evaluate the plan's success?

- A. Number of smartphones in circulation.
 - B. Cost of new welfare offices.
 - C. Details on government leadership.
 - D. Statistics on illegal work before and after implementation.
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12. Which argument is internally inconsistent?

- A. "Digital ID improves access to services."
 - B. "Digital ID protects privacy by collecting more personal data."
 - C. "Digital ID reduces document fraud."
 - D. "Digital ID will be mandatory for Right to Work."
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13. What reasoning flaw occurs if critics argue that because some elderly citizens struggle with technology, the entire program will fail?

- A. Overgeneralization
 - B. False cause
 - C. Strawman
 - D. Ad hominem
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14. Which analogy would best strengthen the government's argument for efficiency?

- A. "Digital ID is like surveillance in your pocket."
 - B. "Digital ID is like a passport you can never lose."
 - C. "Digital ID is like giving the government full control."
 - D. "Digital ID is like a game you must play to work."
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15. Which conclusion can be logically drawn from the passage?

- A. Most citizens already oppose the plan.
- B. The UK copied its plan entirely from India.
- C. Digital ID will eliminate all illegal work.
- D. The policy reflects a balance between innovation and regulation.

Bonus Question – Deep Analysis: Identify Facts, Opinions, Evidence, and Assumptions

Read the following five statements drawn from the UK Digital ID summary.

For each, determine whether it represents a **Fact**, **Opinion**, **Evidence/Support**, or **Assumption** — and explain your reasoning.

1. “By the end of the current Parliament, having a digital ID will become mandatory for Right to Work checks.”
2. “The new policy will help create a fairer Britain.”
3. “Other countries such as Estonia, Denmark, and India have achieved success using digital identification systems.”
4. “The government assumes that citizens will trust digital technology to deliver fairness and efficiency.”
5. “Digital ID will make it tougher to work illegally in this country, strengthening border security.”

Answers:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/16kJi0W1hutllgG9gVCAHvfsB-1T1zU_JjxhK3THO7V8/edit?usp=sharing