

**Justin Bieber's Baptism**

Ladies and gentlemen, it is time to say hello to Carl Lents, a New York pastor who has baptised Justin Bieber in an anti-racist ceremony. Leather-jacketed, and very popular in various American talkshows, Carl is the head of some kind of New York Pentecostal ministry, which was established with the lead singer of a Christian rock band, and is called *Hillsong*. For those who don't understand the connection between this pastor and the famous singer Justin Bieber we have to explain how it all happened, Justin recently fell victim to one of those absolutely classic growing pains: that thing when teenage videos show you singing Ku Klux Klan songs, telling racist jokes and joking about killing black people. This kind of attitude was not considered appropriate, and as a consequence the whole process started. Carl Lents reported that he had spent a week doing intensive Bible study with Justin, before the singer was judged ready to be baptised. With no church able to offer the privacy Bieber desired, the ceremony was apparently performed in a friend's bathtub. However, we could ask ourselves whether this is a real need to change the attitude or a favourite celebrity baptism, something that other celebrities have done and which can make Bieber sell even more than before.

**A** Are the following statements true (T) or false (F)? Identify the part of the text that supports your answer by copying the exact passage.

1 Carl Lents is an American pastor who has prepared Bieber for his baptism.

\_\_\_\_\_

2 The ceremony took place in the local church.

\_\_\_\_\_

**B** Answer the following questions using your own words but taking into account the information in the text.

1 What type of pastor is Carl Lents?

\_\_\_\_\_

2 Why did Justin Bieber decide to get baptised?

\_\_\_\_\_

**C** Find words in the text that mean:

1 principal or person in charge (paragraph 1) \_\_\_\_\_

2 lately (paragraph 2) \_\_\_\_\_

3 considered (paragraph 3) \_\_\_\_\_

4 behaviour (paragraph 4) \_\_\_\_\_

**D** Complete the second sentence. It must mean the same as the first sentence.

1 Carl Lents prepared Justin Bieber for the baptism.

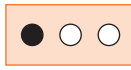
Justin Bieber \_\_\_\_\_

2 Carl Lents reported that he had spent a week doing intensive Bible study with Justin.

Carl Lents said, " \_\_\_\_\_

3 Many celebrities have done similar things. Their lives are very similar to Justin Bieber's.

Many celebrities, \_\_\_\_\_

**Justin Bieber's Baptism**

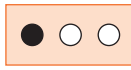
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Carl Lents reported that he had spent a week doing intensive Bible study with Justin, before the singer was judged ready to be baptised. With no church able to offer the privacy Bieber desired, the ceremony was apparently performed in a friend's bathtub. However, we could ask ourselves whether this is a real need to change the attitude or a favourite celebrity baptism, something that other celebrities have done and which can make Bieber sell even more than before.

Choose the best answer according to the text. Only one answer is correct.

- 1 Carl Lents is
  - A the minister of the New York Pentecostal church.
  - B well known on American television.
  - C both a pastor and a singer.
  - D famous for his anti-racist campaign.
- 2 Justin Bieber
  - A had always wanted to be baptised.
  - B always jokes about killing people.
  - C had always been interested in the New York Pentecostal church.
  - D was showing a racist attitude in some of his videos.
- 3 Justin Bieber's baptism
  - A took place in a friend's house.
  - B always takes place in a bathtub.
  - C was performed by a friend.
  - D made other celebrities do the same.
- 4 What is not mentioned in the text?
  - A Justin Bieber showed incorrect behaviour in his videos.
  - B Justin Bieber was prepared for the baptism in a week.
  - C The baptism took place in a friend's house to keep it private.
  - D *Hillsong* is the band in which Carl Lents plays.
- 5 The article states that
  - A the baptism could be a way to show more musical talent.
  - B Carl Lents is a friend of other celebrities.
  - C the baptism could represent a change of attitude.
  - D Bieber could sell less from now on.



**Lucky to be Alive**

The US Coast Guard says a man is 'lucky to be alive' after he was rescued 11 days into an attempted kayak voyage from California to Hawaii. A helicopter spotted the 57-year-old man, who had turned back to California, in the Pacific on Tuesday about 60 miles south-west of Santa Barbara's Point Conception after he sent an emergency call indicating equipment failure, the Coast Guard said in a statement.

The helicopter directed a Coast Guard crew to the man, who according to a statement, was found in good health. His name was not released. A friend of the man said he had left Monterey on 30 May attempting to make the voyage of nearly 2,400 miles to Honolulu in a kayak with a solar panel that charged all his electronic equipment. The solar panel malfunctioned on Saturday and the man turned back, but sent out the distress call when he couldn't find his way.

The Coast Guard urged potential mariners to make a convenient plan before taking long trips. 'A voyage from California to Hawaii is a long and treacherous journey for any boat and even more dangerous for a kayaker,' Petty Officer 2nd Class said in the statement. 'His preparation allowed him to call for help but he is very lucky to be alive.'

**A** Are the following statements true (T) or false (F)? Identify the part of the text that supports your answer by copying the exact passage.

1 The voyage to Hawaii from California was never finished.

\_\_\_\_\_

2 We are not told the man's name.

\_\_\_\_\_

**B** Answer the following questions using your own words but taking into account the information in the text.

1 Why did the man turn back?

\_\_\_\_\_

2 What does the Coast Guard recommend to potential mariners?

\_\_\_\_\_

**C** Find words in the text that mean:

1 saw (paragraph 1) \_\_\_\_\_

2 the set of necessary tools for a particular purpose (paragraph 1) \_\_\_\_\_

3 alarm (paragraph 2) \_\_\_\_\_

4 extremely dangerous (paragraph 3) \_\_\_\_\_

**D** Complete the second sentence. It must mean the same as the first sentence.

1 The helicopter directed a Coast Guard crew to the man.

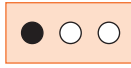
A Coast Guard crew \_\_\_\_\_

2 'His preparation allowed him to call for help but he is very lucky to be alive,' the expert said.

The expert said \_\_\_\_\_

3 The man was spotted on time. He could have died.

If \_\_\_\_\_

**Lucky to be Alive**

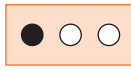
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The Coast Guard urged potential mariners to make a convenient plan before taking long trips. 'A voyage from California to Hawaii is a long and treacherous journey for any boat and even more dangerous for a kayaker,' Petty Officer 2nd Class said in the statement. 'His preparation allowed him to call for help but he is very lucky to be alive.'

Choose the best answer according to the text. Only one answer is correct.

- 1 Why is the man lucky to be alive?
  - A Because his rescue went on for 11 days.
  - B Because he was going to start his voyage to Hawaii.
  - C Because he had technical problems and was rescued.
  - D Because he spent 60 days in the Pacific.
- 2 The man
  - A was not feeling well when he was found.
  - B had made his own electronic equipment.
  - C found his equipment was not enough.
  - D got in touch with the authorities.
- 3 The intention of the voyage was
  - A to reach Honolulu.
  - B to spend 30 days in a kayak.
  - C to explore the possibilities of solar energy.
  - D to meet a friend.
- 4 The man
  - A spent 11 days repairing the solar panel.
  - B started his adventure in spring.
  - C started his adventure on Saturday.
  - D travelled for 2,400 miles.
- 5 According to the authorities,
  - A people shouldn't go on long trips.
  - B travelling by kayak is as dangerous as travelling by boat.
  - C Second Class officers shouldn't travel by kayak.
  - D travelling by sea should be very well organised.



**Obesity and Modernity**

Fat, not thin, is today's norm. But studies show that we don't notice because it has happened gradually and we have got used to seeing overweight people. A quarter of us are actually obese, defined as a body mass index (weight in kilogrammes divided by the square of your height in metres) of 30 or above.

Men are fatter than women, with 67% of men and 57% of women being overweight or obese in the UK. Socio-economically deprived areas tend to have higher rates of people who are overweight. There is a community effect: you are more likely to be overweight if your friends and neighbours are and you see it as the norm.

Moderate obesity cuts life expectancy by two to four years and severe obesity by an entire decade, according to a major study in 2009. This is most likely to affect today's children; more than a fifth of five-year-olds and a third of 11-year-olds are overweight or obese. 'Obesity is such that this generation of children could be the first in the history of the United States to live less healthy and shorter lives than their parents,' said Dr David S Ludwig, director of the obesity programme at the Children's Hospital, Boston and one of the authors of a paper that, in 2005, came to similar conclusions in the New England Journal of Medicine.

**A** Are the following statements true (T) or false (F)? Identify the part of the text that supports your answer by copying the exact passage.

1 There are more overweight women than men in UK.

\_\_\_\_\_

2 People who live in rich areas are normally fatter than people who don't.

\_\_\_\_\_

**B** Answer the following questions using your own words but taking into account the information in the text.

1 What happens in deprived areas?

\_\_\_\_\_

2 What could the repercussions of obesity among children be?

\_\_\_\_\_

**C** Find words in the text that mean:

1 situation that is usual or expected (paragraph 1) \_\_\_\_\_

2 without education, enough food and all the things that are necessary to live (paragraph 2) \_\_\_\_\_

3 not very extreme (paragraph 3) \_\_\_\_\_

4 extremely serious (paragraph 3) \_\_\_\_\_

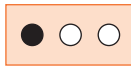
**D** Complete the second sentence. It must mean the same as the first sentence.

1 I don't believe he has lost three kilos. It's impossible.

He \_\_\_\_\_

2 Teenagers should be careful with the information they share. It could lead to dangerous situations.

If \_\_\_\_\_

**Obesity and Modernity**

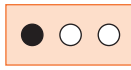
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Choose the best answer according to the text. Only one answer is correct.

- 1 According to studies, it is
  - A normal not to notice that you or others are fat.
  - B it is a norm to be thin.
  - C more common to be thin, not fat.
  - D better to be fat.
- 2 The body mass index
  - A is used to measure if someone is overweight.
  - B is what you obtain from dividing your weight by your height.
  - C shows what obesity means.
  - D is 30 if your weight is normal.
- 3 In the UK
  - A there are more overweight people than in other countries.
  - B there are a lot of obese communities.
  - C there is less male obesity than female.
  - D there is less female obesity than male.
- 4 Other people around you
  - A can have an effect on your weight.
  - B are always in a better socio-economic situation than you.
  - C should go on a diet to help others with obesity.
  - D are members of a different community.
- 5 According to Dr David S Ludwig,
  - A there have never been so many cases of obesity in the world.
  - B children in the US are less obese than in the past.
  - C obesity hasn't increased as much as it did in the past.
  - D there have never been so many cases of obesity in the US.



**Teenagers migrate from Facebook as parents send them friend requests**

*Facebook* is 'dead and buried' for older teenagers, an extensive European study has found, as this age group moves on to *Twitter*, *Instagram*, *WhatsApp* and *Snapchat*. Researching the *Facebook* use of 16-18 year olds in eight EU countries, the Global Social Media Impact Study found that as parents and older users saturate *Facebook*, its younger users are moving to alternative platforms.

'*Facebook* is not just on the slide - it is basically dead and buried,' wrote Daniel Miller, lead anthropologist on the research team, who is professor of material culture at University College London. 'Mostly they feel embarrassed to even be associated with it. Where once parents worried about their children joining *Facebook*, the children now say it is their family that insists they stay there to post about their lives.'

Teens do not care that alternative services are less functional and sophisticated, and they are also unconcerned about how information about them is being used commercially or by the security services, the research found.

'What appears to be the most crucial moment in a young person's decision to leave *Facebook* was surely that dreaded day your mum sends you a friend request,' wrote Miller. 'It is nothing new that young people care about style and status in relation to their peers, and *Facebook* is simply not cool anymore.' In part of the study's research with Italian *Facebook* users, 40% of users had never changed their privacy settings and 80% said they 'were not concerned or did not care' if their personal data was available and accessed, either by an organisation or an individual.

**A** Are the following statements true (T) or false (F)? Identify the part of the text that supports your answer by copying the exact passage.

1 In general, *Facebook* is becoming old-fashioned.

\_\_\_\_\_

2 Teenagers don't want to continue on *Facebook* when their parents want to become their friends.

\_\_\_\_\_

**B** Answer the following questions using your own words but taking into account the information in the text.

1 What are teenagers not concerned about?

\_\_\_\_\_

2 What were the conclusions obtained from the research carried out with Italian *Facebook* users?

\_\_\_\_\_

**C** Find words in the text that mean:

1 fill up completely so it is difficult to use (paragraph 1) \_\_\_\_\_

2 a group of people who work together (paragraph 2) \_\_\_\_\_

3 extremely important (paragraph 3) \_\_\_\_\_

4 that you can get or obtain (adj) (paragraph 3) \_\_\_\_\_

**D** Complete the second sentence. It must mean the same as the first sentence.

1 *Facebook* became very popular ten years ago. It is still very popular.

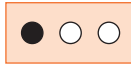
*Facebook* \_\_\_\_\_

2 *Facebook* is not as popular as *WhatsApp*.

*WhatsApp* \_\_\_\_\_

3 The team worked for many months. The members knew each other very well.

The team, \_\_\_\_\_



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- 1 According to the text,
  - A *Facebook* is as popular as it was in the past.
  - B nowadays *Facebook* is less popular among teenagers.
  - C parents and users love *Facebook*.
  - D *Facebook* users are usually between 16 to 18.
- 2 Daniel Miller
  - A is the leader of the research team.
  - B was the leader of the research team.
  - C was professor at University College London.
  - D believes in the family.
- 3 Children claim
  - A parents insist on being informed.
  - B parents worry too much.
  - C parents were worried about them joining *Facebook*.
  - D they need space.
- 4 Teenagers
  - A don't care about style and status.
  - B don't care about what is done with the information they give.
  - C like to make commercial use of their information.
  - D are frightened of security services.
- 5 According to the research with Italian *Facebook* users,
  - A the vast majority had never changed their privacy settings.
  - B less than half didn't care about their privacy settings.
  - C the vast majority changed their privacy settings.
  - D the vast majority were not concerned about their privacy settings.





**Google and the World Cup**

Google celebrated the start of the World Cup in Brazil with its latest Google doodle on its homepage. The doodle features a ball in the Brazilian colours of green and yellow rolling across the screen, before a scene that shows some of the country's most famous landmarks.

Excitement reached fever pitch in Brazil as the tournament started. The manager of Brazil's national side, Luis Felipe Scolari, said: 'For all Brazilians, I want to say our time has arrived. We want to go together. This is our World Cup.'

He was joined by Brazil's star forward Neymar in increasing the anticipation. 'As Mr Scolari has said, the time has arrived, that all Brazilians and I think the whole world was waiting for,' said Neymar. 'And we the players hope that the last day goes by very quickly. I am anxious, of course. But also I'm extremely happy of being where I am today. So I really hope I can help my team in the best possible way to fulfil the dream of us players, Brazilians, to win the World Cup.'

Away from the opening ceremony, the England side were concerned over the state of the pitch on which they had to face Italy in Manaus on Saturday. Carlos Botella, the head of the Royal Verd company which was responsible for the stadium conditions at Manaus and six other World Cup stadiums said: 'We've started to implement an emergency plan to try to save the field and improve it as much as possible, but I don't think the conditions will be the best.'

**A** Are the following statements true (T) or false (F)? Identify the part of the text that supports your answer by copying the exact passage.

1 The doodle shows a Brazilian flag with a ball in the centre.

\_\_\_\_\_

2 Neymar took part in the opening ceremony.

\_\_\_\_\_

**B** Answer the following questions using your own words but taking into account the information in the text.

1 What did the Google doodle show?

\_\_\_\_\_

2 What did Neymar hope?

\_\_\_\_\_

**C** Find words in the text that mean:

1 emblematic places (paragraph 1) \_\_\_\_\_

2 sports competition (paragraph 2) \_\_\_\_\_

3 accomplish, carry out (paragraph 3) \_\_\_\_\_

4 put into practice (paragraph 4) \_\_\_\_\_

**D** Complete the second sentence. It must mean the same as the first sentence.

1 Brazil started preparing for the World Cup four years ago. It is still preparing things.

Brazil \_\_\_\_\_

2 Mr Scolari said, 'The time has arrived that all Brazilians and the whole world was waiting for.'

Mr Scolari said \_\_\_\_\_

3 Some people think that the pitch conditions were not very good.

It was \_\_\_\_\_



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Choose the best answer according to the text. Only one answer is correct.

1 Google

- A used a doodle to start the World Cup in Brazil.
- B used a doodle to commemorate the beginning of the World Cup.
- C had to choose Brazil's most famous landmarks.
- D used the national flag to commemorate the beginning of the World Cup.

2 Luis Felipe Scolari

- A mentioned the importance of all the nations in the World Cup.
- B said participation was essential.
- C said the time had arrived to give an opportunity to others.
- D mentioned how important it was for Brazil.

3 Neymar

- A played for the Brazilian team.
- B was joined by other Brazil football stars.
- C didn't want the World Cup to finish very quickly.
- D wanted to help other teams to fulfil their dreams.

4 According to the text,

- A England wasn't worried about the condition of the pitch.
- B Carlos Botella thinks the situation of the pitch will be fine.
- C Both Italy and England have doubts about the situation of the pitch.
- D England has doubts about the situation of the pitch.

5 Royal Verd

- A had been responsible for the state of the field in many other stadiums.
- B was responsible for Manaus.
- C sent Botella to solve the possible problems in the fields.
- D were satisfied with the conditions of the fields.



**Letter to his Family**

My dearest wife and children,

I am writing to point out a number of disappointing aspects to family life. I feel that I have not been considered appropriately in a number of departments, and would at least appreciate a bottle of cheap wine or a pair of new underpants, size XL. First, I would like to address the question of blame. It is quite hard to work out the function of the father/husband in the 21st century, as most of us are unable to fight wars or put up shelves. I have four daughters – and even more pressingly, a wife – and I’ve become conscious that I’m to blame for pretty much everything.

Although I know sometimes responsible for all the bad things that happen, I would like you – yes, every one of you – to acknowledge, in writing, that sometimes – just sometimes – stuff is your fault too. It doesn’t have to be anything specific. You don’t even have to apologise. Just admit it. Go on. Second, the stereotype that men, particularly older men such as me, are always complaining is inaccurate. Third, what if I complain? There’s a lot to complain about. I always get brown meat on the chicken, and when I do finally remember to put the dishwasher on, do I get any credit? No, I do not. Yes, it may be true that I can’t remember anyone’s birthday, I’m bad at wrapping presents and I don’t know the names of all my children’s friends, or all my wife’s for that matter, but that’s not a horrible offence is it? There are more important things I do, such as ... well, I’ll come back to you but when I do, you are going to be ashamed of yourselves.

I look forward to your reply, yours etc.

**A** Are the following statements true (T) or false (F)? Identify the part of the text that supports your answer by copying the exact passage.

1 The purpose of the letter is to complain about family matters.

\_\_\_\_\_

2 According to the letter, men hardly ever complain.

\_\_\_\_\_

**B** Answer the following questions using your own words but taking into account the information in the text.

1 Does the writer feel that he is well considered in his family? Why? / Why not?

\_\_\_\_\_

2 What does he feel about complaining?

\_\_\_\_\_

**C** Find words in the text that mean:

1 costing little and of bad quality (paragraph 1) \_\_\_\_\_

2 feeling bad about something one has done (paragraph 2) \_\_\_\_\_

3 accept, admit or recognise the truth of something (paragraph 3) \_\_\_\_\_

4 merit (paragraph 3) \_\_\_\_\_

**D** Complete the second sentence. It must mean the same as the first sentence.

1 He said to his family: 'I have been complaining about the food because I don't like it.'

He said \_\_\_\_\_

2 The sun was shining in the morning. However, it started to rain and it didn't stop.

Even if \_\_\_\_\_


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I look forward to your reply, yours etc.

Choose the best answer according to the text. Only one answer is correct.

- 1 The intention of the letter is
  - A to inform the family that he feels old.
  - B to let the members of the family know what he finds annoying.
  - C to try to understand his family.
  - D to say he is leaving.
- 2 A bottle of wine
  - A is what he gets for his birthday.
  - B is a symbol of what he dislikes.
  - C could be compensation for not being appreciated.
  - D could be a way to show disrespect.
- 3 The family
  - A consists of five members.
  - B has no male members.
  - C has six members.
  - D could have a new member.
- 4 The writer
  - A thinks he shouldn't be held responsible for everything bad that happens.
  - B considers he is always responsible.
  - C understands how the rest of the members of the family feel.
  - D shares the point of view of the rest of the family.
- 5 Which one of the following doesn't the writer mention?
  - A He sometimes doesn't remember to put the dishwasher on.
  - B He can't always remember birthdays.
  - C He overcooks the chicken.
  - D He doesn't remember names.



**Frank Sinatra and Wikipedia**

The most important person in the English-language world is Frank Sinatra, according to an analysis of *Wikipedia* articles led by the University of Toulouse's Young-Ho Eom. Number two is Michael Jackson, and number three is Pope Pius XII.

This somewhat surprising conclusion has been obtained by using methods borrowed from *Google* to analyse *Wikipedia* pages and determine which individuals have the most important articles linking to them. The point of the study wasn't strictly to determine who the most important people on *Wikipedia* are, but to discover if the online encyclopaedia is precise in the level of attention it gives to various figures, by gender, time, or location.

'Our analysis shows that most important historical figures across *Wikipedia* language editions are born in western countries after the 17th century, and are male,' the authors write. But, they add, 'each *Wikipedia* edition highlights local figures, so that most of its own historical figures are born in the countries which use the language of the edition. This is natural since there are more links and interactions within one culture.'

*PageRank*, which is used by *Google* search to rank websites, says that a page is important if a lot of important pages link to it. The more sites linked to a newspaper's website, for instance, the more important that website is. But when the study applied *PageRank* to figures on *Wikipedia*, the results were odd. The most important person in the world comes out as Carl Linnaeus, the 18th-century Swedish naturalist – certainly an important figure in natural history, but possibly not the most important person in the world.

**A** Are the following statements true (T) or false (F)? Identify the part of the text that supports your answer by copying the exact passage.

- 1 According to Wikipedia, Frank Sinatra is the most popular singer.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2 The study was carried out to decide if people kept a good level of attention.  
\_\_\_\_\_

**B** Answer the following questions using your own words but taking into account the information in the text.

- 1 How did they reach the conclusions?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2 What is important according to Page Rank?  
\_\_\_\_\_

**C** Find words in the text that mean:

- 1 several (paragraph 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 exact and accurate (paragraph 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 related to male and female (paragraph 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 important part of something (paragraph 4) \_\_\_\_\_

**D** Complete the second sentence. It must mean the same as the first sentence.

- 1 Michael Jackson was not as well considered as Frank Sinatra.  
Frank Sinatra \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 David went to live in Iran ten years ago. He still lives there.  
David has \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Carl Linnaeus was an 18th-century Swedish naturalist. He is considered the most important person in the world.  
Carl Linnaeus, \_\_\_\_\_



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- 1 According to the analysis
  - A three of the most important people are artists.
  - B two of the most important people spoke English.
  - C Michael Jackson is as famous as Frank Sinatra.
  - D Pope Pius XII did not speak English.
- 2 The analysis
  - A was carried out using methods which were not from *Google*.
  - B had unexpected conclusions.
  - C analysed *Google* pages.
  - D determined who had less articles.
- 3 The study
  - A wanted to discover how accurate *Wikipedia* is.
  - B discovered another online encyclopaedia.
  - C wanted to keep the level of attention.
  - D was only interested in gender and location.
- 4 The authors explain that the most important figures
  - A are western women from the 17th century.
  - B are western men from the 17th century.
  - C are western men born after the 17th century.
  - D are western women born after the 17th century.
- 5 According to the study
  - A the results were expected.
  - B Carl Linnaeus is not the most intellectual person in the world.
  - C the results were unexpected.
  - D *PageRank* is not relevant.



**What's in a name?**

What's in a name? New research suggests that hurricanes with female names may be more deadly than those with male ones. A study by the University of Illinois has revealed that three times as many victims will die if the hurricane is named, say, Donna versus one that is named Dan. Apparently people subconsciously assume storms with female names are less threatening and so take fewer precautions, which results in more deaths.

It is an interesting theory. It has been demonstrated that gender stereotyping affects our judgements often, even from a very young age, and even in people who consciously deny stereotypical thinking. There is a big difference between staring at a list of hurricanes and guessing which appear more dangerous, and feeling relaxed because the rotating storm rapidly approaching your home has a girl's name. Gender stereotypes are a genuine and persistent property of human behaviour, but so is self-preservation, and this aspect tends to overrule everything else when someone is in real, tangible danger.

So, if it is not the result of gender stereotyping, why does the data suggest that hurricanes with female names are more deadly? It could be just a coincidence. Or, it could be that hurricanes were only given names in the 1950s, but that male names were not used until 1979. For nearly 30 years all hurricanes were given female names. Add the fact that back then warning systems and the science behind making buildings weather-resistant were all far less developed. Gender stereotyping is definitely a problem that must be dealt with, but it is a human problem. Mother nature is still in charge on that front.

**A** Are the following statements true (T) or false (F)? Identify the part of the text that supports your answer by copying the exact passage.

1 Hurricanes can be more dangerous if they have a female name.

\_\_\_\_\_

2 Stereotyping does not influence us when we are young.

\_\_\_\_\_

**B** Answer the following questions using your own words but taking into account the information in the text.

1 What do people normally think about storms with female names?

\_\_\_\_\_

2 Why can the danger of female hurricanes be questioned?

\_\_\_\_\_

**C** Find words in the text that mean:

1 take for granted (paragraph 1) \_\_\_\_\_

2 the quality of being male or female (paragraph 2) \_\_\_\_\_

3 looking insistently (paragraph 2) \_\_\_\_\_

4 facts given which can be numbers or characters (paragraph 3) \_\_\_\_\_

**D** Complete the second sentence. It must mean the same as the first sentence.

1 Scientists have been doing a lot of research on hurricanes. Their work is very important.

Scientists, \_\_\_\_\_

2 Their house has been destroyed by the storm.

The storm \_\_\_\_\_

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Choose the best answer according to the text. Only one answer is correct.

- 1 According to the research, hurricanes
  - A with a female name are as dangerous as ones with male names.
  - B are usually not dangerous.
  - C with a female name could be more dangerous.
  - D with a male name are normally more dangerous.
- 2 People's attitude
  - A is more relaxed if the hurricane has a female name.
  - B is not connected to their subconscious side of the brain.
  - C can be less relaxed if they know the hurricane has a female name.
  - D is threatened by the name of the hurricane.
- 3 Gender stereotypes
  - A only affect our judgement when young.
  - B are consciously denied by everyone.
  - C can affect hurricanes.
  - D are a property of human behaviour.
- 4 Self-preservation
  - A is not part of our behaviour.
  - B involves danger.
  - C is more important in extreme situations than stereotypes.
  - D is a behaviour that helps us decide what to do.
- 5 Which aspect is not mentioned in the text?
  - A Hurricanes with female names are more dangerous.
  - B Male names for hurricanes were not used until late 1970s.
  - C Buildings were not so developed in the past.
  - D By the 1950s hurricanes were given male names.





**Einstein**

Einstein was born in Ulm, in southern Germany in 1879, but grew up in Munich. His early years didn't show any hint of the greatness to come. Famously, he didn't learn to speak until he was three. In the 1890s, as his father's electrical business was going into decline, the family moved to Milan, but Albert, by now a teenager, decided to go to Switzerland to continue his education – though he failed his college entrance exams on the first try. In 1896 he gave up his German citizenship to avoid military service and entered the Zurich Polytechnic Institute on a four-year course. He was bright but was not an exceptional student.

In 1900 he graduated and within a few months was beginning to write papers for *Annalen der Physik*, a renowned physics journal. His very first paper, on the physics of fluids appeared this same year. From 1902 to 1904 he submitted a series of papers on statistical mechanics.

While he was studying, Albert fell in love with a fellow student, a Hungarian named Mileva Maric. In 1901 they had a child, a daughter, who was discreetly put up for adoption. Einstein never saw his child. Two years later, he and Maric were married. In between these events, in 1902, Einstein took a job with the Swiss patent office, where he stayed for the next seven years. He enjoyed the work: it was challenging enough to keep his mind busy, but not as challenging as to distract him from his physics. Among his discoveries was Einstein's theory which explained how radiation worked: how a small quantity of uranium could throw out constant streams of energy without melting like an ice cube. It also explained how stars could burn for billions of years without using their fuel.

Having just solved several of the deepest mysteries of the universe, Einstein applied both for a job as a university teacher and a high school teacher and wasn't accepted for either. So he went back to his lowly job, but of course he kept thinking.

**A** Are the following statements true (T) or false (F)? Identify the part of the text that supports your answer by copying the exact passage.

1 By his early 20s, Einstein had lived in more than three countries.

\_\_\_\_\_

2 Einstein never met his daughter.

\_\_\_\_\_

3 The scientist was an exceptional and bright student.

\_\_\_\_\_

**B** Answer the following questions using your own words but taking into account the information in the text.

1 Why did Einstein decide not to go to Milan with his family?

\_\_\_\_\_

2 What did he try to do when his most important theories were published?

\_\_\_\_\_

**C** Find words in the text that mean:

1 prevent something from happening (paragraph 1) \_\_\_\_\_

2 liquids (paragraph 2) \_\_\_\_\_

3 unable to pay attention (paragraph 3) \_\_\_\_\_

4 made a request for a job (paragraph 5) \_\_\_\_\_

**D** Complete the second sentence. It must mean the same as the first sentence.

1 Einstein was born in Germany. Nevertheless, he gave up his German nationality.  
Although \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2 In 1902 Einstein took a job with the Swiss patent office.  
A job \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3 His discoveries were published in his articles. People knew about them through the articles.  
If his articles \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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Choose the best answer according to the text. Only one answer is correct.

- 1 During his early childhood,
  - A he already showed what a genius he was.
  - B he didn't speak until he was six.
  - C he lived in Germany.
  - D he didn't grow up a lot.
- 2 He didn't want his German nationality because
  - A he preferred other countries.
  - B he had fallen in love.
  - C he didn't want to join the Army.
  - D he wanted to enter the Zurich Polytechnic Institute.
- 3 Mileva Maric
  - A was his daughter's mother.
  - B was an adopted child.
  - C became another person's wife.
  - D was a Hungarian musician.
- 4 Between 1901 and 1903, Einstein
  - A got married twice.
  - B started his relationship with Mileva.
  - C became a father and got married.
  - D stopped working for a Swiss patent office.
- 5 After his discoveries
  - A his professional life remained the same.
  - B he entered university.
  - C he taught in a high school.
  - D he started working at a university.
- 6 Which of the following is not true?
  - A he wasn't a very talented student from the beginning.
  - B he didn't enjoy his job in Switzerland.
  - C he moved to Switzerland when he was a teenager.
  - D his papers showed his amazing theories.



**Helena Bonham Carter**

If you're looking for an example of good British acting over the last 30 years, Bonham Carter is definitely the one. The route goes through her 1980s beginnings as the muse for *Merchant Ivory*, through *Hamlet* and *Frankenstein*, to *The King's Speech* and *Les Misérables*. In the early years she played clear and lovely, although I confess that I like her better in her wilder recent incarnations.

In person, too, she can be really good company. Bonham Carter conducts her interview moving swiftly from one topic to the next. She has bird's-nest hair, a candid air and a direct black look. The one-time naïve actor turned 48 last month and it appears to suit her. She's posh enough to make herself at home in the world; old enough not to give much importance whether the world likes her there or not.

It wasn't always that way. Starting out, she was a total mess. 'It's hard to be high profile and young,' she explains. 'I wasn't very confident; I was incredibly shy. And, at the age of 19, you are all too aware of how people are perceiving you. I remember reading the first profile of me that was printed in a magazine and thinking: 'Oh good, now I'm going to find out what I'm really like. But no. That's not the best way of judging yourself.'

Her roles in *A Room with a View* and *Howard's End* had made her a star, but she wanted more experiences. 'I always wanted to be a character actor, even when I was stuck inside a corset playing innocent girls,' she explains. 'I always thought that they were so passive, which I now see as unfair. They weren't passive, they were these amazing, dynamic women from the novels. But I'm afraid that's how I saw it.' At the turn of the century, Bonham Carter found a new style in David Fincher's *Fight Club* or in Tim Burton's idiotic, hugely profitable *Planet of the Apes*. 'Don't take this the wrong way,' Burton told her at the time. 'But you are the first person I thought of to be the monkey.'

On screen and off, it has been a fruitful collaboration. The actor and director now have two children together and lots of credits behind them and more to come.

**A** Are the following statements true (T) or false (F)? Identify the part of the text that supports your answer by copying the exact passage.

1 These days she gives less importance to what people think of her.

\_\_\_\_\_

2 Helen Bonham Carter was always very confident with her acting.

\_\_\_\_\_

3 She wasn't as happy with her first roles as she is with the recent ones.

\_\_\_\_\_

**B** Answer the following questions using your own words but taking into account the information in the text.

1 What type of person is Bonham Carter in real life?

\_\_\_\_\_

2 What happened at the turn of the century?

\_\_\_\_\_

**C** Find words in the text that mean:

1 admit (paragraph 1) \_\_\_\_\_

2 in a quick way (paragraph 2) \_\_\_\_\_

3 conscious (paragraph 3) \_\_\_\_\_

4 incredibly (paragraph 4) \_\_\_\_\_

**D** Complete the second sentence. It must mean the same as the first sentence.

1 People say that many actors adapt very professionally to their roles.

It \_\_\_\_\_

2 If you don't have new challenges, you can get bored.

Unless \_\_\_\_\_



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Choose the best answer according to the text. Only one answer is correct.

- 1 The writer
  - A prefers the first years of Bonham Carter's acting.
  - B thinks Bonham Carter has become a wild actress.
  - C prefers Bonham Carter in her recent roles.
  - D thinks Bonham Carter is clearer and lovelier now than before.
- 2 Bonham Carter
  - A is an example of international acting.
  - B has been acting for more than three decades.
  - C started her acting career in the late 80s.
  - D had an acting route since the beginning.
- 3 Which of the following is not true?
  - A She avoids looking into your eyes.
  - B She has an innocent appearance.
  - C She is good fun.
  - D She likes to change the topics in the conversation.
- 4 When she was young, Helen Bonham Carter was not
  - A confident and incredible.
  - B confident and shy.
  - C incredible and extrovert.
  - D extrovert and sure of herself.
- 5 The first time she saw an article in a magazine written about her
  - A she felt glad.
  - B she thought people were judging her.
  - C she thought she could find out about others.
  - D she wanted to judge herself.
- 6 She considered
  - A her first roles passive.
  - B her first roles dynamic.
  - C there were roles from novels.
  - D wearing a corset.
- 7 Tim Burton
  - A is both an actor and a director.
  - B is an idiotic director.
  - C made a lot of money in a film starred by Bonham Carter.
  - D has always thought of Bonham Carter for the starring roles.



**The Parisian Danger of Love**

The path of true love for tourists in Paris has often involved a walk across the Pont des Arts and the attaching of a 'love lock' to its railings. The key is then thrown into the River Seine. But the celebrated bridge had to be evacuated at the weekend after part of the railing collapsed under the weight of love locks attached to it. Police ordered visitors to leave and closed the footbridge after a 2.4-metre section of railing broke. Since the phenomenon began in 2008 it has become a headache for city officials. The full 150-metre Pont des Arts is not only covered in locks, but visiting couples have done the same thing to other bridges in the French capital. Forty locks are reported to have been removed from the Eiffel Tower.

Protesters, who say the thousands of locks are vandalism, have long warned they are also a risk to the iron bridge, which is a listed monument, and started a petition to have them removed. There are also campaigns on *Facebook*, *Twitter* and *Instagram*. In an open letter to the Paris mayor, Anne Hidalgo, the petition organisers complained that the locks were 'like a plague on our city's historic bridges and sites.'

This is most apparent on the Pont des Arts, which has been terribly degraded, both visually and structurally. In a few short years, the heart of Paris has been made ugly, robbing Parisians of quality of life and the ability to safely enjoy their own public spaces along the Seine, which has itself been polluted by thousands of lock keys. 'The time has come to start a ban on 'love locks' in order to return our bridges to their original beauty and purpose,' they wrote.

On its website, the Paris authorities write: 'It is wonderful to see such a vast amount of devoted couples; however the ritual is posing several problems due to the weight of the thousands of small steel padlocks.'

**A** Are the following statements true (T) or false (F)? Identify the part of the text that supports your answer by copying the exact passage.

- 1 The attaching of 'love locks' only happens on the Pont des Arts.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2 There has been a social reaction and many people want to end this tradition.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Protesters accuse young people of transforming the centre of Paris.  
\_\_\_\_\_

**B** Answer the following questions using your own words but taking into account the information in the text.

- 1 Why was the Pont des Arts evacuated?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2 What is the protesters' objective?  
\_\_\_\_\_

**C** Find words in the text that mean:

- 1 famous or well-known (paragraph 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 the action of damaging property (paragraph 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 a formal request to the authority (paragraph 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 a huge number (paragraph 4) \_\_\_\_\_

**D** Complete the second sentence. It must mean the same as the first sentence.

- 1 If people continue attaching locks to the railings, the bridge will collapse.  
Unless \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 One of the petitioners said: "In a few short years, the heart of Paris has been made ugly."  
One of the petitioners said that \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 The key is thrown into the River Seine by the couples.  
The couples \_\_\_\_\_



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On its website, the Paris authorities write: 'It is wonderful to see such a vast amount of devoted couples; however the ritual is posing several problems due to the weight of the thousands of small steel padlocks.'

Choose the best answer according to the text. Only one answer is correct.

- 1 The bridge was closed at the weekend
  - A because the authorities wanted to clean the railings of locks.
  - B because the locks were too heavy and part of the bridge suddenly fell.
  - C to get it cleaned
  - D for police to ask visitors to leave
- 2 City officials
  - A have had very frequent headaches.
  - B started the lock phenomenon in 2008.
  - C have considered the lock phenomenon as a problem since it started.
  - D have asked couples to go to other bridges.
- 3 The Paris mayor
  - A has received a petition to stop the attaching of locks.
  - B has received a protest from the tourists.
  - C has received a letter from anti-lock campaigners.
  - D communicates with tourists through social networks.
- 4 According to protesters,
  - A the centre of Paris is not what it used to be.
  - B there will be structural problems in the future.
  - C there are people robbing along the Pont des Arts.
  - D bridges are not safe.
- 5 The Seine
  - A offers a lot of enjoyable social spaces.
  - B has been contaminated by the lock keys.
  - C has not been affected.
  - D is wonderful.
- 6 The Pont des Arts
  - A is gradually disappearing.
  - B will never be the same.
  - C has degenerated in recent times.
  - D is an apparent bridge.



**What was the Hipster?**

Perhaps the most comprehensive examination of this contemporary manifestation is being published in traditional print format this week. *What Was the Hipster?* is a 200-page collection of American essays and discussions, which describes the significance of these turn-of-the-century pretenders. The book offers three definitions of the type in question. The first is white, urban, cool guys in Manhattan's Lower East Side around 1999. The second definition highlights followers of a certain hipster culture, which revels in a childish naivety and the third is the 'hip consumer': the smart shopper who understands that some consumer purchases, such as the right vintage T-shirt, might even be regarded as a form of art.

Mark Greif, a New York English professor and one of the book's chief editors traces this hipster's recent history back to the post-punk movement of the 1980s. 'Back then there was this insistence on something like an alternative to capitalism,' says Greif, 'an opposition to major labels and pop; you could make your album on a small unknown label and it would only be sold for cheap. Youth culture had this quite hopeful notion that it was possible to make your own art and distribute it, in order to evade this wider commercial sphere.'

'In the 1950s and 1960s, there are five people at the centre working very hard, miserably trying to write a book and around them there are 95 people more or less having fun,' Greif explains. 'In the hipster culture, the people at that centre aren't necessarily producing art, they're actually working in advertising, marketing and product placement. These were once embarrassing jobs. Now it's meaningful in this world to say that you sell shoes, at a high level.'

'The hipster,' another expert suggests, 'is the spirit who keeps us from becoming too settled in our identity, keeps us moving forward into new fashions, keeps us consuming more 'creatively' and discovering new things that haven't become freer. We keep consuming more, and more actively, yet this always seems to us to be the hipster's fault, not our own.'

**A** Are the following statements true (T) or false (F)? Identify the part of the text that supports your answer by copying the exact passage.

1 *What Was the Hipster* is a 200-page novel on the hipster phenomenon.

\_\_\_\_\_

2 For Mark Greif, the beginning of the hipster movement is related to a reaction to capitalism.

\_\_\_\_\_

3 Hipsters have changed the way of looking at certain jobs.

\_\_\_\_\_

**B** Answer the following questions using your own words but taking into account the information in the text.

1 What is the objective of *What Was the Hipster*?

\_\_\_\_\_

2 What does the third definition of a hipster make reference to?

\_\_\_\_\_

**C** Find words in the text that mean:

1 relevance (paragraph 1) \_\_\_\_\_

2 resistance (paragraph 2) \_\_\_\_\_

3 causing / showing unhappiness (paragraph 3) \_\_\_\_\_

4 established (paragraph 4) \_\_\_\_\_

**D** Complete the second sentence. It must mean the same as the first sentence.

1 A hipster is a contemporary manifestation. Its definition was created in the 1980s.

A hipster, \_\_\_\_\_

2 'What is a hipster?' he wondered.

He wondered \_\_\_\_\_

3 It's impossible to believe that he was a punk.

He can't \_\_\_\_\_





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Choose the best answer according to the text. Only one answer is correct.

- 1 Which definition does not define a hipster?
 

<p>A An 'artistic' consumer.</p> <p>B A type of person who likes some forms of art.</p>	<p>C A punk capitalist.</p> <p>D A smart man who lived in Manhattan.</p>
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- 2 *What Was the Hipster?*

<p>A is a traditional explanation of the hipster movement.</p> <p>B includes a comprehensive exam.</p>	<p>C is a 200-page novel on the hipster movement.</p> <p>D is an American collection of essays and discussions.</p>
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- 3 The book
 

<p>A explores the different definitions.</p> <p>B analyses the beginnings of white hipsters all over Manhattan.</p>	<p>C defines hipsters as pretenders.</p> <p>D has already been published.</p>
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- 4 Mark Grief is
 

<p>A chief editor of the book and a professor of English.</p> <p>B a post-punk hipster.</p>	<p>C a New York hipster.</p> <p>D a professor of New York English.</p>
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- 5 In the post-punk movement of the 1980s,
 

<p>A there was an opposition to punk movements.</p> <p>B there was an anti-capitalist movement.</p>	<p>C big labels were accepted.</p> <p>D art was sold cheap.</p>
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- 6 Another expert does not suggest that hipsters
 

<p>A are becoming old-fashioned.</p> <p>B make us be more creative in the way we shop.</p> <p>C show us how not to adopt a more secure lifestyle.</p> <p>D keep us discovering new things.</p>	
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