Are you afraid of anything?

Reading

Read the text and choose the correct answer.

A phobia is a strong fear of something, even if that thing is not likely to cause harm. As the definition suggests, people with specific phobias fear a particular thing. For example, a person with claustrophobia is scared of being in small spaces. In contrast, those with social phobias worry about the reaction of other people in certain situations. Glossophobia, the fear of speaking in public, is a common example.

The cause of social phobias is not clear, but scientists think there are several reasons for specific phobias. In some cases, they develop because of a real danger. For instance, if a child has an allergy to bee stings, she might develop a phobia of bees. This happens because she knows they are a risk to her safety. In other cases, bad past experiences can cause phobias. A man who has an illness after eating mushrooms might develop fungophobia, for example. Finally, a child who hates injections might develop a phobia of sharp objects that can cause injury.

Specific phobias are rarely a serious problem. A person with a snake phobia may have a small accident running away from a cobra, but may never be actually bitten by one. In contrast, social phobias can be more serious. In the worst cases, people avoid most social situations and hardly ever go out.

Which is FALSE ?

a) A glossophobia is to be scared to talk in public.
b) There are many phobias.
c) All phobias are fear to something that cause harm.

Which is TRUE ?

a) Risks and real danger may cause a phobia.
b) Risks and real danger always causes a phobia.
c) Risks and real danger never cause a phobia.

Specific phobias _____
a) are always common. b) sometimes are difficult to overcome
c) are related to particular objects or situations.

Glossophobia _____
a) is the fear to standing up in the middle of public.
b) is a common type of phobia.
c) can be overcome with special training.

Fungophobia is NOT _____
a) a phobia of eating mushrooms.
b) common in the USA.
c) a phobia of sharp objects.

Specific phobias _____
a) are the most serious ones.
b) tend to kill people c) A and B are wrong

What type of phobias are more risky?
a) Social Phobias b) Specific phobias c) Glossophobia

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