

Why Are People So Clumsy?



What makes one person have more 1. than other? Most people would say that it has to do with taking risk. 2. risks mean fewer accidents. But is taking risks really a matter of 3. ?

Some experts believe that whether or not you take risks in life has nothing to do with your 4. and, some believe, with your birth order. Parents are often 5. and more careful with their first child, and so first-born children 6. to grow up taking fewer risks and being more 7. . Parents are often more relaxed with a second or third child, so these children tend to take more risks.



But why do children tend to be more accident-prone than adults? During childhood and 8. , the body grows very quickly. There seem to be periods in these years when our brain and body are at different 9. of development. Our arms are longer than the brain thinks they are, so we knock things 10. ; our legs are longer than the brain believes so we trip over easily.



Another 11. has been offered by scientists in Spain who have found a possible 12. between the number of hours a child watches TV and how accident-prone they are. The research suggests that the more time a child spends watching TV, the less they are 13. their physical coordination skills. If a child doesn't run around a lot, they don't begin to 14. that the world is full

of physical risks. Watching cartoons and action-adventure films doesn't help either. It gives the child a false 15. [] of how the world works and of how much danger it 16. []



So what about adults? Some studies have shown that left-handed people are more accident-prone than right-handed people. Why the 17. []? No one knows for sure. One theory is that we live in a right-handed world. Everything - from cars to door handles, from children's toys to engineering 18. [] and equipment - is made by right-handed people for right-handed people. So left-handed children and adults are more 19. [] to have accidents because the modern world is not 20. [] for them.

1. A disasters	B mistakes	C incidents	D accidents
2. A Fewer	B Smaller	C Less	D Little
3. A selection	B range	C preference	D choice
4. A maturity	B middle age	C upbringing	D infancy
5. A stricter	B more severe	C closer	D more exact
6. A retreat	B tend	C threaten	D inclined
7. A reckless	B cautious	C ready	D guarded
8. A adolescence	B teens	C upbringing	D education
9. A stages	B parts	C steps	D points
10. A over	B under	C off	D out
11. A description	B exclamation	C declaration	D explanation
12. A tie	B link	C relationship	D bond
13. A widening	B advancing	C developing	D creating
14. A understand	B value	C mean	D work out
15. A sense	B meaning	C mind	D education
16. A limits	B controls	C includes	D contains
17. A modification	B difference	C amendment	D change
18. A means	B schemes	C systems	D tools
19. A accepted	B likely	C possible	D expected
20. A planned	B organized	C designed	D proposed