

English Test

Year 10

Term 2

Name

Score

Reading Comprehension:

Spelling:

Language Usage:

Punctuation:

Writing:

Total: /50



Reading Comprehension 1

(6 marks)

Caffeine - an eye opener

So what's your first choice for a drink on a hot day? Many people under the age of eighteen will opt for a big cold can of cola or an energy drink crammed with caffeine.

'So what,' you say, 'it tastes good and keeps me alert'.

Well, here are a few facts about caffeine that should make you think again!

For a start, caffeine is a drug. And like any other drug, its use can potentially have a disastrous effect on your developing brain and body. The parts of the brain that are in charge of higher functions include the prefrontal cortex and the temporal lobe and, at your age, these areas are still being developed and refined. The brain chemical adenosine, which controls your sleep patterns, is crucial to the development of these brain sections. The reason that caffeine makes you feel alert and less sleepy is because it blocks the action of adenosine and increases adrenaline production, speeding your metabolism.

Get into the habit of slamming down too many of those high caffeine energy drinks every day and you can wave goodbye to good quality sleep and potentially affect your brain! Energy drinks are loaded with massive amounts of sugar. The caffeine is there to add the kick and to stimulate the production of dopamine in the brain. This is the pleasure and reward part of the brain which forms addictions. The upshot is that your brain associates the pleasure of sugar with the stimulation of the caffeine, making you want more.

By the way, caffeine is toxic in large quantities. Consume about 750mg of caffeine in a day and you could experience anxiety attacks, ringing in the ears, migraine, heart palpitations and blurred vision. Even heart failure is not unknown!

Hmm ... maybe water would be a smarter choice from now on.

Questions

1. According to the text, which characteristic does caffeine share with all drugs?

- It can be addictive.
- It speeds up the metabolism.
- It can have harmful side effects.
- It leads to excessive sugar consumption.

2. Which brain chemical is responsible for the development of addictions?

- caffeine
- adenosine
- adrenaline
- dopamine

3. What is indicated by the use of “Hmm” ... at the beginning of the last sentence?

- puzzlement
- deliberation
- condemnation
- disappointment

4. Give two different interpretations of the title Caffeine—an eye opener!

5. It is evident that the text is written from a biased perspective because

- the writer uses a lot of scientific jargon.
- the scientific facts have not been referenced.
- caffeine’s benefits are not explored in the text.
- the writer portrays teenagers as poorly informed.



Reading Comprehension 2

(5 marks)

Animals and Earthquakes

Earthquakes are massive in their force, devastating in their impact and, despite intensive scientific research, still largely unpredictable. If we could predict earthquakes reliably and early, we could warn people and hundreds of thousands of lives could be saved. Many people (including some scientists) hold out hope that predicting earthquakes will soon be achievable—not by creating sophisticated, super-sensitive equipment but by observing the natural behaviour of animals.

Perhaps this hope is being built on shaky ground. There are certainly many reports of animals behaving strangely before earthquakes: dogs running away, cats hiding, caged birds growing restless, wild birds moving their eggs from their nests, hibernating snakes waking up, zoo animals howling. These behaviours, however, are generally reported after the event.

Before massive evacuations are authorised on the basis of animal behaviour, and before hundreds of thousands of people can be convinced to move great distances at a moment's notice, we need to be reasonably confident of two things:

- If an earthquake is about to happen, certain animals will act strangely.
- If an earthquake is not about to happen, these animals will act normally.

At the moment, we can't be sure of either of these things. There seems to have been erratic behaviour by snakes, birds, cows and rats before the earthquake in Haicheng, China in 1975. However, in the same region the next year, when another earthquake caused the death of more than 200 000 people, the animals displayed no such behaviour.

We should continue the research animal behaviour, because it may show up interesting evidence about how animals' senses change in the physical environment. But we should not start building up hopes that animal behaviour will always help us to predict when earthquakes are going to happen.

Questions

1. Look at the last sentence in the first paragraph. What do the words in brackets suggest about this approach to predicting earthquakes?

- It is highly controversial.
- It is likely to be achieved soon.
- It is gaining more support all the time.
- It is most often supported by non-experts.

2. The text refers to two Chinese earthquakes. Why is the second one particularly important to the argument?

- It was tragically destructive.
- It was preceded by normal animal behaviour.
- It happened soon after an earlier earthquake.
- It happened in the same region as an earlier earthquake

3. According to the last paragraph, what is the most likely outcome of further research into animals and earthquakes?

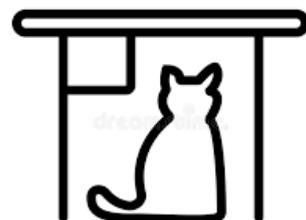
- saving a great many human lives
- knowledge of the causes of earthquakes
- knowledge of animals' sensory perception
- awareness of animals' welfare during disasters

4. What would be the problem of relying on animal sensory behaviour to predict earthquakes?

- Animals could be treated badly in research.
- China is very prone to earthquakes.
- Thousands of people could be evacuated for nothing.
- Earthquakes are unpredictable.

5. Why does the author conclude by saying that we should not build up hope that animals will help us predict earthquakes in the future?

- There is not enough money for research available.
- We can't always tell whether an animal's unusual behaviour is because of an earthquake coming, or for other reasons.
- We can't trust what people report.
- Animals' senses are different to human senses



Spelling

(9 marks)

The spelling mistakes in these sentences have been underlined. Write the correct spelling of each underlined word on the line.

1. Crocodiles have been known to eat large stones to help their diggestion . _____

2. The condensashion had started to build up on the windows, prompting James to turn on the car's engine.

3. "Look after that scientific aparattus , Adam! It's expensive," warned Mr. Peters. _____

4. Through an impressive display of deducttion, the men uncovered the truth. _____

5. Our aim is to keep our environmant clean and tidy.

6. Suva is the capitol of Fiji. _____

7. The boy showed great currige when he rescued his brother from drowning. _____

8. The accident was an unfortunite event. _____

9. Seafood and vegetables are both on the menue. _____

Language Usage

(11 marks)

1. Which sentence is correct?

- Eat a balanced diet is essential for a long and healthy life.
- Eats a balanced diet is essential for a long and healthy life.
- Eating a balanced diet is essential for a long and healthy life.
- Eaten a balanced diet is essential for a long and healthy life.

2. Which sentence is correct?

- Students who don't focus in class were find it hard to excel in examinations.
- Students who don't focus in class finds it hard to excel in examinations.
- Students who don't focus in class will finds it hard to excel in examinations.
- Students who don't focus in class will find it hard to excel in examinations

3. Which of the following correctly completes the sentence?

He threw the burning stick into the fire...

- real quick
- real quickly
- really quick
- really quickly

4. Which word in the sentence is an adverb? Circle the adverb.

The injured bird lifted itself effortlessly off the ground, amazing the onlookers.

5. James laughed heartily at the boy's silly joke.

In the sentence above, the word silly is used as

- a verb
- a noun
- an adjective
- an adverb

6. Which words correctly complete the sentence below?

He loved being in the snow....

- but this year his leg was broken.
- because he had been suffering from a broken leg.
- since he was afraid of breaking his leg.
- and always broke his leg.

7. Which of the following correctly completes the sentence?

8. Alipate is _____ you would call an unusual character!

- what
- who
- that
- why

9. Which word correctly completes the sentence?

Yelling at students in public will make _____ resent the teacher.

- it
- them
- those
- that

10. Which sentence is correct?

- Today's sports match are cancelling due to bad weather and limited public transport options.
- Training all evenings, he starting to feel frustrated by plays professional soccer.
- It's not uncommon to see a well-groomed dogs being walking along Suva Wharf.
- Patrick felt that he had spent enough time at work, and so he decided that he should leave.

11. My family _____ listened to me when I warned them about the storm.

- should of
- should've
- shouldv'e
- should've

Punctuation

5 marks

1. Which sentence has the correct punctuation?

- My brother loves dinosaurs: he collects all the dinosaur models he can.
- My brother loves dinosaurs; He collects all the dinosaur models he can.
- My brother loves dinosaurs, he collects all the dinosaur models he can.
- My brother loves dinosaurs; he collects all the dinosaur models he can.

2. Which sentence correctly uses a colon (:)?

- I have one rule in my house you must remove your shoes before walking on: the carpet.
- I have one rule: in my house you must remove your shoes before walking on the carpet.
- I have one rule in my house you must remove your shoes: before walking on the □carpet.
- I have one rule in my house: you must remove your shoes before walking on the carpet.

3. Which sentence has the correct punctuation?

- "I don't think you're hopeless" explained Claudia, "but you do seem to be taking a long time to fix that bike."
- "I don't think you're hopeless," explained Claudia, "But you do seem to be taking a long time to fix that bike."
- "I don't think you're hopeless," explained claudia, "but you do seem to be taking a long time to fix that bike."
- "I don't think you're hopeless," explained Claudia, "but you do seem to be taking a long time to fix that bike."

4. Which sentence has the correct punctuation?

- "Those oranges," pointed out Dad, "are nearly ready to be harvested."
- "Those oranges," pointed out Dad—"are nearly ready to be harvested."
- "Those oranges", pointed out Dad, "are nearly ready to be harvested!"
- "Those oranges," pointed out dad, "are nearly ready to be harvested."

