

READING AND USE OF ENGLISH

MULTIPLE-CHOICE CLOZE

For questions 1-9, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

PARENTS' INFLUENCE ON THEIR CHILDREN MATHS SCORES

We all know that some people are better at maths than others and often, these skills (1) _____ in the family.

Recently, an investigation into whether people's mathematical ability was more related to genetic or environmental factors was

(2) _____ out. The maths skills of more than 400 pupils were analysed at the (3) _____ of the school

year and also at the end. Additionally, the children were asked to explain how maths-related situations, like tests, (4)

_____ them feel. The children's parents, meanwhile,

had to fill in a survey on their (5) _____ towards

maths and were asked how often they helped their children with homework.

Results showed that having a parent with maths anxiety was not the best indicator of the students' (6) _____. In fact, only students whose "math anxious" parents actively helped them with their schoolwork were (7) _____ to learn less over the school year and develop the similar math anxiety. Students with math-anxious parents that did not help them with their schoolwork did not (8) _____ the same results. Perhaps, then, it's not only the parents' genes that contribute to the children's poor maths skills, but also the (9) _____ environment that some of them create.