

Nombre y Apellido: \_\_\_\_\_

ADOLESCENTS / ADULTS 4

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1) Read the following text and answer the questions.

## I Swear by my Tatoo!

Last Sunday I was sitting at a street café enjoying a cup of coffee when my friend Mark, getting too hot in the afternoon sun, rolled up his sleeves. I then found something out about him I didn't know before – he had a tattoo! 'Why yes,' he said to my surprised reaction, 'in fact I have many tattoos – on my arms, legs, chest and back!'

So when did this start? 'It must be about ten years ago now,' Mark said. 'I was travelling around Asia and tattoos were becoming very fashionable. I thought the designs looked really nice and I chose a leaping dolphin – it seemed appropriate as I was on an island in the middle of an ocean.' Yes, it's certainly quite fashionable now – especially among the young. When I was young, tattoos were associated with sailors, bikers and men working at the funfair.

Why has this changed? 'I suppose it's seen as doing something different, a little *risqué* or radical and that appeals to young people. And in Asia it's both easier and cheaper to get a tattoo than, say, the US. There, even a very small tattoo can cost \$50. And did you know that it wasn't until 1999 that New York City lifted its ban on tattooing!' Mark explained.

But as my friend reminded me this is not the first time by any means that tattoos have been fashionable. Although it's not certain exactly where tattooing started, there is lots of evidence that for millions of people throughout time it has been one of the most popular forms of permanent body art. It's been suggested that tattooing may have started in Egypt because tattoos were found on Egyptian mummies from about 2000 BC. 'Ancient Maori warriors,' Mark continued 'used to paint their faces with charcoal before a battle. They then began to make the lines permanent rather than reapplying the charcoal for each battle. In Borneo, men were covered in images of plants and creatures. This provided both camouflage and protection against evil spirits. And in the South Seas Islands, particularly Samoa, tattooing continues to be an art form since it was first noted in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.'

1. How did the writer react to Mark's tattoo?

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2. When had Mark had his first tattoo made?

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3. Where is **Tattooing** thought to have started?

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4. Why did Ancient Maori warriors resort to tattooing?

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5. Why did Mark have his first tattoo made in Asia?

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**2) Read more about Tattooing. Put the verbs in the right tense. Whenever you see a '+' add a modal verb.**

It seems that the first documented evidence of tattooing in Britain was in 787 AD when it was outlawed by the British Council of Churches as a pagan practice. This \_\_\_\_\_ (STOP) people, including royalty. King Harold's body was only identified after the battle of Hastings in 1066 by his tattoos. In the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, tattoos were popular among wealthy socialites. Lady Randolph Churchill, mother of Winston Churchill, \_\_\_\_\_ (HAVE) a small tattoo of a coiled snake around her wrist. Even Queen Victoria herself was rumoured to have a small, discreet tattoo.

And what came after the dolphin? 'Well, I continued the marine theme with different kinds of fish, then an octopus and a starfish. These \_\_\_\_\_ (BE) all on my left leg. I then decided to have a school of barracuda swimming over my left shoulder and the top of my arm. These took a few weeks to have done. In the future, I \_\_\_\_\_ (PLAN) to change the topic of my tattoos.'

\_\_\_\_\_ it \_\_\_\_\_ (HURT) to have a tattoo? 'It depends! If you're feeling relaxed, then usually not. But if you're tired or nervous then you're more sensitive to pain. And it also depends where. Most people start with the top of the arm as this is usually fine, but if the tattoo is over a bone, for example on your foot, then that's a different matter! And it \_\_\_\_\_ (+ BE) very swollen afterwards too.'

Is it safe? 'If it's done in a licensed place, then yes. This \_\_\_\_\_ (MEAN) that precautions are taken at every stage such as fresh needles for each person, everything sterilized and unused ink being thrown away and not returned to the bottle. And if you had any advice for someone who's thinking about getting a tattoo, what \_\_\_\_\_ that \_\_\_\_\_ (+ BE)? ' \_\_\_\_\_ (NOT BE) too serious about it! The people who regret having had a tattoo are those who thought for ages about what would be most appropriate and then chose the name of their girlfriend or boyfriend, or the name of their favourite pop group. Then ten years later, their lives \_\_\_\_\_ (CHANGE) and those influences are less meaningful. They're then stuck with something they don't want. So have one, but do it for fun!'

**3) Read the following review on Ethan's book. Complete the blanks with one word only**

### **Tattoos Tell Stories - Destination Tattoo Reveals the Fun, Facts, and Down Side of Tattooing**

(PRLEAP.COM) Everybody who has a tattoo has a story behind it. Destination Tattoo, the new online resource about tattooing from Falbe Publishing of Chico, California, is accepting submissions of true tattoo stories. People are invited to share the stories behind \_\_\_\_\_ tattoos along with pictures for possible publication at Destination Tattoo. Selected submissions \_\_\_\_\_ allow people to include a link to their personal or commercial websites if desired.

"I'm looking \_\_\_\_\_ everything from the weird to the wonderful," said the publisher Tracy Falbe, a graduate of Chico State University. Her research \_\_\_\_\_ developing the website showed that many people attach great meaning and value to their tattoos. For example, \_\_\_\_\_ mothers now than in the last decade are honoring the births of their children with tattoos and people often remember lost loved ones with memorial tattoos.

And certainly, some people regret their tattoos, which accounts for the growing business of laser tattoo removal. Among the articles at Destination Tattoo that cover subjects such as \_\_\_\_\_ people get tattoos and the health and safety issues of tattoos, information about laser treatments to remove tattoos is included. The cost of tattoo removal is high \_\_\_\_\_ of the multiple treatments required, and it is important that people consider this down side before \_\_\_\_\_ permanently inked with something they might later regret.

Along with giving space to tattoo stories, the new website offers a selection of free tattoo designs for \_\_\_\_\_ looking for inspiration. Tattoo artists interested in promoting their artwork and their websites can add a design to the free gallery.

Falbe, who is \_\_\_\_\_ known as the author of *Get Dicey: Play Craps and Have Fun* and the epic fantasy series *The Rys Chronicles*, plans to gradually expand this tattoo website that is meant to provide people with objective information about tattoos.

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**4) Celia is fifteen and wants to get her neck tattooed. Her mother does not want to hear about it. Celia tells her friend Rosalind about it. Complete their conversation.**

**Celia:** Oh Rosalind, mom is so unfair!

Rosalind: Why? \_\_\_\_\_?

Celia: She said if I did well at school, she would lend me some money.

**Rosalind:** Well, that's not bad at all. My mom said that getting good grades is my duty. But, what went wrong then?

**Celia:** I said \_\_\_\_\_ and she got very angry.

**Rosalind:** Oh, I see, she doesn't want you to get a tattoo.

Celia: Yes, she said she would not lend me money for that.

**Rosalind:** What a drag! \_\_\_\_\_?

Celia: I don't know, maybe I can get a summer job.

**Rosalind:** \_\_\_\_\_?

**Celia:** About \$200.

**Rosalind:** If I were you, \_\_\_\_\_

**Celia:** That's not a bad idea at all! Thanks Ros, you're a great friend.

5) **Writing:** Write between 80 -100 words.

Imagine you are Celia's mom. Write a letter to your best friend telling her about your problems with your daughter and asking for advice about what you should do.