



READING

1 BEFORE YOU READ Work with a partner. Ask and answer the questions below.

- Would you like to have a twin brother/sister?
- What would you do if you had a twin brother/sister?
- Would you like to study the science of twins?

2 Read the text beside; then answer these questions.

1 How are identical twins formed?

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2 What do identical twins have in common?

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3 How did Mathew and Alan meet each other?

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4 How did Mathew and Alan react when they met each other?

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5 Why had researchers stopped studying Mathew and Alan?

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3 Answer True or False.

1 Scientists don't like to study twins.

T F

2 Nurture and Nature are different issues.

T F

3 Mathew and Alan never met each other.

T F

4 Mathew and Alan were part of a scientific study.

T F

5 Researchers didn't stop studying Mathew and Alan.

T F

IDENTICAL TWINS



Twins, particularly identical twins, have always intrigued researchers. Identical twins develop from one egg, have indistinguishable DNA, and are as a rule exceptionally comparative in appearance and behavior. There have been numerous studies of indistinguishable twins raised within the same family. There have also been a number of studies about identical twins isolated at birth and raised in separate families. These studies have provided interesting data about the effect of nature (hereditary qualities) and nurture (the environment) on the advancement of the individual. However, a few of the considerations have been disputable.

There is an example of Mathew Hunt and Alan Kittelson. Mathew and Alan were identical twins separated since they were born. Both boys knew that their parents had adopted them as infants, but neither boy knew about his twin. When Mathew grew up, he longed to meet his biological mother, so he contacted the agency that had arranged the adoption. He had been doing research on his birth mother when he made a surprising discovery. He had an identical twin. Even more surprising, he learned that he had been part of a secret scientific study. At the time of the adoption, the agency had allowed different families to adopt each twin. The agency had told the families that their child was part of a scientific study. However, it had never told the families the goal of the study: for scientists to investigate nature versus nurture.

When Mathew and Alan finally met as adults, they were amazed. They had many similarities. They looked almost identical. They had both studied engineering. They both loved to play basketball. Together, the twins discovered that the researchers had stopped the study before the end because the public strongly disapproved of this type of research.

Although that study ended early, many scientists today make a strong case for the dominant role of nature. Mathew and Alan agree that genetics explains many of their similarities. However, recent research suggests that nurture is equally important. It is clear that the nature versus nurture debate will occupy scientists for years to come.



LISTENING

1 BEFORE YOU LISTEN Work with a partner. Ask and answer the questions below.

- If you were a twin, would you like to be part of a study?
- Which one do you think is better: biological parents or fraternal parents? Why?
- In the future, would you like to get twins?

2 Listen to the following story about Twin World by Cory Daniels and do the exercises below.

TWIN WORLD

BY CORY DANIELS

3 Answer True, False or Doesn't say.

1 Cory included his twins in a study.

T F Doesn't say

2 Ana has never liked the study of twin all her life.

T F Doesn't say

3 Ana has a twin sister.

T F Doesn't say

4 Ana wanted to include her twin in a study because she had read a lot of twins studies.

T F Doesn't say

5 Anna refused to enroll her twins because scientists had wanted to get a DNA sample.

T F Doesn't say

**4**

Answer the following questions.

1 Why didn't Cory want to enroll his twins in a study after he had read Ana's experience?

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2 Why had Ana been interested in twins?

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3 When did Ana decide to enroll her twins in a study?

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4 How old did her twins have to be for being part of a study?

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5 Why didn't Ana want to enroll her twin in the study?

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WRITING

1 Write a paragraph about the following statement:

Imagine that you had a twin brother/sister and you just have realized. How would you react? What would you do? Would you like to know why you were separated at birth? Would you do a DNA study to prove that he/she is your twin?

Don't forget to include specific details and examples.



SPEAKING

1 Find your twin. Answer the following questions. After, based on your answers, ask the same questions to your classmates and find who you have the most similar responses; then he or she will be your twin. Don't forget to tell the class who is your twin and why.

QUESTIONS	YOU	CLASSMATE 1	CLASSMATE 2
1 Where had you worked before you finished school?			
2 What dreams couldn't you achieve because you hadn't had enough money?			
3 What bad experience had you had before you decided to study here?			
4 How long had you been waiting to get on the bus by 2 o'clock?			
5 What had you done when you reached 18 years old?			
6 What had you been doing before the class started?			

FREEDOM ACADEMY

