

SECTION 1 – GRAMMAR AND USAGE

INSTRUCTIONS:

Read the following passage carefully, then answer the questions that follow.

Liar, Liar! Pants On Fire!

Growing up, almost all of us can remember a group of giggly kids chanting together, "Liar, liar, pants on fire!" Back then, this taunting by the neighbourhood kids was all said in fun and games. More than often, however, lies aren't so funny when they become a destructive force in the matter of everyday human relations.

Scientists at the University of California have shown that people lie on average 200 times a day. That's about once every 8 minutes! Wouldn't it be useful if you could tell when someone is lying to you? Well, experts spend years studying people's gestures, speech patterns and behaviour.

One of the most common and reliable signs that someone may be lying is pauses which can be either too long or too frequent. This is a stalling technique used to buy time to create a story or excuse. You can also tell if a person is lying by his eye contact. Usually, someone will begin the lie by looking away and then make eye contact later on in the lie or he may avoid eye contact altogether. Finally, when someone is lying, he may become more aware of his body language and work to cover it up to the point of eliminating it.

Most of us believe, wrongly, that we are easily able to spot liars. However, this might not be the case. So the next time you think someone is lying to you, look carefully for these tell-tale signs.

Adapted from *The Nassau Guardian*
by Monique Forbes



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LIVEWORKSHEETS

Fill in the blanks in each of the following sentences with a single word so as to complete the sense. The word you use should be made out of a word already used in the passage.

Growing up, almost all of us can remember a group of giggly kids chanting together, "Liar, liar, pants on fire!" Back then, when neighbourhood kids (1) _____, it was all said
(Line 2)

in fun and games. More than often, however, lies aren't so funny when they become a force which (2) _____ everyday human relations.
(Line 3)

Scientists at the University of California have shown that people lie on average 200 times (3) _____. That's about once every 8 minutes! Wouldn't it be useful if you could tell when someone is lying to you? Well, experts spend years studying people's gestures, speech patterns and how they (4) _____.
(Line 8)

One of the most common and reliable signs that shows that someone may be telling a (5) _____ is pausing. This is a stalling technique used to buy time for the (6) _____ of a story or excuse. You can also tell if a person is lying by his eye contact. Usually, he (7) _____ the lie by looking away and then would make eye contact later on in the lie or would avoid eye contact altogether. Finally, when someone is lying, he may become more aware of his body language and work to cover it up to the point of (8) _____.
(Line 14)

Most of us are wrong in our (9) _____ that it is (10) _____ to spot liars.
(Line 15) (Line 15)

So the next time you think someone is lying to you, look carefully for these tell-tale signs.