USE OF ENGLISH

Fill in the gaps with one word. Use the context to predict:

EMOTION IN BOOKS

Something appears to _____ happened to the emotional content of books published in the UK. Researchers from the University of Bristol analysed the frequency with _____ 'mood' words -those reflecting anger, disgust, fear, joy, sadness and surprise- were used in as _____ as 5 million books between 1900 and 2000. _____ to one of the researchers, Dr Alberto Acerbi, 'the average book published in 1900 has 14% more emotional content than the average book in 2000.' In _____ words, 'a book with 1,000 emotional words in 1900 would have 877 in 2000.'

In _____ to this decline in emotional content, the research team found some interesting differences between British books and those published in the USA have developed since the 1960s. _____ having more emotional content than their British counterparts, American books now contain more content-free words. These are words that carry _____ or no meaning on their _____, such as *and* or *but*, and articles like *the*.

What is the significance of those changes? The researchers say that further work is needed to deal with this question adequately.