

```
a = [[1, 2, 3], [4, 5]]
b = a[:]
b.append(8)
```

After the code above executes, what is the value of a?

- A. [[1, 2, 3], [4, 5]]
- B. [[1, 2, 3], [4, 5], 8]
- C. [[1, 2, 3], [4, 5, 8]]
- D. [[1, 2, 3], [4, 5], [8]]

Answer: A

The slice creates a “deep-ish” copy of a, so that a and b are no longer aliases. This appending to b does not change a.

```
a = [[1, 2, 3], [4, 5]]
b = a[:]
b[1].append(8)
```

After the code above executes, what is the value of a?

- A. [[1, 2, 3], [4, 5]]
- B. [[1, 2, 3], [4, 5], 8]
- C. [[1, 2, 3], [4, 5, 8]]
- D. [[1, 2, 3], [4, 5], [8]]

Answer: C

Slicing does not copy any nested lists and so modifying the nested list pointed to by b[1] is visible via a and b.