

R O L E P L A Y

STUDENT

You have reached the age where you are legally allowed to get a part-time job, and you have long wanted to do so. There is a cosy tea-house in your neighbourhood and they have just posted a vacancy for an evening help position. The successful candidate will be required to perform all sorts of easy jobs from the occasional waiting on customers to washing cups and tea-pots. The job is paid and provides the opportunity for a flexible schedule upon agreement. You would very much like to apply for it, but you have to talk to your parents first because, as much as you would like the opposite to be true, you are almost sure they will have some strong objections to your idea.

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R O L E P L A Y

TEACHER

You are a parent with a teenage child whose peers in the neighbourhood have started a wave of taking part-time jobs. You personally think that this is not a good idea for schoolchildren, whose main concern should be their performance at school and preparation for their post-secondary studies – a goal which at their age is not so far off. Taking on a side job might work as a powerful distractor in this regard. Apart from that, you are conscious of the dangers related to staying out late and meeting a lot of strange people, who might turn out to be more malevolent than it might seem at first glance. Therefore, you strongly hope that the idea of taking a part-time job will never cross your child's mind. One day, however, your child comes to talk to you and you feel like that long-feared day has finally arrived.

PICTURE DESCRIPTION

Look at the pictures, describe what you see in them and explain how they are connected. Determine the topic that the pictures relate to, express your opinion on it and come up with possible solutions to the problem outlined.



LISTENING – TAPESCRIPT

(please play one time only)

Imagine walking into a meeting room. You shake hands with colleagues, then everyone sits down. Within seconds they all start sniffing their palms, picking up clues about you from the chemical traces left over from the handshakes. Sniffing palms after a handshake, usually within 30 seconds of the interaction, would likely help people learn about someone's **health**, according to a 2015 study by researchers in Israel.

For decades, scientists believed humans were not very good at detecting and identifying odours. Our animal ancestors used their noses way more than we do in modern society. But that doesn't mean we don't have powerful smell potential. A 2014 study showed that we can distinguish at least 1 trillion different odours — up from previous estimates of a mere 10,000.

Awareness of our innate smelling abilities, however, is complicated because the human language doesn't have words for a trillion smells, and much of smelling happens under the radar of our **consciousness**. Unlike our other senses, the olfactory nerves do not proceed directly to the brain's thalamus, the gateway to consciousness. Instead, information feeds from the nose to cortical areas to arouse emotions and memories without our awareness. When it comes to smells, people can be influenced and not realize it.

An animal schnoz is obviously superior to our own mediocre noses, right? Not so fast. Matthias Laska, a Swedish biologist, has been comparing senses of smell across species — including humans — for more than two decades.

But sizing up how sensitive the snout of, say, a seal is compared with a bat or human isn't straightforward. People can tell you when a certain scent is no longer detectable. But each animal has to learn to associate a particular odour with a **reward** and then do something, like press a button, to let researchers know when they smell it.

The odours compared between species also have to be the same. That sounds obvious, but while humans have sniffed around 3,300 different scents for science — out of the trillions possible — the highest number for animals is 81, by spider monkeys. Laska only found solid enough data to compare humans with 17 species, all **mammals**.

However, human noses held their own. Humans tested as generally more sensitive sniffers than monkeys and rats on a limited range of odours. Humans even beat the indomitable dog for at least a handful of scents. These include aromas produced by **plants**, a logical evolutionary advantage for our ancestors seeking fruits. The majority of odours in which dogs bested us were fatty acids, compounds associated with their own meaty prey.

ANSWER KEY

GRAMMAR 15 points

- 1 for 2 into 3 have 4 at 5 which
6 the 7 across 8 Despite 9 for 10 from / of
11. has always been
12. opened
13. praising
14. was set up
15. is not trying to clash

VOCABULARY 10 points

- 1 B 2 C 3 B 4 A 5 A 6 C 7 D 8 A 9 B 10 C

READING 10 points

- 1 - 2 B 3 E 4 F 5 – 6 C
7 D 8 A 9 NS 10 F/ C 11 T/ B 12 T/ E

LISTENING 5 points

- 1 health 2 consciousness/awareness 3 reward 4 mammals
5 plants/fruits

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