

Paragraph 1

Daydreams are a form of imagination. In daydreams, the person forms a mental image of a past experience or of a situation that he or she has never actually experienced. The daydreamer may use these mental pictures to escape from reality temporarily, to overcome a frustrating situation, or to satisfy hidden wishes. Although most psychologists view daydreams as generally healthy and natural, this was not always the case. In the 1960s, for example, textbooks used for training teachers provided strategies for combating daydreaming. Daydreams occur in frequencies set by biological cycles of temperature and hormone levels, or they can be triggered by a sensory input such as sight, taste, smell, sound, and touch. Psychologists estimate that the average person daydreams about every 90 minutes, and daydreams peak around the lunch hour (noon to 2 p.m.). Daydreaming first occurs for most people during childhood, sometime before the age of three, and these early daydreams set the pattern for adult daydreaming. Children who have positive, happy daydreams of success and achievement usually continue these types of mental images into adulthood. Daydreams become the incentive for problem-solving, creativity, or accomplishment. On the other hand, children whose daydreams are negative or scary are more likely to experience anxiety and fear, and this pattern will carry over into adulthood as well. A child's daydreams may take a visible or public form – the daydreamer talks about his or her mental images while he or she is experiencing them, and may even act out the scenario he or she is imagining. After the age of ten, however, the process of internalising daydreaming begins – the child no longer expresses but continues to form them.

(The text is taken from YDS 2018 Aralık)

1. Which could be the best title for this passage?

- A) Analyzing Daydreaming in Children and Adults
- B) Exploring the Phenomenon of Daydreaming
- C) Examining the Health Implications of Daydreams
- D) Investigating Daydreaming in Childhood
- E) Understanding the Origins of Daydreams

2. What is the primary purpose of the author in discussing daydreaming?

- A) To advocate for increased daydreaming in adults
- B) To provide historical context on the perception of daydreaming
- C) To explore the scientific mechanisms behind daydreaming
- D) To emphasize the significance of childhood daydreams in shaping adulthood
- E) To critique the psychological community's understanding of daydreaming

3. The tone in the passage appears to be ----

- A) scornful and critical
- B) informal and colloquial
- C) informative and objective

Paragraph 2

More mythology surrounds the shark than any other creatures in the ocean. This is partly a symptom of their colossal size – adult male great whites can measure in excess of five metres; the temptation for humans to add a metre here or there after reported sightings is irresistible. Sharks are also, by nature, mysterious. Scientists still know next to nothing about great whites' breeding habits; a birth in the wild has never been observed. One of the biggest great white shark myths is that the creature, disabled by its notoriously poor vision, often mistakes surfers and scuba-divers for its main prey – seals and sea lions. "Completely false," says Richard Aidan Martin, director of the ReefQuest Centre for Shark Research in Vancouver, Canada. After observing 1,000 predatory attacks on sea lions by great whites for five years, he states that the sharks rocket to the surface and crush their prey with incredible force; however, they usually approach humans with leisurely or undramatic behaviour. Martin points out that great whites are curious and investigative animals, which is what most people do not realise. When great whites bite something unfamiliar to them, whether a person or a sea creature, they are looking for tactile evidence about what it is. They usually throw humans out of their mouth after an exploratory bite rather than swallow them for food because humans are too bony. To add more, great whites must be extremely selective about their diet. Their digestive tracts function very slowly, and eating the wrong thing would slow the shark down for days and stop them from consuming anything else.

(The text is taken from YDS 2018 Nisan)

1. Which could be the best title for this passage?

- A) The Unknown World of Great Whites
- B) The Extra Ordinary Diet of Great Whites
- C) Deadly Attacks of Great Whites on Humans
- D) The Impressive Size of Great Whites
- E) Enormous Diversity of Great Whites' Prey

2. What is the primary purpose of the passage?

- A) To highlight the danger posed by great white sharks to humans.
- B) To dispel common myths and misconceptions about great white sharks.
- C) To advocate for increased research on great white shark breeding habits.
- D) To describe the hunting behavior of great white sharks in detail.
- E) To explore the biology and anatomy of great white sharks.

3. The tone in the passage appears to be ----

- A) informative and convincing
- B) informal and conversational
- C) critical and biased

Paragraph 3

We are born to judge others by how they look: our brains come hardwired with a specific face-processing area, and even shortly after birth, babies would rather look at a human face than anything else. Within their first year, they become more discerning, and are more likely to attend to friendly-looking faces than those who look serious. By the time we reach adulthood, we develop a great number of stereotypes and become snap-judgement specialists, jumping to conclusions about a person's character and status after seeing his or her face for just a tenth of a second. And we ignore considered assessments of others in favour of simple cognitive shortcuts. For example, we judge a baby-faced individual as more trustworthy, associate a chiselled jaw with dominance, or refer to a person with a big nose as a curious one. Unfair or unethical, it may be, but it makes good evolutionary sense. Ours is an ultra-social species, so being able to quickly assess whether someone is friend or foe and whether they have the power to help or hurt us is important survival information. But there is a problem. As psychologist Alexander Todorov of Princeton University points out, more often than not, our first impressions are wrong; that is, relying on our shortcuts may not always produce good results. It is not clear why, but he suggests that we meet many more strangers than our prehistoric ancestors would have, and this may play a role.

(Taken from 2019 Mart)

1. What is the text mainly about?

- A) Gaining Survival Insights from Our Ancestors
- B) Dire Effects of Our Mental Simplifications
- C) Refusing Unfair Generalizations
- D) How Our Brains Work When Categorizing People
- E) Our Marked Inclination to Categorize Individuals

2. What is the primary message conveyed about human behavior in the passage?

- A) Humans are inherently judgmental and rely heavily on snap judgments based on appearance.
- B) Human brains are wired to make accurate assessments of character based on facial features.
- C) Babies are naturally inclined to trust serious-looking faces over friendly-looking ones.
- D) Snap judgments based on appearance are fair and ethical due to their evolutionary importance.
- E) Psychologist Alexander Todorov argues that first impressions are always accurate and reliable.

3. The tone in the passage appears to be ----

- A) instructive and humorous
- B) indifferent and informal
- C) analytical and cautionary

Paragraph 4

Insects harboring *Xylella fastidiosa*, the causative agent of Pierce's disease, exhibit a concerning trend of proliferation in response to rising global temperatures. Climate change-induced alterations in temperature patterns and precipitation regimes have been linked to shifts in the distribution and abundance of insect vectors responsible for transmitting *X. fastidiosa*. As temperatures increase, the geographic range suitable for these vectors expands, facilitating their colonization of new areas and intensifying their presence in established habitats. Moreover, elevated temperatures can accelerate insect developmental rates and reproductive cycles, leading to more rapid population growth and higher densities of *X. fastidiosa*-carrying insects. Additionally, changes in precipitation patterns associated with climate change can create favorable breeding conditions for certain vector species, further exacerbating the spread of *X. fastidiosa*. The consequences of this phenomenon are profound, as heightened populations of disease-carrying insects increase the likelihood of pathogen transmission to susceptible plant hosts, thereby amplifying the incidence and severity of Pierce's disease outbreaks. Consequently, as the planet warms, there is a pressing need for proactive strategies to mitigate the proliferation of *X. fastidiosa* vectors and curtail the spread of Pierce's disease in vulnerable agricultural and natural ecosystems.

1. What is the text mainly about?

- A) The economic impact of Pierce's disease on the wine industry.
- B) The environmental consequences of climate change.
- C) The correlation between rising temperatures and the proliferation of insects carrying *X. fastidiosa*.
- D) The efficacy of current measures in eradicating Pierce's disease.
- E) The historical spread of *X. fastidiosa* in different regions.

2. What is the primary purpose of the author?

- A) To emphasise the great amount of money spent to protect the wine industry against Pierce's disease
- B) To highlight the significant threat posed by Pierce's disease to different types of plants.
- C) To explain why *X. fastidiosa* is called the 'Ebola of olive trees' in Europe
- D) To warn that insects carrying *X. fastidiosa* increase in number as the planet warms
- E) To draw attention to the fact that a cure to eradicate Pierce's disease is to arrive shortly

3. The tone in the passage appears to be ----.

- A) humorous and lighthearted
- B) informal and chatty
- C) cautionary and informative

Paragraph 5

A lie detector is a device intended to detect an involuntary physiological response that all persons exhibit when lying but never when telling the truth. However, the lie detector of popular fancy is mythological. In actual 'lie protector' tests, breathing movements, blood pressure changes and electrodermal responses are recorded on a polygraph while the respondent answers "yes" or "no" to a series of 8 to 12 questions. From the polygraph recordings, one can determine whether 'relevant' questions had a greater impact on the respondent than did the interpolated 'control' questions. In the standard lie test used in specific issue investigations, the relevant questions ask whether the respondent committed the act in question; for example, "On April 12, did you take \$2000 from the office safe?" A typical control question might be, "Have you ever stolen anything?" If the examinee reacts more strongly to the relevant than to the control questions, it is inferred that his/her answers to the relevant questions are deceptive. Because an innocent accused also may be disturbed by the relevant questions and react more strongly to them than to the controls, the lie test is biased against the truthful respondent. Research has shown that as many as 50 percent of innocent criminal suspects may 'fail' lie protector tests.

(2020 Eylül)

1. Which could be the best title for this passage?

- A) How to Deceive Lie Detectors
- B) Question Types for Lie Protector Tests
- C) The Basic Working Principle of Lie Detectors
- D) The History and Development of Lie Detectors
- E) Investigating Financial Crime through Lie Detectors

2. What is the primary aim of the author in discussing lie detectors?

- A) To advocate for the increased use of lie detectors in criminal investigations.
- B) To highlight the accuracy and reliability of lie detector tests.
- C) To debunk the myth surrounding lie detectors and reveal their limitations.
- D) To propose improvements to the current methodology of lie detector tests.
- E) To explore the history and evolution of lie detection technology.

3. The tone in the passage appears to be ----.

- A) humorous and lighthearted
- B) informative and critical
- C) indifferent and biased

Paragraph 6

During the 19th century, in most of Central and South America, a large majority of the population was of African origin. Most were slaves working on plantations, producing crops such as sugar and coffee for European consumers. Slavery was abolished gradually in varying degrees in Central and South America starting in the early 1800s, with Brazil being the last country to outlaw slavery in 1888. After abolition, freed slaves often joined the lower strata of hierarchical societies in which poverty and inequality were made worse by unfair land redistribution. In Latin America, independence did not lead to widespread prosperity or good government, but merely to imbalance of power and economic inequality. Military dictatorships were common, as were wars and civil conflicts. Meanwhile, Brazil experienced a 'rubber boom' from the 1880s, which fuelled an unprecedented economic expansion in Latin America thanks to the extraction and commercialisation of wild rubber from the jungles of the Amazon. However, development was entirely based on investment from Europe and North America, and was largely designed to serve the needs of the industrialised countries, not the local people.

(2020 Eylül)

1. What is the text mainly about?

- A) The Legacy of Slavery in Central and South America
- B) The Economic Impact of Military Dictatorships
- C) The Persistence of Inequality in Latin America
- D) The Origins of Slavery in Central and South America
- E) Independence and Its Challenges

2. What is the primary aim of the author?

- A) To explain why slavery was widely practised in Latin America during the 19th century
- B) To clarify when slavery was completely ended in Latin America
- C) To emphasise the considerable efforts of slaves to gain independence in Latin America
- D) To justify that investment from Europe and North America helped to end slavery in Latin America
- E) To discuss some consequences of the abolishment of slavery in Latin America

3. Regarding the consequences of abolition, the freed slaves seem to have been ----.

- A) satisfied
- B) disappointed
- C) indifferent
- D) entertained
- E) criticized

Paragraph 7

Most people, from those who are fond of living alone to the rich and famous, probably have experienced feelings of shyness at various times in their lives. Physiological symptoms may include blushing, increased heart rate, sweating, and shaking. Just as these outward manifestations vary in type and intensity from person to person, so do the inner feelings. Anxious thoughts and worries, low self-esteem, self-criticism, and concern over a lack of social skills, real or imagined, are common. Nevertheless, the causes of shyness are not known. Some researchers believe it results from a genetic predisposition. Others theorize that uncommunicative parents restrict a child's development of the social skills that compensate for discomfort caused by new experiences and people, resulting in shyness. Various, it has been considered a symptom of social phobia or a simple characteristic of introversion. Psychological research that follows large numbers of children from very early childhood to adulthood has found that a tendency to be shy with others is one of the most stable traits that is preserved from the first three or four years of life through young adulthood. Learning or improving social skills through self-help courses or formal training in assertiveness and public speaking are some of the methods used to diminish the effects of shyness.

(The text is taken from 2020 Eylül YDS)

1. What is the text mainly about?

- A) The physiological and psychological aspects of shyness.
- B) The genetic and environmental factors contributing to shyness.
- C) The stability of shyness as a personality trait from childhood to adulthood.
- D) The methods used to overcome or mitigate the effects of shyness.
- E) The prevalence of shyness among different demographics and its potential causes.

2. What is the purpose of the author of this passage?

- A) To elaborate on the impact of genetic factors on shyness
- B) To report the findings of recent research into the effects and triggers of shyness
- C) To give the reader some advice on how to overcome shyness
- D) To give brief information about the symptoms and possible causes of shyness
- E) To discuss whether shyness is a challenging psychological problem

3. The attitude of the author towards self-help courses seems to be ---.

- A) supportive
- B) critical
- C) indifferent