

**READING**

1. Read the text below and choose the correct answer (A, B, or C). (6x2 =12)

## When alphabet soup is on the menu for life

WB Yeats, despite becoming our most famous poet and winning the Nobel prize for literature, never learnt to spell. As a child, he had to be taught at home by his father, because he was so bad at school. He once wrote that his father had thrown a book at this head, in frustration at his inability to grasp the basics of reading and writing.

When Yeats was a child, dyslexia was no excuse for being bad at those things. Even in the Fifties, when writer John Irving was a child, bad spelling was considered to be a psychological problem. He was referred to a psychiatrist but subsequently became an internationally acclaimed author. Agatha Christie was, by her own admission, an extraordinarily bad speller.

David Bailey, the photographer, is proud to be dyslexic. 'At the age of 59, I have yet to write a letter,' he has said. 'At school, I was put in the class for the stupid. But maybe dyslexics are the clever ones. Who wants to be an academic? Most of them are visually illiterate.' So many famous artists, writers, musicians, poets and actors have been dyslexic that he might have a point. Even acknowledged geniuses like Leonardo da Vinci and Albert Einstein couldn't spell.

Multi-millionaire businessman Richard Branson says that he was beaten several times a week for poor

classwork and still couldn't read at the age of eight. Aisling Oman says she fared a bit better, because of the fact that her elder brother had already been diagnosed as dyslexic and her parents were able to recognise the symptoms. As a result, Aisling was confident enough to inform all of her teachers of her own diagnosis.

But just what is dyslexia, if it's not a disease? The word itself comes from the Greek and simply means 'difficulty with words'. According to the British Dyslexia Association, it's not a disease, but instead it's a difference in the brain area that deals with language, affecting the underlying skills that are needed to learn to read, write and spell. Many people will never be diagnosed and will instead go through life believing they are stupid or slow.

According to the Dyslexia Institute, in Britain, there is a hypothesis that dyslexic people often have visual, spatial and lateral thinking abilities that other people don't have. 'Yes,' Aisling agrees. 'When I was at school, I was good at metalwork. You tend to be much better at things which don't involve books. Better with your hands.' Just like another famous person, chef and TV celebrity Jamie Oliver. Jamie says that reading bores him to death and that he has never read a book from cover to cover. He prefers things which are touchy-feely – like his superb cooking.

1. What can be learnt about dyslexia from the first two paragraphs?
  - A. It used to be seen as a physical problem.
  - B. It could help people avoid lessons at school.
  - C. It didn't stop people becoming good writers.
  - D. It was once treated more seriously than today.
  
2. The British Dyslexia Association sees dyslexia as a...
  - A. symptom of physical ill health.
  - B. Mental difficulty in recognising words.
  - C. Psychological disorder.
  - D. Difficulty in learning a foreign language.
  
3. What is the point by David Bailey?
  - A. Dyslexics are unable to write formal letter.
  - B. Dyslexics should be taught in special classes.
  - C. Dyslexics are often gifted in other areas.
  - D. Spelling problems can happen to anyone.
  
4. Which sentence best summarises the final paragraph?
  - A. There may be some advantages to being a dyslexic.
  - B. Doing things with their hands makes people feel better.
  - C. Aisling and Jamie are two different types of dyslexic.
  - D. Famous dyslexics are treated better than ordinary people.
  
5. In comparison with Richard Branson, Aisling Oman...
  - A. Had an easier school life.
  - B. Got higher grades.
  - C. Was finally cured.
  - D. Had better teachers.
  
6. In the text as a whole, which of dyslexia aspect is NOT discussed?
  - A. What dyslexia is.
  - B. Examples of individual cases.
  - C. Where the word "dyslexia" originally comes from
  - D. Effective cures.

## WRITING

Choose one of the following topics and write about it (100-150 words). Use relevant vocabulary, connectors and verb tenses. Please follow the appropriate organization.

Do the writing on a Google Doc and share it with your miss.

### **OPTION A:**

Imagine you are on holidays and write a **personal email** to a friend about it. Remember to include:

- \* information about where you are staying;
- \* news about what you have done so far;
- \* what your plans are.

### **OPTION B:**

Choose one of the jobs in the picture. Write a **formal letter of application** based on your curriculum vitae. Remember to include:

- \*what job you apply for
- \*where you saw the advertisement
- \* relevant qualifications and experience
- \*reasons for wanting the job.
- \*contact information

**teen**  
**WORLD JOBS**

## classifieds

**A** **Babysitter needed**  
We need a babysitter to look after our two boys aged 5 and 7 after school from 4 p.m. – 6 p.m., Mon – Fri.  
£40 a week.  
Call Mary on **678345211**

**C** **Holiday job**  
Do you want to earn some extra money this summer? Do you speak another language?  
We need French, Spanish or German speakers to work for us in the City Museum shop Tuesday – Saturday.  
Send your CV to [citmuseum@shopjob.lkj](mailto:citmuseum@shopjob.lkj)

**B** **Newspaper round before school**  
We need young people to deliver newspapers on Mon, Wed and Fri mornings. The paper round takes 30 minutes in the village of Clanbrook. Papers must be delivered before 8 a.m. and you must have your own bike.  
*Interested? Ask for more info at Clanbrook post office.*

**D** **Munchies Café**  
**PART-TIME WORK**  
We are looking for breakfast and lunchtime staff to work in our café on Saturdays.  
Come in (8 a.m. - 4 p.m.) or call Bella on 612398745 (after 4 p.m.)

**CITY MUSEUM**