

EXERCISE 5

Read the information. Then read the paragraphs again, this time with their headings. The key words in the headings have been underlined. Then do the exercise.

In IELTS Reading matching headings tasks, it is a good idea to underline key words in the headings and match them with synonyms and paraphrases in the text. You can do this to check your answers.

Paragraph B

Why we say 'family tree' to refer to our family background

An interest in knowing who your ancestors were and what they did is, of course, something which is common in all cultures. Not all cultures, however, have a phrase which translates as *family tree* for when they want to describe earlier generations of the same family. We use this particular phrase because it was traditional in the past in some countries to put the oldest generations at the top of a drawing and the youngest generation at the bottom – sometimes just the child of a recently married couple. This meant the image would be wider at the top and narrower at the bottom – just like a tree.

Paragraph C

Practical and personal reasons for finding out about ancestors

While some people are still interested in family trees as a way of making sure they can receive money or valuable items from a great-uncle or great-great grandparent, others have different motivations. Some people choose to research their family tree because they are simply curious about their origins. Or perhaps they have heard an unusual story about an ancestor and wish to discover the truth. They may even have a more serious and useful purpose, for example wanting to find out about a medical condition which runs in the family.

Match the synonyms and paraphrases from the paragraphs (the words in the box) with the key words from the headings (1–7). Look at the text again on page 1 if you need to.

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the truth

we use this particular phrase who your ancestors were and what they did

1. we say 'family tree'

2. our family background

3. practical (reasons)

4. personal (reasons)

5. reasons

6. finding out about

7. ancestors
