

## CHAPTER 8 - FUTURE TALK

**PART A: Vocabulary**

Complete the chart below by adding the missing word forms. Then, choose words from the chart to complete the sentences that follow.

| Noun          | Verb        | Adjective     |
|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| variety       | 1.          | various       |
| communication | communicate | communicative |
| entertainment | entertain   | entertaining  |
| 2.            | collaborate | collaborative |

3. The new ice cream store sells a \_\_\_\_\_ of flavors — chocolate, mint cookie, and many more.
4. Our teacher asked three of my classmates and me to \_\_\_\_\_ on a research project. The four of us go to the library every day after school to work on it.
5. Alicia and Sam saw a very \_\_\_\_\_ movie last night. They laughed at all the jokes and had a great time.

**PART B: Language Focus**

Write **too much**, **too many**, or **enough** in the blanks to complete the sentences below.

1. I feel very nervous. Maybe I drank \_\_\_\_\_ coffee.
2. I would like to buy that DVD player, but I don't have \_\_\_\_\_ money.
3. I think I ordered \_\_\_\_\_ french fries. Will you help me eat them?
4. I would like to invite my friend over for dinner. Is there \_\_\_\_\_ food for her?
5. I dislike vacationing in the mountains. There are \_\_\_\_\_ mosquitoes!

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**PART C: Comprehension**

1. Bill Gates says that the home of the future will have thin flat screens covering the walls.

What will these screens be used for?

- A. decorating
- B. replacing for wallet or cell phone or newspaper
- C. reducing costs

2. What are some of the problems that worry Bill Gates about the future?

- A. growing population, food and water shortages
- B. pollution, games
- C. violence, communication

**PART D: Reading comprehension**

*Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.*

**Living Lefty**

What do Ronald Reagan, George H. W. Bush, Bill Clinton, and Barack Obama all have in common? Of course, they have all been president of the United States. But there is something else. They are all left-handed.

Depending on where you get your information, left-handed people make up only about 10 to 20 percent of the population. However, recent studies show that a higher percentage of people with IQs over 140 are left-handed.

Four of the five original Macintosh computer designers were lefties. Musical geniuses Kurt Cobain and Jimi Hendricks were both left-handed. Speaking of geniuses, Albert Einstein, Isaac Newton, Benjamin Franklin, and the artist Michelangelo were also all left-handed. And the list goes on and on.

Throughout history, left-handers have achieved greatness in many areas. Lefties seem to be particularly outstanding in creative, sporting, and artistic fields, possibly because lefties appear to have a greater natural talent for lateral thinking<sup>1</sup> and creativity. The reason for this might be that the right side of the brain, which controls the left side of the body, is dominant<sup>2</sup>, and thus more developed than that of right-handed people.

Being left-handed, however, isn't always a gift. Left-handed people have to suffer through countless daily problems simply because they are left-handed. So much in our world assumes that everyone is right-handed. That can be frustrating for left-handed people. The design of such mundane items as school desks, scissors, computer mice and keyboards, and even power tools can be a real challenge to use for lefties, since they are normally designed with the right-handed user in mind.

In addition to the obstacles left-handed people face in daily life, for some reason left-handedness has been looked down upon for years. In fact, many cultures have forced their children to become right-handed, even if they were naturally left-handed. Luckily, this has changed in recent times.

Though being left-handed can be difficult at times, there is no denying that there is something mysterious and fascinating about left-handed people. Despite the hardships many left-handed people face, it is clear that left-handedness can be a benefit, and not a disadvantage, as some might believe. Many of the greatest people to have ever lived were left-handed. So, if you're left-handed, be proud. It just might lead you to your own greatness.

1. The reading is primarily about \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. why being left-handed is better than being right-handed
  - B. which famous people are left-handed
  - C. why being left-handed is a problem for many
  - D. both advantages and disadvantages of being left-handed
  
2. According to the article, left-handed people \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. mostly have IQs over 140
  - B. make up around 10–20% of the population
  - C. are more likely to use Macintosh computers
  - D. are dominant in history
  
3. Which of the following people was not mentioned as left-handed?
  - A. Bill Clinton
  - B. Isaac Newton
  - C. Abraham Lincoln
  - D. Michelangelo
  
4. The reading infers that lefties might be more creative than right-handed people due to the dominance of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. the right side of the brain
  - B. the left-hand side of the body
  - C. lateral thinking
  - D. their creativity
  
5. In paragraph 6, the pronoun "they" in "even if they were naturally left-handed," refers to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. cultures
  - B. children
  - C. people
  - D. obstacles