

# 3 FOCUS ON WRITING

## VOCABULARY

### REVIEW

Complete the paragraph using the words in the boxes.

advocates      impact      potential      revolutionize      risk factors

Many people believe that genetic testing will continue to \_\_\_\_\_ 1. the practice of medicine. These \_\_\_\_\_ 2. , who support genetic testing, believe it has the \_\_\_\_\_ 3. to save many lives. They point out that after genetic testing, patients will know their \_\_\_\_\_ 4. and will be able to better choose their treatment plans. These supporters acknowledge that the \_\_\_\_\_ 5. of getting a positive test result could be devastating but point out that, with proper counseling, people will have the tools to make the best decisions for their individual situations.

consult      environment      linked      reliable      skeptical

However, others are \_\_\_\_\_ 6. of the value of genetic testing. For one thing, some people don't believe it is \_\_\_\_\_ 7. . In addition, they note that without professional help to interpret the results, patients may experience more harm than good from the tests. Of course, there wouldn't be a problem if patients were required to \_\_\_\_\_ 8. with their doctors about the results. Another issue is that some diseases are not caused by genetics, but rather are \_\_\_\_\_ 9. to lifestyle, \_\_\_\_\_ 10. , or a combination of the two.

alternative

consensus

conventional

interaction

A further area of concern is that doctors still do not fully understand the \_\_\_\_\_  
11. between specific genes and how this affects the possibility for disease. Although there may never be complete \_\_\_\_\_  
12. on the value of genetic testing, the way the public and the medical establishment view specific treatments and therapies may change over time. Don't forget that when Norman Cousins first used Laughter Therapy in the summer of 1964, it was definitely viewed as a(n) \_\_\_\_\_  
13. therapy. Nowadays, it is used in many hospitals around the world and has entered the realm of \_\_\_\_\_  
14. medicine.

## EXPAND

### 1 Write *S* if the word pairs have a similar meaning. Write *D* if they have a different meaning.

- |                                     |                                       |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. reliable / dependable _____      | 9. elicit / produce _____             |
| 2. impact / interaction _____       | 10. consensus / disagreement _____    |
| 3. conventional / alternative _____ | 11. consulted / asked advice of _____ |
| 4. interpret / elicit _____         | 12. potential / ability _____         |
| 5. revolutionize / change _____     | 13. aspect / factor _____             |
| 6. environment / surroundings _____ | 14. skeptical / doubtful _____        |
| 7. treatment / diagnosis _____      | 15. advocate / supporter _____        |
| 8. linked / connected _____         |                                       |

### 2 Circle the word that best completes each sentence.

- Whole genome testing looks at the **impact / interaction** of our 20,000 genes with one another and our environment.
- A medical professional can help a patient **elicit / interpret** genetic test results.
- After the doctor told Norman Cousins he was suffering from ankylosing spondylitis, Cousins had to decide on his **treatment / diagnosis**.
- The idea of genetic testing is still a controversial topic. There is ongoing **disagreement / consensus** on when it should be used.
- When Norman Cousins first used Laughter Therapy, it was considered a(n) **alternative / conventional** treatment.
- Norman Cousins watched comedy films as a way to **revolutionize / elicit** positive emotions.
- Some people are skeptical of Cousins's original **diagnosis / treatment**. They don't think he was ever suffering from a severe form of arthritis.