

Task 3

- You are going to read about the game 'rock-paper-scissors'. Some words are missing from the text.
- Your task is to choose the most appropriate word from the list (A-O) for each gap (20-30) in the text. Write the letter of the appropriate word in the white box.
- You can use each word only once.
- There are two extra words that you do not need to use.
- There is one example (0) at the beginning.



HOW TO WIN AT ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS

What are your odds of (0) ____ rock-paper-scissors? Simple – one in three. At least, that's what (20) ____ predicts.

But people do not play randomly; they (21) ____ a hidden strategy, which was revealed in a rock-paper-scissors tournament in China.

Scientists recruited 360 students and divided them into groups of six.

(22) _____ competitor played 300 rounds of rock-paper-scissors against (23) _____ members of their group. To play smart, classical game theory suggests players should completely randomise their choices to (24) _____

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20)	
21)	
22)	
23)	
24)	

unpredictable to opponents. And indeed, players in all groups chose each action about a third of the time, exactly as expected (25) ____ their choices were random. (26) ____ , the organisers noticed a surprising pattern of behaviour. Winners tended to stick with their winning action, while losers tended to (27) ____ to the next action in the sequence "rock-paper-scissors". (28) ____ losing with a rock, for example, a player was more (29) ____ to play paper in the next round. Being aware of this "win-stay lose-shift" strategy may offer one a considerable advantage.

25)		
26)		
27)		
28)		
29)		
30)		

(30) _____ it is a simple game, rock-paper-scissors is seen as a model for studying competitive behaviour in human, e.g. in financial trading.

A AFTER	E EACH	I IF	M REMAIN
B CHANCE	F EVEN	K LIKELY	N SWITCH
C WINNING	G FOLLOW	L OTHER	O THOUGH
D CHOICE	H HOWEVER		

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