

## READING

### Read the text 'Keep Playing That Computer Game' and do the exercise

There used to be a general feeling that computer games were bad for you, and books were good. Now people are not so sure. Researchers have found that computer games, television and the Internet have become key factors in boosting children's IQs up to levels never reached by past generations.

The idea that intelligence can be measured was first suggested about a century ago, but at that time it was hard to find tests that gave useful results. Over the past two decades, however, tests have become more subtle and complex and researchers have found that IQ scores can give a good indication of what children's future exam results will be. Some experts have even claimed that IQ scores can accurately predict what level of income and status young people will achieve in adult life.

Why are today's youngsters doing so much better than their grandparents? Of course, better nutrition, higher standards of living and improved education all play their part in rising general level of intelligence. But there seems to be more to it than that. Scientists are attributing the change in intelligence levels to the complexity of modern life.

In today's fast-moving world, young people are required to interact constantly with electronic gadgets and equipment. Research has shown that they are constantly exposed to an increasingly complex and visual world – a world far more stimulating than previous generations lived in. This is developing youngsters' brains in ways that older generations never experienced. Computers are one of the major sources of stimulation, and activities such as playing games and using the Internet seem to be particularly important.

There are still some things that remain unexplained, however. For example, the increase in children's IQ scores varies according to the type of intelligence being tested. It appears that nowadays people are better at abstract thinking than their ancestors were – but their verbal and mathematical abilities have remained the same as those of previous generations. No one knows why this is the case. Nevertheless, during the last few years there has constantly been a general upward trend, and it has been found that the present generation have IQs about 1.5 points above their parents.

Although this is clearly good news, the surging popularity of computer gaming and other activities has caused concern in some quarters, for two reasons. Firstly, there have been claims that the high levels of violence in the games could encourage children to be aggressive. There have also been fears that children could become addicted to the games, and so be unable to stop playing them. But a recent study found no reliable evidence to prove that computer games contribute to long-term violence or anti-social behavior.

Indeed, it has been claimed that, in moderation, computer gaming is positively good for youngsters. It requires positive qualities such as perseverance, fast thinking and rapid learning. However, it seems that improvements in IQ may not last very long without continuing stimulation. The brain seems to be like a muscle and requires repeated and vigorous exercise to stay fit and healthy. When it comes to IQ, it's a case of 'Use it or lose it'.

Others argue that computers have only limited value. They fear that young people who spend too much time playing computer games alone will never learn to think independently. They claim that the danger with a computer is that doing repetitive tasks can actually reduce intelligence. In the end, computer games are no substitute for real-life experience and for imagination.

#### 1. Circle the answers (A,B,C or D) for questions 1-8 which you think fit best according to the text

1. In the first paragraph the writer says that computer games
  - A have got much better recently.
  - B are not as good for children as reading.
  - C can improve the intelligence of young people.
  - D are now used in many different ways by children.

2. According to the writer, in the last twenty years IQ tests have become
  - A a substitute for examinations.
  - B more difficult than they were in the past.
  - C a way of increasing young people's income.
  - D more reliable than they used to be.
  
3. 'it' in line 11 refers to
  - A the use of tests.
  - B the effect of education.
  - C the increase in intelligence.
  - D the improvement in food standards.
  
4. What does the writer say about young people and electronic equipment nowadays?
  - A They sometimes find the equipment confusing.
  - B The equipment makes things too easy for them.
  - C The equipment is an important part of their daily lives.
  - D They depend on the equipment for their entertainment.
  
5. According to the writer, what remains unexplained about children's intelligence?
  - A why levels of some types of intelligence have remained unchanged.
  - B why there has been such a rapid rise in general intelligence.
  - C how children can develop their verbal and mathematical skills.
  - D how the improvement in intelligence levels can be continued.
  
6. Research indicates that violence in computer games
  - A can sometimes be addictive for children.
  - B may lead to aggressive behavior in children.
  - C can make some children nervous or afraid.
  - D may have little effect on children.
  
7. What does 'Use it or lose it' in line 35 mean?
  - A If you don't use your IQ, you'll become less healthy.
  - B If you don't use your computer, it may be taken away.
  - C If you don't use your brain, your intelligence will decrease.
  - D If you don't use your muscles, you'll get unfit.
  
8. Some people say that playing computer games may effect young people's ability to
  - A make decisions on their own.
  - B tell original stories.
  - C find work that satisfies them.
  - D develop physical skills.

**LANGUAGE IN USE**

**1. Read the text ‘Do it yourself’ and circle the correct answer: A, B, C or D.**

What do you do when something 1..... down? Are you the kind of person who knows how the things 2.....? Or do you prefer to have them 3..... by an expert? Personally, when I use 4..... I always hit my finger, and I can never 5..... anything with my screwdriver because I can never find it. Despite having all the wrong 6....., and despite being a useless 7....., I recently decided to take my bike to pieces and 8..... it. I had 9..... out of money as usual. And as I use my bike 10..... getting to college, I had no choice. It was making a terrible noise, and the front tyre was 11..... I had a few 12..... but I didn’t have any 13..... parts. I managed to 14..... the wheel and take it off, but then I lost my 15 ....., and couldn’t put the wheel back on properly. At least I am taking more exercise, as I now have to walk to college.

1.	A	falls	B	repairs	C	breaks	D	runs
2.	A	do	B	make	C	fix	D	work
3.	A	repaired	B	out	C	sometimes	D	operated
4.	A	drill	B	scissors	C	hammer	D	spade
5.	A	drive	B	unscrew	C	cut	D	unwind
6.	A	equipment	B	contents	C	instruments	D	gadgets
7.	A	technician	B	engineer	C	machine	D	mechanic
8.	A	make	B	fix	C	build	D	construct
9.	A	spent	B	paid	C	run	D	fallen
10.	A	and	B	because	C	by	D	for
11.	A	flat	B	empty	C	over	D	bad
12.	A	chances	B	tools	C	information	D	advice
13.	A	spare	B	emergency	C	renew	D	repair
14.	A	remove	B	smooth	C	fill	D	undo
15.	A	saw	B	plug	C	spanner	D	file

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**2. Complete the gaps with a correct article, if needed, or a Ø sign, if not needed**

1.....brain is 2.....amazing thing – it tells us what we see. However, it can be fooled by 3..... optical illusion. 4..... optical illusions use 5..... colour, light and patterns to create images that can deceive our brains into seeing things which may or may not be real. For example, if you look at 6..... picture A, 7.....purple lines appear to be curved. However, if you use 8..... ruler, you see that 9..... lines are in fact straight. In picture B there is 10..... red box and 11..... orange dot but where is 12..... dot? Is it in front of 13..... box or behind it? 14..... people who think it’s in front don’t believe 15..... people who say it’s behind. Of course, both are possible! If you want to create 16..... optical illusion, you can look on 17..... internet for 18..... information on how to do so. Then you can create your own 19.....illusions to confuse your 20.....friends!

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**3. Circle the correct answer: a, b, c or d.**

1. Have you ever wondered why some people take ....in rallies across dangerous terrains?  
a)apart      b)for granted      c)place      d)part
2. The manager refused to ..... Jeff’s continued lateness.  
a)overtake      b)overcome      c)overlook      d)overtum
3. The research team ..... of four engineers and two technicians.  
a)consisted      b)contained      c)involved      d)maintained
4. The government is going to have to make some .....changes to its policies in order to regain the confidence of the public.  
a)typical      b)complete      c)radical      d)hard
5. Keep studying and you’ll succeed ..... getting your degree.  
a)with      b)on      c)in      d)to
6. Peter’s hard work contributed ..... his success.  
a)on      b)in      c)with      d)to
7. The crime rate has greatly ..... since the police increased their patrols.  
a)eliminated      b)restricted      c)diminished      d)decreased
8. We can’t enter because it’s a restricted area and ..... is prohibited.  
a)access      b)admission      c)entrance      d)approach
9. When difficulties ....., we shouldn’t give up trying.  
a)lift      b)rise      c)raise      d)arise
10. .... a child is difficult nowadays.  
a)Raising      b)Lifting      c)Rising      d)Arising

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**4. Complete the text ‘Prison: A place to forget’ with the correct form of the words in capitals**

A high-security prison becomes the temporary, or not so temporary, home of some of the most dangerous 1..... in society. If you commit a serious crime CRIME you are likely to find yourself in one of these. It is often not at all a 2..... PLEASE place to be and your cell-mate may well be a 3..... Of course, MURDER criminals deserve to be punished and few would 4..... with that. However, AGREE it remains 5..... why the reputation of some prisons is so bad that just the EXPLAIN thought of going there 6..... anyone who is sentenced to spend time TERROR in one of these institutions. Human rights activists throughout the world have been protesting strongly about the 7.....conditions in such prisons, demanding that they should be closed. HORROR Authorities, on the other hand, claim that although they can 8..... with the SYMPATHY concerns of the protesters, there are many 9..... about what the UNDERSTAND situation in such prisons really is. Furthermore, they point out that there would be considerable 10..... difficulties in building new prisons to replace the old ones. FINANCE

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**5. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the infinitive or –ing form**

I used to like 1.....(go) to our local cinema. It was old and rather uncomfortable, but it had character. Now they've stopped 2.....(show) films there. The owner would like to go on 3.....(run) the cinema, but he would need 4.....(make) a lot of improvements, which would mean 5.....(spend) tens of thousands of pounds. I remember 6.....(watch) the last film at the cinema. It was a murder mystery. It was five minutes from the end, and we were trying 7.....(work) out who the murderer was when suddenly all the lights went out and the film stopped. We sat in the dark for a few minutes, and then the owner appeared with a torch. 'I regret 8.....(tell) you,' he said, 'that our electricity has failed. I don't mean 9.....(disappoint) you, but I'm afraid we can't show you the end of the film. We've tried 10.....(phone) the electricity company, but they say they can't help.' He went on 11.....(explain) to the audience how the film ended. I didn't understand the story. But I don't regret 12.....(go) to the cinema on that last evening.

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**6. Write the correct form of the verbs in brackets on the blank lines**

Hi Linda,

I'm sorry I 1.....(be) in touch with you for so long, but I 2.....(be) very busy lately. All last month I 3.....(have) exams, and I 4.....(do) anything else but study for ages. Anyway, I 5.....(stop) studying now, and I 6.....(wait) for my exam results. As you can see from the details below, I 7.....(move) house and 8.....(live) in Croydon now.

I 9.....(decide) that I wanted a change from central London because it 10.....(become) so expensive. A friend of mine 11.....(tell) me about his flat and I 12.....(move) here about two months ago. When you 13.....(come) to London this summer, please visit me. I 14.....(stay) here until the middle of August. Then I 15.....(go) on holiday to Scotland.

I'd love to hear from you,

Margaret

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**7. Write the correct form of the verbs in brackets on the blank lines**

One day, after school, one of the girls in my class said she 1.....(show) me a new way to get home. She wasn't a nice girl, and I was a bit dubious about going with her...and to tell the truth, I was somewhat afraid of her because she was a bully. Anyway, Pat 2.....(lead) me away from our normal route into the residential streets around the school. A few twists and turns, and ...I 3.....(lose). At that point, Pat said: 'I'm going to leave you here, you 4.....(never get) home,' and then she ran. Of course I tried to follow her, but she must 5.....(hide) herself because, when I turned the corner, she wasn't there. Being the brave, adventurous type of child, I only blubbered a little before trying 6.....(find) my way back. Naturally enough nothing was familiar. At some point Pat appeared again – she must 7.....(follow) me, watching to see what I 8.....(do). I distinctly remember 9.....(tell) her, 'I don't like you!' and then I marched off without looking back. Luckily for me I eventually recognized a street that I passed on my usual way home – that was a huge relief. Perhaps Pat was just being mischievous and she 10.....(not leave) me there and gone home herself this is what I'll never know. But I'm giving her the benefit of doubt because I'm a nice person.

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**8. Read the sentences. If the line is correct put a tick (✓), if it is incorrect, write the unnecessary word on the blank line. There is an example to help you.**

Dear Jack

How are you? Sorry I haven't been written to you for ages, but I've been really busy ...been...  
recently. The last month I took my A level exams – they're the exams you take just .....  
before you will leave school. They were quite difficult but I did .....  
a lots of revision, so I think I did OK. I've applied to study economics here in Bristol. ....  
No sooner when had the exams finished than we went off on holiday to Menton. It's .....  
situated in the south-west of the France. We spent a week there then drove inland and .....  
stayed in the village of Sospel. The weather was great – it has only rained one day - .....  
and we had a fantastic time for swimming, and walking in the Mercantour National Park. ....  
So, now I'm back home. There's a little to do, but that suits me fine! Mum's been .....  
encouraging me to get a summer job but I prefer it to just hang about with my friends, .....  
read books and watch TV. That's about all for now. Write soon and tell me your news. ....

Best wishes,

Emily

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***THIS IS THE END OF THE TEST***

\*За комисију:

Reading/број освојених бодова/	Укупно освојених бодова/
LiU /број освојених бодова/	Потпис члана комисије