

Scientists believe that laughter is not just about (1) _____ or amusement. Instead, it may have evolved as an important (2) _____, helping early humans survive. One theory suggests that laughter (3) _____ as a form of (4) _____, allowing early humans to strengthen connections within their groups.

Another theory argues that laughter developed as a (5) _____, a way to signal that a (6) _____ had passed. In this sense, laughter may have helped regulate emotions and reduce (7) _____. When we laugh, our brains release (8) _____, chemicals that promote feelings of happiness and even (9) _____.

Interestingly, laughter is not (10) _____ to humans. Studies show that some (11) _____, like chimpanzees, produce laughter-like sounds when they play. This suggests that laughter has deep (12) _____ roots, rather than being purely a cultural phenomenon.

While laughter is (13) _____, humor itself varies between different (14) _____.

What one society finds funny might not make sense to another. This highlights the (15) _____ of laughter—not just as an instinctive response but also as a behavior shaped by (16) _____.