

READING COMPREHENSION

Task 1: Read the text carefully. Complete the task on the next page.

S T I G M A

The Greeks, who were apparently strong on visual aids, originated the term stigma to refer to bodily signs designed to expose something unusual and bad about the moral status of the signifier. The signs were cut or burnt into the body and advertised that the bearer was a slave, a criminal, or a traitor – a blemished person, ritually polluted, to be avoided, especially in public places. Later, in Christian times, two layers of metaphor were added to the term: the first referred to bodily signs of holy grace that took the form of eruptive blossoms on the skin; the second, a medical allusion to this religious allusion, referred to bodily signs of physical disorder. Today the term is widely used in something like the original literal sense, but it is applied more to the disgrace itself than to the bodily evidence of it. Furthermore, shifts occurred in the kinds of disgrace that arouse concern.

Three grossly different types of stigma may be mentioned. First, there are abominations of the body – the various physical deformities. Next, there are blemishes of individual character perceived as weak will, domineering or unnatural passions, treacherous and rigid beliefs, and dishonesty, these being inferred from a known record of, for example, mental disorder, imprisonment, addiction, alcoholism, homosexuality, unemployment and radical political behaviour. Finally, there are the tribal stigma of race, nation, and religion, these being stigma that can be transmitted through lineages and equally contaminate all members of a family.

The attitudes we “normals” have towards a person with a stigma, and the actions we take in regard to him, are well known, since these responses are what benevolent social action is designed to soften. By definition, of course, we believe the person with a stigma is not quite human. On this assumption we exercise varieties of discrimination through which we effectively, if often unthinkably, reduce his life chances. We construct a stigma theory, an ideology to explain this inferiority and the danger people with differences represent, for example, those of social class. We use specific stigma terms such as cripple, bastard or moron in our daily discourse as a source of metaphor and imagery, typically without giving thought to the original meaning. We trend to impute a wide range of imperfections on the basis of the original one, and at the same time, to impute some attributes, often of a supernatural cast, such as “sixth sense” or “understanding”.

For some, there may be a hesitancy about touching or steering the blind, while for others, the perceived failure to see may be generalized into complete disability, so that the individual shouts at the blind as if they were deaf or attempts to lift them as if they were physically disabled. Those confronting the blind may have a whole range of belief that is anchored in the stereotype. For instance, they may think they are subject to unique judgement, assuming the blinded individual draws on special channels of information unavailable to others.

READING COMPREHENSION – TASK

Task: Based on what you have read in the article, complete the statements below. You have to fill in between 1–2 words (the number of missing words is indicated). The statements do not follow in the same order as the information appears in the article.

1. Untruthfulness or abnormal passions are classified as of individual character.
(1 word)
2. The way we treat blind people is based on
(1 word)
3. The Greeks were the first people to mark individuals who should be
(1 word)
4. A presents ideas that rationalize the discrimination we exercise on people with differences.
(2 words)
5. In the Christian era, the concept of stigma became broader as it included and references.
(2 words)
6. At present, people view stigma more as the itself than physical deformities.
(1 word)
7. We have a tendency to attribute various to a signifier of one difference.
(1 word)
8. A stigma has an impact on all family members.
(1 word)
9. “Normals” have a tendency to one failure and see it as a global disability.
(1 word)
10. “Normal” people assume that a person with a stigma is not in every respect.
(1 word)

..... / 10 pts

V O C A B U L A R Y

Task 1: Read the text and decide which option (A, B, C or D) best completes each collocation or fixed phrase. Circle the letter representing the correct option.

MOBILE PHONES

Most people who have mobile phones say that having one is simply a matter of (1)
The (2) reason I do not have a mobile phone is that I refuse to be constantly available.
Of course, a lot of people say they only got a mobile phone on the (3) understanding that it was to be used for emergencies only.

- | | | | |
|----------------|------------|---------------|------------|
| 1. A handiness | B practice | C convenience | D utility |
| 2. A perfect | B sheer | C utter | D absolute |
| 3. A strict | B severe | C precise | D exact |

..... / 3 pts

Task 2: Fill each blank space in the article below with the correct form of the word in capital letters.

THE CLUB NEWSLETTER

Welcome to another edition of the club newsletter. A list of (4)
events for the autumn is being prepared. It will be displayed on the club's
(5) Sadly, our intended celebrity guest, the actor George
Wells, has had to (6) from the summer fair. However,
we are pleased to announce that we have lined up a (7)
in the shape of Bethan Rogers, the folk-singer.

COME**NOTICE****DRAW****PLACE**

Meanwhile, we are looking for (8) to help run both
the cloakroom and the (9) stall. If you are interested,
let me know as soon as possible. The cost of (10)

VOLUNTARY**FRESH****ADMIT**

to the fair for non-members has been agreed at £5.00, but is free, of course, for members.

..... / 7 pts

..... / 10 pts

G R A M M A R

Task 1: Fill each of the numbered blanks in the passage with one suitable word.

DISAGREEMENTS ABOUT ITS ORIGINS

EXAMPLE: (0) has

A great deal (0) been written about the origins of modern chess. The theory most widely accepted is that its earliest ancestor was *Shaturanga*, a game played in India from around AD 600.

(1) with modern chess, *Shaturanga* was played on a board with 64 squares. Pieces such as Kings, Queens and Knights were able to move in different ways with the aim of capturing other pieces and, at the end of the game, the opponent's King.

(2) chess, it was played by four people, (3) with their own army, the other main difference (4) the use of dice to decide which piece moved each turn. Some chess historians believe that the game in fact derives (5) a Persian game, *Shatranj*, the first references to (6) also come from the sixth century. In *Shatranj*, the powers of the King to move and capture pieces were more limited than in *Shaturanga*. (7) there may be disagreements about its origins, it is generally accepted that chess in essentially the form it is played today appeared in southern Europe around the end of the 15th century and quickly spread (8) the continent. (9) this time, the Queen had become the most powerful piece of all. Today, chess is played by millions of people (10) informally and in tournaments, and the number of people playing online is increasing (11) access to the Internet.

..... / 11 pts

Task 2: Underline the correct option in each sentence.

12. Now that Jim has bought a house in Edinburgh, I will have to *advertise for someone to share* / *advertise someone sharing* / *advertise someone to share* my flat with me.

13. We really *appreciate you help* / *appreciate your helping* / *appreciate you in helping* us move house.

14. If you have any questions, please write to me at the above address. I can't *guarantee you to reply* / *guarantee to reply* / *guarantee you replying* immediately, but I will certainly write back within two weeks.

15. Could you *restrain in* / *restrain for* / *restrain from* smoking, please?

..... / 4 pts

..... / 15 pts

LISTENING

You will hear a psychologist describing five strategies to help you regulate your emotions. Below, you can read ten statements, marked A – J. Choose five statements that best summarize the information. In the gaps provided, write the number 1 – 5 next to the statement which refers to each particular strategy. There are five extra statements – write X in the gaps provided. You will hear the extract twice.

FIVE STRATEGIES TO REGULATE YOUR EMOTIONS

- A. Focus on your previous achievements.
- B. Modify your thoughts and beliefs.
- C. Select your friends carefully.
- D. Don't underestimate your qualities.
- E. Divert your attentional focus.
- F. Take control of your emotional reactions.
- G. Don't use negative emotions in your reactions.
- H. Influence predictable situations.
- I. Set your expectations realistically.
- J. Don't become hysterical under any circumstances.

..... /5 pts

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