Spotlight 8	Reading Task 8404

Read the text and mark the statements

True (1), False (2), Not Stated (3).

BEING LEFT-HANDED

One out of every ten people walking down the street is left-handed. Everywhere they go left-handed people come across tools that were designed for right-handed people. From scissors to hockey sticks to baseball gloves, lefties learn early that they need to develop skills to live in a world designed for right-handed people.

If you are a right-handed person, try this experiment sometime: grab scissors with your left hand and try cutting a piece of paper. Don't be surprised if the experience feels extremely awkward.

Thankfully, there are companies today that make left-handed scissors and other left-handed tools. But often left-handed people find themselves in a situation where they have no choice but to use something designed for right-handed people.

In past ages, society was not sympathetic to left-handed people. Young students who preferred using their left hand to write were punished for doing so. Some of these students eventually learned to write with their right hand, but only after enormous effort.

These days parents and teachers are far more accepting and understanding. In almost every school in the world students who are left-handed are allowed to continue using their left hand to write. For a long time, medical researchers have tried to find out why people are left-handed or right-handed. The researchers have concluded that left-handed people are left-handed for the same reason as brown-eyed people have brown eyes. It's just one of those things that show up in one out of every ten people.

A really interesting question is whether there is any connection between left-handed people and creative genius. Most creative minds have been left-handed.

In the category of art, both Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo were left-handed. In the category of music, Ludwig van Beethoven was left-handed. In the field of science and invention, you find Benjamin Franklin, Isaac Newton, and Albert Einstein. In the field of motion pictures, there was Charlie Chaplin. Musical geniuses Bob Dylan, Paul McCartney, and Wynton Marsalis are left-handed too.

Each of these people had or has a very exceptional mind, they were great in their field. So even though it may be more difficult for a left-handed person to live in a right-handed world, lefties can know that they are in good company. Beethoven and Einstein had it tough, too.

A. About 10 per cent of people in the world are left-handed.
B. There have always been industries to produce special tools for left-handed.
C. There are special shops for lefties in every big city of the world.
D. In the last century schools didn't support left-handed students.
E. It has always been a big stress for left-handed students to be made to write with their right hand.
F. The problems of the left-handed have been studied for a long time.
G. There were a lot of left-handed people among the world great artists and musicians, but none among scientists.
H. Left-handed teenagers often ask for help and advice about their problems.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H

LIVEWORKSHEETS