

G R A M M A R

Read the text below and fill in gaps 1–15 with ONE suitable word. The words to be filled in have to be words WITH SOME GRAMMATICAL FUNCTION (e.g. auxiliary verbs, articles, pronouns, prepositions, conjunctions, etc.). Write your answers on the lines provided below. There is an example at the beginning (00).

This is a report that an eye-witness wrote (00)_____ the police. A man and a woman (01)_____ seen running (02)_____ from a post office which (03)_____ just been robbed.

Michael Stewart reports:

I was just getting out of my car (04)_____ I saw these two people, a man and a woman, running fast down the (05)_____ side of the street from me. They were (06)_____ chased by one or two people (07)_____ ran out of the post office. The man was (08)_____ taller (09)_____ the woman. He was wearing black sunglasses and he had a long ponytail. He had (10)_____ a green anorak with badges on the sleeves. He was quite well-built and muscular. The woman was quite small, (11)_____ she could run just as fast (12)_____ the man. She had wavy shoulder-length hair and (13)_____ probably (14)_____ her late teens. She was wearing a dark blue T-shirt and jeans. They (15)_____ looked quite scared.

(00) *for*

(01) _____

(06) _____

(11) _____

(02) _____

(07) _____

(12) _____

(03) _____

(08) _____

(13) _____

(04) _____

(09) _____

(14) _____

(05) _____

(10) _____

(15) _____

1 point/correct answer

Total: _____ / 15 pts

V O C A B U L A R Y**A. Complete the proverbs with the appropriate word. Circle the correct answer.**

1. The way to a man's heart is through his _____.
- A) smile B) stomach C) life D) hands
2. What you don't know won't _____ you.
- A) satisfy B) disturb C) hurt D) bother
3. There's no such thing as a free _____.
- A) breakfast B) lunch C) dinner D) supper
4. Look before you _____.
- A) cut B) leap C) deal D) jump
5. The best _____ is found on the pillow.
- A) advice B) friend C) suggestion D) rest

B. Complete the idiomatic expressions with the appropriate part of the body. Write the missing words into the box provided below.

6. Don't put words in my _____. That isn't what I was going to say.
7. I've got a terribly sweet _____ – I love sweets and chocolate.
8. She retired last year and now she has lots of time on her _____.
9. Tell me what the matter is – you'll feel better if you get it off your _____.
10. He may not be very clever, but at least his _____ is in the right place.

(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)

1 point/correct answer**Total: _____ / 10 pts**

R E A D I N G C O M P R E H E N S I O N

Read the text carefully and complete the tasks given below.

Does Birth Order Affect Personality?

Researchers examine the old **adage** that birth order plays a significant role in shaping who we are. In spite of sharing genes and environments, siblings are often not as similar in nature as one might think. But where do the supposed differences come from? Alfred Adler, an Austrian psychotherapist, suspected that birth order leads to differences in siblings.

Adler considered firstborns to be neurotic because they don't have to share their parents for years and are essentially dethroned once a sibling comes along. He also considered oldest children dutiful and sometimes conservative. According to Adler, the youngest children are ambitious, while middle children are **optimally** positioned in the family and are characterized by emotional stability. Adler himself was the second of seven children.

American psychologist Frank J. Sulloway saw a similar trend. His explanation? Every child occupies a certain niche within the family and then uses his or her own strategies to master life. Firstborns and single children had fewer reasons to quarrel with the status quo and identify more strongly with the worldview of their fathers and mothers. Younger siblings are less sure of their parents' view and therefore more often choose alternative paths in life.

Such categorizations are popular because they're rather intuitive, and one can always find an example of the sensible big sister or the rebellious young brother in their circle of **acquaintances**. As such, Adler's words still appear regularly in educational guides and continue **to reverberate** in the minds of parents.

Furthermore, some studies confirmed the idea that sibling position can shape personality. For example, a 1968 study showed that, compared with later-borns, firstborns are less likely to participate in dangerous sports because of fears of physical injury. The result of the study discovered that firstborns tended to be more **conscientious**, extraverted and willing to lead. Contrary to expectations, they were also more tolerant and emotionally stable than adolescents with older siblings. It was also found that on average, firstborns enjoy a small IQ advantage over their younger siblings. Those born first also tend to complete their education with a higher degree and opt for traditionally prestigious careers, such as medicine or engineering.

Everything taken into consideration, it is quite possible that the position in the sibling sequence shapes the personality. In other words, there may be an influence but not a systematic one. Nevertheless, other influences also weigh heavily when it comes to differences in the character of siblings. In addition to genes, the so-called undivided environment also plays a role.

READING COMPREHENSION (c o n t .)

A. According to what you have read, are these statements true (T), false (F) or not stated (NS)? Circle the correct answer.

- T / F / NS 1. One's personality might be decided by one's birth order.
 T / F / NS 2. Youngest children are strongly influenced by their parents' viewpoint.
 T / F / NS 3. Middle children are more into extreme sports such as boxing and climbing.
 T / F / NS 4. Oldest children prefer having other firstborns as friends.
 T / F / NS 5. Children who are born earlier are more emotionally stable than younger siblings.

B. Circle the best synonym (A, B, C or D) for each of the words below as they are used in the article. For better understanding of context, the words are written in bold there.

- | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| 6. adage (n) | A: gnome | B: detection | C: falsity | D: recognition |
| 7. conscientious (adj) | A: disobedient | B: troublesome | C: disruptive | D: dutiful |
| 8. acquaintance (n) | A: progenitor | B: ancestor | C: companion | D: offspring |
| 9. to reverberate (v) | A: to dampen | B: to resonate | C: to deaden | D: to blunt |
| 10. optimally (adv) | A: inadequately | B: unduly | C: preferably | D: excessively |

1 point/correct answer

Total: _____ / 10 pts

L I S T E N I N G C O M P R E H E N S I O N

You will hear some information about 'solo travelling'. Listen carefully and decide whether the statements below are true (T), false (F) or not stated (NS). Circle the correct answer. You will hear the text twice.

1. T / F / NS In general, people consider solo travellers to be weird and don't want to speak to them.

2. T / F / NS Hostels often fit the budget far more than other available accommodation options.

3. T / F / NS Giving updates to relatives at least twice a week is an important part of solo travelling.

4. T / F / NS Travellers are more vulnerable to illnesses and accidents while travelling alone in a strange land.

5. T / F / NS People with no solo travelling experience will encourage you to try it.

1 point/correct answer

Total: _____ / 5 pts

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