

МИНИСТЕРСТВО НАУКИ И ВЫСШЕГО ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ
РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ
федеральное государственное бюджетное образовательное учреждение
высшего образования
«Курганский государственный университет»

Кафедра «Зарубежная филология,
лингвистика и преподавание иностранных языков»

**АНГЛИЙСКИЙ ЯЗЫК.
ТЕКСТЫ ДЛЯ ЧТЕНИЯ
ДЛЯ СТУДЕНТОВ НЕЯЗЫКОВЫХ СПЕЦИАЛЬНОСТЕЙ**

Практикум по развитию навыков чтения
на основе текстов общей тематики
для студентов всех направлений подготовки
неязыковых специальностей

Курган 2022

Кафедра: «Зарубежная филология, лингвистика и преподавание иностранных языков».

Дисциплина: «Иностранный язык».

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Печатается в соответствии с планом издания, утверждённым методическим советом университета «16» декабря 2021 г.

Утверждены на заседании кафедры «01» июня 2022 г.

A Hobby Makes Your Life Much More Interesting

Our life would be hard without recreation. People have quite different ideas of how to spend their free time. For some of them the only way to relax is watching TV or drinking beer. But other people get maximum benefit from their spare time. If you enjoy doing some activity in your free time, you have a hobby. A person's hobbies are not connected with his or her profession, but they are practiced for fun and enjoyment. A hobby gives one the opportunity of acquiring substantial skills, knowledge and experience. A hobby is a kind of self-expression and the way to understand other people and the whole world. A person's hobbies depend on his or her age, intelligence level, character and personal interests. What is interesting to one person can be trivial or boring to another. That's why some people prefer reading, cooking, knitting, collecting, playing a musical instrument, painting, photography, fishkeeping or playing computer games, while others prefer dancing, travelling, camping or sports.

Collecting things is a very popular hobby and it may deal with almost any subject. Some people collect stamps, coins, badges, books, clocks or toys. Other people collect beer cans, key rings, stones, matchboxes, thimbles and all sorts of things. Once you've got a small collection you keep adding to it. Some people don't even remember, how their collection started, but now their house is full of different things, which they can't use, but keep for the sake of having them. But some people collect valuable and rare things, as they consider it to be a good investment of their money.

If you are active and tired of town life, if you long for changes and want to get away from civilization, than camping is for you. It is a cheap way to rest, to improve your health, to train yourself physically and to enjoy nature. Some people prefer more extreme camping, when they have to survive out-of-doors, orient themselves, obtain food from the wild, build shelters and adapt themselves to extremely cold weather. They learn to overcome any obstacles and become strong and self-reliant.

Ecotourism is becoming popular and fashionable all over the world, especially with people who try to damage the environment as little as possible. Tourists visit places of natural beauty and they usually travel on foot, by bicycle or boat so that there is no pollution. They stay in local houses or hotels and eat local food. Their aim is to enjoy nature, to experience the local culture and to get unforgettable impressions without polluting and wasting or destroying natural resources. They must keep places that they visit clean and safe. The principles of eco-tourism are 'Leave nothing behind you except footprints and take nothing away except photographs' and 'Take as much care of the places that you visit as you take of your own home'. If people remember these simple rules, we will be able to save our planet and to conserve the wildlife.

A hobby plays a very important educational and psychological role, makes you stronger physically and mentally, helps you to escape from reality, improves your knowledge, broadens your mind, develops your skills.

1 Complete each sentence with one of the endings

A. If you enjoy doing some activity in your free time, than	1 age, intelligence level, character and personal interests
B. A hobby gives one the opportunity of	2 educational and psychological role
C. A person's hobbies depend on his or her	3 acquiring substantial skill, knowledge and experience
D. What is interesting to one person	4 try to damage the environment as little as possible
E. Some people collect valuable and rare things as they consider it	5 you have a hobby
F. Camping is a cheap way	6 can be trivial or boring to another
G. Ecotourism is popular with people who	7 to rest, to improve your health, to train yourself physically and to enjoy nature
H. A hobby plays a very important	8 to be a good investment of their money

2 Correct the statements

- 1 Our life would be easy and pleasant without recreation.
- 2 A person's hobby is always connected with his or her profession.
- 3 What is interesting to one person is interesting to all other people.
- 4 Collecting things is not popular at all, because it can deal only with some kinds of things.
- 5 Some people collect cheap things as they consider it to be a good investment of their money.
- 6 Camping is for you, if you are fond of town life.
- 7 Some people prefer more extreme camping, when they read and play computer games all day long.

8 Ecotourism is becoming popular and fashionable only in Russia, especially with people who don't care about the environment at all.

3 Answer the questions

- 1 What does a person's hobby depend on?
- 2 How does a hobby influence a person's life?
- 3 What kinds of hobbies do you know?
- 4 Why do people collect different things?
- 5 What are the advantages of camping?
- 6 What is your attitude to extreme camping?
- 7 What are the principles of ecotourism?
- 8 Why is it important for everybody to have a hobby? What is educational and psychological role of hobbies?
- 9 What do you like to do in your free time?

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Generation Gap: Reality or a Psychological Prejudice

To my mind generation gap is rather reality than a psychological prejudice. This problem remains urgent nowadays.

So what does a generation gap mean? It is a popular term used to describe big differences between people of a younger generation and their elders. It can be defined as a situation 'when older and younger people do not understand each other because of their different experiences, opinions, habits and behaviour'. The term first came into prominence in Western countries during the 1960s, and it described the cultural differences between the Baby Boomers and their parents. Although some generational differences have existed throughout history, during this era differences between the two generations grew significantly in comparison to previous times, particularly with respect to such matters as musical tastes, fashion, drug use, culture and politics.

Nowadays you will hardly find a boy or a girl satisfied with their parents. Neither will you find a grown-up, a parent not grumbling over 'younger generation' of their children. Pop music, ultra-modern clothes, noisy parties and children's wish to have more freedom become a stumbling-block on the way of mutual understanding between adults and their offspring and help to foster differences between parents and teenagers. So it seems that in most families parents don't understand their children and children don't understand their parents.

According to the older generation teenagers are lazy, carefree, ungrateful, impolite and rude. They wear ridiculous clothes, listen to awful music and think only about parties, dates, friends and entertainment. Teenagers have very little responsibility and very few problems. But is it really so? If we look inside the mind of a teenager, we will see a very different picture. Teenagers are greatly worried about a great number of things: their appearance, relations with friends, parents and teachers, the way other people (especially their peers) treat them. They suffer from bullies, problems at school, misunderstanding with their boyfriend/girlfriend, lack of self-confidence, etc. Teenagers often don't know what they are good at and their future seems to be rather vague. Every day they face a lot of stressful situations and feel depressed. Besides they have constant pressure from grown-ups as to how they should act, behave, look and feel.

There are a lot of books and films devoted to the problem of the generation gap. One of such films is 'Freaky Friday' (2003). The wide generation gap between Tess Coleman (Jamie Lee Curtis) and her teenage daughter Anna (Lindsay Lohan) is more than evident. They simply cannot understand each other's preferences. They have absolutely different views on clothes, hair, music, duties and even people. On a Friday morning the mother and the daughter switch bodies. As they adjust with their

new personalities, they begin to understand each other more and eventually they gain respect for the other's point of view. It is 'selfless love' that changes them back.

But of course there is no magic in real life, that's why there should be some other way to bridge the gap between parents and their children. To my mind communication is the best way to solve the problem. The more time adults and children spend together, the more they talk and discuss different things the better they understand each other. It is very important to be selfless and open-minded, patient and sincere. Despite the great changes in the electronic and technological environment in the last several decades, a defined gap does not separate today's generations as it did in the sixties and seventies. So the 'generation gap' can disappear. If we are a little wiser, children will find a key to the heart of their parents and vice versa.

1 Complete each sentence with one of the endings

A. 'Generation gap' is a popular term used to describe	1 their appearance, relations with friends, parents and teachers, the way other people treat them
B. The term first came into prominence	2 the better they understand each other.
C. Pop music, ultra-modern clothes, noisy parties and children's wish to have more freedom become	3 big differences between people of a younger generation and their elders
D. According to the older generation teenagers are	4 a defined gap does not separate today's generations as it did in the sixties and seventies
E. Teenagers are greatly worried about	5 in Western countries during the 1960s
F. Besides they have constant pressure from grown-ups	6 lazy, carefree, ungrateful, impolite and rude
G. The more time adults and children spend together, the more they talk and discuss different things	7 a stumbling-block on the way of mutual understanding between adults and their offspring
H. Despite the great changes in the electronic and technological environment in the last several decades	8 as to how they should act, behave, look and feel

2 Correct the statements

- 1 The problem of generation gap doesn't exist nowadays.
- 2 It is a popular term used to describe similarities between people of a younger generation and their elders.
- 3 Classical music, old-fashioned clothes, and children's wish to study a lot become a stumbling-block on the way of mutual understanding between adults and their offspring.
- 4 According to the older generation teenagers are hardworking, responsible and careful.
- 5 Teenagers are very self-confident and always know what they are good at.
- 6 The more time adults and children spend accusing each other, the better they understand each other.

3 Answer the questions

- 1 What does the term "generation gap" mean?
- 2 What do most grown-ups think about teenagers, according to the text?
- 3 What problems do teenagers usually face?
- 4 What are the ways to bridge the gap between parents and children?
- 5 Do you agree that the problem of generation gap is still urgent? Or do you think it can disappear soon? Why?
- 6 How can you characterize your relationships with your parents and grandparents? Do you understand each other's opinions, habits, behavior and preferences?
- 7 Do you agree that children's job is 'to try their wings' and parents' job is 'to let them fly away'? Comment on your answer.

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Healthy lifestyle

Gwendolyn Brooks once noted, "Good health is a duty to yourself, to your contemporaries, to your inheritors, to the progress of the world." Personally I fully agree with this statement. But what does it mean to be healthy? It means to lead a healthy life style, to exercise regularly, to eat healthy food and avoid smoking, alcohol abuse and overeating.

Nowadays more and more people eat junk food such as fizzy drinks, hamburgers and chips at the restaurants. Undoubtedly, fast food is very tasty, cheap and helps to save time. However, experts say that it is extremely unhealthy. Let us find out why it is so. Junk food has high caloric value which can lead to overweight and even obesity. Besides, it contains chemical additives that are very harmful for your health and can raise your cholesterol levels which can lead to heart and vascular diseases.

But what is healthy food? For regular meals you can choose from fresh vegetables and fruit, mineral water, natural juices, dairy products, eggs, seafood and others. Moreover, some doctors and nutritionists recommend taking vitamin supplements.

In order to be in a good shape people exercise regularly. Some of them just do morning exercises or go jogging, while others go to the gym or swimming-pool. They keep a balanced diet containing the essential nutrients such as proteins, vitamins and minerals. Sport helps people to reduce stress and to stay in good shape, while lack of exercise can lead to poor health. Besides, to feel well people should have a good night sleep, drink fresh water and give up smoking.

Moreover, people should go for regular medical checkups in order to prevent physical health problems. It is true when they say, "Health is the biggest wealth in the world." So, it is important to take care of our health and not to ruin it with bad habits. For instance, drug addiction has become a growing epidemic. Experts say that any drug destroys nervous system and brain cells. People who use drugs become aggressive and mentally disordered.

Taking into consideration all mentioned above, I've come to the conclusion that it is important to take care of health and lead an active lifestyle. Have regular meals, take vitamin supplements, play sports, sleep well and you'll be healthy and fit.

1 Complete each sentence with one of the endings

A. Nowadays more and more people eat junk food	1 destroys nervous system and brain cells
B. Junk food has high caloric value	2 such as proteins, vitamins and minerals
C. For regular meals you can choose	3 from fresh vegetables and fruit, mineral water, natural juices, dairy products, eggs, seafood and others
D. Some of them just do morning exercises or go jogging.	4 while others go to the gym or swimming-pool
E. Experts say that any drug	5 which can lead to overweight and even obesity
F. They keep a balanced diet containing the essential nutrients	6 have a good night sleep, drink fresh water and give up smoking
G. Besides, to feel well people should	7 and not to ruin it with bad habits
H. So, it is important to take care of our health	8 such as fizzy drinks, hamburgers and chips at the restaurants

2 Correct the statements

1 To be healthy means to eat a lot of fast food, to exercise sometimes, to smoke and to drink alcohol.

2 Undoubtedly, fast food is not tasty at all and expensive.

3 Fast food contains vitamin supplements that are very good for your health.

4 Sport increases stress, while lack of exercise can lead to good health.

5 If you want to ruin your health, you should have a good night sleep, drink fresh water and give up smoking.

6 People should avoid regular medical checkups in order to prevent physical health problems.

7 Experts say that any drug is useful for nervous system and brain cells. People who use drugs become composed and self-confident.

3 Answer the questions

1 What kind of food do people usually prefer nowadays?

2 What are the advantages and disadvantages of fast food?

3 Which food can be considered healthy?

4 What should people do in order to be in good shape?

5 Why is drug addiction dangerous for your health?

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1 englishtopic.ru. – URL: <https://englishtopic.ru/healthy-lifestyle-zdorovyj-obraz-zhizni/> (дата обращения: 22.05.2022).

Interesting facts about Russia

1

The national symbols of Russia such as National Flag, National Anthem, two-headed eagles, Matryoshka, etc. are a part of the Russian cultural heritage that contributes to the national identity of Russia. There are three official symbols: the national flag, the emblem and the anthem, but there are several unofficial popular symbols representing Russian culture as well. The two-headed eagle came in the 15th century. One head represents the European part of Russia and another head represents the Asian part of Russia.

2

Family is given high value in Russian culture. Parents, grandparents and kids all are closely related and depend on each other. Grandparents even in nuclear families play a huge role in raising children in the family. Relatives also have very close relationships. Extended family members are also very involved. They all stand for each other when needed. Helping family and extended family members in need is considered to be the obligation.

3

Several cultures have preserved their art and craft traditions. Russia has done the same too. Some of the handcrafted souvenirs made in Russia are quite popular. Generations have kept the art of making wonderful and unique items alive. Do you know one of the interesting facts about Russia that Russian Dolls, finely decorated lacquer boxes and other items of regional folk crafts make special souvenirs not just for locals but for the foreign visitors as well?

4

Matryoshka is popularly known as ‘Russian Doll’. It appeared about 100 years ago. Earlier themes were mainly drawn from fairy tale characters but since the late 20th century they have embraced a larger range which includes soviet leaders. The word ‘Matryoshka’ came from the Russian word for ‘Mother’ and thus these dolls are a symbol of motherhood. This set of dolls with the largest wooden mother doll and subsequent baby dolls is a great souvenir as well.

5

Looking for deep-rooted Russian culture facts? Well, if you break a mirror< it is bad luck in Russia. That means Russia has a culture of superstitions like any other country on the planet. Superstitions have existed in Russia and many of them have become inseparable parts of daily life. Some superstitions are practiced by the mass population while others are followed regionally. One of such traditions in Russia is that no one should give birthday wishes to someone before their birthday. Birthday wishes and celebrations can happen only on or after the birthday.

6

Russians love to turn weddings into big events. Traditional Russian weddings may last from 2 to 7 days. On the first day of the wedding, the ring exchange takes place. The celebration is full of dancing and singing. The groom also has to pay a ransom for his bride when he arrives to the bride's house. This is treated as a comical and entertaining event.

7

This is one of the interesting facts about Russia related to hosting culture. If you have been invited by somebody in Russia, you should not say no to the food offered by the host. You should respectfully accept the food, because refusal to food is considered offensive. Also, you must bring something as a gift for the host because coming without anything is considered bad here.

8

Humor is a part of all cultures in the world. However, what is perceived humorous can vary from one place to another. In Russia short fictional stories and dialogues with a punch line are common forms of creating humor. Humor is used as an 'antidepressant' by Russian people.

9

Literature is one of the core parts of Russian culture and one of the prominent facts about Russia. Russian writers produced some of the best literary works in the world. Literature lovers know the great work done by Pushkin, who wrote some of the best romantic poems, and Leo Tolstoy, who is regarded as one of the best authors of all time. His famous novel 'War and Peace' is recognized as one of the central works of world literature.

10

Does it sound cool? Well, this is true though. 70 cats guard the treasure of Russia's greatest museum The Hermitage in St. Petersburg against rodents. The tradition started in 1745 by Empress Elizabeth, the daughter of the founder of St. Petersburg, Peter the Great, and it continues.

11

Giving flowers to someone you know or meet is a tradition in Russia. But you must give an only odd number of flowers to someone, because odd numbers represent a happy occasion. You can give an even number of flowers only when you are going for a funeral or sympathy arrangements. So, in Russia sending 13 roses to the loved ones is considered a good thing.

1 Match the paragraphs with the titles

- A. Russia has plenty of Cultural Symbols
- B. Art and Craft is an Integral Part of the Culture

- C. Cats have Jobs in St. Petersburg
- D. Superstitions are still Part of the Culture
- E. Don't say No to Food and Don't Come Empty-Handed To A Party or Event
- F. Short Story and Dialogues are A Common Form of Humor
- G. Weddings are Generally Big Events in Russia
- H. An Odd Number of Flowers for Happy Occasions
- I. Family is Priority
- J. Russian Literature has been Among the Most Influential and Developed
- K. Matryoshka is the Most Popular Russian Souvenir

2 Correct the statements

- 1 There is only one official symbol, Matryoshka, but there are several unofficial but popular symbols representing Russian culture – the national flag, the emblem and the anthem.
- 2 Grandparents in nuclear families never take part in raising children.
- 3 Russian Dolls, finely decorated lacquer boxes and other items of regional folk crafts are popular with locals, but not with foreign visitors.
- 4 Russian Dolls were mainly drawn from soviet leaders, but since the late 20th century they have embraced a larger range which includes fairy tale characters.
- 5 Superstitions exist in Russia, but most of them don't become inseparable parts of daily life.
- 6 A bride also has to pay a ransom for her groom when she arrives to the groom's house.
- 7 If you have been invited by somebody in Russia, you should not eat the food offered by the host.
- 8 In Russia long boring stories and dialogues are common forms of creating humor.
- 9 Leo Tolstoy is regarded as one of the worst authors of all time.
- 10 70 cats guard the Tretyakov Gallery in Moscow against rodents
- 11 You must give an only even number of flowers to someone because even numbers represent a happy occasion.

3 Answer the questions

- 1 What are the official national symbols of Russia?
- 2 How can you describe the relationships between family members in Russia?
- 3 What popular Russian souvenirs do you know?
- 4 What word did the word Matryoshka come from, and what does it symbolize?
- 5 What Russian superstitions do you know? Do you follow any of them?

- 6 What usually happens on the first day of a wedding in Russia?
 - 7 Why shouldn't you refuse of food, when you are invited to a party in Russia?
 - 8 Which ways of creating humour are the most popular in Russia?
 - 9 Which novel by Leo Tolstoy is recognized as one of the best works of world literature?
- 10 70 cats guard The Hermitage in St. Petersburg against rodents. When and by whom was this tradition started?
- 11 When should you give an odd or even number of flowers?

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Ways of Being Successful

What is success? People define this notion in many different ways. Success may mean the achievement of what one wants or intends, a high position in one's job, course, sport, in society, etc. Some people believe that success is connected with the amount of money they earn, the house they live in and the car they drive. But is success really measured in dollars and is it just making money and being well-known? To my mind success means finding personal satisfaction in your work and loving what you do. It is a sense of personal accomplishment and self-satisfaction. If people want to be successful, they should have a goal to strive for and constantly raise the bar. When their ambition is reached, another one is created. The meaning of success may vary at different points of life.

Of course not everybody manages to succeed in life. All successful businessmen, actors or musicians face a number of challenges at the beginning of their career. They have hard times and overcome many difficulties, but they don't give up. At last their persistence leads to success. One must be hard-working, patient, strong-willed, persevering and self-confident if one wants to be successful. Success always goes hand in hand with hard work and great efforts and very often one faces a lot of obstacles, troubles, disappointment and failures on the way to success.

Some people forget about integrity and honour striving for success, wealth and glory. When they achieve their goal, it doesn't make them happy. On the contrary, they feel disillusioned and dissatisfied. They climb the ladder of success, but find nothing worthwhile on the top. A person shouldn't use any means and take any risks achieving success. Many people today admit they will lie, cheat, do something morally wrong and even sacrifice their private life and health if it helps them to do well. Many ambitious people who want success at any cost move their families, friends and hobbies to the background. People who work too much trying to achieve their goals or to be promoted don't go in for sports, sit up very late, skip meals, smoke excessively and feel stressed.

But can a person be successful if he or she isn't happy? The link between happiness and success was investigated by a team from the University of California Riverside. According to their research 'happiness, rather than working hard, is the key to success'. Psychologists say that 'cheerful people are more likely to try new things and challenge themselves, which reinforces positive emotions and leads to success in work, good relationships and strong health'. So happiness is essential to people's wellbeing. Prof Diener said, 'We define success as obtaining the things that culture or society values, whether it be friends, close family, money and income, or longevity.'

A person is successful if he or she uses all the talents to improve the world and leaves it a bit better. Success is not only a good career. It is also having a balance in

life and helping other people. As somebody has rightly said, 'Success is the completion of anything intended'.

1 Complete each sentence with one of the endings

A. Some people believe that success is connected with	1 face a number of challenges at the beginning of their career
B. If people want to be successful they should	2 don't go in for sports, sit up very late, skip meals, smoke excessively and feel stressed
C. All successful businessmen, actors or musicians	3 have a goal to strive for and constantly raise the bar
D. Success always goes hand in hand with	4 try new things and challenge themselves
E. Many people today admit they will	5 the amount of money they earn, the house they live in and the car they drive
F. People who work too much trying to achieve their goals or to be promoted	6 hard work and great efforts
G. Cheerful people are more likely to	7 all the talents to improve the world and leaves it a bit better
H. A person is successful if he or she uses	8 lie, cheat, do something morally wrong and even sacrifice their private life and health if it helps them to do well

2 Answer the questions

- 1 How do different people define success?
- 2 What should you do and what traits of character should you have if you want to be successful?
- 3 Why do some people feel dissatisfied, when they achieve their goals?
- 4 Is it a good idea to use any means and take any risks achieving success?

Why?

- 5 How are success and happiness connected?
- 6 How does Prof Diener define success?
- 7 Why are cheerful people more successful?
- 8 Do you agree that 'Success is the completion of anything intended'?

3 Correct the statements

- 1 People define success in only one way and think, that success is connected with the amount of money they earn, the house they live in and the car they drive.

2 If people want to be successful, they should not strive for any goals and raise the bar.

3 All people manage to succeed in life, and successful businessmen, actors or musicians never face any challenges at the beginning of their career.

4 One must be lazy, weak and impatient if one wants to be successful.

5 Success always goes hand in hand with rest and entertainment and very often one faces a lot of happy and pleasant events on the way to success.

6 When people achieve their goals, they always feel happy and satisfied.

7 People who work too much trying to achieve their goals or to be promoted go in for sports, never skip meals, give up smoking and have a healthy way of life.

8 Success always means a good career, you don't need to have a balance in life and help other people.

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1 АВ alleng.ru. – URL: <https://alleng.alleng.me/engl-top/677.htm> (дата обращения: 22.05.2022).

Shopping

Who does most of the shopping in your family? The answer will be women. It isn't most certainly for household needs but it is an activity they do for pleasure.

The book «Theory of Shopping» written by Daniel Miller, a professor at University College, shows the differences between men's and women's attitude to shopping. Unlike men, for women, shopping is often a kind of therapy, a hobby.

But shopping has its darker sides as we learned this week with news of the suicides of two shopaholics. Trudi Susyn killed herself after she had been spending as much as £7,000 per week on clothes, shoes and beauty products. Masimi Dawson, a single mother, hanged herself after it was discovered that she had been stealing money at work to pay her shopping debts.

Do tragedies like these show that women are really crazy about material things? Miller believes that most women don't shop to satisfy their own needs alone. He thinks that in our culture shopping is one of the main ways of expressing love. Women do most of the shopping for others.

In contemporary English families, love holds the whole thing together but it's not talked about. Love is expressed by paying attention to what others want. If you buy your partner the thing he's always wanted, or you buy your child healthy food, you show that you care about that person. This is the essence of contemporary love: understanding what the other person is about, doing things for them or buying things for them, not because it's your duty but because you understand them.

1 Complete each sentence with one of the endings

A. It isn't most certainly for household needs	1 I don't shop to satisfy their own needs alone
B. But shopping has its darker sides	2 love holds the whole thing together but it's not talked about
C. Miller believes that most women	3 you show that you care about that person
D. This is the essence of contemporary love:	4 as we learned this week with news of the suicides of two shopaholics
E. In contemporary English families,	5 one of the main ways of expressing love
F. If you buy your partner the thing he's always wanted,	6 but it is an activity they do for pleasure
G. He thinks that in our culture shopping is	7 understanding what the other person is about, doing things for them or buying things for them, not because it's your duty but because you understand them

2 Correct the statements

- 1 Men usually do shopping in most families.
- 2 Women never shop for pleasure; they do it for household needs only.
- 3 Unlike men, for women, shopping is often a very boring activity.
- 4 Dr. Miller thinks that in our culture shopping is one of the main ways of spoiling your family's life and showing that you hate them.
- 5 In contemporary English families, people often talk about love, but love does not hold the whole thing together.
- 6 If you buy something for a person, you show that you don't care about him or her at all.

3 Answer the questions

- 1 Do you enjoy shopping or do you do it just for necessity?
- 2 Do you agree that women like shopping more than men?
- 3 Do you often shop for other people to show that you love and understand them?

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- 1 The English Inn. – URL: <https://englishinn.ru/text-in-english-on-the-topic-shopping.html> (дата обращения: 22.05.2022).

Foreign languages in Britain

If you're reading this, then you're probably studying English. Maybe you speak a couple of other languages too. What are the British like when it comes to learning languages?

Statistics

Brits are famous for not speaking foreign languages. According to a survey published by the European Commission, this bad reputation is totally justified. The results of the survey state that the British are officially the worst language learners in Europe! Let's look at some statistics:

- 62 per cent of people surveyed can't speak any other language apart from English.
- 38 per cent of Britons speak at least one foreign language, 18 per cent speak two and only 6 per cent of the population speak three or more.
- The European Union average showed that 56 per cent speak at least one foreign language, 28 per cent speak at least two and 11 per cent speak three or more. The survey confirmed that English was the most widely-spoken foreign language. 51 per cent of EU citizens can have a conversation in English.

School

Learning a foreign language is not a popular option at school in Britain. In UK schools it is common for children to start studying a foreign language at the age of 11 and many students give up languages completely at 14. So why don't young people continue with languages at school? Research suggests that students think that it is more difficult to get good grades in languages than in other subjects such as science or history. The British government is now looking at different ways to improve language learning at school. One idea is to start much younger; there are plans to introduce foreign languages from the age of five.

Which languages?

Another plan is to give school children more choice. The languages traditionally studied in British schools have been French, Spanish and German. Now the government is encouraging teachers to expand the range of languages taught to include Arabic, Mandarin Chinese and Urdu.

Mandarin is predicted to become the second most popular foreign language learned in UK schools. It is already studied by more children than German or Russian. Only French and Spanish are more popular. Gareth from Wales says 'I am learning Chinese, and find it fun'. Another student, Thomas from London, says 'Just telling people that I learn Mandarin impresses people. Even having a very basic level gives you an advantage'. Brighton College has become the first independent school to make Mandarin a compulsory foreign language. Its headmaster Richard Cairns said,

‘One of my key tasks is to make sure pupils are equipped for the realities of the 21st century. One of those realities is that China has the fastest-growing economy in the world’.

It may be an ambitious task to change attitudes towards learning languages but the government is determined to try!

1 Complete each sentence with one of the endings

A. According to a survey published by the European Commission,	1 the second most popular foreign language learned in UK schools
B. Learning a foreign language	2 this bad reputation is totally justified
C. Research suggests that students think	3 foreign languages from the age of five
D. Now the government is encouraging teachers	4 that it is more difficult to get good grades in languages than in other subjects such as science or history
E. there are plans to introduce	5 to make Mandarin a compulsory foreign language
F. Mandarin is predicted to become	6 to expand the range of languages taught to include Arabic, Mandarin Chinese and Urdu
G. Brighton College has become the first independent school	7 pupils are equipped for the realities of the 21st century
H. One of my key tasks is to make sure	8 is not a popular option at school in Britain

2 Correct the statements

- 1 The British are the best language learners in Europe.
- 2 A lot of British schoolchildren continue learning languages when they are 14.
- 3 Most students think that it is too easy to get good marks in languages, that's why it is not interesting to learn them.
- 4 The British government wants children to start learning a foreign language at the age of 7.
- 5 British children study only Russian at school.
- 6 There are no plans to offer more foreign languages at school, because the Government doesn't care.
- 7 Many people are interested in learning French and Spanish, only Mandarin Chinese is more popular.

3 Answer the questions

- 1 What foreign languages can you speak?
- 2 Do you think that learning foreign languages is important? Why?
- 3 Do you agree that learning Mandarin Chinese is a promising idea?
- 4 What languages are usually learned in British schools? And what about Russian schools?
- 5 Do you remember any situations, when you regretted that you don't know foreign languages well enough?
- 6 Can you suppose why the British are bad language learners?

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Life as a YouTuber

Do funny or interesting things happen to you a lot? Do you think hundreds of thousands of people will want to listen to you tell stories about your life?

That's what life is like for YouTube star, Jessii Vee. More than 150 million people watch her videos of funny stories about herself, and subscribers to her channel grow every day.

Twenty-three-year-old Jessii from Ontario, Canada, turns her life into her work, six days a week. 'I spend all of Sunday having ideas for videos to film that week,' says Jessii. 'Then, on Monday, I wake up early to start making the videos. Usually, a video takes just over an hour to make. I try to make around five, so it takes most of my day. Then, from Tuesday to Friday, I edit them.'

Jessii also spends a few hours a week writing to her fans. Sometimes she meets fans because people recognise her when she goes out. 'The other day I went to buy coffee,' she says, 'and the girl serving me almost dropped my coffee when she saw it was me. She left the coffee shop to meet me outside to take pictures. It always makes me happy to see my fans are happy.'

Online life isn't all good. In the past, Jessii felt bad when people said negative things about her. 'Some people online are so quick to write hate comments,' she says. Some people said that she has really big cheeks and a really thin mouth. It made her feel bad until she found a different way to think. 'People were negative about things that I can't change. So I decided to love those things and I became more confident in myself. Only people who don't feel good about themselves make hate comments.'

If you want to start a YouTube channel, there are some things to think about. One thing you might want to do is turn off the comments. Then you won't get any negative ones. Being safe is very important, so don't show your face or real name and don't tell people where you live. One of the most famous YouTubers, DanTDM, a 26-year-old English man, didn't show his face in the beginning and now his videos have over 10 billion views (5 billion people all over the world watched the Beijing 2008 Summer Olympics).

Jessii has some advice about what kind of videos to make. 'Be yourself. Don't change to try to make people like you. They will love YOU! When I first started YouTube, I wanted to look good and do things in ways that people would like. In my old videos, I don't look comfortable because I'm not being myself. But in my videos now, you can see that I'm 100 per cent myself. I'm crazy and strange, and I don't care what people think.'

Jessii also says you should make your channel about something you really care about because that will inspire people. People know when you're not being the real you because you just want to be popular.

Nicola Prentis

1 Correct the statements

- 1 Jessii makes and edits videos every day.
- 2 Jessii never writes to her fans and people don't recognize her when she goes out.
- 3 In the past Jessii didn't care when people said negative things about her.
- 4 Jessii thinks, that if you want other people love you, you should change yourself.
- 5 Your channel will grow fast if you make videos about things you are not interested in.
- 6 If you don't show your face, nobody will watch your videos.
- 7 Jessii says, that only people who are confident in themselves make hate comments.

2 Complete the sentences with the words and phrases below

- 1 Do funny or interesting things ... to you a lot?
- 2 More than 150 million people watch her videos of funny stories about herself, and ... to her channel grow every day.
- 3 Twenty-three-year-old Jessii from Ontario, Canada, ... her life ... her work, six days a week.
- 4 Sometimes she meets fans because people ... her when she goes out.
- 5 So I decided to love those things and I became more ... in myself.
- 6 Be yourself. Don't change to try to ... people like you.
- 7 Jessii also says you should make your channel about something you really ... because that will ... people.

turns into, subscribers, recognize, happen, inspire, make, care about, confident

3 Answer the questions

- 1 Do you have a blog of your own or would you like to try it? Do you face any difficulties?
- 2 Do you agree, that self-confident people don't make negative comments about others? Do you sometimes write hate comments yourself?
- 3 Jessii says, that you should make your channel about something you are really interested in? Do you agree with it or do you think, that it is better to speak about things your subscribers like?
- 4 Is it a good idea to change yourself, if you want other people to like you?
- 5 Do you prefer to give all the details about your life in the internet or to hide your face, real name and other facts about you?

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1 British Council. – URL: <https://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/study-break/reading-zone/a2-graded-reading/life-youtuber-a2> (дата обращения: 22.05.2022).

Happiness

What makes you happy? Maybe it's not what you think ...

Do you know what makes you happy or do you just think you know? At first, these two questions look the same. If you think something makes you happy, then it makes you happy. You know yourself, don't you?

Write a list of all the things that make you happy. How many of them are fun? Most of them? So, if you spend your time doing all these fun things, you'll be really happy, won't you?

Well, maybe not. For most people, fun isn't enough for real happiness. Paul Dolan wrote a book called *Happiness by Design*. He thinks happiness comes from both pleasure and purpose. If most of the things on your list are about pleasure, that is what you think makes you happy. But you also need activities with purpose.

We usually know if something is fun, but we don't know what brings meaning. For example, most people think air pilots have jobs with clear purpose. They fly hundreds of people all over the world. But they spend a lot of time in boring hotels and airports and they do the same things hundreds of times. Those activities might not bring meaning – and they're probably not fun. So pilots also need to find pleasure and purpose in their work and life.

There are different ways we can find purpose in things. Some activities might be motivating because they work for the good of people and the world around us. Or what you do might help a team you're working in.

If you're a student, your 'job' is studying and passing exams. It's easy to do well in subjects you like, but subjects you don't like are less motivating. They're not fun for you, but you have to study them so you need to find purpose. An A in a subject you hate won't help the world. But can you be part of a study team with friends? Each person can study one part until they understand it and then teach it to the rest of the group. The purpose becomes helping the team.

Go back to your list of things that make you happy. How many of them are activities that bring purpose? Can you add any? Remember, some activities might bring both pleasure and purpose.

Now you need to design a happy life. Paul Dolan believes people should 'decide, design, do'. First decide what brings you pleasure and/or purpose – that means your two lists. Then, don't just think about these activities, fill your life with them. For example, you might love riding a bike but never have time to do it. So, ride to school or the library or the shops. If you live too far away, take your bike on the bus or train. Get off early and ride the rest of the way. If you go in the car, put it in the back, stop a few kilometres away and ride the rest. Or move somewhere you can

ride more. Some parts of our lives are good or bad luck, but we can still design the rest to make more happiness.

Nicola Prentis

1 Correct the statements

- 1 Everyone knows what makes them happy.
- 2 You'll be happy if you always do things that give you pleasure.
- 3 Working for the good of people and the world around us can't be motivating..
- 4 Being in a team gives us purpose.
- 5 School is the same, in some ways, as having a job.
- 6 Only lucky people are happy.

2 Answer the questions

- 1 Do you agree, that most people just think that they know what makes them happy?
- 2 Is fun enough personally for you to make you happy, or do you also need things that bring purpose?
- 3 Is working in a team motivating for you or do you prefer to work alone?
- 4 Do you have any special methods to motivate yourself to study subjects you don't like?
- 5 Do you succeed in filling your life with activities that make you happy?
- 6 Do you think that our happiness depends on our choice, or do you think that a person should be lucky to be happy?

3 Complete the sentences with the words and phrases below

- 1 People think if they spend all their time doing... things, they will be happy.
- 2 But to be happy we need things that bring..., not just fun.
- 3 Helping other people can be...
- 4 Spending time with friends brings ...
- 5 You should... your life to bring as much happiness as you can.
- 6 Some parts of our lives are good or bad..., but we can still design the rest to make more happiness.

Purpose, design, fun, motivating, luck, pleasure.

Библиографический список

- 1 British Council. – URL: <https://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/study-break/reading-zone/a2-graded-reading/happiness-a2> (дата обращения: 22.05.2022).

Skills for the 21st-century workplace

Have you got the skills you need for the 21st-century workplace? Read about what employers are looking for and test yourself to see if you are prepared!

Have you got the skills you need for the 21st-century workplace?

We need to develop all kinds of skills to survive in the 21st century. Some, like ICT skills and knowledge of the digital world, are taught explicitly in schools in the UK. Here are five less obvious ones for you to think about. These are the sorts of skills that employers may ask you questions about in interviews, so it's a good idea to think about how good you are in these areas. What are your strengths and weaknesses?

Imagination

In the age of technology that we are living in now, it is no longer enough to keep on making the same products. Employers need people who can imagine new approaches and new ideas.

Think: Think of an object or gadget you use every day. How could it be improved? Can you think of three improvements?

Problem solving

Employers will value workers who are able to see problems before they happen and come up with creative solutions.

Think: Imagine you are organizing an end-of-term social event at school. Think of some problems that you could face. Can you think of any solutions?

Communication skills

Workers will have to be good communicators. They will have to be able to negotiate and discuss key issues and also write in a clear way without using too many words.

Think: How do people communicate with each other in the 21st century?

Critical analysis

Employers want workers who are able to recognize the difference between information that can be believed and false information.

Think: Use the internet to find out three facts about a celebrity or famous figure. Can you verify the information by checking other websites?

Decision making

Individual workers have a growing amount of responsibility. It is important to be able to evaluate a situation and be confident in making a decision.

Think: Which three things could you do to (a) be healthier (b) do better at school and (c) help others? Make a decision now to do at least one of these things. Then ... just do it!

1 Correct the statements

- 1 All 21st-century skills are taught explicitly in schools in the UK.
- 2 Employers don't need imaginative workers.
- 3 Employers want workers to think about problems after they happen.
- 4 Employers don't like workers to be original when solving problems.
- 5 Future workers will need to be able to write using as many words as possible.
- 6 People communicate with each other less in the 21st century.
- 7 Employers need workers who are unable to recognize the difference between information that can be believed and false information, and who just believe everything.
- 8 Nowadays workers have very little responsibility and don't have to be confident in making a decision.

2 Complete the sentences with the words and phrases below

- 1 UK schools and colleges... ICT skills.
- 2 Employers ... people with ideas for new approaches.
- 3 Employers like workers who can... problems.
- 4 Workers need to be able to ... their work with their team.
- 5 Workers need to... their writing skills.
- 6 It is important that workers can ... between truth and lies.
- 7 Employees in the 21st century ... more responsibility.
- 8 Employers like their workers to ... decisions.

Solve, differentiate, make, develop, discuss, value, teach, have.

3 Answer the questions

- 1 How can you improve one of the things you use every day?
- 2 Imagine, that you have to organize a meeting. What problems can you face and how can you solve them?
- 3 What specific features of modern communication can you name?
- 4 How often do you face the problem of false information in the Internet? How do you verify the information?
- 5 Which three things can you change to do something better than you do now?

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- 1 British Council. – URL: <https://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/skills/reading/b1-reading/skills-21st-century-workplace> (дата обращения: 22.05.2022).

Is It Worth Lying?

There is hardly a person in the world who can say that he or she has never told a lie. Lying is quite natural and people often do it in case of emergency, intentionally or even without any reason. People are not born with a capacity to lie. They begin to do it at the age of three and the older they get, the more resourceful and sophisticated they become. Many philosophers such as Saint Augustine, Thomas Aquinas and Immanuel Kant condemned all lying. They were convinced that 'one must be murdered, suffer torture, or endure any other hardship, rather than lie, even if the only way to protect oneself is to lie'. Immanuel Kant said that 'by a lie, a man annihilates his dignity as a man.'

A lie is something you say that you know is untrue with the intention to deceive other people. There are different reasons for telling a lie. One may do it with the intention to maintain a secret or to save his or her face, to derive some benefit or to avoid a punishment, to get out of an awkward situation or to help another person and what not. Many people are fond of exaggerating some facts or lying for fun.

There are different types of lies from white lies to perjury. A white lie does not harm anyone and it is usually told in order to avoid hurting someone's feelings. It is often used to avoid offense, such as complimenting something one finds not very beautiful or attractive or saying that you like a present even if it is not true. A white lie is a part of good manners as sometimes it is rude to say exactly what you think. When a person does not tell the whole truth about something such kind of lie is called half-truth. A bold-faced lie is one which is told when it is obvious to everybody that it is a lie. For example, a person who has been caught red-handed by the police and denies that he has stolen the money. Perjury is the crime of telling a lie after promising to tell the truth in a court of law.

In fact it is difficult to imagine the world without lie. Lie is everywhere: on TV, on the radio, in newspapers, in the street and even at home. Everyday people have to face misinformation, hoax, fabrication, propaganda, puffery, forgery, etc. That is why many of us have become distrustful and suspicious and we don't believe most advertisements, commercials, speeches and promises. If one doesn't want to be deceived or to become a victim of fraud, he or she should take into consideration people's behaviour and body language.

It is possible to distinguish a lie by facial expression, movements, tone of voice and other methods. Some people are sure that lies can be detected through both verbal and nonverbal means. Scientists say that lying takes longer than telling the truth. So if a person hesitates before answering a question or makes a long pause, he or she is probably going to tell a lie. A liar may avoid eye contact, turn his head away, stammer or blush. A liar usually has a stiff expression and a forced smile. A person

who feels guilty may speak too much, adding unnecessary details to convince his interlocutor. A liar feels uncomfortable and is often eager to change the subject. This knowledge is especially helpful for police, security experts, businessmen, politicians and employers. But one should remember that there is no absolutely reliable sign of lying.

Polygraph measures the physiological stress a person endures while he or she gives statements or answers questions. It is well-known that lying causes bodily changes. Polygraph measures the suspect's heart rate, blood pressure, breathing rate and respiration. If there is increased activity in these areas, the suspect may be lying. The accuracy of this method is questionable as this machine can be deceived. That is why polygraph results are not admissible as court evidence. The fact is that no machine, or expert can detect a lie with 100 % accuracy.

Sometimes telling a lie can be essential if it helps to save another person's life. But sometimes lying makes things worse, especially when it is discovered. Discovery of a lie may spoil one's reputation or lead to social or legal sanctions. Besides you can't lie all the time. One shouldn't forget the saying, 'Liars should have long memories'.

1 Correct the statements

- 1 People are born with a capacity to lie.
- 2 Many philosophers were convinced that lying is natural and sometimes even necessary.
- 3 People usually tell a lie without any reason or just for fun.
- 4 White lie is usually told to hurt somebody's feelings.
- 5 A bold-faced lie is one which is told to avoid offence.
- 6 Lie is everywhere, that is why people stopped being distrustful and suspicious and believe most advertisements, commercials, speeches and promises.
- 7 Liars usually look confident and relaxed.
- 8 Polygraph method can detect a lie with 100 % accuracy.
- 9 Lying is inadmissible even if it helps to save another person's life.

2 Answer the questions

- 1 Do you agree that lying always annihilates the person's dignity, or do you think that sometimes lying is essential?
- 2 What are possible reasons for lying?
- 3 What is your attitude to white lie/half-truth/bold-faced lie/perjury?
- 4 How can body language help us to understand that our interlocutor is lying? Can you understand that the person is lying, using body language?
- 5 Why are polygraph results not admissible as court evidence?

6 Why can lying be dangerous?

7 When is it worth telling a lie from your point of view? Do you often come across such situations?

3 Complete the sentences with the words and phrases below

1 Lying is quite natural and people often do it in case of

2 They begin to do it at the age of three and the older they get, the more ... and sophisticated they become.

3 A lie is something you say that you know is untrue with the ... to deceive other people.

4 A ... does not harm anyone and it is usually told in order to avoid hurting someone's feelings.

5 A bold-faced lie is one which is told when it is ... to everybody that it is a lie.

6 That is why many of us have become distrustful and

7 It is possible to ... a lie by facial expression, movements, tone of voice and other methods.

8 A person who feels guilty may speak too much, adding unnecessary details to ... his interlocutor.

9 If there is ... activity in these areas, the suspect might be lying.

10 But sometimes lying ..., especially after it has been discovered.

Intention, emergency, white lie, suspicious, convince, distinguish, makes things worse, resourceful, obvious, increased.

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Are zoos a good thing?

Zoos are hugely popular attractions for adults and children alike. But are they actually a good thing?

Critics of zoos would argue that animals often suffer physically and mentally by being enclosed. Even the best artificial environments can't come close to matching the space, diversity, and freedom that animals have in their natural habitats. This deprivation causes many zoo animals to become stressed or mentally ill. Capturing animals in the wild also causes much suffering by splitting up families. Some zoos make animals behave unnaturally: for example, marine parks often force dolphins and whales to perform tricks. These mammals may die decades earlier than their wild relatives, and some even try to commit suicide.

On the other hand, by bringing people and animals together, zoos have the potential to educate the public about conservation issues and inspire people to protect animals and their habitats. Some zoos provide a safe environment for animals which have been mistreated in circuses, or pets which have been abandoned. Zoos also carry out important research into subjects like animal behaviour and how to treat illnesses.

One of the most important modern functions of zoos is supporting international breeding programmes, particularly for endangered species. In the wild, some of the rarest species have difficulty in finding mates and breeding, and they might also be threatened by poachers, loss of their habitat and predators. A good zoo will enable these species to live and breed in a secure environment. In addition, as numbers of some wild species drop, there is an increased danger of populations becoming too genetically similar. Breeding programmes provide a safeguard: zoo-bred animals can be released into the wild to increase genetic diversity.

However, opponents of zoos say that the vast majority of captive breeding programmes do not release animals back into the wild. Surplus animals are sold not only to other zoos but also to circuses or hunting ranches in the US or South Africa, where some people are willing to pay a lot of money for the chance to kill an animal in a fenced enclosure. Often, these animals are familiar with humans and have very little chance of escaping.

So, are zoos good for animals or not? Perhaps it all depends on how well individual zoos are managed, and the benefits of zoos can surely outweigh their harmful effects. However, it is understandable that many people believe imprisoning animals for any reason is simply wrong.

1 Correct the statements

1 Modern zoos can offer animals a living environment that is better than their natural habitats.

2 One of the reasons zoo animals become distressed is because they always live together with their families.

3 Dolphins and whales usually live longer in the zoos than in the wild.

4 People who have visited zoos never support animal conservation and protection.

5 In a zoo it is impossible to carry out important research into subjects like animal behavior.

6 Endangered animals kept in zoos are less likely to meet a mate and breed.

7 In zoos animals suffer from poachers, loss of their habitat and predators.

8 Zoo-bred animals can never be released into the wild.

9 If zoos have more animals than they can look after, they always give them to another zoo or release them back into the wild.

10 Animals that have been bred in captivity quickly adapt to life in hunting ranches.

11 The author thinks that, on balance, zoos are generally a bad thing.

2 Complete the sentences with the words and phrases below

1 Zoos are hugely popular ... for adults and children alike.

2 Even the best ... can't come close to matching the space, diversity, and freedom that animals have in their natural habitats.

3 Capturing animals in the wild also causes much suffering by ... families.

4 Marine parks often force dolphins and whales to ... tricks.

5 On the other hand, by ... people and animals ..., zoos have the potential to educate the public about ... issues

6 Some zoos ... a safe environment for animals which have been mistreated in circuses.

7 One of the most important modern functions of zoos is ... international breeding programmes.

8 A good zoo will ... these species to live and breed in a secure environment.

9 Perhaps it all ... how well individual zoos are managed, and the ... of zoos can surely outweigh their harmful effects.

Artificial environments, perform, bringing together, supporting, provide, enable, benefits, depends on, attractions, splitting up, conservation.

3 Answer the questions

1 Why do many people think that animals in zoos suffer physically and mentally?

2 What benefits do zoos have both for people and animals?

- 3 What is the aim of breeding programmes?
- 4 What are advantages and disadvantages of zoos from your point of view?
- 5 Do you like to visit zoos? Why?
- 6 Can you say that zoos you have visited create good conditions for animals?

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Are celebrities bad for you?

What's wrong with enjoying a bit of celebrity gossip? It doesn't do us any harm ... or does it? Read the article to find out if celebrities really are bad for you.

Celebrities are everywhere nowadays: on TV, in magazines, online. Is this preoccupation with famous people harmless fun or is it bad for us? How many people are truly obsessed with modern media idols? And on the other side of the coin, can fame be harmful to the celebrities?

Studies suggest that the vast majority of teenagers do not really worship celebrities. Researchers have identified three kinds of fans. About 15% of young people have an 'entertainment-social' interest. They love chatting about their favourite celebrities with friends and this does not appear to do any harm.

Another 5% feel that they have an 'intense-personal' relationship with a celebrity. Sometimes they see them as their soulmate and find that they are often thinking about them, even when they don't want to. These people are more at risk from depression and anxiety. If girls in this group idolise a female star with a body they consider to be perfect, they are more likely to be unhappy with their own bodies.

That leaves 2% of young people with a 'borderline-pathological' interest. They might say, for example, they would spend several thousand pounds on a paper plate the celebrity had used, or that they would do something illegal if the celebrity asked them to. These people are in most danger of being seriously disturbed.

What about the celebrities themselves? A study in the USA tried to measure narcissism or extreme self-centredness, when feelings of worthlessness and invisibility are compensated for by turning into the opposite: excessive showing off. Researchers looked at 200 celebrities, 200 young adults with Masters in Business Administration (a group known for being narcissistic) and a nationally representative sample using the same questionnaire. As was expected, the celebrities were significantly more narcissistic than the MBAs and both groups were a lot more narcissistic than the general population.

Four kinds of celebrity were included in the sample. The most narcissistic were the ones who had become famous through reality TV shows – they scored highest on vanity and willingness to exploit other people. Next came comedians, who scored highest on exhibitionism and feelings of superiority. Then came actors, and the least narcissistic were musicians. One interesting result was that there was no connection between narcissism and the length of time the celebrity had been famous. This means that becoming famous probably did not make the celebrities narcissistic – they already were beforehand.

So, what can we learn from this? People who are very successful or famous tend to be narcissists and are liable to be ruthless, self-seeking workaholics. As we

can see from celebrity magazines, they are also often desperate and lonely. They make disastrous role models.

1 Complete the sentences with the words and phrases below

- 1 Is this ... with famous people harmless fun or is it bad for us?
- 2 Studies suggest that the vast majority of teenagers do not really... celebrities.
- 3 Sometimes they see them as their ... and find that they are often thinking about them, even when they don't want to.
- 4 A study in the USA tried to measure narcissism or extreme....
- 5 One interesting result was that there was no... between narcissism and the length of time the celebrity had been famous.
- 6 This means that becoming famous probably did not make the celebrities narcissistic – they already were....
- 7 As we can see from celebrity magazines, they are also often... and lonely.
- 8 They scored highest on vanity and willingness to... other people.
- 9 People who are very successful or famous tend to be narcissists and are... be ruthless, self-seeking workaholics.

Preoccupation, beforehand, desperate, connection, self-centredness, liable to, worship, exploit, soulmate.

2 Correct the statements

- 1 Researchers have identified only one kind of fans, and they really worship celebrities.
- 2 People who have ‘intense-personal’ relationships with celebrities never suffer from depression and anxiety.
- 3 People with a ‘borderline-pathological’ interest say they would never do anything illegal if the celebrity asked them to.
- 4 The least narcissistic were the celebrities who had become famous through reality TV shows.
- 5 The degree of narcissism of the celebrity depends on the length of time the celebrity had been famous.
- 6 People who are very successful or famous tend to be kind, modest and sympathetic.
- 7 Musicians scored highest on exhibitionism and feelings of superiority.

3 Answer the questions

1 What kinds of fans have the researchers identified? Did you happen to be a fan yourself?

2 Do you agree that being famous can change the person's character to the worse?

3 Can you name the celebrities who can be good or bad role models?

4 Do you think that preoccupation with famous people's life is harmless? Or can it be bad for us?

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Сатина Дарья Дмитриевна

**АНГЛИЙСКИЙ ЯЗЫК.
ТЕКСТЫ ДЛЯ ЧТЕНИЯ
ДЛЯ СТУДЕНТОВ НЕЯЗЫКОВЫХ СПЕЦИАЛЬНОСТЕЙ**

Практикум по развитию навыков чтения
на основе текстов общей тематики
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Редактор Л. П. Чукомина

Подписано в печать 29.06.22
Печать цифровая
Заказ 56

Формат 60×84 1/16
Усл. печ. л. 2,44
Тираж 25

Бумага 80 г/м²
Уч.-изд. л. 2,44

Библиотечно-издательский центр КГУ.
640020, г. Курган, ул. Советская, 63, стр. 4.
Курганская государственный университет.