

My English Exam

IELTS Reading

for Vocabulary



**Essential Practice for
High Band Scores**

**10 Reading Texts
with hundreds of
words and expressions**

plus detailed feedback

***IELTS Reading for Vocabulary:
Essential Practice for High Band Scores***

by

J.P. Williams / Onlearn



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Introduction

How this book can help increase your score

The IELTS Reading for Vocabulary book has been created for IELTS Academic Exam candidates who want to achieve a high score in the Reading Paper. Many candidates find that the three texts in the Reading Paper are very demanding for two reasons. Firstly, the texts are drawn from different fields to which they might have had no exposure. Secondly, the type of vocabulary that the texts use is of a wide range and, therefore, requires that the candidates have a very good passive vocabulary.

This book attempts to address these issues. The texts are varied in their subject matter and focus on helping candidates acquire a wide vocabulary by highlighting key words and phrases. The exercises that follow are based on the vocabulary occurring in the text. The answers include detailed notes indicating the correct answer but also explaining why other answers are wrong.

Using a dictionary can help you find out the meanings of words but you often need much greater guidance in understanding how words fit together (or collocate) with other words.

The level of vocabulary is high, providing excellent preparation for those who are looking to achieve high bands in their IELTS.

Using this book

You should systematically work your way through the ten demanding texts after looking at the highlighted Vocabulary Grids.

Part of a Vocabulary Grid

spouse or friend.

EVOLUTIONARY PSYCHOLOGISTS: psychologists who specialize in looking at how people's thinking or beliefs change or adapt over many generations.

SEXUAL INFIDELITY: have sex with someone who is not ones own partner or spouse.

EMOTIONAL INFIDELITY: desire or love someone who is not ones own partner or spouse.

GENDER: whether male or female.

ATTRIBUTED: commonly believed to be the reason for something happening.

NATURAL SELECTION: process in which the strongest or most adaptable creatures survive over many generations.

PREVENT: stop something happening.

ENCOURAGE: help someone do something.

Initial part of a Reading Text

P1: A new study from the United States concludes that culture plays a big part in men and women's experience of sexual and emotional *jealousy*, and that they are not as different as earlier psychologist believed. *Evolutionary psychologists* have long argued that men care more about *sexual infidelity* compared to women, who are said to more concerned with *emotional infidelity*. The *gender* differences were *attributed* to *natural selection*: sexual jealousy encouraging men to *prevent* women from other men's children; while emotional jealousy *encouraged* women to *ensure* men provided for them and their *offspring*.

P2: According to the new research, a thorough analysis of the different *lines* of research *espoused* by the *proponents* of the evolutionary theory of jealousy raises serious doubts about how much of a sex difference actually exists. Its researchers go on to argue that it is ...

After carefully reading and re-reading the text with the help of the Vocabulary Grid, you should attempt the varied vocabulary questions. At the end of questions, you have a link which will take you directly to the Answers page for that particular text. All answers are given with Notes. A link at the end of the answers for each exercise will return you to the reading exercise.

[Go to exercise answers](#)

[Return to reading exercise](#)

Sample Questions

Q2. Which of the following terms will not replace 'surveyed' in the text?

- A. Interviewed
- B. Experimented on
- C. Questioned
- D. Asked questions

Q3. Which one of the following terms does not have a similar meaning to the others?

- A. Attribute
- B. Characteristic
- C. Potential
- D. Trait

Sample NOTES

Q3. Which of these is unlikely to be pinpointed?

- A. The position of a ship at sea.
- B. A period of time in history.
- C. An opposing football team's weaknesses.
- D. The flow of a river. *(Correct)*

■ **Q3. NOTES** *All the other answers allow for variations in time, position or condition, whereas rivers flow in one unchanging direction (however, you can pinpoint the position of a boat on a river).*

Recording your answers

You could record your answers using paper and pencil. However, the Kindle or Kindle Client you are using to read this ebook has an excellent way to make notes in a list. With this list open, you can then check your answers when you move to the Answers pages for each text.

Make a NOTE at each question

Q5 What are you unlikely to be caught up in?

- A. Your work
- B. Sleep

Note

Highlight

Share

D. Your social life.

Q6 Conversely is closest in meaning to ...

- A. Similarly
- B. Vaguely
- C. Negatively
- D. contrastingly

Insert your answer into the NOTE

Q6 Conversely is closest in meaning to ...

Text 3, Q6 A

Save

D. contrastingly

View all the answers you recorded in “My Notes and Marks” by moving to the Answers page and checking your answers carefully

Go to My Notes & Marks

Text 3, Q4 A	
Note	Loc 125
Text 3, Q5 C	
Note	Loc 513
Text 3, Q6 C	
Note	Loc 543

Answers: 4. Jealousy in Men and Women

Q1. The article indicates that...

- A. sexual and emotional jealousy is influenced by cultural experiences.
- B. men and women are not that different with regard to jealousy.
- C. evolution may have made the sexes more similar.
- D. All of the above **(Correct)**

About the authors

J.P. Williams is part of a highly qualified team with many years' experience in IELTS Exam preparation instruction and resource development. All members of the Onlearn team have Master Degrees in English Language Teaching. Our popular IELTS and ESL websites include: "MyEnglishExam.com", "esl4free.com", "youtube.com/esl4free" & "marktask.com".



Texts & Questions

Vocabulary in Context: 1. The Death of Languages

Important vocabulary to check before reading

DOOMED TO DISAPPEAR: certain to die out

FORESEEABLE FUTURE: the future as we believe it will be, given what we already know

DOMINANT: the most powerful; controlling or destroying others

MAINSTREAM: the most common, important or popular version of something

SMOTHERING: causing something to die because of power or greater numbers; to kill by not allowing another to breathe

MINORITY TONGUES: the specific languages of small and less powerful groups of people in a society or country

DIE OUT: completely disappear over a period of time

FORCED ASSIMILATION: made less powerful cultural groups in a society adopt the culture of the most powerful group

PERSISTED: kept attempting to do something without stopping

INDIGENOUS: the original or first race of people to have inhabited a land

PERISH: die; disappear completely.

DESTINED: certain that something important will happen in the future.

FOLLOW SAME PATH: do things the same way.

CUT OFF: not able to be in contact with others; isolated.

CONVEYS: carries; makes something possible.

CULTURAL IDENTITY: the way people believe themselves to be because of their cultural background.

BREAKDOWN: destruction; not functioning.

DEMORALIZED: feeling that you will never be successful, or worthy of respect.

SERIOUS EFFORT: try very hard to achieve something.

PRESERVE: keep something alive, or in a state which allows it to be used in the future.

Reading Text

P1: The United Nations Cultural Agency (UNESCO) has done a study which shows that almost half of the world's 6,000 spoken languages are doomed to disappear in the foreseeable future. **Dominant** languages such

as English, French, Spanish, Russian and *mainstream* Chinese are *smothering minority tongues*.

P2: Over the last 100 years, Australia is the country with the worst record for allowing its Aboriginal languages to *die out*. Australia's *forced assimilation* policies that *persisted* until about 1970 caused hundreds of its *indigenous* languages to perish. New Guinea, with 1000 of the world's 6000 languages, seems destined to *follow same path* as Australia. On average, each New Guinean language has 2000 speakers, with the biggest group being 150,000 speakers. It is estimated, however, that by the end of the next century the only languages remaining in New Guinea will be English, in the East, and Indonesian, in the West.

P3: It is argued, however, that this is not a bad thing. Without international languages, such as English, New Guineans and other peoples would be *cut off* from the rest of the world. But, it is also a fact that New Guineans speak at least five languages each. While they might use English, Neo Melanesian or Indonesian to communicate with government, or in education, they use their own language to communicate with each other. And, like most people in the world, it is their own language that conveys their literature and songs, and, so, their *cultural identity*.

P4: The experiences of Native Americans and Australian Aborigines show that the loss of cultural identity through the loss of language causes a *breakdown* in their society. People become *demoralized*; drugs, alcohol and unemployment become a way of life for many. The economy and the whole of society suffer because of this breakdown. The world must make a *serious effort* to *preserve* its many languages.



Questions

Q1 Overall, the article is about...

- A. UNESCO
- B. the decline of minority indigenous languages and its effect.
- C. native culture in Australia and New Guinea.
- D. the importance of having international languages.

Q2 If you are doomed, ...

- A. something terrible will happen to you
- B. you will become something else.
- C. you will lose some money.

D. things will remain the same.

Q3 Which of these words or expressions is not related to indigenous?

- A. Foreign
- B. Native
- C. Aboriginal
- D. Original inhabitant

Q4 Which expression is unlikely to follow the word destined?

- A. ...to become a great actor.
- B. ...to become a doctor, like his father.
- C. ...to live a long and happy life.
- D. ...to go shopping today.

Q5 Which word or expression most closely matches cut off, as it is used in the text?

- A. Chopped up
- B. Severed
- C. Isolated
- D. Destroyed

Q6 Which of the following can breakdown?

- A. Machinery
- B. People
- C. Societies
- D. All of the above

From the list add a letter after the question number to fill in the missing words.

A. SMOTHER	E. INDIGENOUS
B. DIE OUT	F. CUT OFF
C. FORCED ASSIMILATION	G. CONVEYS
D. PERSISTED	H. SERIOUS EFFORT

* The **7.**___ of the native people by invading Europeans has meant that many **8.**___ languages have been lost.

* At first Tom was unsuccessful in his career with Microsoft, but, because he made a **9.**___ to work long hours and **10.**___ with his part-time studies, eventually he became a head of one of the company's divisions.



[Go to exercise answers](#)



Vocabulary in Context: 2. Music, Language and Memory

Important vocabulary to check before reading

INSTRUMENT: musical instrument, e.g. piano or violin.

LINGUISTIC SKILLS: ability with words or languages.

RECOVER: get back what has been lost.

MEMORY LOSS: the inability to remember important things.

UNDERGO: experience something, especially training or medical treatment.

RECALL: remember.

STRING ORCHESTRA: orchestra that only has string instruments, such as violins or cellos.

VERBAL: relating to words.

IMAGES: pictures or drawings, for example.

RETAINED: kept; not lost.

CONTROL GROUP: group by which other groups are compared in research.

CORRELATION: connection or relationship between two or more sets of information.

RECOLLECTED: remembered; recalled.

FINDINGS: results of research.

ECHO: show the same information or results (as previous research).

CONSISTENTLY: always doing the same; not changing.

STIMULATES: excites.

PROCESSES: changes information or data into another form.

AUDITORY INPUT: sound that is heard.

BY-PRODUCT: an extra thing that is produced, but not the most important product.

Reading Text

P1: Learning an *instrument* can help children improve their *linguistic skills*, and may even assist people to *recover* from *memory loss* after brain

injury, researchers from a Hong Kong university have claimed. The study found that children who *undergo* musical training have a better recall of words than those who have none. And the longer their period of musical training the more words they recall.

P2: The research team studied a group of 90 schoolboys, aged 6 to **15**. Half of the group received musical training in the school's *string orchestra* for between one and five years. The other half had no training. The boys were all tested for *verbal* memory by reading them a list of words and asking them to remember as many as possible 10 and 30 minutes after. They were then shown a series of *images*, which they were asked to recall. Each student was tested three times.

P3: The team discovered that students with musical training recalled significantly more words than the untrained group after 10 minutes. After 30 minutes, they still *retained* more words than the *control group*. In addition, there was a positive correlation between the length of time a student had been studying music and how well they remembered words: the longer they had been learning, the more words they *recollected*. However, there was no difference between the two groups in recalling images. The *findings echo* a similar 1998 Hong Kong study involving 60 female students. In the verbal test the musical students consistently out-scored the others by an average of 16%.

P4: Researchers believe that learning music *stimulates* the left temporal lobe, which *processes auditory input*. This in turn encourages the development of part of the left temporal lobe called the planum temporale, which responds to verbal memory. Essentially, verbal memory training occurs as a sort of "*by-product*" of musical training.



Questions

Q1 Which of the following is not suggested in the article?

- A. The planum temporale is part of the left temporal lobe.
- B. Musical training assists verbal memory.
- C. Verbal memory and auditory input occur in the same part of the brain.
- D. Visual input and verbal memory are both connected to the planum temporale.

Q2 From tomorrow he will _____ medical treatment for his illness?

- A. undergo

- B. recover
- C. improve
- D. Assist

Q3 Which of the following does not have the same meaning as the other terms?

- A. Recollect
- B. Input
- C. Recall
- D. Remember

Q4 Which of the following terms doesn't replace 'retained' in paragraph 3?

- A. Held on to
- B. Kept
- C. Processed
- D. Stored

Q5 Which one of the following terms is closest to the meaning of 'echo' in paragraph 3?

- A. Agree with
- B. Vibrate
- C. Amplify
- D. Contradict

Q6 Which one of the following terms does not relate to stimulate?

- A. Excite
- B. Arouse
- C. Activate
- D. Process

From the list add a letter after the question number to fill in the missing words.

A. UNDERGO
B. RECALL
C. IMAGES
D. RETAINED

E. RECOLLECTED
F. FINDINGS
G. CONSISTENTLY
H. STIMULATES

* The 7.____ of recent studies into physical exercise 8.____ show that blood pressure is positively affected by regular, sustained activities like running and cycling.

* Researchers have found that the 9.____ of individual facts is frequently achieved at a greater speed when they are associated with 10.____ .



[Go to exercise answers](#)



Vocabulary in Context: 3. Hypnosis

Important vocabulary to check before reading

HYPNOSIS: the state of high relaxation and concentration in the mind.

MAINSTREAM: the most common, important or popular version of something.

COMPLEMENTARY: here it means alternative (medicine); often means to provide extra or related support.

MYSTICAL: not part of the normal or obvious human understanding of the world; spiritual or religious in nature.

MYSTERIOUS: puzzling or strange.

HARD SCIENCE: practical or normal science, not mysterious or unexplainable.

BRAIN SCAN: method of examining the brain electronically.

UNDER SUGGESTION: in a state of hypnosis.

BLOOD FLOW: movement of blood in the body.

STIMULUS: something that causes excitement or sensation in the brain.

NON-HYPNOTIZABLE: cannot be hypnotized.

INCONSISTENT: changing frequently; not predictable.

VAGUE: not clear or obvious.

PRONE: likely to happen.

ABSORPTION: the state of being totally involved, mentally, with what is occurring.

CAUGHT UP: involved; very interested in something.

FOCUSING: looking directly at something.

IMAGINED WORLD: not the real world; a world seen only in the mind.

TRUSTING: believing.

SPATIAL: relating to space.

TRANCE-LIKE: similar to being hypnotized.

PORTRAYING A CHARACTER: pretending to be another person when acting.

CONVERSELY: in the opposite direction or state.

Reading Text

P1: *Hypnosis* has been popular in both *mainstream* and *complementary* medicine since the 19th Century. Despite often being seen as *mystical* or

mysterious, hypnosis does have some *hard science* behind it.

P2: In a recent study at Stanford University in the United States, scientists used *brain scans* on people *under suggestion*. Essentially, the research showed that people who are easily hypnotizable changed the *blood flow* in their brain in response to imagined color *stimulus*, even though what they were actually looking at was not what they thought it was under hypnosis. However, not all people are easily hypnotizable; for *non-hypnotizable* individuals the research results were *inconsistent* or *vague*.

P3: People who are hypnotizable are more *prone* to *absorption*. For example, they get more *caught up* in a movie, tending to forget about the real world, *focusing* on the *imagined world* until the movie ends. Hypnotizable individuals are often more *trusting* of other people, and more trusted by others in return. They also like to learn by listening, rather than by reading or writing.

P4: People involved in *spatial* planning, like architects, or in the creative or performing arts are considered to be reasonably hypnotizable. Good actors frequently put themselves in to a *trance-like* state when *portraying a character*, losing all awareness of the equipment or the director. *Conversely*, people who are not easily hypnotizable are often in professions like engineering or mathematics.



Questions

Q1 Which of the following is not looked at in the article?

- A. Research into the effect of hypnosis on the brain.
- B. 19th Century approaches to hypnosis.
- C. Personality types and hypnosis.
- D. Professions and hypnosis.

Q2 Which word or expression is least related to mainstream?

- A. Conventional
- B. Socially accepted
- C. Usual.
- D. Alternative

Q3 Which word is most closely related to mysterious?

- A. Puzzling
- B. Criminal

- C. Medical
- D. Scientific

Q4 Which word does not relate to stimulus?

- A. Excite
- B. Energize
- C. Incentive
- D. Sedate

Q5 What are you unlikely to be caught up in?

- A. Your work
- B. Sleep
- C. A book
- D. Your social life.

Q6 Conversely is closest in meaning to ...

- A. Similarly
- B. Vaguely
- C. Negatively
- D. contrastingly

From the list add a letter after the question number to fill in the missing words.

A. HYPNOSIS	E. PRONE
B. COMPLEMENTARY	F. CAUGHT UP
C. INCONSISTENT	G. FOCUSING
D. VAGUE	H. SPATIAL

* Under deep 7. ___ the patient remembered the traumatic events of the night but the recounting of those events was slow and rather 8. ___ .

* Many theatre actors are 9. ___ to stage fright but overcome this by such techniques as 10. ___ on a particular part of the auditorium.



[Go to exercise answers](#)



Vocabulary in Context: 4. Jealousy in Men and Women

Important vocabulary to check before reading

JEALOUSY: the state of being afraid of, or angry about, another person's relationship with ones own lover, partner, spouse or friend.

EVOLUTIONARY PSYCHOLOGISTS: psychologists who specialize in looking at how people's thinking or beliefs change or adapt over many generations.

SEXUAL INFIDELITY: have sex with someone who is not ones own partner or spouse.

EMOTIONAL INFIDELITY: desire or love someone who is not ones own partner or spouse.

GENDER: whether male or female.

ATTRIBUTED: commonly believed to be the reason for something happening.

NATURAL SELECTION: process in which the strongest or most adaptable creatures survive over many generations.

PREVENT: stop something happening.

ENCOURAGED: helped cause something to happen.

ENSURE: make certain.

OFFSPRING: the children of a father and mother.

LINES: directions or methods.

ESPOUSED: supported an opinion or belief.

PROponents: supporters of a particular opinion or belief.

SHAPED: caused something to develop the way it has.

CITED: quoted or referred to a book, or the work of another writer.

BASED ON A VARIETY OF SOURCES: taken from many different types of information or data.

DISPARITIES: differences.

DISTRESSING: causing great unhappiness; very upsetting.

RAGE: violent anger.

COMMIT: do (carry out) a crime.

PROPORTIONALLY: exactly the same percentage of the total size or amount when compared to another object or amount.

UPSHOT: the final result; outcome.

Reading Text

P1: A new study from the United States concludes that culture plays a big part in men and women's experience of sexual and emotional **jealousy**, and that they are not as different as earlier psychologist believed. Evolutionary psychologists have long argued that men care more about sexual infidelity compared to women, who are said to more concerned with emotional infidelity. The **gender** differences were **attributed** to natural selection: sexual jealousy encouraging men to **prevent** women from other men's children; while emotional jealousy **encouraged** women to **ensure** men provided for them and their **offspring**.

P2: According to the new research, a thorough analysis of the different **lines** of research **espoused** by the **proponents** of the evolutionary theory of jealousy raises serious doubts about how much of a sex difference actually exists. Its researchers go on to argue that it is entirely possible that natural selection has **shaped** the two sexes to be more similar, rather than different.

P3: The original evidence cited by evolutionary psychologists – based on a variety of sources – did note big differences in attitudes to jealousy between men and women in America. However, as Dr Christine Harris points out, there are also large differences between the attitudes of men when comparisons are made between countries, America and Europe for example. The **disparities** are even greater among Asian men. One study showed that only 25% of Chinese men found sexual infidelity more **distressing** than emotional infidelity, while 75% of them found emotional infidelity to be worse. Harris also questioned studies that claimed men were more likely to kill their spouses in a jealous **rage**. Men were more likely to **commit** all types of violent crimes. However, **proportionally** women are just as likely to kill their spouse in a fit of jealousy as men are.

P4: The **upshot** of the study is that cultural experiences can play a strong part in changing the brain's biology.



Questions

Q1 The article indicates that...

- A. sexual and emotional jealousy is influenced by cultural experiences.
- B. men and women are not that different with regard to jealousy.
- C. evolution may have made the sexes more similar.
- D. All of the above

Q2 Unfaithfulness is the same as...

- A. Fidelity
- B. Infidelity
- C. Jealousy
- D. All of the above

Q3 Which of the following terms mean the same as ‘ensure’?

- A. Make certain
- B. Make sure
- C. Guarantee
- D. All of the above

Q4 Offspring are...

- A. the children of a mother and, or, a father.
- B. someone’s brothers and, or, sisters.
- C. Cousins.
- D. peers.

Q5 Which one of the following terms best replaces ‘shaped’ in paragraph 2?

- A. Moved
- B. Bent
- C. Molded
- D. Straightened

Q6 Which one of the following is not usually preceded by the word ‘commit’?

- A. A crime
- B. An act of violence
- C. A murder
- D. A holiday

From the list add a letter after the question number to fill in the missing words.

A. PREVENT	E. PROPONENT
B. ENCOURAGED	F. SHAPED
C. ENSURED	G. CITED
D. ESPOUSED	H. DISPARITIES

* The values **7.**___ by the Indian Independence Leader, Mahatma Gandhi, were taken up by subsequent leaders from that country. He was a strong **8.**___ of the idea that people of all religious beliefs can live harmoniously together.

* The report **9.**___ many sources that were very old which was unfortunate but the quality of the writing **10.**___ that it receives a warm reception from all interested parties.



[Go to exercise answers](#)



Vocabulary in Context: 5. Karaoke Bad for You

Important vocabulary to check before reading

AMPLIFIED: made a sound louder using electronic devices (microphone and speakers).

ACCOMPANYING: supporting or assisting the most important part.

BACKGROUND: behind or secondary to the most prominent or important part.

SPREAD THROUGH THE WORLD: became known or popular in all parts of the world after having first started in a specific part of the world.

PARTICIPATING: taking part in; performing.

STRENUOUS: requiring a lot of strength or power.

NOISE-INDUCED HEARING LOSS: deafness (loss of hearing) that is caused by too much noise.

TORTURE: the act of causing extreme pain to another person.

EXPOSED: not protected from; allowed to be near or in view of something.

THRESHOLD: the point where an experience or occurrence commences.

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS: the study of numerical data or information.

FREQUENCY: the amount of times something happens over a specific period.

CONTRIBUTOR: something (or someone) that helps make something else happen or become possible.

PRONE: likely to have something happen; probable.

ENTHUSIASTIC: very happy to do something or take part in something.

SUBJECTIVE: formed from the opinions of individuals; not scientific or objective.

HIT THE HIGH NOTE: sing in a high-pitched voice like an opera singer.

Reading Text

P1: Karaoke singing – where the singer’s voice is *amplified* against *accompanying background* music - is very popular in Asia, and has *spread throughout the world*. However, Korean and Hong Kong studies have found that listening to and *participating* in karaoke are bad for your health.

Strenuous singing can damage the voice and increase the risk of noise-induced hearing loss.

P2: The Korean researchers found that noise levels in a typical karaoke singing environment were higher than 95 decibels (dB). The average and maximum sound pressure levels were measured during various types of karaoke singing, including ballads and rock. During the study, in what may sound like *torture*, the subjects were *exposed* to 100 minutes of Karaoke, with each singer's hearing *threshold* levels being measured before and after exposure to the sound.

P3: Further *statistical analysis* of hearing threshold shift revealed that up to 8dB of significant hearing loss occurred at the at the most important human hearing *frequency*, centered at 4000Hz, after around two hours of karaoke noise exposure. The Korean study concluded that karaoke facilities might be a serious *contributor* to noise-induced hearing loss.

P4: It appears that listening to karaoke is not the only danger; a second study undertaken in Hong Kong found that it can also damage the voice. Apparently, as most karaoke singers have no formal singing training, they are more *prone* to developing voice problems. The karaoke singers are so *enthusiastic* they tend to sing for long periods without rest and without drinking water. In what must be said to be a *subjective* measure, the researchers found that people who had a drink and rested during a performance sounded better than those who did not; they were able to hit the high note, while the others could not.



Questions

Q1. Which of the following is not suggested in the article?

- A. Only enthusiastic people sing.
- B. Singers should drink water.
- C. Singing lessons reduce the risk of damaging the voice.
- D. Singers should rest.

Q2. Which one of the following terms does not relate to strenuous?

- A. Energy
- B. Effort
- C. Vigor
- D. Planning

Q3. Which of the following is least closest to torture as it is used in the text?

- A. Discomfort
- B. Agony
- C. Irritation
- D. Annoyance

Q4. Which one of the following can't you be on the threshold of?

- A. An exciting new career.
- B. A building.
- C. A bicycle.
- D. A technological revolution.

Q5. Which of the following can be exposed?

- A. Film
- B. Emotions
- C. Skin
- D. All of the above

Q6. A subjective measure is...?

- A. based on opinion.
- B. based on truth.
- C. always exact.
- D. highly scientific.

From the list add a letter after the question number to fill in the missing words.

A. AMPLIFIED

B. PARTICIPATING

C. STRENUOUS

D. TORTURE

E. EXPOSED

F. THRESHOLD

G. PRONE

H. SUBJECTIVE

* Forcing prisoners to being **7.**___ to very, loud sounds is a technique of **8.**___ that has been used by many authoritarian governments.

* For people who are frequently **9.**___ in loud concerts, symptoms such as temporary hearing loss are common and they are **10.**___ to severe headaches.



[Go to exercise answers](#)



Vocabulary in Context: 6. Male-Female Attraction

Important vocabulary to check before reading

ADAGE: traditional saying that is accepted by many as true.

OPPOSITES ATTRACT: view that objects or people that are very different will come together.

PARTNERS: in this context it means lovers or spouses (husband – wife).

SURVEYED: questioned a number of people to discover their opinions or information about them.

ATTRIBUTES: physical or psychological features of a person – generally positive.

LONG-TERM: for a long period of time.

RESPONDENTS: people who reply to research questions.

RATED: provided an opinion on (or scored) something when compared with something else.

CHOOSY: difficult to please; very specific or exact when making a choice; highly selective.

TRAITS: particular characteristics or features of an individual.

POTENTIAL: possible, but not yet reality.

EVOLUTIONARY SIGNIFICANCE: important in the way creatures or species change over many generations.

STATUS: position or level of importance in a society or organization.

FAMILY COMMITMENT: continually thinking of or working for your own family.

SEXUAL FIDELITY: only have sex with one's own lover or spouse; sexual faithfulness.

CHARACTERISTICS: features or traits of an individual.

SELECTIVE: very specific when making a choice.

TAKE INTO ACCOUNT: be aware that something is important or relevant when making a decision.

WIDE RANGE: many different types.

REPRODUCTIVE: relating to the ability to have or help create babies.

FINDINGS: results of research.

MONOGAMY: only have one husband or wife, or sexual partner.

MARRIAGE COUNSELORS: professional people who give advice to married couples about their relationship.

THE PUBLIC: all the people who belong to a society or a community.

FORMING LASTING RELATIONSHIPS: developing a relationship that will last for a long time; creating a long-term relationship.

FINANCIALLY SECURE: have enough money for now and for the future.

FECUNDITY: fertility; ability to become pregnant.

AMBITION: desire to be successful.

Reading Text

P1: According to a new American study, the old ***adage*** that “***opposites attract***” is wrong. The report from Cornell University indicates that young adults in Western societies prefer ***partners*** who are most like themselves. Almost 1000 New Yorkers aged between 18 and 24 were surveyed to find out what ***attributes*** they thought were most important in a ***long-term*** partner. The results were then compared to the way the ***respondents rated*** themselves for those same attributes.

P2: People who were most ***choosy*** about ***traits*** with ***potential evolutionary significance*** – such as wealth and status, ***family commitment***, physical appearance and ***sexual fidelity*** – were also most likely to think they had those ***characteristics***. Men and women who rated themselves highly were significantly more ***selective*** in their choice of mate. The researchers also claim that people looking for a mate probably ***take into account*** a ***wide range*** of traits and attributes other than ***reproductive*** potential.

P3: If the ***findings*** of the study are confirmed by more research, the results will present a better understanding of human ***monogamy***, and also provide more information to assist ***marriage counselors*** and ***the public***. For example, the report highlights how people might have problems in ***forming lasting relationships*** because they have difficulty in assessing their own and potential partners’ attributes. The report suggests that people seeking long-term relationships should seek partners similar to themselves, rather than ones with the highest qualities available.

P4: Other studies have shown that men, especially ***financially secure*** ones, tend to show a stronger preference for youth, health and physical attractiveness in a partner, indicating high ***fecundity*** and reproductive potential. Men also demonstrate a stronger preference for sexual fidelity in a woman. Women, on the other hand, express a desire for their partners to have the attributes of ***ambition***, social status and wealth, along with a desire for children and a commitment to family.



Questions

Q1. According to the research, young adults tend to prefer their partners to be...

- A. Western.
- B. different to themselves.

- C. similar to themselves.
- D. extremely attractive.

Q2. Which of the following terms will not replace ‘surveyed’ in the text?

- A. Interviewed
- B. Experimented on
- C. Questioned
- D. Asked questions

Q3. Which one of the following terms does not have a similar meaning to the others?

- A. Attribute
- B. Characteristic
- C. Potential
- D. Trait

Q4. Which of the following most closely matches ‘takes into account’ in paragraph 2?

- A. Considers
- B. Prepares
- C. Finalizes
- D. Organizes

Q5. Having only one wife or husband at one time is termed...?

- A. Monotony
- B. Polygamy
- C. Monogamy
- D. misogamy

Q6. ‘Fecundity’ has the same meaning as...?

- A. Fertility
- B. Relationship
- C. Commitment
- D. ambition

From the list add a letter after the question number to fill in the missing words.

A. ADAGE

B. PARTNERS

C. ATTRIBUTES

D. STATUS

E. MONOGAMY

F. THE PUBLIC

G. FINANCIALLY SECURE

H. FECUNDITY

* In modern developed societies 7. ___ is not considered a very important factor because of the high economic cost of looking after children.

* Most 8. ___ believe it is important to be 9. ___ before bringing children into the world. * Most societies have laws that see 10. ___ as the only legal marital state.



[Go to exercise answers](#)



Vocabulary in Context: 7. Fall of the Mayan Civilization

Important vocabulary to check before reading

COLLAPSE: fall down; stop functioning.

MAYAN: native people who lived in Central America.

LONG BEEN: for a long time.

ATTRIBUTED TO: believed to have been caused or done by.

PINPOINT: show exactly where, when or how something is or was.

SEVERE DROUGHT: very long period of time without enough rainfall.

SEDIMENTS: soil, minerals or other matter that falls to the bottom of a liquid such as water.

HEADED: controlled, led or managed an organization or group.

EXTRACTED: took out or removed from something else.

CORE OF SEDIMENT: a long sample of sediment in the shape of a cylinder.

COVERING: spanning, including a specific period of time.

DEPOSITED: left in a certain place for a long period of time.

REGIONAL CLIMATE: the type of weather conditions that affect a specific geographical area.

PRIOR: the time before something happened.

OCCURRED IN STEPS: happened in a series of sudden jumps or drops that level off for a period of time.

FINAL BLOW: the last act of destruction that finally destroys something.

PUSHING THE LIMITS: doing or achieving the most that is possible, doing anymore than that could be too much or dangerous.

PRODUCTIVE CAPACITY: the most that can possibly be produced.

EVER INCREASING: always increasing or getting greater.

FOLLOW THE SAME PATH: do exactly the same as someone else has done before.

Reading Text

P1: The *collapse* of *Mayan* civilization in Central America over one thousand years ago has long been attributed to weather or climatic conditions. Only recently, however, have scientists been able to *pinpoint* the fall of the Maya to three severe droughts over a one hundred year period, by examining *sediments* beneath the sea off Venezuela.

P2: A scientific team, *headed* by Gerald Haug from Switzerland, *extracted* a core of sediment covering an eight hundred year period that included the fall of the Maya. The core sample was taken from sediments *deposited* 900 meters beneath the Caribbean Sea and 2500 kilometers from where the Maya lived for two important reasons. The first of these being that the area where the Maya lived, the Yucatan Peninsula, and the Venezuelan coastal area share the same regional climate. And secondly, the Venezuelan deposits were not noticeably altered by agriculture during the Mayan Period.

P3: The core sample shows that prior to 710AD the area was relatively wet, allowing substantial food production. After 710, however, rainfall levels dropped significantly, and with it crop production also declined. But it was three severe droughts in 810, 860 and 910 that eventually caused the total collapse of the civilization. Basically, then, the decline of the Maya occurred in steps, with the final blow being the drought in 910.

P4: In today's world we are pushing the limits of our productive capacity in food production, as did the Mayans before 710. At the moment this productive capacity is able to meet ever increasing population demands. However, should our planet's climate dry out just a little we might also follow the same path as the Mayans over one thousand years ago.



Questions

Q1. The demise of Mayan civilization is believed to have been caused by...

- A. agricultural practices.
- B. Sediment.
- C. Venezuela's weather.
- D. lack of rain over a 100 year period.

Q2. Which of the following cannot replace 'attributed to' in the text?

- A. thought to be because of
- B. considered to be due to
- C. believed to be due to
- D. proven to be because of

Q3. Which of these is unlikely to be pinpointed?

- A. The position of a ship at sea.

- B. A period of time in history.
- C. An opposing football team's weaknesses.
- D. The flow of a river.

Q4. Which of these phrasal verbs most closely matches 'deposited' in the text?

- A. Set down
- B. Pushed up
- C. Moved in
- D. Moved along

Q5. Which word is unlikely to follow 'prior'?

- A. Conviction (crime)
- B. Money
- C. Engagement
- D. Marriage

Q6. Which of the following are you unlikely to 'push the limits of'?

- A. Ability
- B. Strength
- C. Endurance
- D. Leisure

From the list add a letter after the question number to fill in the missing words.

A. COLLAPSE	E. EXTRACTED
B. PINPOINT	F. DEPOSITED
C. SEDIMENT	G. PRIOR
D. HEADED	H. EVER INCREASING

* The drilling company has 7. ___ large amounts of ore from the area but, unfortunately, some of the earth removed has found itself deposited as 8. ___ in the nearby river system.

* 9. ___ to his operation in mid-summer, he had been affected by a number of serious conditions and had suffered a 10. ___, which meant the operation was vital.



[Go to exercise answers](#)



Vocabulary in Context: 8. Addiction and Teenage Smoking

Important vocabulary to check before reading

DISPUTED: argued about whether something is correct or not.

ADDICTION: the need to always have something like cigarettes, drugs or alcohol.

THE FIRST PUFF: the first time a cigarette is smoked.

ADOLESCENT: young person who is developing into an adult.

VULNERABLE: easily defeated or convinced by something.

SUBSTANTIATES: proves something to be correct.

NICOTINE: the addictive chemical found in tobacco.

TRANSITION: the state of changing from one condition to another.

EXPERIMENTATION: trying something for the first time to see what happens.

HABITUAL USE: addiction; use something continually from habit.

INDICATE: show, demonstrate.

SETS IN: becomes permanent, or impossible to change or stop.

CONSUMPTION: the state of using or consuming things, such as food or drugs.

HOOKED: addicted (not formal).

REGULARLY: frequently, and at similar times.

PROPENSITY: likelihood; probability of behaving in a certain way.

TAKE HOLD: gain control.

ARBITRARY: decisions or judgments that are not based on fair or reasoned evidence are arbitrary.

DEPENDENCE: the state of always needing something to survive or continue.

PHARMACOLOGICAL: related to the effects of drugs or chemicals on the human body.

PHENOMENON: important event or occurrence.

PSYCHO-SOCIAL: related to the way people think and the society they live in.

PEER PRESSURE: doing something because other people of your own age group, class or social group expect you to do the same as them.

SOCIAL NETWORKS: connections between large numbers of friends, colleagues or acquaintances.

REINFORCERS: things that cause something to be stronger and less likely to be destroyed or defeated.

Reading Text

P1: One of the most ***disputed*** areas of the smoking debate is the question of when ***addiction*** begins. However, research from the United States suggests that smoking addiction can occur in teenagers just three weeks after the ***first puff***. The thirty-month study of 680 students, by scientists at the University of Massachusetts, found that the ***adolescent*** brain is more ***vulnerable*** to addiction than a fully developed one.

P2: Other experts support the findings, saying that it ***substantiates*** previous evidence showing that ***nicotine*** addiction is very rapidly established in young people; there is a very quick ***transition*** from ***experimentation*** to ***habitual use***. Canadian research into the smoking habits of fourteen year olds further confirms this view. When interviewed two years later, the young Canadians admitted that giving up cigarettes was much more difficult than they had expected during the experimental stages of smoking.

P3: Other aspects of teenage smoking research ***indicate*** that addiction ***sets in*** despite quite low levels of tobacco ***consumption***. In fact, young people do not even need to smoke every day to become ***hooked***. Some people who only smoke once or twice a week can have equal difficulty giving up as those who smoke more ***regularly***. The research also suggests that girls have a high ***propensity*** for addiction, and tend to do so more quickly.

P4: Finally then, there is no minimum level of tobacco consumption for addiction to ***take hold***. To say that smoking ten a day indicates addiction is simply ***arbitrary***, and not supported by evidence. Furthermore, smoking ***dependence*** need not be a purely ***pharmacological phenomenon***. It can also be a ***psycho-social*** phenomenon, as well; ***peer pressure*** and ***social networks*** among teenagers can also be very important ***reinforcers*** of addictive behavior.



Questions

Q1. According to the article, which one of the following is not suggested?

- A. Teenagers tend to be more susceptible to addiction than adults.
- B. A person does not need to smoke every day to become hooked on tobacco.
- C. Girls might even be more prone to addiction than boys.
- D. You can only become addicted if you smoke ten cigarettes a day.

Q2. Which of the following terms will not replace ‘disputed’ in the text?

- A. Argued over
- B. Disagreed about
- C. Fought
- D. Contested

Q3. Which of the following is unlikely to be vulnerable?

- A. The Universe
- B. An army
- C. An individual
- D. A relationship

Q4. Which of the following most closely matches ‘sets in’ as it is used in paragraph 3?

- A. Uses up
- B. Becomes constant
- C. Finalizes
- D. Changes

Q5. Which one of the following terms from the text is not similar in meaning to the others?

- A. Hooked
- B. Dependent
- C. Addicted
- D. Experimentation

Q6. What do ‘reinforcers’ do?

- A. Support
- B. Create
- C. Change
- D. Remove

From the list add a letter after the question number to fill in the missing words.

A. DISPUTED
B. ADOLESCENT
C. VULNERABLE
D. SUBSTANTIATES

E. SETS IN
F. HOOKED
G. REGULARLY
H. PROPENSITY

* Research 7. ___ the view that smoking addiction can occur rapidly and that 8. ___ smoking is a particular danger in this regard.* People can become 9. ___ on smoking, even though they do not 10. ___ smoke.



[Go to exercise answers](#)



Vocabulary in Context: 9. The World's First Farmers?

Important vocabulary to check before reading

CRADLES: places where something originates, e.g. areas where civilizations begin.

STAPLE FOOD: food important for survival.

DOMESTICATED: changed from the natural environment to a human-made environment.

AGRICULTURAL REVOLUTION: a very important period in the history of farming or agriculture.

DOMINANT: the most powerful or important.

CORE AREAS: important parts of a larger area.

NEOLITHIC BACKWATER: a very primitive society that is long longer considered important.

TURNUED OUT: resulted; discovered to be.

PRISTINE: (an environment) in its earliest, untouched or perfect state.

EQUIVOCAL: not certain; vague; ambiguous.

ORIGINATED: commenced; began from a certain place.

REVEALS: shows for the first time.

PRACTICING: working at; doing; taking part in.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES: the original or first people to have lived in a particular area.

CULTIVATING: farming; using areas of land for growing food.

DEFORESTATION RATES: the speed at which forests are destroyed.

EROSION: the destruction of soil, rock or landforms, usually water, wind or too much farming.

PASSIVE: not active.

SECONDARY CENTER: not the most important place.

DERIVED FROM: taken or borrowed from another place to be used elsewhere.

TRIGGERED BY: caused by; action that is caused by something else.

DOMESTICATES: plants that have be used in agriculture.

PHASES: periods of time that follow each other; stages.

WETLAND: flat wet land areas.

PREDATE: before a specific date.

INFLUENCE: the effect of one thing, or person, on another.

INDICATED: suggested as probable.

CIRCULAR MOUNDS: small round hills.

AERATE SOIL: allow air to move through or penetrate the soil or earth.

Reading Text

P1: Researchers, led by an archaeologist from Adelaide, have confirmed that Papua New Guinea's highlands was one of the ***cradles*** of farming, where some of the world's ***staple food*** plants were first ***domesticated***. The region now joins five other core regions in which the ***agricultural revolution*** – the world's most ***dominant*** land use - had its origins. The other five regions confirmed as ***core areas*** for plant domestication are the Middle East, China, Mesoamerica, South America and the Eastern United States.

P2: From what has been described as a ***Neolithic backwater***, New Guinea has turned out to be one of the few ***pristine*** centers of early plant domestication. As one commentator argues, “the evidence for the independent development of agriculture in New Guinea is no longer ***equivocal***”. According to the research, there is also increasing proof that two of the world's most valuable crops, sugar cane and banana, ***originated*** there.

P3: The report reveals that people living at the Kuk site, in the Wahgi valley, were ***practicing*** agriculture by at least 7,000 years ago. This is about the same time as ***indigenous peoples*** in the Middle East were ***cultivating*** wheat and Central Americans were farming corn.

P4: While earlier research had suggested that ***deforestation rates*** and ***erosion*** increased from at least 7000 years ago, New Guinea had been considered a ***passive secondary center*** for agricultural development. Agriculture was thought to have been ***derived from*** or ***triggered by domesticates*** from South East Asia. However, the archaeological remains found at the site identified six ***phases*** of ***wetland*** use: the first three of which ***predate*** South East Asian ***influence*** on the Island 3,500 years ago. The first phase suggests that cultivation may have occurred 10,000 years ago. The second phase, for which there is more evidence, is ***indicated*** by ***circular mounds*** used to ***aerate soil*** for growing bananas between 6,500 and 7,000 years ago.



Questions

Q1. The article observes that...

A. New Guinea is a primitive backwater.

B. agriculture developed in the New Guinea highlands independently from other world regions.

C. New Guinea is very wet.

D. sugar cane is only grown in New Guinea.

Q2. Which of the following terms will not replace ‘cradles’ in the text?

A. Birth places

B. Producers

C. Original sources

D. Nurturers

Q3. Which of the following is unlikely to be a ‘staple food’?

A. Potato

B. Rice

C. Hamburger

D. Banana

Q4. Which of the following most closely matches ‘turned out’ as it is used in paragraph 2?

A. Took off

B. Ran out

C. Looked out

D. Ended up

Q5. If something is ‘equivocal’ it is...?

A. Uncertain

B. Certain

C. Relevant

D. Contradictory

Q6. Which of the following can suffer from ‘erosion’?

A. Soil

B. Profit

C. Political support

D. All of the above

From the list add a letter after the question number to fill in the missing words.

A. DOMINANT
B. PRISTINE
C. EQUIVOCAL
D. EROSION

E. PASSIVE
F. TRIGGERED BY
G. PHASES
H. PREDATE

* On the island of Java, Hindu influences 7. ___ Islam by many centuries, although the latter soon became the 8. ___ religion.

* Mud slides are 9. ___ heavy rains and exacerbated by soil 10. ___ which means that the water can easily sweep away top soil.



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Vocabulary in Context: 10. Dolphin Networks

Important vocabulary to check before reading

COMPLEX: having many parts; difficult to understand; complicated.

SOCIAL STRUCTURE: the general organization of society.

HUMAN-MADE NETWORKS: system of connecting parts created by humans, e.g. the Internet.

TRANSFER: move something from one place to another.

DEPENDENT: need something to survive or continue.

EFFICIENT: work well without much waste or effort.

HABITAT: the environment in which specific creatures live.

INDIVIDUAL MARKINGS: colors, lines or spots that show a creature is different to others from the same species.

DORSAL FINS: fins on the back of a shark or dolphin.

RANDOM ENCOUNTERS: unplanned or accidental meetings between individuals.

SOCIAL NETWORK: the organization or relationship between individuals or groups within a society.

CENTERS OF ASSOCIATION: places where individuals meet.

HUBS: the central point where all other parts or individual components connect.

INTERMEDIATE: not the beginning or the end, but all parts in between.

ACQUAINTANCES: individuals (people) you know that are not close friends.

GRIDS: series of lines that cross over or connect with each other.

STEPS: movements.

FUNCTIONING: working or operating correctly.

KEY: important part.

INFORMATION PATH: the direction that information travels in order to get to another location.

FRAGMENT: break into small pieces.

COHESION: unity; the state of being held together as one thing.

PHENOMENA: important occurrence or event.

VULNERABLE: capable of being damaged, defeated or destroyed.

NODES: points where individual parts connect and which then connect with other nodes in the network.

Reading Text

P1: According to a mathematical study by a New Zealand zoologist, the developers of **complex** networks, like the Internet or other communication networks, could learn a lot from the social behavior of dolphins. The zoologist, David Lusseau, spent seven years studying 64 bottlenose dolphins in Doubtful Sound, New Zealand, finding that the creatures have a social structure similar to human-made networks. Furthermore, many animal societies rely on the fast **transfer** of information among its members, and possess properties to make that possible. Sociable long-lived animals, such as gorillas, deer, elephants and dolphins are **dependent** on **efficient** information transfer in order to use their **habitat**.

P2: By noting the individual markings on their dorsal fins, Lusseau observed that individual dolphins were seen together more frequently than would be expected from random encounters. The dolphin's social network consisted of centers of association, with the **hubs** commonly being adult females.

P3: By studying information hubs it is possible to measure how information travels through a system. Lusseau used the term 'diameter' to describe the measurement. The global human population has a diameter of six, which means that any two people can be linked using five **intermediate acquaintances**, or, in other words, "six degrees of separation". Complex networks, like electricity **grids** or the Internet, are more loosely organized and so take more **steps** to get somewhere. This creates problems if some of the hubs are not **functioning**.

P4: By comparison, the removal of **key** hubs does not greatly affect dolphin communities. Despite a lengthening of the information path, the absence of individuals with many links fails to **fragment** the cohesion of the social network. Lusseau argues that the self-organizing **phenomena** of dolphins could also be applied to human-made networks. The World Wide Web, for example, would be less **vulnerable** due to the removal of key **nodes**.



Questions

Q1 According to the article, which one of the following is suggested?

- A. Women are better communicators than men.
- B. Female dolphins are major contributors to their species' communication networks.

- C. Dolphins and humans have the same communication structures.
- D. Dolphin networks are very loosely connected.

Q2 Which one of the following terms does not have a similar meaning to 'complex' in paragraph 1?

- A. Intricate
- B. Involved
- C. Complicated.
- D. Confined.

Q3 Which of the following terms will not replace 'transfer' in paragraph 1?

- A. Storage.
- B. Movement.
- C. Conveyance.
- D. Passing on.

Q4. Which of the following terms will replace 'encounters' in paragraph 2?

- A. Contacts.
- B. Meetings.
- C. Get-togethers.
- D. All of the above.

Q5. An 'acquaintance' is...?

- A. someone you know very well.
- B. someone you know that is not a close friend.
- C. a close friend.
- D. a relative.

Q6. Which one of the following terms does not have a similar meaning to 'cohesion'?

- A. Unity.
- B. Oneness.
- C. Adherence.
- D. Division.

From the list add a letter after the question number to fill in the missing words.

A. TRANSFER
B. DEPENDENT
C. EFFICIENT
D. HUBS

E. FUNCTIONING
F. KEY
G. PHENOMENA
H. VULNERABLE

* Many business people see the World Wide Web as a very 7. ___ marketing tool which allows the rapid 8. ___ of information across time and space.

* The World Wide Web has grown so rapidly that it is now considered 9. ___ to over-capacity which could damage its efficient 10. ___ .



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Answers & Feedback



Answers: 1. The Death of Languages

Q1. Overall, the article is about...

- A. UNESCO
- B. the decline of minority indigenous languages and its effect. (*Correct*)
- C. native culture in Australia and New Guinea.
- D. the importance of having international languages.

* **Q1. NOTES** Answers A, C & D are mentioned in the text, but B covers the general focus of the article.

Q2. If you are doomed, ...

- A. something terrible will happen to you (*Correct*)
- B. you will become something else.
- C. you will lose some money.
- D. things will remain the same.

* **Q2. NOTES** Doomed is only used with the most terrible of destinies.

Q3. Which of these words or expressions is not related to indigenous?

- A. Foreign (*Correct*)

- B. Native
- C. Aboriginal
- D. Original inhabitant

* **Q3. NOTES** All other expressions are used to describe the original people to live in a land.

Q4. Which expression is unlikely to follow the word destined?

- A. ...to become a great actor.
- B. ...to become a doctor, like his father.
- C. ...to live a long and happy life.
- D. ...to go shopping today. (*Correct*)

* **Q4. NOTES** Destined is related to important life events that will occur in the future. Going to the shop is not one of them.

Q5. Which word or expression most closely matches cut off, as it is used in the text?

- A. Chopped up
- B. Severed
- C. Isolated (*Correct*)
- D. Destroyed

* **Q5. NOTES** Severed can also mean cut off, but in the text it most closely relates to being isolated.

Q6. Which of the following can breakdown?

- A. Machinery
- B. People
- C. Societies
- D. All of the above (*Correct*)

* **Q6. NOTES** Machinery, people and societies can all breakdown: they can no longer function correctly, if at all.

Q7 to Q10.

* The **7. C. FORCED ASSIMILATION** of the native people by invading Europeans has meant that many **8. E. INDIGENOUS** languages have been lost.

* At first Tom was unsuccessful in his career with Microsoft, but, because he made a **9. H. SERIOUS EFFORT** to work long hours and **10. D.**

PERSISTED with his part-time studies, eventually he became a head of one of the company's divisions.



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Answers: 2. Music, Language and Memory

Q1. Which of the following is not suggested in the article?

- A. The planum temporale is part of the left temporal lobe.
- B. Musical training assists verbal memory.
- C. Verbal memory and auditory input occur in the same part of the brain.
- D. Visual input and verbal memory are both connected to the planum temporale. (*Correct*)

* **Q1. NOTES** The article does not mention visual memory being related to verbal memory or auditory input. In fact, visual memory showed no sign of stimulation.

Q2. From tomorrow he will _____ medical treatment for his illness?

- A. Undergo (*Correct*)
- B. Recover
- C. Improve
- D. assist

* **Q2. NOTES** Undergo is the only term appropriate here. You can undergo medical treatment, training, hardship (losing a job, etc.) – essentially, you are experiencing things that are difficult, hard work or time consuming.

Q3. Which of the following does not have the same meaning as the other terms?

- A. Recollect
- B. Input (*Correct*)
- C. Recall
- D. Remember

* **Q3. NOTES** Input is only concerned with the process of putting information into the brain, not about remembering it.

Q4. Which of the following terms doesn't replace 'retained' in paragraph 3?

- A. Held on to
- B. Kept
- C. Processed (*Correct*)
- D. Stored

* **Q4. NOTES** A, B & D are the same as 'retained'.

Q5. Which one of the following terms is closest to the meaning of 'echo' in paragraph 3?

- A. Agree with (*Correct*)
- B. Vibrate
- C. Amplify
- D. Contradict

* **Q5. NOTES** Although an echo is also a vibrating or rebounding sound, in this context it means agreement.

Q6. Which one of the following terms does not relate to stimulate?

- A. Excite
- B. Arouse
- C. Activate
- D. Process (*Correct*)

* **Q6. NOTES** Something that stimulates causes excitement, arousal or activation.

Q7 to Q10.

* The **7. F. FINDINGS** of recent studies into physical exercise **8. G. CONSISTENTLY** show that blood pressure is positively affected by regular, sustained activities like running and cycling.

* Researchers have found that the **9. B. RECALL** of individual facts is frequently achieved at a greater speed when they are associated with **10. C IMAGES**.



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Answers: 3. Hypnosis

Q1. Which of the following is not looked at in the article?

- A. Research into the effect of hypnosis on the brain.
- B. 19th Century approaches to hypnosis. (*Correct*)
- C. Personality types and hypnosis.
- D. Professions and hypnosis.

* **Q1. NOTES** Answers A, C & D are mentioned in the text, but B is not. The article only mentions that hypnosis has been popular in medicine since the 19th Century.

Q2. Which word or expression is least related to mainstream?

- A. Conventional
- B. Socially accepted
- C. Usual.
- D. Alternative (*Correct*)

* **Q2. NOTES** Alternative is the only word that does not suggest a normal, or mainstream, part of society.

Q3. Which word is most closely related to mysterious?

- A. Puzzling (*Correct*)
- B. Criminal
- C. Medical
- D. Scientific

* **Q3. NOTES** Although crime, medicine and science may involve some mystery, puzzling is the word that most closely matches mysterious.

Q4. Which word does not relate to stimulus?

- A. Excite
- B. Energize
- C. Incentive
- D. Sedate (*Correct*)

* **Q4. NOTES** Stimulus can provide excitement, energy or incentive, whereas sedation has the opposite effect.

Q5. What are you unlikely to be caught up in?

- A. Your work
- B. Sleep (*Correct*)
- C. A book
- D. Your social life.

* **Q5. NOTES** You can be caught up, or very involved, in your work, social life or a book because you find them very interesting. Sleep is just something that happens.

Q6. Conversely is closest in meaning to ...

- A. Similarly
- B. Vaguely
- C. Negatively
- D. Contrastingly (*Correct*)

* **Q6. NOTES** Similarly is the exact opposite of conversely, and vaguely and negatively do not have the same meaning as conversely.

Q7 to Q10.

* Under deep 7. **A. HYPNOSIS** the patient remembered the traumatic events of the night but the recounting of those events was slow and rather 8. **D. VAGUE** .

* Many theatre actors are 9. **E. PRONE** to stage fright but overcome this by such techniques as 10. **G. FOCUSING** on a particular part of the auditorium.



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Answers: 4. Jealousy in Men and Women

Q1. The article indicates that...

- A. sexual and emotional jealousy is influenced by cultural experiences.
- B. men and women are not that different with regard to jealousy.
- C. evolution may have made the sexes more similar.
- D. All of the above (*Correct*)

* **Q1. NOTES** The article focuses on research and theories that support A, B & C .

Q2. Unfaithfulness is the same as...

- A. Fidelity
- B. Infidelity (*Correct*)
- C. Jealousy
- D. All of the above

* **Q2. NOTES** ‘Infidelity’ and ‘unfaithfulness’ have the same meaning, whereas ‘fidelity’ has the opposite meaning. Jealousy is not always related to ‘unfaithfulness’: a person can be jealous of another person’s success, for example.

Q3. Which of the following terms mean the same as ‘ensure’?

- A. Make certain
- B. Make sure
- C. Guarantee
- D. All of the above (*Correct*)

* **Q3. NOTES** All of the terms can replace ‘ensure’ in the text.

Q4. Offspring are...

- A. the children of a mother and, or, a father. (*Correct*)
- B. someone’s brothers and, or, sisters.
- C. Cousins.
- D. peers.

* **Q4. NOTES** A person’s brothers and sisters are called ‘siblings’.

Q5. Which one of the following terms best replaces ‘shaped’ in paragraph 2?

- A. Moved
- B. Bent
- C. Molded (*Correct*)
- D. Straightened

* **Q5. NOTES** Although ‘shaping’ can involve ‘bending’ and ‘straightening’, the only appropriate term in this context is ‘mold’ – the ability to create something in the shape or form required.

Q6. Which one of the following is not usually preceded by the word ‘commit’?

- A. A crime
- B. An act of violence
- C. A murder

D. A holiday (Correct)

* **Q6. NOTES** People ‘commit’ violent or criminal acts, not things like holidays, work or study.

Q7 to Q10.

* The values **7. D. ESPOUSED** by the Indian Independence Leader, Mahatma Gandhi, were taken up by subsequent leaders from that country. He was a strong **8. E. PROPONENT** of the idea that people of all religious beliefs can live harmoniously together.

* The report **9. G. CITED** many sources that were very old which was unfortunate but the quality of the writing **10. C. ENSURED** 10 that it receives a warm reception from all interested parties.



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Answers: 5. Karaoke Bad for You

Q1. Which of the following is not suggested in the article?

- A. Only enthusiastic people sing. *(Correct)*
- B. Singers should drink water.
- C. Singing lessons reduce the risk of damaging the voice.
- D. Singers should rest.

* **Q1. NOTES** " ...as most karaoke singers have no formal singing training, they are more prone to developing voice problems. The karaoke singers are so enthusiastic they tend to sing for long periods without rest and without drinking water." The article does not say that ONLY enthusiastic people sing..

Q2. Which one of the following terms does not relate to strenuous?

- A. Energy
- B. Effort
- C. Vigor
- D. Planning *(Correct)*

* **Q2. NOTES** Strenuous work usually involves energy, effort and vigor, but not necessarily planning.

Q3. Which of the following is least closest to torture as it is used in the text?

- A. Discomfort
- B. Agony (*Correct*)
- C. Irritation
- D. Annoyance

* **Q3. NOTES** Although the word ‘torture’ is used as an exaggeration in the text, torture is much more than simply discomfort, irritation or annoyance.

Q4. Which one of the following can’t you be on the threshold of?

- A. An exciting new career.
- B. A building.
- C. A bicycle. (*Correct*)
- D. A technological revolution.

* **Q4. NOTES** A threshold is the point at which something is about to be entered (a building), or commence (a career or a new industrial era).

Q5. Which of the following can be exposed?

- A. Film
- B. Emotions
- C. Skin
- D. All of the above (*Correct*)

* **Q5. NOTES** Film can be exposed to light; your emotions can be exposed so that other people know what you feel; skin that is not protected by clothing can be exposed to the sunlight.

Q6. A subjective measure is...?

- A. based on opinion. (*Correct*)
- B. based on truth.
- C. always exact.
- D. highly scientific.

* **Q6. NOTES** If something is subjective it is not scientific or precise, but rather is based on the views or values of individual human beings.

Q7 to Q10.

* Forcing prisoners to being 7. **E. EXPOSED** to very, loud sounds is a technique of 8. **D. TORTURE** that has been used by many authoritarian governments.

* For people who are frequently **9. B. PARTICIPATING** in loud concerts, symptoms such as temporary hearing loss are common and they are **10. G. PRONE** to severe headaches.



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Answers: 6. Male-Female Attraction

Q1. According to the research, young adults tend to prefer their partners to be...

- A. Western.
- B. different to themselves.
- C. similar to themselves. (*Correct*)
- D. extremely attractive.

* **Q1. NOTES** "The report ... indicates that young adults in Western society prefer partners who are most like themselves."

Q2. Which of the following terms will not replace 'surveyed' in the text?

- A. Interviewed
- B. Experimented on (*Correct*)
- C. Questioned
- D. Asked questions

* **Q2. NOTES** Surveying in this context simply means to question a number of people, by interview or questionnaire, to find out their opinions or details; whereas, 'experimenting' suggests that something is being done to, or performed on, the subjects of the research by the researchers.

Q3. Which one of the following terms does not have a similar meaning to the others?

- A. Attribute
- B. Characteristic
- C. Potential (*Correct*)
- D. Trait

* **Q3. NOTES** Unlike the other terms, 'potential' has nothing to do with what an individual is or possesses, but rather what will happen in the future.

Q4. Which of the following most closely matches ‘takes into account’ in paragraph 2?

- A. Considers (*Correct*)
- B. Prepares
- C. Finalizes
- D. Organizes

* **Q4. NOTES** Taking into account’ means considering what is relevant or important when making a decision.

Q5. Having only one wife or husband at one time is termed...?

- A. Monotony
- B. Polygamy
- C. Monogamy (*Correct*)
- D. misogamy

* **Q5. NOTES** ‘Polygamy’ and ‘misogamy’ are, respectively: having more than one spouse at one time, and the hatred of marriage. ‘Monotony’ means boredom – some people might jokingly suggest that this is also a correct term.

Q6. ‘Fecundity’ has the same meaning as...?

- A. Fertility (*Correct*)
- B. Relationship
- C. Commitment
- D. Ambition

* **Q6. NOTES** Fertility and fecundity mean that someone or something has the ability, or possesses suitable conditions, to produce new life.

Q7 to Q10.

* In modern developed societies **7. H. FECUNDITY** is not considered a very important factor because of the high economic cost of looking after children.

* Most **8. B. PARTNERS** believe it is important to be **9. G. FINANCIALLY SECURE** before bringing children into the world.* Most societies have laws that see **10. E. MONOGAMY** as the only legal marital state.



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Answers: 7. Fall of the Mayan Civilization

Q1. The demise of Mayan civilization is believed to have been caused by...

- A. agricultural practices.
- B. Sediment.
- C. Venezuela's weather.
- D. lack of rain over a 100 year period. (*Correct*)

* **Q1. NOTES** "...scientists been able to pinpoint the fall of the Maya to three severe droughts over a one hundred year period."

Q2. Which of the following cannot replace 'attributed to' in the text?

- A. thought to be because of
- B. considered to be due to
- C. believed to be due to
- D. proven to be because of (*Correct*)

* **Q2. NOTES** If something is 'attributed to' it is widely believed to be probably true, but not certain or proven.

Q3. Which of these is unlikely to be pinpointed?

- A. The position of a ship at sea.
- B. A period of time in history.
- C. An opposing football team's weaknesses.
- D. The flow of a river. (*Correct*)

* **Q3. NOTES** All the other answers allow for variations in time, position or condition, whereas rivers flow in one unchanging direction (however, you can pinpoint the position of a boat on a river).

Q4. Which of these phrasal verbs most closely matches 'deposited' in the text?

- A. Set down (*Correct*)
- B. Pushed up
- C. Moved in
- D. Moved along

* **Q4. NOTES** The other answers describe some sort of movement, whereas 'set down' relates to a final positioning.

Q5. Which word is unlikely to follow ‘prior’?

- A. Conviction (crime)
- B. Money (*Correct*)**
- C. Engagement
- D. Marriage

* **Q5. NOTES** Usually ‘prior’ relates to events or experiences, not things.

Q6. Which of the following are you unlikely to ‘push the limits of’?

- A. Ability
- B. Strength
- C. Endurance
- D. Leisure (*Correct*)**

* **Q6. NOTES** Leisure is not something you need to try hard to achieve.

Q7 to Q10.

* The drilling company has **7. E. EXTRACTED** large amounts of ore from the area but, unfortunately, some of the earth removed has found itself deposited as **8. C. SEDIMENT** in the nearby river system.

* **9. G. PRIOR** to his operation in mid-summer, he had been affected by a number of serious conditions and had suffered a **10. A. COLLAPSE** , which meant the operation was vital.



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Answers: 8. Addiction and Teenage Smoking

Q1. According to the article, which one of the following is not suggested?

- A. Teenagers tend to be more susceptible to addiction than adults.
- B. A person does not need to smoke every day to become hooked on tobacco.
- C. Girls might even be more prone to addiction than boys.
- D. You can only become addicted if you smoke ten cigarettes a day. (*Correct*)**

* **Q1. NOTES** “To say that smoking ten a day indicates addiction is simply arbitrary, and not supported by evidence.”

Q2. Which of the following terms will not replace ‘disputed’ in the text?

- A. Argued over
- B. Disagreed about
- C. Fought (*Correct*)
- D. Contested

* **Q2. NOTES** Although ‘fought’ is probably too strong a term for the context, it is possible to use it if followed by ‘about’ or ‘over’.

Q3. Which of the following is unlikely to be vulnerable?

- A. The Universe (*Correct*)
- B. An army
- C. An individual
- D. A relationship

* **Q3. NOTES** Unlike the other terms, the Universe is not likely to be defeated or destroyed because of a weaknesses or problems.

Q4. Which of the following most closely matches ‘sets in’ as it is used in paragraph 3?

- A. Uses up
- B. Becomes constant (*Correct*)
- C. Finalizes
- D. Changes

* **Q4. NOTES** ‘Sets in’ means that something is becoming more permanent or complete, or more difficult to change. Bad weather or poor economic conditions can also set in.

Q5. Which one of the following terms from the text is not similar in meaning to the others?

- A. Hooked
- B. Dependent
- C. Addicted
- D. Experimentation (*Correct*)

* **Q5. NOTES** Although experimentation can eventually lead to addiction, it does not mean the same. The other terms, however, can be used in place of addiction.

Q6. What do ‘reinforcers’ do?

- A. Support (*Correct*)
- B. Create
- C. Change
- D. Remove

* **Q6. NOTES** Reinforcers help something to remain strong, or to protect it from possible destruction.

Q7 to Q10.

* Research 7. **D. SUBSTANTIATES** the view that smoking addiction can occur rapidly and that 8. **B. ADOLESCENT** smoking is a particular danger in this regard.* People can become 9. **F. HOOKED** on smoking, even though they do not 10. **G. REGULARLY** smoke.



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Answers: 9. The World’s First Farmers?

Q1. The article observes that...

- A. New Guinea is a primitive backwater.
- B. agriculture developed in the New Guinea highlands independently from other world regions. (*Correct*)
- C. New Guinea is very wet.
- D. sugar cane is only grown in New Guinea.

* **Q1. NOTES** "... the evidence for the independent development of agriculture in New Guinea is no longer equivocal."

Q2. Which of the following terms will not replace ‘cradles’ in the text?

- A. Birth places
- B. Producers (*Correct*)
- C. Original sources
- D. Nurturers

* **Q2. NOTES** The other terms relate to the beginning of something, its creation, or its initial development.

Q3. Which of the following is unlikely to be a ‘staple food’?

- A. Potato
- B. Rice
- C. Hamburger (*Correct*)
- D. Banana

* **Q3. NOTES** Unlike the other food items, the ‘hamburger’ is not an essential or primary food, but is simply a manufactured product.

Q4. Which of the following most closely matches ‘turned out’ as it is used in paragraph 2?

- A. Took off
- B. Ran out
- C. Looked out
- D. Ended up (*Correct*)

* **Q4. NOTES** ‘Turned out’ and ‘ended up’ are the two most closely related terms. However, the text would need to be altered slightly to: ‘New Guinea has ended up being one of the few...’

Q5. If something is ‘equivocal’ it is...?

- A. Uncertain (*Correct*)
- B. Certain
- C. Relevant
- D. Contradictory

* **Q5. NOTES** Equivocal means uncertain or unsure. The opposite is unequivocal = certain.

Q6. Which of the following can suffer from ‘erosion’?

- A. Soil
- B. Profit
- C. Political support
- D. All of the above (*Correct*)

* **Q6. NOTES** Although ‘erosion’ basically refers to the physical landscape, it can also be applied to the slow and constant loss of support, popularity or finances.

Q7 to Q10.

* On the island of Java, Hindu influences **7. H. PREDATE** Islam by many centuries, although the latter soon became the **8. A. DOMINANT** religion.

* Mud slides are **9. F. TRIGGERED BY** heavy rains and exacerbated by soil **10. D. EROSION** which means that the water can easily sweep away top soil.



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Answers: 10. Dolphin Networks

Q1 According to the article, which one of the following is suggested?

- A. Women are better communicators than men.
- B. Female dolphins are major contributors to their species' communication networks. *(Correct)*
- C. Dolphins and humans have the same communication structures.
- D. Dolphin networks are very loosely connected.

* **Q1. NOTES** "The dolphin's social network consisted of centers of association, with the hubs commonly being adult females."

Q2 Which one of the following terms does not have a similar meaning to 'complex' in paragraph 1?

- A. Intricate
- B. Involved
- C. Complicated.
- D. Confined. *(Correct)*

* **Q2. NOTES** All the other terms show that something (a structure, a problem or a situation, for e.g.) has many connected parts and is hard to understand - 'confined' means that something is kept in one place away from other things.

Q3 Which of the following terms will not replace 'transfer' in paragraph 1?

- A. Storage. *(Correct)*
- B. Movement.
- C. Conveyance.
- D. Passing on.

* **Q3. NOTES** All of the other terms show that something (information, for example) is moving from one place to another, whereas ‘storage’ is to do with keeping something in one place.

Q4. Which of the following terms will replace ‘encounters’ in paragraph 2?

- A. Contacts.
- B. Meetings.
- C. Get-togethers.
- D. All of the above. *(Correct)*

* **Q4. NOTES** “Meetings’ is the most suitable replacement, although the other two terms are also possible.

Q5. An ‘acquaintance’ is...?

- A. someone you know very well.
- B. someone you know that is not a close friend. *(Correct)*
- C. a close friend.
- D. a relative.

* **Q5. NOTES** An ‘acquaintance’ is not someone that you know very well: it could be the friend of a friend, or someone you see occasionally at work or college.

Q6. Which one of the following terms does not have a similar meaning to ‘cohesion’?

- A. Unity.
- B. Oneness.
- C. Adherence.
- D. Division. *(Correct)*

* **Q6. NOTES** ‘Division’ has the opposite meaning to ‘cohesion’, whereas the other terms have similar meanings.

Q7 to Q10.

* Many business people see the World Wide Web as a very **7. C. EFFICIENT** marketing tool which allows the rapid **8. A. TRANSFER** of information across time and space.

* The World Wide Web has grown so rapidly that it is now considered **9. H. VULNERABLE** to over-capacity which could damage its efficient **10. E. FUNCTIONING**.



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