Yes / No / Not Given

01

Polygraphs are instruments that monitor a person's physical and psychological reactions, but their usefulness is debatable. People call them 'lie detectors', but these instruments do not detect lies. They can only detect whether signs of abnormal behaviour are being displayed. In some cases, a truthful person may be considered a liar because he or she was nervous, embarrassed, or scared during an examination. Despite this, many American law enforcement agencies still use them, claiming that they are worthwhile for measuring the psychological reactions of subjects under pressure. However, there are no specific reactions associated with lying and, therefore, the polygraph usually functions as a means of reinforcing expectations. If this occurs in police work, it can lead to wrongful arrests, which is why the polygraph should be abandoned as a method of investigation.

1 It is essential for police forces to use the polygraph in criminal cases.

02

When two people engage in a conversation, they tend to keep a certain distance from one another. This personal distance is not due to body odour or disrespect, but rather to an invisible boundary. Everyone has such a boundary, which shows how familiar a person is with the person he or she is talking to. Interestingly, the average personal distance varies from culture to culture. This can lead to cultural misunderstandings, as tourists may find themselves uncomfortably close to locals, or vice versa. That's why it is important to remember that cultural norms are not universal. People must respect the fact that others have different definitions of personal distance, while not expecting the rest of the world to conform to their desired behaviours.

2 People's body odour makes others stay away from them.

3 Tourists can find that local people are too close to them.

03

The railway system in the UK is the oldest in the world, which is unsurprising in a country with such an impressive history of industrialism. The first UK passenger train opened in 1807, but was actually pulled by horses rather than steam driven. It was not until 1825 that the first locomotive-hauled train in the world opened, and it was utilised to transport cargo, such as coal, between the cities of Stockton and Darlington. This was quickly followed in 1830 by the Liverpool and Manchester Railway, the world's first intercity passenger railway. This service introduced many of the elements of train travel that are now taken for granted, such as scheduled services. In the 1840s, the UK experienced a huge boom in railway expansion, to the extent that almost the whole country was connected by the close of the

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decade. This railway system unfortunately deteriorated in the 20th century, leaving Britain with one of the worst networks of all developed countries.

4 The Stockton and Darlington line was the first to move people between cities.

5 The British train network fell into decline due to a lack of investment.

04

Michigan to improve the fishing of a type of fish called smallmouth bass in the area. Researchers are investigating the effectiveness of this artificial reef in increasing the population size. The difference between attracting fish and boosting fish reproduction is critical. If the artificial reef attracts fish but does not promote reproduction, the population of smallmouth bass will decrease. Conversely, if the fish reproduce on the reef, it will help to create a more stable population.

6 Research has shown that fish reproduce more on artificial reefs.

7 The number of smallmouth bass in Lake Michigan is falling.

05

Traditionally, the mental processes of learning, remembering, and forgetting were considered distinct. Today, however, scientists studying memory development and retention have discovered that the contrast between these processes is less evident than previously thought. Research now suggests that memory should be perceived as a learning process with three steps that always occur in the following order: acquisition, short-term, and long-term. The application of this notion in the classroom could have a significant impact on students' ability to retain and understand material.
Recently processed sensory input, data provided by the sense organs, is first stored temporarily in short-term memory. Only a limited amount of information may stay here for 15 to 30 seconds before it is either suddenly erased or moved to long-term memory. In contrast, long-term memory has the capacity for storing an infinite amount of information and can be accessed for many years without being forgotten. Therefore, in a classroom environment, there should be more emphasis on stimulating students' long-term memory, rather than utilising material in a wide-ranging but superficial way. Making teachers understand the different ways in which the memory stores information would allow them to become better educators.

8 Memories can move from long-term to short-term memory.

9 There is a limited amount of space in the long-term memory.

10 Teachers should use material in a less broad manner.

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06

As the business world becomes more global, it is also likely to become more diverse. In fact, increasing diversity among the workforce and the customer base is now considered inevitable in most countries. And while there is a trend towards more workplace diversity, its advantages are not always assured. Therefore, businesses must learn to cultivate diversity and make sure that it is used strategically for gaining a business advantage. Generally speaking, workplace diversity includes all the attributes that the various employees bring with them. This includes national origin, race, religion, age, and many other variables. An effective business strategy that promotes diversity will be inclusive and avoid discrimination or hostility to individuals or groups with these various characteristics. This should be accomplished through both celebrating diversity and not engaging in any culturally exclusive activities, which might alienate people from certain cultures.

Managed properly, workplace diversity can result in a variety of benefits. When people of diverse backgrounds are brought together, it increases the range of perspectives. A broader set of opinions can be advantageous when a company needs to find a solution to a problem or develop a creative business plan. Moreover, diversity can create better community relations and help expand the customer base. Because most companies are in business to make profit, they usually do not concentrate on a single category of customers. Instead, they target customers from a range of socio-economic backgrounds. Having a culturally diverse staff enables employers to better understand their customers, and to know how best to communicate with them and attract them. In this globalised economy, the companies that come out on top will be those who both value cultural diversity and use it to their advantage.

11 Not all of the benefits of diversity in the workplace are guaranteed.

12 Discrimination in the workplace is common in the business world.

13 Businesses tend to focus on customers of a single type.

14 Diverse employees are better equipped to face crises.

07

Although many people are bilingual or trilingual, individuals with a high degree of proficiency in several languages are known as polyglots. Recently, there has been considerable debate within the scientific community over whether the extensive language ability of certain people can be attributed to biological or behavioural factors.

One theory is that polyglots are biologically different from those who are unable to learn more than one or two languages. An experiment run by Dr Narly Golestani at University College London has shown that these polyglots have a cerebral cortex with a distinct shape and structure, particularly in the parietal

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lobes, areas that are associated with the processing of audio information. In addition, Golestani argues, the white matter that connects these components of the brain has a much greater volume. This suggests that certain people have a genetic inclination towards language acquisition.

It is widely accepted that genetics impacts an individual's ability to learn languages. However, these experiments are not definite proof that ability in new languages is based on biology. In fact, the distinctive brain structure of polyglots is more likely to be a result of the regular stimulus that occurs through learning languages. If a person uses certain areas of his or her brain more frequently, such as those associated with studying languages, it can lead to the alteration of the structure of this organ. Therefore, the physical differences found in polyglots are probably the result of behavioural factors such as regular language learning, rather than the cause.

15 Scientists generally agree that language ability is due to biological factors.

16 An area of the brain is a different shape in people who speak several languages.

17 Genetics can influence a person's ability in their native language.

18 A polyglot's different brain structure is not something they are born with.

08

Studying the Benefits of Cacao

Used to make chocolate and a range of other cacao products, cacao beans are actually the seeds of the cacao tree, which grows throughout the tropical regions of Central and South America. Eating these seeds has long been thought to have positive effects on people's health. Cacao is generally considered to be a good source of antioxidants including flavonoids, which can stop or prevent cell damage. One study conducted by Cornell University has discovered that a cup of hot cocoa, a warm chocolate drink made from cacao, has far more antioxidants than a similar serving of red wine or tea. Indeed, eating or drinking some chocolate is a good way to get a regular dose of cacao, the positive effects of which offset the calories if consumed in moderation.

Scientists have also studied the effects of consuming cacao on rates of heart disease, cancer, and diabetes, with some surprising results. Norman Hollenberg, a professor of radiology at Harvard Medical School, conducted a study on the Kuna people in Panama, who drink more than five cups of cacao every day. Hollenberg discovered that four of the five most common fatal diseases - strokes, heart failure, cancer and diabetes - were much less common among the Kuna than among other Panamanian people. While Hollenberg's study is fascinating, the observational nature of his research means his findings do not indicate scientific proof that cacao would have the same benefits for everyone. The isolation of the Kuna people from the outside world also makes Hollenberg's research results questionable. Nevertheless, it is apparent that cacao intake does have some link with reduced rates of

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disease. Therefore, although further studies need to be carried out on how exactly cacao affects the body, more people should consider eating it regularly.

Questions 1-5

Do the following statements agree with the claims of the writer in Reading Passage 1?

Write

YES if the statement agrees with the claims of the writer

NO if the statement contradicts the claims of the writer

NOT GIVEN it is impossible to say what the writer thinks about this

1 There is a higher amount of antioxidants in cocoa than wine.

2 Regularly eating large amounts of chocolate is beneficial.

3 The Kuna people rely on cacao for many essential nutrients.

4 Cancer is the only disease that is less common among the Kuna.

5 The Kuna's isolation raises questions about the claim that eating cacao is beneficial to everyone.

09

Families with Different 'Tongues'

In many families, parents speak two different native languages, and they must decide which one their child learns

Learning multiple languages is often said to be a positive activity. And in many cases, learning a second language is a choice. But what about bilingual families that have a mother and father whose native languages are different? Should the children of the household be forced to learn both the 'mother' and 'father' tongues? The truth is that it should be determined by the significance of the two languages globally. If both languages are of practical use to the children throughout their life, then the pros outweigh the cons. Imagine a family in Germany with a German-speaking father and a Chinese-speaking mother. It might seem impractical for a child in the household to learn Chinese. The languages are very different, so the effort and time involved in learning the mother's language would be significant. In addition, the opportunities to utilise it outside the household might be limited for a child.

Despite these drawbacks, learning Chinese for this child would be useful for several reasons. First, the child would be able to communicate with the mother's side of the family, such as during a visit to grandparents in China. Perhaps more importantly, though, learning both languages would give the child a competitive advantage in the job market. According to the Chinese embassy in Berlin, there are now several thousand Chinese companies with offices in Germany. There are also an increasing number of Chinese investors buying German firms. These companies often conduct their business in both languages, and therefore are in need of people who can use both. Thus, because demand for people who are bilingual in German and Chinese is on the rise, the child would have unique career

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opportunities that are not available to monolingual language users.

Questions 1-5

Do the following statements agree with the claims of the writer in Reading Passage 2?

Write

YES if the statement agrees with the claims of the writer

NO if the statement contradicts the claims of the writer

NOT GIVEN it is impossible to say what the writer thinks about this

6 Parents should always teach their native language to their children.

7 Chinese is the most useful language to learn in the current global economy.

8 More and more German companies are being taken over by Chinese investors.

9 Many monolingual people are losing jobs to people who are bilingual.

Question 10

Choose the correct letter, A, B, C or D.

10 According to the writer, learning languages of both parents is beneficial if

A the child is not forced to learn them by the mother and father.

B the child has an interest in learning both of them.

C both of them are equally easy for the child to learn.

D both of them offer a useful advantage to the child.

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