

HACKERS PRACTICE

- 1** The Pueblo Indians were a major cultural influence in the United States' Four Corners region for over one thousand years. Initially, the civilisation was based in individual homesteads in the Colorado Plateau's highlands, where its members farmed and developed various handicrafts, such as pottery and blankets. However, during the 11th and 12th centuries the Pueblo moved into the neighbouring canyons and built the massive multifamily dwellings from which their names are derived. Archaeologist Kristen Kuckelman believes this occurred after persistent droughts made farming on plateau lands impossible. She believes that the region's inhabitants moved into the valleys because they were less impacted by the droughts. After they migrated, they had to learn how to produce food more effectively on less land, so they implemented a system of agricultural cooperation that eventually led to specialism. Once they settled in the canyons, the civilisation became increasingly more communal in order to maximise the returns on its labour.

Do the following statements agree with the information given in the passage?

Write

- TRUE** if the statement agrees with the information
FALSE if the statement contradicts the information
NOT GIVEN if there is no information on this

- 1 The Pueblo got their names from their style of housing.
- 2 The Pueblo people moved into neighbouring communities with more farmland.

homestead n. nhà của vườn tược, ấp trại plateau n. cao nguyên handicraft n. đồ, nghề thủ công canyon n. hẻm núi, hẻm vực dwelling n. chỗ ở, nhà ở persistent adj. kiên gan, bền bỉ communal adj. chung, cộng đồng maximise v. tối đa hóa return n. sản lượng, điểm lợi thu về

- 2** We now know that trees and other vegetation play an invaluable role in reducing air pollution in cities. Not so long ago, in the early 1980s, chemists discovered that trees produce emissions. This prompted the then U.S. President Ronald Reagan to falsely declare, 'Trees cause more pollution than automobiles do.' This, of course, caused people to speculate that trees were harmful, despite the facts that the words 'emission' and 'pollution' are not synonymous and that the president's remark was not accurate. While it is true that trees and plants, like all living things, emit chemical substances as byproducts of their metabolisms, these emissions are not a threat, but instead include the oxygen we breathe and the various chemical compounds that give flowers and shrubs their fresh and fragrant scents. It is only in the presence of significant amounts of man made pollution, like that caused by the emissions of automobiles, that plants and trees release volatile organic hydrocarbons. But when they do, they can become participants in the formation of such ground-level ozone pollution as photochemical smog.

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- 3 A politician in the 1980s incorrectly blamed plants for air pollution.
 4 Plants contribute to photochemical smog as much as automobiles.

emission n. khí thải declare v. công bố speculate v. phỏng đoán, dự đoán synonymous adj. đồng nghĩa by-product n. sản phẩm phụ metabolism n. sự trao đổi chất shrub n. cây bụi volatile adj. dễ bay hơi hydrocarbon n. hydrocacbon photochemical adj. (thuộc) quang hóa

3 Industrialisation and corporate growth in the late 19th century created an environment in which business correspondence increased monumentally, calling for a way to transcribe messages more quickly and legibly than handwritten script. The first device capable of fulfilling this need was the Sholes and Glidden typewriter. However, before it would become a commercial success, certain issues needed to be remedied. For instance, the type bars in their earliest typewriters moved very sluggishly, and the keys and other components tended to jam often. To fix this problem, Sholes - the designer - rearranged the layout of the keyboard so that the letters in subsequent versions of his machine no longer appeared in alphabetical order. Instead, he placed the keys with the intention that the most commonly used letter combinations in the English language, like ST and TH, would be spread far apart from one another. This modification caused a dramatic decline in mechanical jams and typing errors because the new arrangement increased the time it took for users to locate letters. Thereby it ensured that each key had enough time to fall back into its position before the next one was struck. These seemingly small changes were key to making typewriters a useful transcription and correspondence device.

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- 5 Industrialisation created a need for a writing method that was faster than handwriting.
- 6 The type bars on early typewriters had to be replaced often.
- 7 The redesign made locating letters more time-consuming.

correspondence n. trao đổi thư từ monumentally adv. cực kì, tốt bậc call for phr. kêu gọi transcribe v. sao lại, chép/ghi lại remedy v. sửa chữa sluggishly adv. chậm chạp subsequent adj. sau đó, tiếp theo modification n. sửa đổi, thay đổi, điều chỉnh seemingly adv. vẻ bề ngoài, có vẻ

4

While writing utensils have been around since antiquity, the pencil as we know it today only came into existence after the discovery of a large graphite deposit in the 1560s. According to the story, some English shepherds came across an unknown black substance stuck to the roots of a fallen tree, and handling it, found that it left behind a dark mark. Initially, they used it to draw brands on their livestock so that they could more easily differentiate whose sheep was whose, but they soon realised that the graphite, which they called 'black lead', could very easily be formed into sticks and used to write and draw. With string or twigs wrapped around it to reduce its brittleness, a stick of graphite not only required the user to apply less pressure than the metal alloy styluses then in use, but it also produced far darker lines. In addition, it was possible to erase graphite marks using a bit of soft bread and to draw on top of them with ink - neither of which could be done with lead or charcoal. It was not long before people began gluing bits of graphite into grooves cut into strips of wood, thereby creating the much sturdier wooden pencil we are now familiar with.

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- 8 Writing with graphite sticks required more pressure than other writing tools.
- 9 Users could not see graphite marks after they had been inked over.

utensil n. dụng cụ antiquity n. thời cổ xưa come into existence phr. xuất hiện, tồn tại graphite phr. quặng graphit
brand n. sất nung transcription n. bản sao, bản ghi black lead phr. chì đen brittleness n. tính giòn, tính dễ gãy
alloy n. hợp kim stylus n. bút trâm groove n. đường rãnh sturdy adj. dai, chắc chắn

- 5** The ability to make a good impression on people is important to many of us as humans are inherently social creatures driven by a desire to connect with others. However, it can sometimes be difficult to interpret exactly what other people think of us. It would be easy if they all simply saw us the way we try to appear. Unfortunately, everyone we encounter views the world through his or her own unique lens, and people tend to not be very direct about how they feel about others unless in the privacy of their own trusted social circles. It is for this reason that, in order to determine how other people view us, it is sometimes necessary to rely on our metaperceptions.

A metaperception is how a person views others' perceptions of him or herself. Metaperceptions are usually fairly accurate in individuals who have a strong sense of self because these sorts of people are easily able to pick up on how others respond to their words or actions. This enables them to know whether they are liked or not. Individuals with a good sense of who they are tend to have no problems adjusting their behaviours to better suit the situation - if, that is, being liked is their end goal. People with a weak sense of self, on the other hand, are often wrong about how others see them. This is because they often lack self-confidence in the first place and therefore have numerous personal biases. They might, for example, not really like themselves for any number of reasons and therefore think that everyone else hates them, too, when this is not necessarily the case. Conversely, others might believe that they are witty and fun to be around when the reality is that they are rude and burdensome. Unfortunately for people like these, social exclusion and all the negative consequences associated with it sometimes occur as a result.

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- 10 People are generally honest about how they perceive others.
- 11 Those with a strong sense of self usually know how others see them.
- 12 Individuals with weak self-perception fail when they try to adjust their behaviours.

inherently adv. vốn đã metaperception n. nhận thức bản thân qua lăng kính của người khác sense of self phr. ý thức bản thân pick up phr. bắt được, nắm bắt được adjust v. chỉnh sửa bias n. thành kiến conversely adv. ngược lại, trái lại witty adj. hóm hỉnh burdensome adj. nặng nề, phiền toái exclusion n. sự ngoại trừ, sự loại bỏ, sự cô lập

6 Animals use a wide range of signals to communicate with one another. In addition to the auditory cues like barking and meowing that everyone thinks of when considering animal signals, we know that they also utilise chemical, visual, and tactile signals. Using these varied signalling systems or combinations of them, some species have developed highly advanced methods of transferring information to one another. One great example of this was discovered in honeybees by animal behaviourist Karl von Frisch. Dr von Frisch was the first to interpret the round and waggle dances that foraging honeybees perform when they return to the hive. From his research, he found that these were a form of signalling for the bees. Using dances, the bees could communicate the distance and location of sources of high quality pollen. He also noted that by performing the dance in close contact, the bees could also signal the type of food through their scents.

Signalling, however, is not used only for food gathering. Many animals use various means to signal their ownership of a territory and its boundaries. Perhaps the most common is scent marking. In this system, animals mark their territories by rubbing on items or urinating and defecating within their territories to warn other animals. This can also lead to a visual signal to other animals. Brown bears, for instance, rub their scent into trees and often leave behind tufts of hair in the bark. These clumps of hair can signal that the bear was there even after the scent has dissipated.

The great amount of information that animals can communicate using signals raises another important question: Does signalling constitute a language? Noted 19th-century naturalist Charles Darwin conducted basic research into this topic for his book *Descent of Man* (1871). In it, Darwin discussed similarities between animals' auditory signals and human communication. Although he ultimately felt that language distinguished humans from lesser animals, he could not help but notice that baby birds are taught to signal by their parents and that some gibbons utilise musical sounds for courtship and competition with rivals, much like humans.

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- 13 Sounds are one of many communication mechanisms used by animals.
 14 Scent marking conveys less information about territories than other forms of animal signalling.
 15 Similarities between animal signalling and human communication caused Darwin to believe it was a basic language.

auditory adj. (thính) giác tactile adj. xúc giác waggle dance phr. vũ điệu loài ong (vũ điệu hình số 8 của ong mật) forage v. kiếm ăn pollen n. phấn hoa defecate v. tổng chất thải ra khỏi cơ thể tuft n. bụi, chùm clump n. bụi, cục dissipate v. xua tan, làm tiêu tan constitute v. cấu tạo, thiết lập naturalist n. nhà tự nhiên học gibbon n. con vượn courtship n. sự tán tỉnh

7 Charles Ives

Born in 1874, modernist composer Charles Ives studied music as a child and served as a church organist during his youth. Influenced by his father, who was a bandleader in the army, he went on to compose religious choral pieces at Yale University. Yet despite his talent and penchant for music, Ives was a businessman for most of his life.

Ives joined the insurance agency Charles H. Raymond & Co. in 1899 but left to found an insurance business of his own with one of his colleagues, Julian Myrick, in 1907. Ives quickly earned a reputation among his peers for being a shrewd businessman who was adept at making money. However, believing that insurance was, first and foremost, a means of benefiting the public, he upheld the humanitarian ideals of the industry and had no involvement in the corruption scandals prevalent within it during his time. When he retired in 1930, Ives and Myrick's firm was the largest of its kind in America.

Ives' business success so overshadowed his musical endeavours that some of his friends were entirely unaware that he was a composer. Publishing pieces at his own expense and having them performed in obscure places by little-known musicians, Ives kept his distance from the mainstream musical community. His doing so gave him the confidence to experiment, borrowing elements from a variety of musical genres. For instance, he integrated the popular music and religious choral pieces of his teenage and college years with European concert music. It was his creativity and ability to mix genres that ultimately brought him renown among music critics.

The work that best epitomises his talent for synthesis is Piano Sonata No. 2, more commonly known as Concord Sonata. The piece was inspired by the American transcendentalist writers of the 19th century, who were active in the vicinity of Concord, Massachusetts. One of the central tenets of transcendentalism was that personal intuition, rather than society and its various institutions, opened the gateway to imagination. Utilising quotations from Beethoven, excerpts from popular and religious music, and sounds from everyday life, such as trains, Ives attempted to capture this spirit in his sonata. Public performances of the work also included an experimental dimension: before each of the four movements, Ives read from the works of the authors that inspired them - Emerson, Hawthorne, the Alcott family, and Thoreau. The sonata had a triumphant premiere in 1938 - more than 20 years after it had been completed - and news of his work soon spread.

9 years later, in 1947, Ives rose to the very forefront of classical music when he was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Symphony No. 3. Despite gaining this acknowledgement for his musical contribution during his lifetime, he did not live to see many of his works performed live, and Ives' fame among the public was mostly posthumous. Today, Ives is regarded as a pioneer in American musical history, and his reputation continues to grow. In the last 15 years of the 20th century alone, at least twenty books were released about his life and work.

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- 16 Corruption was widespread among insurance firms during Charles Ives's time.
- 17 The mainstream musical community was strictly against experimentation.
- 18 Ives did not use popular and religious music in his sonata.
- 19 Charles Ives received no recognition for his work until after he had passed away.

choral adj. (thuộc) đội hợp xướng **penchant** n. thiên hướng **shrewd** adj. khôn ngoan, sắc sảo **be adept at** phr. tinh thông **uphold** v. duy trì **humanitarian** adj. thuộc chủ nghĩa nhân đạo **ideal** n. lý tưởng **overshadow** v. che bóng, làm lu mờ **obscure** adj. tối mờ, không rõ nghĩa **integrate** v. tích hợp **epitomise** v. thể hiện tốt nhất **synthesis** n. sự tổng hợp/ kết hợp **transcendentalist** n. người theo chủ nghĩa siêu việt **in the vicinity of** phr. vùng lân cận của **tenet** n. nguyên lý, giáo lý **triumphant** adj. thắng lợi/ thành công **premiere** n. buổi công chiếu **poethumoue** adj. xảy ra sau khi chết