

Cloze test

Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct word or phrase that best fits each of the numbered blanks.

Hotter weather leads to lower exam results, according to a new study from Harvard University, the University of California and Georgia State University. _____ (1), hot weather may reduce learning in both the short term and long term. Researchers reported that hot weather on test days and higher than average temperatures throughout the school year resulted in poorer grades. The study is the first major research into the effect of heat on students in the USA. Researchers analyzed how test scores from 10 million American students were _____ (2) on by the weather. Their findings showed that an average temperature increase of just 0.55°C over one year resulted in a one per cent decrease in learning.

The research is in a paper called "Heat and Learning" and was published last month by the USA's National Bureau of Economic Research. _____ (3) of the more alarming conclusions contained in the study is _____ (4) global warming may have negative effects on learning and the income-earning potential of students around the world. The researchers predicted that if global temperatures continued to rise, the average American student could lose \$25,000 in income over their _____ (5) because of lower exam results.

(Adapted from <https://www.breakingnewsenglish.com>)

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|-----------------|----------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 1. A. Therefore | B. Even though | C. Moreover | D. For instance |
| 2. A. effected | B. resulted | C. led | D. impacted |
| 3. A. One | B. Some | C. Another | D. A number |
| 4. A. which | B. what | C. when | D. that |
| 5. A. lifetime | B. lifelong | C. lifeless | D. lifelessness |

READING COMPREHENSION

Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.

History books recorded that the first film with sound was The Jazz Singer in 1927. But sound films, or talkies, did not suddenly appear after years of silent **screenings**. From the earliest public performances in 1896, films were accompanied by music and sound effects. These were produced by a single pianist, a small band, or a full-scale orchestra; large movie theatres could buy sound-effect machines. Research into sound that was reproduced at exactly at the same time as the pictures - called "synchronized sound" - began soon after the very first films were shown. With synchronized sound, characters on the movie screen could sing and speak. As early as 1896, the newly invented gramophone, which played a large disc carrying music and dialogue, was used as a sound system. The biggest disadvantage was that the sound and pictures could become unsynchronized if, for example, the gramophone needle jumped or if the speed of the projector changed. This system was only effective for a single song or dialogue sequence.

In the "sound-on-film" system, sound was recorded as a series of marks on celluloid which could be read by an optical sensor. **These signals** would be placed on the film alongside the image, guaranteeing synchronization. Short feature films were produced in this way as early as 1922. This system eventually brought us "talking pictures".

6. *The passage is mainly about the _____.*
 - A. research into sound reproduction.
 - B. development of sound with movies.
 - C. disadvantages of synchronized sound.
 - D. history of silent movies.
7. *According to the passage, films using sound effects were screened _____.*
 - A. as early as 1922
 - B. in 1927
 - C. before 1896
 - D. as early as 1896
8. *The word "screenings" is closest in meaning to _____.*
 - A. projections
 - B. revelations
 - C. demonstrations
 - D. diversions
9. *Which of the following is not mentioned as a producer of sound to accompany movies?*
 - A. a Jazz Singer
 - B. a single pianist
 - C. an orchestra
 - D. a small band
10. *The phrase "these signals" refers to ____.*
 - A. sounds
 - B. marks
 - C. series
 - D. sensors