

Exercise 4

Read the statements. What opinions are being expressed by the phrases in bold? Choose the correct answers.

1. **It goes without saying that** a country's culture is fundamentally shaped by its past.
 - This is obviously true.
 - This is rarely said.
2. **It remains to be seen whether** history will be kept on the school's curriculum.
 - This is continuing to happen.
 - We don't yet know if this will happen.
3. **Beyond doubt**, the popularity of history as a school subject is in decline.
 - This is clearly true.
 - This is difficult to prove.
4. The value of learning historical dates by heart is **open to debate**.
 - It is a controversial subject.
 - There are different opinions about this.
5. **The jury is out** on whether history should be compulsory for all schoolchildren.
 - No decision has been reached.
 - This is a complex legal issue.