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IELTS Reading - Matching Features

Matching features Practice exercise 1

Answer questions 1-7 which are based on the reading passage below.

Objects From Different Civilizations Reading Passage

Objects from lost civilisations can tell us about the social relationships and the way of life of the people belonging to those societies. The Indus valley civilisation and the Chinese civilisation have been influential with their innovations and contributions to advanced technology. The Indus Valley civilization is also called the Harappan civilization. Developing along the mighty Indus River, it was at its peak around 2500 and 3500 BC. This Bronze Age civilisation is believed to be among the oldest world civilisations together with the Egyptian and Mesopotamian civilisations. The famous figurine of the dancing girl from the Harappa region shows the advances made in art and metallurgy at the time. The statue describes details such as the hairstyle and ornaments prevalent then such as the more than 20 bangles in her left arm and four on her right arm, and the necklace. Although the bronze statuette is in standing position, it was named the dancing girl by assuming that it was her profession.

The seals are other famous objects from the Bronze Age. Seals are beautifully carved out of stone and then fired for durability. Over 3,500 seals discovered are mostly square with different symbols at the top, an animal in the centre and a few more symbols at the bottom are, which are presumed to be the inscription of the Indus valley language. The inscription indicates that people of this age wrote the first line from right to left, the second line from left to right and so on. Some common animal inscriptions on these seals include elephants, unicorns, rhinoceros, and bulls. On the reverse face, most seals have projections with a hole to possibly carry it comfortably. The imprint on some of the seals suggests that they were used as clay tags for sacks of traded goods such as grain, which means that the Harappan people were involved in long-distance trading networks. Hunting tools show that the Indus people were fond of game. Many of the toys are carts and animals made from baked clay, and most were for children, which has led to the conclusion that the people had an active social life.

Standardised measurement is another valuable contribution of the Indus valley people. The oldest ruler with markings was a copper alloy rod found by a German archaeologist and he claims that it was used as a standard measurement unit.

He mentions that the measurements on the ruler are divided into units that correspond to 1.32 inches which are further divided into perfectly calculated decimal subdivisions. Measurements of the bricks found in excavations of the Mohenjo Daro and Harappan civilisations match with those on the ruler mentioned by the German archaeologist.

China was the first nation to invent paper. In the older civilisations, words were written on natural materials such as grass stalks, earthen plates, wood and bamboo strips, tree leaves, and sheepskins. The first paper from the Chinese people was known as bo and was made of silk. However, it was expensive. In the 2nd century, a new kind of paper was produced from rags, bark, wheat stalks, and other materials, which was not only cheaper but was also durable and could be used for brush writing. Papermaking had spread to other parts of the world in the beginning of the third century. Ancient China also gets credit for the invention of gunpowder. In a collection of most important military techniques as described in Wujing Zongyao that was edited in 1044 by Zeng Gong Liang, three formulas of making gunpowder were discovered and have been described as the earliest formulas of such kinds. Another significant gift from China was the compass. It was developed after some miners got hold of a piece of a natural magnetite that attracted iron and pointed north. The compass that we use today is a result of a series of improvements to the earliest design. Before it was invented, navigators depended on the position of the moon, sun, and the polestar for their bearings.

Questions 1-7

The reading passage mentions a number of objects/achievements related to Indus Valley and Chinese civilisations and their relevance.

Match each object/ achievement (Questions 1-7) in List A with its relevance (A-J) in List B.

Write the correct letter, A-J, as your answer.

List A

1 figurine of the dancing girl
2 seals for marking goods
3 weapons for hunting
4 toys for children
5 copper alloy ruler
6 production of paper from plant material
7 invention of the compass

List B

A strength and affordability of a product
B the various uses of clay
C spread of commerce in a wide area
D advancements in metal craft
E recognition of dance as a profession
F social activity
G a consequence of the discovery of natural magnet
H navigators depended on astronomical bodies
I use of standard measurements in construction
J the consumption of wild birds and animals as food

Objects From Different Civilizations Reading Answers

1.D
Explanation: Paragraph 2 - This famous figurine of the dancing girl from the Harappa region shows the advances made in art and metallurgy at the time.

2.C
Explanation: Paragraph 3 - The imprint on some of the seals suggests that they were used as clay tags for sacks of traded goods such as grain, which indicates that the Harappan people were involved in long-distance trading networks.

3.J
Explanation: Paragraph 3 - Hunting tools indicate that the Indus people were fond of game. 'Game'- wild animals and birds that are hunted for food or sport are also called game

4.F
Explanation: Paragraph 3 - Many of the toys are carts and animals made from baked clay, and most were for children, which has led to the conclusion that the people had an active social life.

5.I
Explanation: Paragraph 4 - The oldest ruler with markings was a copper alloy rod, found by a German archaeologist and he claims that it was used as a standard measurement unit ... Measurements of the bricks found in excavations of the Mohenjo Daro and Harappan civilisations match with those on the ruler mentioned by the German archaeologist.

6.A
Explanation: Paragraph 6 - In the 2nd century, a new kind of paper was produced from rags, bark, wheat stalks, and other materials, which was not only cheaper but was also durable ...

7.G

Explanation: Paragraph 6 - Another significant gift from China was the compass. It was developed after some miners got hold of a piece of a natural magnetite that attracted iron and pointed north.

Matching Features Practice Exercise 2

Answer questions 1-5 which are based on the reading passage below.

Why can't we live forever? Reading Passage

The only certainties in life, said Benjamin Franklin, are death and taxes. Don't expect eithe to disappear anytime soon. The prospects for a longer life currently seem rosy, at least if yo, are a laboratory mouse. This year has seen headlines about mice, engineered to produce lots of antioxidants, who can live 20 percent longer than usual, and equally impressive gain for animals altered to produce high levels of a peptide hormone known as Klotho (after the minor Greek deity). Ultra-low-calorie diets, big doses of vitamin E, and even transferring ovaries from a younger mouse into elderly females also seem to extend lifespan. Shepherds may say that sheep are just looking for new ways to die, but mice seem to be susceptible to almost anything that can make them live a bit longer.

So what are the prospects for a rather larger mammal that normally lives 70-80 years, and very occasionally makes it to 120 before keeling over? Will, what works in mice, work in humans?
There are well-publicised optimists who think it will. The most often quoted is Aubrey de Grey of Cambridge, a proponent of a big expansion of research on what he has called Strategies for Engineered Negligible Senescence. He is also one of the leading lights of the Methuselah Mouse Prize, which is offered to the scientific team that develops the longest lived mouse.

But for all his energy and revolutionary zeal, Professor de Grey is not actually doing the research - his day job is as a computer expert in a genetics lab. And many researchers in biogerontology are sceptical about his predictions. That scepticism came through recently when Tom Kirkwood of the University of Newcastle's Institute for Ageing and Health asked in Nature: “Why must advocates of life extension make preposterous claims about imminent longevity gains if they are to gain public notice?"

Professor Kirkwood is the author of the influential 'disposable soma’ theory of ageing that states the body decays because there is little genetic interest in keeping it going beyond reproductive age. This means that he sees no programmed limit to lifespan, in mice or people. Ageing is a biological sin of omission, not commission. So perhaps we could block whatever is doing the damage. But, he stresses, “This does not imply that major increases in lifespan are imminent. As we grow older , the accumulated burden of molecular and cellular damage increases and the going gets harder."

Others in the field tend to agree. One reason is simply that ageing is very complex, and e do not know enough to make sensible predictions. Caleb Finch of the University of Southern California says: “I have a simple view: we don't know what we don't know about egeing processes. So, what can be said on future longevity?"

Linda Partridge of University College London's Centre for Research on Ageing, well known for work on fruit flies, backs Professor Kirkwood. In any case, she adds, "I think that we should be working to promote health during ageing rather than on increases in lifespan per et." Either way, she believes that “Progress will be gradual and based on existing promising areas of work, rather than based on unproven approaches”.

Her colleague David Gems, who works on nematode worms, is optimistic that the basic biology of ageing will be understood in the next decade or two. But he stresses that how easily this translates into treating or preventing ageing-related diseases depends on what ageing really turns out to be: "There's a huge margin of uncertainty." He suggests that cancer treatments are a better historical guide than, say, antibiotics - and most cancers femain incurable.

Martin Brand of the Medical Research Council's Dunn Human Nutrition Unit in Cambridge also urges caution. "There have been spectacular increases in lifespan caused by simple treatments and mutations in model organisms," he concedes. But he is mindful that flies and mice in the laboratory tend to live shorter lives than wild strains. "I worry that these results can be explained as putting right bad husbandry of the model organisms rather than affecting ageing itself.”

Questions 1-5

Look at the following statements and the list of people below.
Match each statement with the correct person.
NB - You may use any answer more than once.

1. The condition of the body starts to decline when we can't have offspring.
2.Only two things are predictable in life.
3. Living longer is less important than how healthy we are as we age.
4.People make ridiculous statements about how long we can live.
5. We can't predict the future because we don't know enough about the ageing proces

List of People

A Aubrey de Grey
B Caleb Finch
C David Gems
D Linda Partridge
E Benjamin Franklin
F Martin Brand
G Tom Kirkwood

Why can't we live forever? Reading Answers

1.G
Explanation: Paragraph 5 - Professor Kirkwood is the author of the influential 'disposable soma' theory of ageing that states the body decays because there is little genetic interest in keeping it going beyond reproductive age.

2.E
Explanation: Paragraph 1 - The only certainties in life, said Benjamin Franklin, are death and taxes.

3.D
Explanation: Paragraph 7 - Linda Partridge of University ... she adds, “I think that we should be working to promote health during ageing rather than on increases in lifespan per se.

4.G
Explanation: Paragraph 4 - Tom Kirkwood of the University of Newcastle's Institute for Ageing and Health asked in Nature: "Why must advocates of life extension make preposterous claims about imminent longevity gains if they are to gain public notice?"

5.B
Explanation: Paragraph 6 - Caleb Finch of the University of Southern California says: “I have a simple view: we don't know what we don't know about ageing processes. So, what can be said on future longevity?"

Matching Features Practice Exercise 3

Answer questions 1-5 which are based on the reading passage below.

Migraine Reading Passage

"One pill makes you larger, and one pill makes you small and the ones that mother gives you, dors do anything at all," words from 'Alice in Wonderland'. It is believed that Lewis Carroll, who made us experience this wonderful journey of 'Alice in Wonderland' also suffered from a Migraine. Migraine is a complex disorder pertaining to the head, which involves the recurrence of severe and constant headaches. The intensity of headaches ranges from moderate to grievous. Associated symptoms can be hypersensitivity to light, sound or smell, nausea and vomiting. Migraine is assumed to be hereditary and highly influenced by environmental changes. Hormones play a crucial role, especially in the case of boys when they reach puberty, who are majorly affected by migraine as compared to girls of the same age. Contradicting the fact, the number of older female patients is twice or thrice that of males. However, the threat of migraine is less during pregnancy.

In 1988, The International Headache Society provided valuable input on the major classification of migraine - the International Classification of Headache Disorders system - which was later adopted by the World Health Organisation. The research team divided migraine into two prime categories: migraine without aura and migraine with aura. More than three-fourths of the migraine sufferers experience symptoms of migraine without aura: Partial and intense throbbing of the head which lasts for more than 2-3 days associated with nausea and occasional vomiting, blurred or smeared vision and developed sensitivity towards the light, sounds or peculiar smells. In certain cases, symptoms can also comprise stiffness of the neck and shoulders.

The migraine with aura refers to a range of neurological interventions prior to an initial headache Only 20% of migraine sufferers fall in this category. The general complications constitute flashy lights, scintillating scotoma - usually, some zigzag patterns targeting the centre of the vision and encompassing a larger area accompanied with distortions of shapes and figures, blind spots which generally pose threats in the normal working conditions of an individual. Migraine without headaches only comprises 1% of the sufferers. From a tender age Carl, one of the subjects in a study, had seen his father suffer from bouts of severe headaches followed by persistent vomiting leaving him sick in bed. At the age of 45, Carl says," I have been suffering from migraine from the age much younger than my father. It is the worst experience of my life." He further adds, "I mostly feel my genes are responsible for this painful condition. Though I visit the doctor quite often medicines provide limited help."

The classification system also includes some rare types of migraines. A Hemiplegic Migraine where symptoms often start in childhood or teenage sometimes leads to reversible paralysis due to the excessive weakening of muscles. An Ophthalmologic migraine affects the muscles responsible for eye movement. A Vestibular Migraine or Migraine Associated Vertigo (MAV) interferes with the coordination of sensory nerves from the eyes and ears to the brain.

As per 2004 consensus, almost 80% of people suffer from some kind of severe pain in the head As per which results in high absenteeism in schools, offices and other institutions. How is a headache different from a migraine? A headache is generally an acute pain in the head extending to the neck. As per the researchers at the Mayo Clinic, headaches are discomfort or pain in the head or face. In technical terms, headache is called cephalgias. Headaches can be caused as a result of disturbances in the network of nerves over the scalp, throat, face, resulting in turbulent blood vessels . Tension headaches are the most common types of headaches, the symptoms being acute pain in the temples and back of the neck. Experts believe this could be possible due to changes in brain chemicals. Over-the-counter drugs can give some relief.

Another most frequent headache is a cluster headache. This is more common in men. It causes excruciating pain on one side of the head, accompanied by watery eyes and, at times, nasal congestion. The source and cause are unknown, but hereditary conditions are somewhere to be blamed. Though counter medications can curb the pain, no cure is available. A thin line can differentiate a migraine and headaches with the varying degree of pain, where headaches could be an outcome of stress, hangovers or emotional instability, migraine is actually a disease. In the case of Rosemary, a stock consultant who presumed that alcohol triggered her constant headache later through diagnosis by doctors that high level of estrogen in the birth control pills she consumed played the trick. She says. "It is important to know the triggers that cause and try to avoid them. Having a balanced diet is equally important."

Is migraine curable? More than 35 million people suffer from migraines, and no one knows why. Dodick, a neurologist at the Mayo Clinic and president of the American Headache Society, how the thalamus the integral part of the brain which contains sensory information, is for transferring migraine pain directly to pain receptors in the different sections of the. He further states, "Scientists have evolved with a treatment wherein a minuscule battery wired to patient's spine which helps to transmit pulses of electricity to the thalamus. This treatment is called as neurostimulation." Despite this treatment, the antidote is a far-fetched reality. Neurologists from Gulf, Germany and Italy do collectively assert that neurostimulation reduces and controls pain but scientifically it is still an enigma.

To resolve this problem, we need to believe that every brain works differently, and so does its cure. Every treatment has to be unique because so is the brain. Comprehensive research is still awaited to cure this ailment. It is observed that each time science thinks it has pulled strings, many more mysteries emerge. Our brain works singularly; hence, the cure needs to be distinctive.

Questions 1-5

Look at the following categories (Questions 1-5) and the list of descriptions below
Match each category with the correct description, A - G.
Write the correct letter, A - G, in boxes 1-5 on your answer sheet.

1 Migraine without aura
2 Hemiplegic Migraine
3 Migraine Associated Vertigo
4 Cluster headache
5 Tension headache

A disturbs the transmission of messages between brain, eyes and ears
B neurological factors are responsible for headaches head
C causes tense muscles in the neck and both sides of the
D causes discomfort in the eyes and nasal tract along with a severe headache on one side only
E triggered by external stimuli such as typical odour or noise
F could paralyse the body temporarily

Migraine Reading Answers

1.E
Explanation: Paragraph 2 - More than three-fourths of the migraine sufferers experience symptoms of migraine without aura: Partial and intense throbbing of the head which lasts for more than 2-3 days associated with nausea and occasional vomiting, blurred or smeared vision and developed sensitivity towards the light, sounds or peculiar smells

2.F
Explanation: Paragraph 4 - A Hemiplegic Migraine where symptoms often start in childhood or teenage sometimes leads to reversible paralysis due to the excessive weakening of muscles

3.A
Explanation: Paragraph 4 - A Vestibular Migraine or Migraine Associated Vertigo (MAV) interferes with the coordination of sensory inputs from the eyes and ears to the brain

4.D
Explanation: Paragraph 6 - Another most frequent headache is a cluster headache ... It causes excruciating pain on one side of the head, accompanied by watery eyes and, at times, nasal congestion

5.C
Explanation: Paragraph 5 - Tension headaches are the most common types of headaches, the symptoms being acute pain in the temples and back of the neck

Matching Features Practice Exercise 4

Answer questions 1-7 which are based on the reading passage below.

Art To The Aid Of Technology Reading Answers

A. Our brains are incredibly agile machines, and it is hard to think of anything they do more efficiently than recognize faces. Just hours after birth, the eyes of newborns are drawn to facelike patterns. An adult brain knows it is seeing a face within 100 milliseconds, and it takes just over a second to realise that two different pictures of a face, even if they are lit or rotated in very different ways, belong to the same person.

B. Perhaps the most vivid illustration of our gift for recognition is the magic of caricature-the fact that the sparest cartoon of a familiar face, even a single line dashed off in two seconds, can be identified by our brains in an instant. It is often said that a good caricature looks more like a person than the person themselves. As it happens, this notion, counterintuitive though it may sound, is actually supported by research. Located in field of vision science, there is even a term for this seeming paradox-the caricature effect-a phrase that hints at how our brains misperceive faces as much as perceive them.

C. Human faces are all built pretty much the same: two eyes above a nose that's above a mouth, the features varying from person to person generally by mere millimetres. So what our brains look for, according to vision scientists, are the outlying features-those characteristics that deviate most from the ideal face we carry around in our heads, the running average of every "visage" we have ever seen. We code each new face we encounter not in absolute terms but Located in several ways it differs markedly from the mean. In other words, we accentuate what is most important for recognition and largely ignore what is not. Our perception fixates on the upturned nose, the sunken eyes or the fleshy cheeks, making them loom larger. To better identify and remember people, we turn them into caricatures.

D. Ten years ago, we all imagined that as soon as surveillance cameras had been equipped with the appropriate software, the face of a crime suspect would stand out in a crowd. Like a thumbprint, its unique features and configuration would offer a biometric key that could be immediately checked against any database of suspects. But now a decade has passed, and face-recognition systems still perform miserably in real-world conditions. Just recently,a couple who accidentally swapped passports at an airport in England sailed through electronic gates that were supposed to match their faces to file photos.

E. All this leads to an interesting question. What if, to secure our airports and national landmarks, we need to learn more about caricature? After all, it's the skill of the caricaturist-the uncanny ability to quickly distill faces down to their most salient features-that our computers most desperately need to acquire. Clearly, better cameras and faster computers simply aren't going to be enough.

F. At the University of Central Lancashire in England, Charlie Frowd, a senior lecturer in psychology, has used insights from caricature to develop a better police-composite generator. His system, called EvoFIT, produces animated caricatures, with each successive frame showing facial features that are more exaggerated than the last. Frowd's research supports the idea that we all store memories as caricatures, but with our own personal degree of amplification. So, as an animated composite depicts faces at varying stages of caricature, viewers respond to the stage that is most recognizable to them. In tests, Frowd's technique has increased positive identifications from as low as 3 percent to upwards of 30 percent.

G. To achieve similar results in computer face recognition, scientists would need to model the artist's genius even more closely-a feat that might seem impossible if you listen to some of the artists describe their nearly mystical acquisition of skills. Jason Seiler recounts how he trained his mind for years, beginning in middle school, until he gained what he regards as nothing less than a second sight. 'A lot of people think that caricature is about picking out someone's worst feature and exaggerating it as far as you can,' Seiler says. 'That's wrong. Caricature is basically finding the truth. And then you push the truth.' Capturing a likeness, it seems, has less to do with the depiction of individual features than with their placement in relationship to one another. 'It's how the human brain recognizes a face. When the ratios between the features are correct, you see that face instantly.'

H. Pawan Sinha. director of MIT's Sinha Laboratory for Vision Research, and one of the nation's most innovative computer-vision researchers, contends that these simple, exaggerated drawings can be objectively and systematically studied and that such work will lead to breakthroughs in our understanding of both human and machine-based vision. His lab at MIT is preparing to computationally analyze hundreds of caricatures this year, from dozens of different artists, with the hope of tapping their intuitive knowledge of what is and isn't crucial for recognition. He has named this endeavor the Hirschfeld Project, after the famous New York Times caricaturist Al Hirschfeld.

I. Quite simply, by analyzing sketches, Sinha lopes to pinpoint the recurring exaggerations Located in caricatures that most strongly correlate to particular ways that the original faces deviate from the norm. The results, he believes, will ultimately produce a rank-ordered list of the 20 or so facial attributes that are most important for recognition: 'It's a recipe for how to encode the face,' he says. In preliminary tests, the lab has already isolated important areas-for example, the ratio of the height of the forehead to the distance between the top of the nose and the mouth.

J. On a given face, four of 20 such Hirschfeld attributes, as Sinha plans to call them, will be several standard deviations greater than the mean; on another face, a different handful of attributes might exceed the norm. But in all cases, it's the exaggerated areas of the face that hold the key. As matters stand today, an automated system must compare its target faces against the millions of continually altering faces it encounters. But so far, the software doesn't know what to look for amid this onslaught of variables. Armed with the Hirschfeld attributes, Sinha hopes that computers can be trained to focus on the features most salient for recognition, tuning out the others. 'Then.' Sinha says, 'the sky is the limit'.

Questions 7-10

Look at the following statements and the list of people, A-C, below.
Match each statement with the correct person.

7. A single caricature can be recognised straight away if the parts of the face are appropriately positioned.
8. An evaluation of the work of different caricaturists will provide new information about how we see faces.
9. People misunderstand what is involved Located in design of a caricature.
10.When given a choice, people will have different views regarding which caricature best represents a particular person's face.

List of People
A Charlie Frowd
B Jason Seiler
C Pawan Sinha

Art To The Aid Of Technology Reading Answers

7. Answer: B
Explanation: Located in last line of paragraph G, "When the ratios between the features are correct, you see that face instantly".

8. Answer: C
Explanation: Located in the second last line of paragraph H, "from dozens of different artists, with the hope of tapping their intuitive knowledge of what is and isn't crucial for recognition".

9. Answer: B
Explanation: Located in fourth line of paragraph G, "A lot of people think that caricature is about picking out someone's worst feature and exaggerating it as far as you can".

10. Answer: A
Explanation: Located in the fourth line of paragra[h F, “with our own personal degree of amplification. So, as an animated composite depicts faces at varying stages of caricature, viewers respond to the stage that is most recognizable to them”.

Matching Features Practice Exercise 5

Answer questions 1-7 which are based on the reading passage below.

TRY IT AND SEE Reading Answers

In the social sciences, it is often supposed that there can be no such thing as a controlled experiment. Think again.

A. In the scientific pecking order, social scientists are usually looked down on by their peers in the natural sciences. Natural scientists do experiments to test their theories or, if they cannot, they try to look for natural phenomena that can act in lieu of experiments. Social scientists, it is widely thought, do not subject their own hypotheses to any such rigorous treatment. Worse, they peddle their untested hypotheses to governments and try to get them turned into policies.

B. Governments require sellers of new medicines to demonstrate their safety and effectiveness. The accepted gold standard of evidence is a randomised control trial, in which a new drug is compared with the best existing therapy (or with a placebo, if no treatment is available). Patients are assigned to one arm or the other of such a study at random, ensuring that the only difference between the two groups is the new treatment. The best studies also ensure that neither patient nor physician knows which patient is allocated to which therapy. Drug trials must also include enough patients to make it unlikely that chance alone may determine the result.

C. But few education programmes or social initiatives are evaluated in carefully conducted studies prior to their introduction. A case in point is the 'whole-language' approach to reading, which swept much of the English-speaking world in the 1970s and 1980s. The whole-language theory holds that children learn to read best by absorbing contextual clues from texts, not by breaking individual words into their component parts and reassembling them (a method known as phonics). Unfortunately, the educational theorists who pushed the whole-language notion so successfully did not wait for evidence from controlled randomised trials before advancing their claims. Had they done so, they might have concluded, as did an analysis of 52 randomised studies carried out by the US National Reading Panel in 2000, that effective reading instruction requires phonics.

D. To avoid the widespread adoption of misguided ideas, the sensible thing is to experiment first and make policy later. This is the idea behind a trial of restorative justice which is taking place in the English courts. The experiment will include criminals who plead guilty to robbery. Those who agree to participate will be assigned randomly either to sentencing as normal or to participation in a conference in which the offender comes face-to-face with his victim and discusses how he may make emotional and material restitution. The purpose of the trial is to assess whether such restorative justice limits re-offending. If it does, it might be adopted more widely.

E. The idea of experimental evidence is not quite as new to the social sciences as sneering natural scientists might believe. In fact, randomised trials and systematic reviews of evidence were introduced into the social sciences long before they became common in medicine. An apparent example of random allocation is a study carried out in 1927 of how to persuade people to vote in elections. And randomised trials in social work were begun in the 1930s and 1940s. But enthusiasm later waned. This loss of interest can be attributed, at least in part, to the fact that early experiments produced little evidence of positive outcomes. Others suggest that much of the opposition to experimental evaluation stems from a common philosophical malaise among social scientists, who doubt the validity of the natural sciences and therefore reject the potential of knowledge derived from controlled experiments. A more pragmatic factor limiting the growth of evidence-based education and social services may be limitations on the funds available for research.

F. Nevertheless, some 11,000 experimental studies are known in the social sciences {compared with over 250,000 in the medical literature). Randomised trials have been used to evaluate the effectiveness of driver-education programmes, job training schemes, classroom size, psychological counselling for post-traumatic stress disorder and increased investment in public housing. And where they are carried out, they seem to have a healthy dampening effect on otherwise rosy interpretations of the observations.

G. The problem for policymakers is often not too few data, but what to make of multiple and conflicting studies. This is where a body called the Campbell Collaboration comes into its own. This independent non-profit organisation is designed to evaluate existing studies, in a process known as a systematic review. This means attempting to identify every relevant trial of a given question (including studies that have never been published), choosing the best ones using clearly defined criteria for quality, and combining the results in a statistically valid way. An equivalent body, the Cochrane Collaboration, has produced more than 1,004 such reviews in medical fields. The hope is that rigorous review standards will allow Campbell, like Cochrane, to become a trusted and authoritative source of information.

Questions 27-32

Reading Passage has seven paragraphs A-G.
Choose the correct heading for paragraphs B-G from the list of headings below.
Write the correct number i-x in boxes 27-32 on your answer sheet.

List of Headings:

i. Why did some early social science methods lost popularity?
ii. The cost implications of research
iii. Looking ahead to an unbiased assessment of research
iv. A range of social issues that have been usefully studied
v. An example of a poor decision that was made too quickly
vi.What happens when the figures are wrong?
vii. One area of research that is rigorously carried out
viii. The changing nature of medical trials
ix. An investigative study that may lead to a new system
x.Why some scientists' theories are considered second-r

27. Paragraph B
28. Paragraph C
29. Paragraph D
30. Paragraph E
31. Paragraph F
32. Paragraph G

Try It And See Reading Answers

27. Answer: vii
Explanation: In the last line of paragraph B, “Drug trials must also include enough patients to make it unlikely that chance alone may determine the result”.

28. Answer: v
Explanation: In the fifth and sixth lines of paragraph C, “Unfortunately, the educational theorists who pushed the whole-language notion so successfully did not wait for evidence from controlled randomised trials before advancing their claims”.

29. Answer: ix
Explanation: In the last two lines of paragraph D, "The purpose of the trial is to assess whether such restorative justice limits re-offending. If it does, it might be adopted more widely."

30. Answer: i
Explanation: In the entire paragraph E, "The idea of experimental evidence is not quite as new to the social sciences as sneering natural scientists might believe. In fact, randomised trials and systematic reviews of evidence were introduced into the social sciences long before they became common in medicine. An apparent example of random allocation is a study carried out in 1927 of how to persuade people to vote in elections. And randomised trials in social work were begun in the 1930s and 1940s. But enthusiasm later waned. This loss of interest can be attributed, at least in part, to the fact that early experiments produced little evidence of positive outcomes. Others suggest that much of the opposition to experimental evaluation stems from a common philosophical malaise among social scientists, who doubt the validity of the natural sciences and therefore reject the potential of knowledge derived from controlled experiments. A more pragmatic factor limiting the growth of evidence-based education and social services may be limitations on the funds available for research".

31. Answer: iv
Explanation: In the first four lines of paragraph F, " Nevertheless, some 11,000 experimental studies are known in the social sciences {compared with over 250,000 in the medical literature). Randomised trials have been used to evaluate the effectiveness of driver-education programmes, job training schemes, classroom size, psychological counselling for post-traumatic stress disorder and increased investment in public housing".

32. Answer: iii
Explanation: In the last two lines of paragraph D, " The hope is that rigorous review standards will allow Campbell, like Cochrane, to become a trusted and authoritative source of information".

General Reading Matching Features Practice Exercise 1

Pronunciation and Physiognomy Reading Passage

A. Writer Arthur Hue's said that friends of his, whom he met 30 years after they went to the United States, had got an "American physiognomy", - a broadened jaw, a look which is also existing among the local people. An anthropologist friend of his, related this to the increased use of the jaw musculature in American enunciation. This "change of physiognomy" in migrants had already been observed by the historian M. Fishberg in 1910. To restate the words of philosopher Emerson, some national, social and religious people, such as old actors, long-term convicts and celibate priests, to give just a few examples, develop a different "look", which is not easily defined,

but recognised easily. Their way of life affects their facial expression and physical features, giving the wrong impression that these features are hereditary or of racial" origin. All these factors contribute, as well as heredity, hint the question of appearance being affected by pronunciation, as in the ease of American immigrants (including those from other English speaking countries) over the years, is of great curiosity and requires further study into the science of voice production. This can only benefit people in the field of speech therapy, elocution and the pronunciation of foreign languages, and help the students from a purely physiological point of view, Most of the psychological and socio-linguistic factors that inhibit most adult learners of foreign languages from acquiring a "good" pronunciation constitute a completely different and no less important Issue that requires separate investigation.

B. The pronunciation of the various styles of English around the world today is affected by the sound being "played" in different parts of the mouth. We use DUI-speech organs in some ways to produce certain voices, and these muscles have to try to learn new phonemes, Non-Americans should look in the mirror while repeating "I really never heard of poor reward for valour with full use of the USA retroflex phoneme, and see what happens to their jawbones after 3 or 4 repetitions. Imagine the effect of these motions on the jaw muscles after twenty years! This phoneme is one of the most noticeable features of US English and one that non-A merit and is always emphasised when mimicking the accent. Likewise, standard British REL is often mimicked, and its whine of superiority mocked to the point of turning the end of one's nose up as much as possible. Not only does this improve the "performance", but also begs the question of whether this look is the start of the expression "stuck up"?

Question 1-3

Write the appropriate letter in Boxes 1-3 on your answer sheet.

Note that there are more Observations than people, so you will not use all of them.
You can use each observation once only.

Use the information in the text to match the People listed (1-3) with the Observations (A-G).

Observations

A. Americans use their jaw more to enunciate
B. Immigrants acquire physiognomical features common among the Indigenous population
C. Facial expression and physical features are hereditary
D. Lifestyle affects physiognomy

E. Americans have a broadened jaw
F. The appearance of his friends had changed since they moved to the United States
G. The change of countenance was unremarkable

People

1. Koestler
2. Fishberg
3. Emerson

Pronunciation and Physiognomy Reading Answers

1. F. The appearance of his friends had changed since they moved to the United States
Explanation: For the first question, the answer is in the first paragraph, 1st line; "The writer Arthur Hue's tier onto remarked that friends of his, whom he met thirty years after they emigrated to the United States, had acquired an "American physiognomy"

2. B. Immigrants acquire physiognomic features common among the Indigenous population
Explanation: For the second question, the answer is in paragraph from 1st line, "The writer Arthur Hue's tier onto remarked that friends of his, whom he met thirty years after they emigrated to the United States, had acquired an "American physiognomy", i.e. a broadened jaw, an appearance which is also prevalent In the indigenous population. An anthropologist friend of his attributed this to the increased use of the jaw musculature In American enunciation. This "change of countenance" in immigrants had already been observed by the historian M. Fishberg in 1910,." i. is incorrect because it was an anthropologist friend of Koestler who said this" ii. is not correct, because Koestler was talking about his friends rather than Immigrants in general; and v is not stated as a general principle.vi. is incorrect, because Plshberg was talking about immigrants in general, not his friends.

3. D. Lifestyle affects physiognomy
Explanation: For the third question, the answer can be found In the first para paragraph, 9th line; "Their way of life affects their facial expression and physical features, giving the mistaken impression that these traits are of hereditary or racial" origin." . iii. Is incorrect, because Emerson says this is a mistaken impression.

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