Why some people are more altruistic than others?
By Abigail Marsh TEDSummit

Part 1

TRUE / FALSE: State whether each sentence is true (T) or false (F).

1. Idris Elba onced saved Abigail Marsh's life. True / False

2. A complete stranger once saved Abigail Marsh's life by putting his own life in danger.
True / False

3. Being saved by a complete stranger drove Abigail Marsh to become a psychology.
True / False

4. There is already plenty of research on the roots of extraordinary acts of altruism.
True / False

5. According to the speaker the only factor of altruism is compassion.
True / False

6. To study the brain of altruistic people, the speaker started by befriending psychopaths. True / False

7. Psychopaths tend to be unfriendly, uncaring, anti social and violent.
True / False

8. Psychopaths encounter problems realising others' fearful expressions.
True / False

9. Amygdala is the part of the brain that recognises fearful expressions.
True / False

10. Amydala of altruistic people are larger than that of an average person's.
True / False

11. Kidney donors are the only altruistic people in the world today.
True / False

12. Steven Pinker thinks that altruism increases because more and more people all around the world do not accept suffering of others. True / False

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Part 2 Multiple-choice questions

1. How old was Abigail Marsh when she met with the accident?

A 5
B 19
C 20
D It was not mentioned

2. Which action committed by the complete stranger showed altruism

A informed his name
B drove off immediately
C fixed the speaker's car
D pulled over his car and ran across four lanes of the freeway to save a life

3. 'Human nature is fundamentally selfish' . This means that

A all strangers are selfish.
B we only care about our own welfare.
C philosophers and economists are found to be selfish.
D unlike philosophers and economists, ordinary people are selfless.

4. According to the speaker, the main driving force of altruism is

A selflessness
B compassion
C motivation
D volunteerism

5. 'Psychopathy is a developmental disorder with strongly **genetic** origins,..' This means that psychopathy is most likely

A hereditary
B non hereditary
C contagious
D nurtural

6. One highlighted characteristic of psychopaths is that they lack compassion and are insensitive to cues. The word 'cues' refer to

A part of the brain called amydala
B ignoring others' fear
C responding to others' fear
D noticing other's expressions of fear, distress and anxiety

7. The brains of extraordinary altruists are

A better at agonising other people's fear
B better at detecting others' distress
C underreactive just like psychopaths'
D larger than average by about eight percent compared to others

8. Which of these statements show a significant finding of the speaker?

A Altruists' compassion is limited only to their innermost circle of family and friends.
B Altruists are different than most average persons.

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C Altruists' compassion only extends to strangers.
D Altruists' compassion goes beyond their innermost circle of family and friends.

9. 'Humility...what really distinguishes extraordinary altruists from the average person.'

'...nobody ... is more or less worthy of your care and compassion than anybody else. This means that an altruistic person

A cares about no one
B cares only about others
C thinks everyone deserves his care and compassion
D care more about anybody else outside his inner circle

10. The speaker's main intention is to inform the audience about

A mental health issues
B altruists and psychopaths
C why some people are more altruistic than others
D why the world needs more altruistic people

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