

Task 1

Read the text below. Match choices (A-H) to (1-5). There are two choices you do not need to use.

AGAINST SCHOOL DRESS CODES

From Love To Know Teens

If you are against school dress codes, you are not the only one. Many students hate the restrictions administrators place on them every year. Learn ways you can deal with these clothing attire guidelines in this article.

1 _____

Unfortunately, the fight against dress codes is difficult. Many times it can be hard to sway administrators to make changes to their policy. However, you can try some things that could help you gain some leeway as far as your clothing goes.

2 _____

Become familiar with all of the rules. You may find some of them are outdated and could use an update. This will also help your case when you start talking to administrators.

3 _____

Set up a meeting with your principal to discuss exactly what you believe is unfair about the policy. Ask him or her for suggestions on how you can have certain guidelines changed.

4 _____

If other students agree with you, enlist their help in your campaign in having the policy changed. Write a short introduction about what changes you would like to see on a piece of paper and then have other students sign it.

5 _____

If there are board meetings you can attend, make a point to go with a parent. Making yourself known by people that create the rules will help you gain some advantage.

A Become Involved

B Read Policy

C Start a Petition

D Update the Rules

E Have a crack at it

F Start Picketing

G Communicate with Administrators

Task2

Read the text below. For questions (1-5) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

From The Sunday Times

October 26, 2008

KEEP CLICKING AND YOU'LL BE A SNAPPY THINKER

The net is making us good at quick decisions - but there is a cost Brendan Montague and Helen Brooks. The internet is changing the way the human brain works, researchers have found. It is improving people's ability to make snap decisions and filter large amounts of information — but at the cost of subtle skills such as picking up the nuances of facial expression.

Overall, a new study concludes, the brains of those tested were markedly more active when carrying out internet searches than when reading books.

However, the stimulation was concentrated in the areas that control decision-making and complex reasoning. Areas linked to abstract thinking and empathy showed virtually no increase in stimulation. Gary Small, director of the memory and ageing research centre at the University of California, Los Angeles, who carried out the research, said that, while computers have marked benefits in stimulating the brain, their use needed to be moderated.

There was a possibility, he argued, that the saturation use of digital technology could lead to long-term evolutionary change.

“Young people are growing up immersed in this technology and their brains are more malleable, more plastic and changing than with older brains,” said Small.

“The next generation, as [Charles] Darwin suggests, will adapt to this environment. Those who become really good at technology will have a survival advantage — they will have a higher level of economic success and their progeny will be better off.”

Small is to publish his findings in the American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry. He has set out his arguments in more depth in a new book, iBrain.

His claims reignite the debate about the effects of technology on the brain. Some scientists have blamed computer games for the growth of attention deficit disorder among children.

Small scanned the brains of 24 volunteers. He found that browsing websites stimulated the frontal, temporal and cingulate areas of the brain, which control complex reasoning. Older users and those who had not previously tried the internet all showed similar effects.

Baroness Greenfield, director of the Royal Institution and author of ID: The Quest for Identity in the 21st Century, said: “The hypothesis in iBrain is that natural selection will weed out people with brains that are more emotional or more capable of abstract thought and that we will be left with people who are **more autistic in tendency**. I would agree.”

However, Igor Aleksander, emeritus professor of neural systems engineering at Imperial College London, said: “It may be that by using the internet you stimulate different parts of the brain. However, it would be difficult to show this could not be achieved through other situations.”

6 What approach was taken in the recent research to prove the influence of the internet on the human brain?

- A The brains' subtleties were tested.
- B Abstract thinking was stimulated.
- C Net-browsing was compared to reading.
- D Some areas were simulated virtually.

7 According to the text, which of the following is true of the way the internet may improve the human brain?

- A Our brains will be able to excel in subtle skills.
- B Our brains will be able to take in a lot of information.
- C Our brains will be able to respond fast to life options.
- D Our brains will be able to do more complex tasks.

8 Why does Gary Small believe that the use of computers should be moderated?

- A Not all areas of our brain react similarly on the internet activity.
- B The intensive use of computers may have far-reaching effects.
- C The evolution of digital technology may take a long time to occur.
- D The next generation will change faster than the people today.

9 Why does the author mention the fact that some scientists have blamed computer games for the growth of attention deficit disorder among children?

- A To show that he condemns the use of computer games by kids.
- B To prove that there is no consensus among the researchers.
- C To illustrate the findings of Gary Small in the brain stimulation.
- D To debate with the belief that technology gives a survival advantage.

10 What does Small mean predicting that people will be "more autistic in tendency" ?

- A People will avoid social interaction.
- B People will be focused on emotions.
- C People will have deficit of attention.
- D People will tend to abstract thinking.

11 What is the opinion of Igor Alexander on the conclusions made by Small?

- A He is skeptical about them.
- B He takes them for granted.

C He disagrees with them.

D He is tentative about them.

Task 3

Read the text below. Match choices (A-I) to (1-6). There are two choices you do not need to use.

12 KAYSSIE, CANADA

The people who say cheating is good sometimes are the ones who know that it is never good. They are just trying to justify themselves so that they do not feel guilty. There are a lot of cheaters out there and they are making it hard for other people to do well. If you don't cheat you are making life easier for the other non-cheaters. I mean if only one person in your class cheated, they probably wouldn't do so well.

13 GABRIELA, BRAZIL

I think that cheating is not a big problem, but it can harm your future! Because "once a cheater, always a cheater" and then you learn nothing. You will have difficulty in the examination test...

Consequently, you don't go to a university! So the best thing to do is to study hard!

14 WILLOW ROSENBERG, U.S.A.

I was doing my English test, when my friend asked me to exchange the tests. It was my first time cheating, so we tried, but we made a huge mistake. He took the first page of the test and I took the second. When the teacher turned to see what was going on, he saw each of us holding one page of the test. We both went to the principal's office and got a zero. Yeah, I learned with my mistakes...

15 MICHAELA, U.S.A.

I think that cheating is bad, but truthfully everyone has tried it in some shape or form in their life.

I personally have and sometimes I am not successful, but most the times I am. Cheating is wrong: if you feel you have to hide and be secretive about something, it is wrong. This does not stop people from cheating. Some people make a job cheating people out of money and other things.

16 NOBERTO, U.S.A.

Well, I don't think that the teachers should even care of a boy or girl who cheats on a test. They are just hurting themselves. But I do not think it is right for a teacher to say she has seen someone cheating because they have happened to talk. Some teachers just need to sit and get off our backs.

17 WALLART, U.S.A.

I think that cheating is common in schools and very understandable. This is because teachers give too much work and a lot of hard tests that force you into cheating. Therefore I think that teachers should STOP giving so much work and tests. Cheating is cool with me. I also think that teachers and people who work at school are bad at catching cheaters and that cheating is completely necessary at this current time. :) CHEAT ON!

Which student mentions that....

- A. cheating at school may lead a person to fraud in future.
- B. a student can be expelled from the university for cheating.
- C. cheating is unfair for those who have prepared for a test.
- D. a student should cheat only when it is completely necessary.
- E. teachers should not keep an eye on students during the test.
- F. cheating may catch up with a student by his getting caught.
- G. she/he is proud of being able to outwit teachers on the exam.
- H. cheating on a test can spoil students' career opportunities.

Task 4

Read the text below. Choose from (A-H) the one which best fits each space (18-23). There are two choices you do not need to use.

Spaceship, Stephen Hawking explains why he said yes when offered a seat 011 Virgin's Space Ship Two and 18) _____. I have no fear of adventure. Years ago I barrelled down the steepest hills of San Francisco in my wheelchair. I travel widely and have been to Antarctica and Easter Island and 19) _____. In 2007, after my sixty-fifth birthday, I did something special: I experienced zero gravity. It temporarily took away my disability and 20) _____. After forty years in a wheelchair. I had four wonderful minutes of weightlessness. It has always been my dream to travel into space, and the experience was amazing. Now I have a chance to travel to the start of space aboard a Virgin Galactic spaceship. Richard Branson is opening spaceflight up for ordinary citizens, and 21) _____. I immediately said yes to Richard when he offered me a seat on Space Ship Two. I have lived with ALS, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, for fifty years. When I was diagnosed at age twenty-one, I was given two years to live. I was starting my PhD at Cambridge and 22) _____ whether the universe had always existed and would always exist or had begun with a big explosion. As my body grew weaker, my mind grew stronger. I lost the use of my hands and 23) _____, but I developed ways of travelling of through the universe in my mind and visualising how it all worked. I believe that we need a new generation of astronauts to explore our solar system.

- A facing the scientific challenge of determining
- B gave me a feeling of true freedom
- C why we need a new generation of explorers
- D not at your feet
- E if I am lucky, I hope to be among the early passengers

- F down in a submarine
- G could no longer write equations
- H trying to catch them

Task 5

For questions 1 - 11, read the text below and decide which word A, B, C or D best fits each space. There's an example at the beginning (0).

Airport Delays

Although the plane is the fastest means of transport, the idea of travelling by plane does not 24) _____ to everyone because of the frequent delays. It is extremely frustrating when you 25) _____ yourself plenty of time to get to the airport and - once there - it is brought to your 26) _____ that there is a problem with your flight. The staff at the check-in are trying to 27) _____ you that it won't be long before the problem is solved. Yet, hours later you feel let 28) _____ , as you 29) _____ to wait patiently for your boarding call. Of course, you won't 30) _____ anything by complaining.

By this stage, you realise you are going to miss your connecting flight and now you must change your bookings. You feel 31) _____ you're never going to get to your destination. However, there is the slight chance that you could be one of the lucky ones spending the night at a top class hotel at the expense of the airline that caused your problem in the first place. Admittedly, you would rather 32) _____ heading for your original destination. Regular 33) _____ advise us just to accept the fact that no matter how frustrating this situation might be, it's unavoidable and shouldn't affect us that much..

24	A	attract	B	appeal	C	impress	D	affect
25	A	let	B	keep	C	allow	D	make
26	A	care	B	warning	C	interest	D	attention
27	A	insist	B	attract	C	urge	D	convince
28	A	off	B	down	C	away	D	out
29	A	continue	B	persist	C	insist	D	remain
30	A	win	B	result	C	earn	D	gain
31	A	if only	B	though	C	as if	D	if
32	A	be	B	to be	C	had been	D	to had been
33	A	guests	B	customers	C	clients	D	visitors

Task 6

Read the text below. For each of the empty space (1-12) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

QUEEN MARGARET AND THE ROBBERS

There was a thick wood close by, and the queen 34) _____ it, but she was sorely afraid and trembled in every limb, for she knew that this wood was the hiding-place of robbers and outlaws. Every tree seemed to her 35) _____ fancy to be an armed man 36) _____ to kill her and her little son.

On and on she went 37) _____ the dark wood, this way and that, seeking some place of shelter, but not knowing where she 38) _____. At last she saw by the light of the moon a tall, fierce-looking man step out from behind a tree. He came directly toward her, and she knew by his dress that he was an outlaw. But thinking that he might have children of his own, she determined 39) _____ herself and her son upon his mercy.

The words of the queen 40) _____ the heart of the outlaw. He told her that once he 41) _____ on her side, and now was hiding from the soldiers of the "White Rose." He then lifted the little prince in his arms, and, bidding the queen follow, led the way to a cave in the rocks. There he gave them food and shelter, and kept them safe for two days, when the 42) _____ friends and attendants, discovering their hiding-place, came and took them far away.

If you ever go to Hexham Forest, you may see this cave. It is on the bank of a little stream that 43) _____ at the foot of a hill, and to this day the people call it "Queen Margaret's Cave."

34	A	plunged into	B	plunged out of	C	plunged over	D	plunged across
35	A	excite	B	exciting	C	excited	D	excitedly
36	A	wait	B	waited	C	waiting	D	waits
37	A	over	B	above	C	through	D	amid
38	A	was going	B	is going	C	will go	D	would go
39	A	throw	B	threw	C	thrown	D	to throw
40	A	moving	B	move	C	moveable	D	moved
41	A	fought	B	was fighting	C	had fought	D	fight
42	A	queens	B	queen	C	queens'	D	queen's
43	A	will flow	B	flows	C	has flown	D	flew