

Task 3

Read this short essay by 20th century writer JB Priestley (published in the Sunday Express newspaper) and then look at the sentences following it. Your task is to choose the sentences that best summarize the idea(s) expressed in each paragraph. Write the letters in the white boxes next to the numbers. An example has been given for you.

JB Priestley's Delights

0) *Priestley's timeless, uplifting essays on the nature of delight have proved a huge hit with Sunday Express readers. Please keep your own delights coming – we will publish our third collection of your contributions soon.*

Women and Clothes

16) Women who say they are indifferent to clothes, like men who say they do not mind what they eat, should be distrusted: there is something wrong. And men who sneer at a woman's passionate concern about dress should be banished to the woods.

17) For my part I delight in women when they go into a conference – and huddle over new clothes. They seem to me then most themselves, and the furthest removed from my sex. They are at such times completely in their own world. They are half children, half witches. Note their attitude during these clothes conferences.

18) For example, their absolute clear sighted realism about themselves. We chaps always peer at ourselves through a haze of goodwill. We never believe we are as fat or as thin as other people say we are. The ladies are free of all such illusions. (Note the direct level glances they give each other on these occasions.)

19) So in their clothes conference, unlike all masculine conferences, there is no clash of illusions. All of them meet on the firm ground of fact. What is known is immediately taken into account: Kate's left shoulder is higher than her right; Meg is very broad across the hips; Phyllis has very short legs.

20) The conference line – and very sensible too – is that we are all imperfect creatures, so how do we make the best of ourselves? (If politicians and their senior officials tried the same line at international conferences, they could change the world in a week.) Yet the whole clothes-huddle is not simply so much grim realism.

21) There is one grand illusion that they all share and never dream of challenging. It is the belief that out of these clothes, with necessary swaps and alterations, beauty and witchery can emerge, that somewhere here is the beginning of an enchanted life. And I for one find this altogether delightful.

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0) A) Readers are asked to send in writings inspired by JB Priestley.
 B) JB Priestley's essays on the delights of nature are uplifting.
 C) Sunday Express readers are unfamiliar with JB Priestley's writings.
 D) A collection of essays by JB Priestley is about to be published.

0)	A
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16) A) People talking about food or clothes are not to be trusted.
 B) Men often sneer at women for their passion about clothes.
 C) Women are as passionate about clothes as men are about food.
 D) There is something wrong with men who keep talking about food.

16)		
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17) A) The author delights in watching women discussing clothes.
 B) The author finds women's attitude to clothes quite childish.
 C) Men had better not disturb women talking about clothes.
 D) While discussing clothes, women take no interest in the other sex.

17)		
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18) A) Men are less severe critics of each others' looks than women.
 B) Ladies are more realistic about men than men are about themselves.
 C) Men feel good when they are complimented on their appearance.
 D) Ladies have a clearer picture of what they look like than men.

18)		
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19) A) Women are openly critical of each others' figure.
 B) They cling to their illusions about their appearance.
 C) They do not want to shatter each others' illusions.
 D) They sound matter-of-fact when discussing their looks.

19)		
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20) A) Clothes should serve to make us look better.
 B) Politicians should try and improve their looks.
 C) Women have a sense of what is in fashion and what is not.
 D) Clothes huddles are not as grim as political conferences.

20)		
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21) A) Alterations are always necessary to make clothes look beautiful.
 B) For all their realism, women are very romantic about clothes.
 C) For a woman, finding the right clothes is a real challenge.
 D) Women share several illusions about clothes and beauty.

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