

LEVEL C (C1&C2)

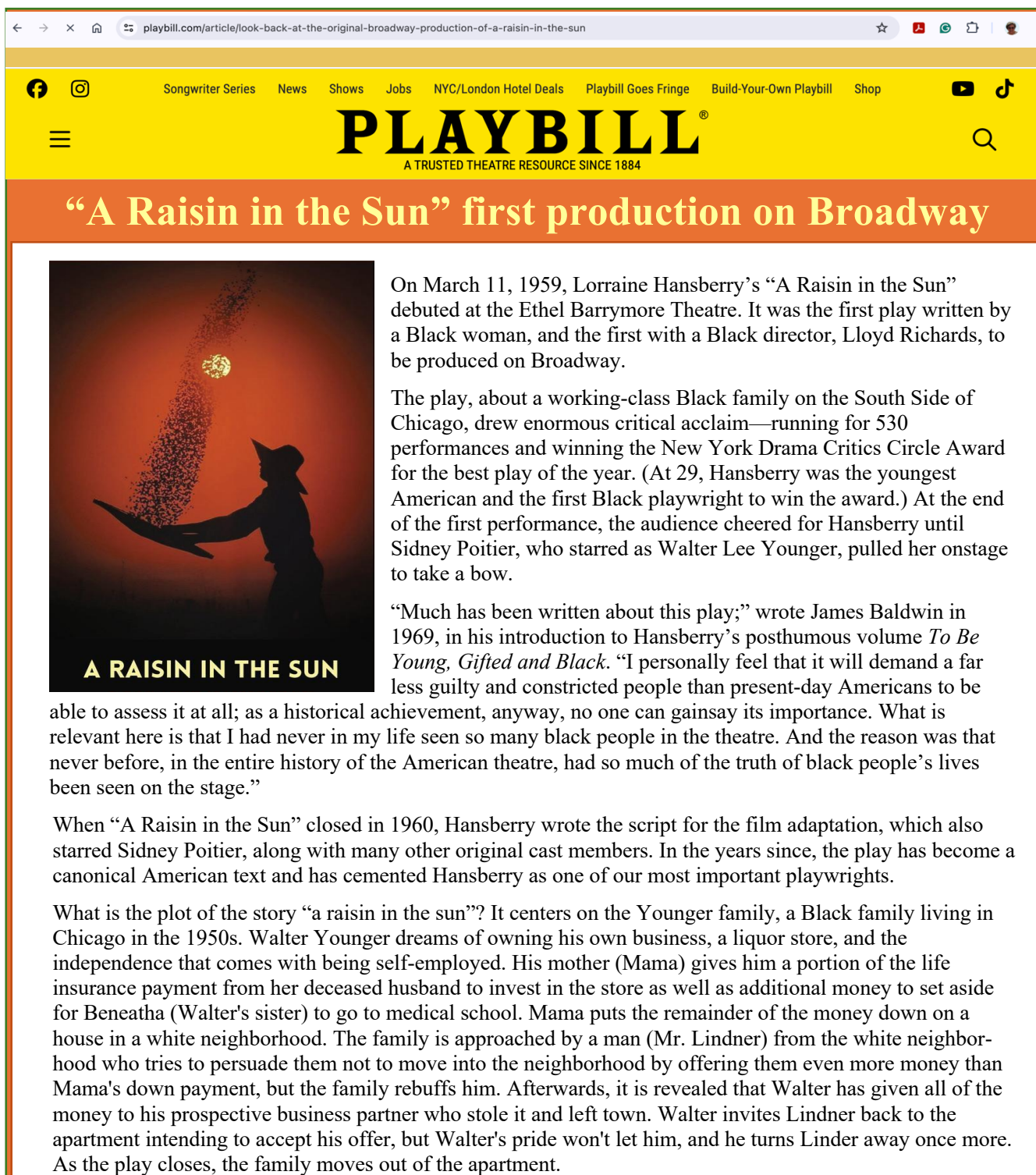
2024 B

MODULE 1 Reading comprehension and language awareness

## PART A - CHOICE ITEMS

### ACTIVITY 1

Read the text below and do tasks 1.1 and 1.2 that follow.



The screenshot shows the Playbill website with the article "A Raisin in the Sun" first production on Broadway. The article includes a silhouette of a person holding a tray with a glowing orb, and text describing the play's debut on March 11, 1959, at the Ethel Barrymore Theatre. It mentions Lorraine Hansberry as the playwright and Lloyd Richards as the director. The article also discusses the play's critical acclaim, its run of 530 performances, and its significance in American theatre history. A quote from James Baldwin is included, along with a brief plot summary of the play.

**“A Raisin in the Sun” first production on Broadway**

On March 11, 1959, Lorraine Hansberry’s “A Raisin in the Sun” debuted at the Ethel Barrymore Theatre. It was the first play written by a Black woman, and the first with a Black director, Lloyd Richards, to be produced on Broadway.

The play, about a working-class Black family on the South Side of Chicago, drew enormous critical acclaim—running for 530 performances and winning the New York Drama Critics Circle Award for the best play of the year. (At 29, Hansberry was the youngest American and the first Black playwright to win the award.) At the end of the first performance, the audience cheered for Hansberry until Sidney Poitier, who starred as Walter Lee Younger, pulled her onstage to take a bow.

“Much has been written about this play;” wrote James Baldwin in 1969, in his introduction to Hansberry’s posthumous volume *To Be Young, Gifted and Black*. “I personally feel that it will demand a far less guilty and constricted people than present-day Americans to be able to assess it at all; as a historical achievement, anyway, no one can gainsay its importance. What is relevant here is that I had never in my life seen so many black people in the theatre. And the reason was that never before, in the entire history of the American theatre, had so much of the truth of black people’s lives been seen on the stage.”

When “A Raisin in the Sun” closed in 1960, Hansberry wrote the script for the film adaptation, which also starred Sidney Poitier, along with many other original cast members. In the years since, the play has become a canonical American text and has cemented Hansberry as one of our most important playwrights.

What is the plot of the story “a raisin in the sun”? It centers on the Younger family, a Black family living in Chicago in the 1950s. Walter Younger dreams of owning his own business, a liquor store, and the independence that comes with being self-employed. His mother (Mama) gives him a portion of the life insurance payment from her deceased husband to invest in the store as well as additional money to set aside for Beneatha (Walter’s sister) to go to medical school. Mama puts the remainder of the money down on a house in a white neighborhood. The family is approached by a man (Mr. Lindner) from the white neighborhood who tries to persuade them not to move into the neighborhood by offering them even more money than Mama’s down payment, but the family rebuffs him. Afterwards, it is revealed that Walter has given all of the money to his prospective business partner who stole it and left town. Walter invites Lindner back to the apartment intending to accept his offer, but Walter’s pride won’t let him, and he turns Linder away once more. As the play closes, the family moves out of the apartment.

### ATTENTION

- Mark your answers on Answer Sheet 1 [ΑΠΑΝΤΗΤΙΚΟ ΕΝΤΥΠΟ 1].
- You have **120 minutes** to complete this part of the exam.
- Provide a single answer for each item.

## ANSWER ON THE BASIS OF THE TEXT

### 1.1 Choose the best answers (A, B, or C) for items 1a-5a.

- 1a. This article is about  
 A. an acclaimed playwright.      B. a celebrated play.      C. a theatre debut.
- 2a. "A Raisin in the Sun" was unique at the time because  
 A. it was written by a Black female playwright.      B. it won several awards the year it was produced.      C. it was a Broadway production.
- 3a. Hansberry was the youngest American female to  
 A. debut as a playwright.      B. reveal Black oppression.      C. receive 'best play' prize.
- 4a. The play was received by the audience with  
 A. enthusiasm.      B. indifference.      C. relief.
- 5a. The major themes of "A Raisin in the Sun" include dreams, pride, money, family and  
 A. fortune.      B. wealth.      C. race.

## MEANING IN CONTEXT

### 1.2 What do the underlined words in statements 6a-10a mean? Choose the best option (A, B, or C) for each item.

- 6a. The play, about a working-class Black family on the South Side of Chicago, drew enormous critical acclaim.  
 A. praise      B. support      C. recommendation
- 7a. "Much has been written about this play;" wrote James Baldwin in 1969, in his introduction to Hansberry's posthumous volume *To Be Young, Gifted and Black*.  
 A. full-of-humour      B. after-her-death      C. based-on-facts
- 8a. "I personally feel that it will demand a far less guilty and a more constricted people than present-day Americans to be able to assess it at all as a historical achievement."  
 A. unbiased      B. controlled      C. narrow-minded
- 9a. In the years since, the play has become a canonical American text and has cemented Hansberry as one of our most important playwrights.  
 A. a normal      B. an established      C. an undisputed
- 10a. Walter Younger's mother gives him a portion of the life insurance payment from her deceased husband to invest in the store as well as additional money to set aside for his sister to go to medical school.  
 A. save      B. use      C. spend

## ACTIVITY 2

**Match facts that are not widely known about the Olympic Games (items 11a-15a) with options A-F. There is one option you do not need.**

<b>A.</b>	The torch relay wasn't an ancient Olympic event.	<b>D.</b>	The marathon wasn't an ancient Olympic event.
<b>B.</b>	Not everyone could compete in the ancient Olympics.	<b>E.</b>	Ancient Olympians received no medals.
<b>C.</b>	Olympia wasn't the only ancient Greek city to host an organized athletic competition.	<b>F.</b>	The Olympic truce was reaffirmed in the 20 <sup>th</sup> century, at the opening ceremony of the Winter Games in Norway.

<b>11a.</b>	The Olympia-based Olympics were part of another class of competitions: the Sacred Games, also known as the Panhellenic Games or the Crown Games. Four places—Nemea, Delphi, the Isthmus of Corinth and Olympia—took turns holding the annual contest, meaning the actual Olympics only came around every four years, as the Summer and Winter Games do today.
<b>12a.</b>	Today, the lighting of the Olympic flame is the centerpiece of the Games’ opening ceremony. A few months prior, a fire is lit in Olympia, and over the weeks that follow, a flame “travels” from receptacle to receptacle before finally illuminating a large torch in the Olympic stadium. However, the tradition didn’t originate in ancient Olympia; the flame first made its journey in 1936, when the Berlin Games were organized by the Nazis.
<b>13a.</b>	First-place victors in the Sacred Games won crowns of olive, parsley, laurel and pine, respectively. But these official prizes weren’t their only winnings. When these athletes returned to the cities where they lived, they were showered with additional rewards, as the locals – their hometown people – were immensely proud of them.
<b>14a.</b>	Women were explicitly barred from competing in the Games at Olympia, though they could earn accolades as the owners of horses that won big at chariot races. It was the Heraean Games, a separate competition specifically for women, which emerged as an alternative to the Olympics.
<b>15a.</b>	Since 1994, the U.N. has adopted a resolution titled “Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal” before each edition of the Games. Through this resolution, the U.N. acknowledges the power of the Olympics to promote peace, unity, and international cooperation.

### ACTIVITY 3

**3.1 Read the text on the next page, and choose the best answers (A, B, or C) for items 16a-18a.**

- 16a.** This text is a film  
**A.** summary. **B.** review. **C.** script.
- 17a.** The film “One Small Step” is  
**A.** a tragic animation of life. **B.** a space documentary. **C.** an animated picture movie.
- 18a.** The film is about a Chinese-American  
**A.** young woman. **B.** family. **C.** community.

**3.2 Read the text again and choose the best answers (A, B, or C) for items 19a-22a.**

- 19a.** This short film  
**A.** got the 'Best Animated Short Film' Oscar. **B.** will receive this year's Oscar. **C.** is heading for an Academy award.
- 20a.** The story of the film was crafted by  
**A.** a screen play writer. **B.** a skilled playwright. **C.** a team of writers.
- 21a.** The film deals with  
**A.** themes that are truly universal. **B.** cultural and linguistic stereotypes. **C.** the struggle of young people in the pursuit of happiness.
- 22a.** The people who first watched the film were  
**A.** surprised. **B.** moved. **C.** inspired.

## One Small Step



Fifty years after Neil Armstrong's "small step" on the moon, a new animated short film is taking on a story about another kind of step toward space – and this one's heading for the Oscars.

"One Small Step" tells the story of Luna, who dreams of becoming an astronaut. With the support of her father, who runs a shoe repair business out of his garage, the young

Chinese-American protagonist grows up with ambitious dreams and eventually heads to college where she faces a series of challenges and setbacks.

The 7-minute short film, which is up for Best Animated Short Film at this year's Academy Awards, was co-written by Zhang and fellow Disney alums Andrew Chesworth and Bobby Pontillas who had worked together previously on films.

To craft the story, Chesworth said he and Pontillas were particularly inspired by astronauts such as Chris Hadfield, Liu Yang and Wang Yaping. They worked closely with the Taiko team based in Wuhan, China, to make sure the film's themes were truly universal while still getting the cultural aspects of the story as accurate and genuine as possible.

"We would get notes [from the Wuhan team] that the acting choice this character is making doesn't feel Chinese enough, whether it was body language, or the way a character would react if their parent or child did a certain thing," Chesworth said.

"We had to be receptive to all of the insights and things we didn't know culturally while essentially putting this American girl on the screen that we could identify and relate to," he added. "That was an exciting journey for us as well -- learning about each other and telling a story that everyone on the crew, both in the U.S. and in China, could relate to."

Pontillas, who is Filipino American, said he drew inspiration for the film from his own experience being raised by a single mother who was an immigrant, like the protagonist's father.

"Her father has a very calm, stoic and more zen-like personality whereas Luna is a firecracker and more headstrong and impulsive because she's just so passionate about what she wants to do," Pontillas said. "Sometimes that makes relationships a little awkward when you're so tunnel visioned into reaching a goal because it affects everyone around you, and we wanted to talk about that stuff too. Not just the cultural, but the generational aspect as well."

Chesworth said when they showed the film for the first time, there were many Asian-American girls in the audience who came up to them afterward to tell them how much it meant to them.


"They had tears in their eyes saying they finally felt their own childhood experience was celebrated in a film in a way that wasn't judgmental, stereotypical or condescending," Chesworth said. "They said it was like watching their own family experience on the screen, and it felt authentic to them. That was one of the most touching things because we wanted to tell an empowering story, and we want people coming away from this film feeling like anything is possible."




## ACTIVITY 4

4.1 Read the text below and choose the best answers (A, B, or C) for items 23a-25a.

- 23a. This article about cats presents us with  
 A. specialists' hypotheses.    B. specific facts.    C. survey findings.
- 24a. This article suggests that in the old days, cats  
 A. were loners.    B. hunted alongside humans.    C. didn't protect their kittens.
- 25a. Cats meow more at humans than at other cats because they see us as their  
 A. allies.    B. friends.    C. protectors.


All Animals   Animals ▾   Articles   Pets ▾   Places ▾   Quizzes ▾   About ▾



### Cats meow at humans more than at each other

This is a story that goes back thousands of years. Originally, cats were solitary creatures. This means they preferred to live and hunt alone, rather than in groups. Most of their social behaviour was restricted to mother-kitten interactions. Outside of this relationship, cats rarely meow at each other. However, as cats began to live alongside humans, these vocalisations took on new meanings. In many ways, when a cat meows at us, it's as if they see us as their caregivers, much like their feline mothers.

Cats probably first encountered humans roughly 10,000 years ago, when people began establishing permanent settlements. These settlements attracted all sorts of pests such as rats, mice and cockroaches, which in turn drew cats looking for prey. The less fearful and more adaptable cats thrived, benefiting from a consistent food supply. Over time, these cats developed closer bonds with humans.

Another interesting detail about cats is that they have hundreds of facial expressions, including a 'play face' they share with humans. Researchers recorded nearly 300 facial expressions in cats, finding out that they're not quite as aloof as previously thought. Unlike dogs, which were bred by humans for specific traits, cats essentially domesticated themselves. Those that could tolerate and communicate with humans had a survival advantage, leading to a population well-suited to living alongside people.

This is one of the first studies to do a deep dive into the ways cats communicate beyond the obvious purring and meowing. Facial expressions have also been studied in dogs, chimpanzees and humans, revealing that humans have 44 facial expressions, dogs have 27 and monkeys have an enormous number – 357 to be exact!

4.2 Read the text again and choose the best answers (A, B, or C) for items 26a-28a.

- 26a. What drew cats to human settlements thousands of years ago was  
 A. the domestic safety. B. food that became available. C. water abundance.
- 27a. Cats have facial expressions that  
 A. help them communicate with human beings. B. allow them to express anger and frustration. C. tell us that they see us as their caregivers.
- 28a. A recent study reveals that cats have facial expressions which  
 A. outnumber those of humans. B. exceed those of monkeys. C. are similar to those of dogs.

**ACTIVITY 5**

5.1 Read the text below and choose the best word (A-F) for gaps 29a-33a. There is one word you do not need.

A.	taken	B.	affected	C.	raised
D.	inspired	E.	hidden	F.	scattered

SCIENCE FOR ALL
November 22, 2024

## Milky Way no longer visible?

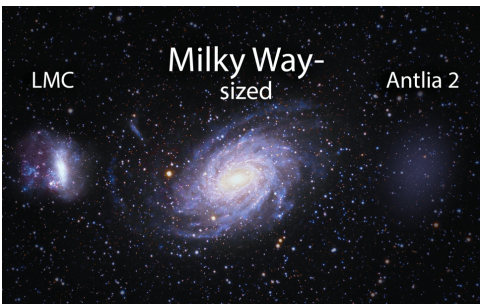
It has (29a) \_\_\_\_\_ astronomers, artists, musicians and poets but the Milky Way could become a distant memory for much of humanity, a new global atlas of light pollution suggests.

Published in the journal *Science Advances*, the research is based on data collected from space, together with computer models of sky luminescence and professional measurements of sky brightness (30a) \_\_\_\_\_ from the ground.

The resulting global atlas reveals that large swaths of humanity experience light pollution. When light from our streetlamps, homes and illuminations is thrown up into the sky it bounces off particles and moisture droplets in the atmosphere and is (31a) \_\_\_\_\_, resulting in artificial “sky glow” - one of the key factors contributing to light pollution. The upshot is that spectacles like the Milky Way, one of the obvious components of the sky along with the stars, the planets and the moon, can become obscured from view.

The study reveals that 60% of Europeans and almost 80% of North Americans cannot see the glowing band of our galaxy because of the effects of night-time lighting, while it is imperceptible to the entire populations of Singapore, Kuwait and Malta.

And it isn’t only our view of the night sky that is (32a) \_\_\_\_\_ by light pollution. “There are also biological consequences, not only on birds and insects and mammals, but also even on humans,” said Martin Thomas, the lead study author, pointing out that the light pollution can disrupt the natural behaviour of animals and has (33a) \_\_\_\_\_ a number of human health concerns.



5.2 Read the text again and choose the best answers (A, B, or C) for items 34a and 35a.

- 34a. As a result of light pollution, the Milky Way is  
 A. on the verge of becoming extinct. B. invisible to many people on our planet. C. no longer part of our universe.
- 35a. Artificial lighting is considered responsible for problems faced by  
 A. living organisms on Earth. B. some planets of our galaxy. C. European countries only.

**ACTIVITY 6**

Read the short story by José Saramago and do the two tasks that follow.

**THE TALE OF THE UNKNOWN ISLAND**

BY JOSÉ SARAMAGO & TRANSLATED BY MARGARET JULL COSTA · RELEASE DATE: NOV. 1, 1999

A MAN WENT TO KNOCK AT THE KING'S DOOR AND said, Give me a boat. The king's house had many other doors, but this was the door for petitions. Since the king spent all his time sitting at the door for favors whenever he heard someone knocking at the door for petitions, he would pretend not to hear, and only when the continuous pounding of the bronze doorknocker became not just deafening, but positively scandalous, disturbing the peace of the neighborhood, only then would he order the first secretary to go and find out what the supplicant wanted, since there seemed no way of silencing him. Then, the first secretary would call the second secretary, who would call the third secretary, who would give orders to the first assistant who would, in turn, give orders to the second assistant, and so on all the way down the line to the cleaning woman, who, having no one else to give orders to, would half-open the door and ask through the crack, 'What do you want?'. The supplicant would state his business, that is, he would ask what he had come to ask, then he would wait by the door for his request to trace the path back, person by person, to the king. The king, occupied as usual with the favors being offered him, would take a long time to reply, and it was no small measure of his concern for the happiness and well-being of his people that he would, finally, resolve to ask the first secretary for an authoritative opinion in writing, the first secretary, needless to say, would pass on the command to the second secretary, who would pass it to the third secretary, and so on down once again to the cleaning woman, who would give a yes or a no depending on what kind of mood she was in.

However, in the case of the man who wanted a boat, this is not quite what happened. When the cleaning woman asked him through the crack in the door, 'What do you want?' the man, unlike all the others, did not ask for a title, a medal, or simply money, he said, 'I want to talk to the king'. 'You know perfectly well that the king can't come, he's busy at the door for favours', replied the woman. 'Well, go and tell him that I'm not leaving here until he comes, in person, to find out what I want', said the man, and he lay down across the threshold, covering himself with a blanket against the cold. Anyone wanting to go in or out would have to step over him first. Now this posed an enormous problem, because one must bear in mind that, according to the protocol governing the different doors, only one supplicant could be dealt with at a time, which meant that, as long as there was someone waiting there for a response, no one else could approach and make known their needs or ambitions. At first glance, it would seem that the person to gain most from this article in the regulations was the king, given that the fewer people bothering him with their various tales of woe, the longer he could spend, undisturbed, receiving, relishing and piling up favors. A second glance, however, would reveal that the king was very much the loser, because when people realized the unconscionable amount of time it took to get a reply, the ensuing public protests would seriously increase social unrest, and that, in turn, would have an immediate and negative effect on the flow of favors being offered to the king.

In this particular case, as a result of weighing up the pros and cons, after three days, the king went, in person, to the door for favors to find out what he wanted – this troublemaker who had refused to allow his request to go through the proper bureaucratic channels. 'Open the door', said the king to the cleaning woman, and she said, 'Wide open, or just a little bit?' The king hesitated for a moment, the fact was that he did not much care to expose himself to the air of the streets, but then, he reflected, it would look bad, unworthy of his majestic self, to speak to one of his subjects through a crack in the door, as if he were afraid of him, especially with someone else listening in to the conversation, a cleaning woman who would immediately go and tell all and sundry who knows what. 'Wide open', he ordered.

The moment he heard the bolts being drawn back, the man who was demanding to talk to the king got up from the step by the door, folded his blanket and waited. These signs that someone was finally going to deal with the matter, which meant that the space by the door would therefore soon be free, brought together a number of other aspiring recipients of the king's generosity who were hanging about nearby ready to claim the place as soon as it became vacant.

The unexpected arrival of the king provoked enormous surprise, not only among the aforementioned candidates, but also among the people living on the other side of the street who, attracted by the sudden commotion, were leaning out of their windows. The only person who was not particularly surprised was the man who had come and demanded to speak to the king. He had calculated, and his prediction was proving correct, that the king, even if it took him three days, was bound to be curious to see the face of the person who, for no apparent reason and with extraordinary boldness, had demanded to speak to him. Thus, torn between his own irresistible curiosity and his displeasure at seeing so many people gathered together all at once, the king very ungraciously fired off three questions one after the other: 'What do you want?', 'Why didn't you say what you wanted straightaway?', 'Do you imagine I have nothing better to do?' But the man only answered the first question: 'I want you to give me a boat', he said. The king was so taken aback that the cleaning woman hurriedly offered him the chair with the straw seat that she herself used to sit on when she had some needlework to do.

part  
1

>

**6.1 On the basis of part 1 of the story, choose the best option A, B, or C for items 36a-40a.**

- 36a. This short story is written in the form of a  
 A. fairy tale. B. fable. C. heroic epic.
- 37a. This story presents the king as  
 A. kind to his subjects. B. an inhumane ruler. C. a self-interested man.
- 38a. The man who wants to see the king is very  
 A. insistent. B. rude. C. compliant.
- 39a. The man's behaviour  
 A. raised people's curiosity. B. caused people's discontent. C. provoked the king's wrath.
- 40a. All the man wanted was for the king to  
 A. be polite to him. B. hear him out. C. listen more carefully.

**6.2 Now read part 2 of the story below, and choose the best option A, B, or C for items 41a-45a.**

- 41a. When the man makes his request, the king's initial reaction is:  
 A. frustration. B. amusement. C. disbelief.
- 42a. The play on logic in this part of the story regards  
 A. the importance of knowledge. B. the relationship between knower and known. C. the existence of the unknown.
- 43a. When speaking to the king, the man's tone is  
 A. assertive B. hesitant. C. sarcastic.
- 44a. The people by the door for petitions shouted in favour of the man because they  
 A. believed he deserved the boat. B. felt that he needed their support. C. were anxious to see him go.
- 45a. The king finally gives in because the crowd is  
 A. protesting furiously. B. cheering loudly. C. yelling at him.

'And may one know what you want this boat for?' was what the king did in fact ask when he had finally managed to install himself with a reasonable degree of comfort on the cleaning woman's chair. 'To go in search of the unknown island', replied the man. 'What unknown island?' asked the king, suppressing his laughter, as if he had before him one of those utter madmen obsessed with sea voyages. 'The unknown island', the man said again. 'Nonsense, there are no more unknown islands' said the king. 'Who told you, sir, that there are no more unknown islands?' 'They're all on the maps'. 'Only the known islands are on the maps. And what is this unknown island you want to go in search of?' 'If I could tell you that, it wouldn't be unknown'. 'Have you heard someone talking about it?' asked the king, more serious now. 'No, no one'. 'In that case, why do you insist that it exists? 'Simply because there can't possibly not be an unknown island.' 'And you came here to ask me for a boat'. 'Yes, I came here to ask you for a boat.' 'And who are you, that I should give you a boat?' 'And who are you to refuse me one?' 'I am the king of this kingdom, and all the boats in the kingdom belong to me.' 'You belong to them far more than they belong to you.' 'What do you mean, asked the king, troubled?' 'I mean that without them you're nothing, whereas, without you, they can still set sail.' 'Under my orders, with my pilots and my sailors.' 'But I'm not asking you for sailors or a pilot, all I'm asking you for is a boat.' 'And what about this unknown island, if you find it, will it be mine?' 'You, sir, are only interested in islands that are already known.' 'And unknown ones too, once they're known.' 'Perhaps this one won't let itself be known.' 'Then I won't give you the boat.' 'Yes, you will.'

'When they heard these words, uttered with such calm confidence, the would-be supplicants at the door for favors, whose impatience had been growing steadily since this conversation had begun, decided to intervene in the man's favor, more out of a desire to get rid of him than out of any sense of solidarity, and so they started shouting, 'Give him the boat, give him the boat'. The king opened his mouth to tell the cleaning woman to call the palace guard to come and reestablish public order and impose discipline, but, at that moment, the people watching from the windows of the houses opposite enthusiastically joined in the chorus, shouting along with the others, 'Give him the boat, give him the boat'. Faced by such an unequivocal expression of the popular will and worried about what he might have missed meanwhile at the door for favors, the king raised his right hand to command silence and said, 'I'm going to give you a boat, but you'll have to find your own crew, I need all my sailors for the known islands'. The cheers from the crowd drowned out the man's words of thanks, besides, judging from the movements of his lips, he might just as easily have been saying, 'Thank you, my lord', as 'Don't worry, I'll manage', but everyone clearly heard what the king said next, 'Go down to the docks, ask to speak to the harbormaster, tell him I sent you, and that he is to give you a boat, take my card with you'.

part  
2

>



**6.3 Now read part 3 of the story, and the ending, and choose the best option (A, B, or C) for items 46a-50a.**

- 46a.** Finally, the petition of the man who wanted the boat was  
**A.** denied. **B.** approved. **C.** deferred.
- 47a.** The cleaning woman fled from the palace as she'd made up her mind to  
**A.** get another job. **B.** abandon the king. **C.** follow the 'boat' man.
- 48a.** The harbormaster doubts that the 'boat' man knew  
**A.** the king himself. **B.** what he was doing. **C.** anything about boats.
- 49a.** The 'boat' man ends up sailing with the woman who'd worked in the palace as  
**A.** a maidservant. **B.** an adviser to the king. **C.** a court lady.
- 50a.** This story is a metaphorical representation of the human desire to  
**A.** uncover the mysteries of life. **B.** avoid hardship. **C.** accumulate wealth.

**part  
3**

The man who was to be given a boat read the visiting card, which bore the word King underneath the king's name, and these were the words the king had written as he rested the card on the cleaning woman's shoulder, 'Give the bearer a boat, it doesn't have to be a large boat, but it should be a safe, seaworthy boat, I don't want to have him on my conscience if things should go wrong'. When the man looked up, this time, one imagines, in order to say thank you for the gift, the king had already withdrawn, and only the cleaning woman was there, looking at him thoughtfully. The man moved away from the door, a signal for the other supplicants finally to approach, there is little point in describing the ensuing confusion, with everyone trying to get to the door first, but alas, the door was once more closed. They banged the bronze doorknocker again to summon the cleaning woman, but the cleaning woman wasn't there, she had turned and left, with her bucket and her broom, by another door, the door of decisions, which is rarely used, but when it is used, it decidedly is.

Now one can understand the thoughtful look on the cleaning woman's face, for it was at that precise moment that she had decided to go after the man as he set off to the port to take possession of the boat. She decided that she had had enough of a life spent cleaning and scrubbing palaces, that it was time to change jobs, that cleaning and scrubbing boats was her true vocation, at least she would never lack for water at sea. The man has no idea that, even though he has not yet started recruiting crew members, he is already being followed by the person who will be in charge of swabbing down the decks and of other such cleaning tasks, indeed, this is the way fate usually treats us, it's there right behind us, it has already reached out a hand to touch us on the shoulder while we're still muttering to ourselves, It's all over, that's it, who cares anyhow.

After walking quite a way, the man reached the harbor, went down to the dock, asked for the harbormaster and, while he was waiting for him, set to wondering which of the boats moored there would be his, he knew it wouldn't be large, the king's visiting card was very clear on that point, that excluded the steamships, cargo ships and warships, nor could it be so small that it would not withstand the battering winds or the rigors of the sea, the king had been categorical on that point too, 'It should be a safe, seaworthy boat', those had been his actual words, thus implicitly excluding rowboats, barges and dinghies, which, although entirely seaworthy and safe, each in its own way, were not made to plough the oceans, which is where one finds unknown islands. A short way away, hidden behind some barrels, the cleaning woman ran her eyes over the moored boats, 'I fancy that one', she thought, not that her opinion counted, she hadn't even been hired, but first, let's hear what the harbormaster has to say. The harbormaster came, read the card, looked the man up and down, and asked the question the king had neglected to ask, 'Do you know how to sail, have you got a master's ticket?' to which the man replied, 'I'll learn at sea'. The harbormaster said, I wouldn't recommend it, I'm a sea captain myself and I certainly wouldn't venture out to sea in just any old boat. 'Then give me one I could venture out in, no, not one like that, give me a boat I can respect and that will respect me.' 'That's sailor's talk, yet you're not a sailor' said the harbormaster. 'If I talk like a sailor, then I must be one, replied the man.' The harbormaster reread the king's visiting card, then asked, 'Can you tell me why you want the boat?' 'To go in search of the unknown island.' 'There are no unknown islands left' said the harbormaster. 'That's just what the king said to me.' 'He learned everything he knows about islands from me.' 'It's odd that you, a man of the sea, should say to me that there are no unknown islands left. I'm a man of the land and yet I know that even known islands remain unknown until we set foot on them'...

The story goes on for a couple of more pages that readers cannot see here, but here's the story's ending:

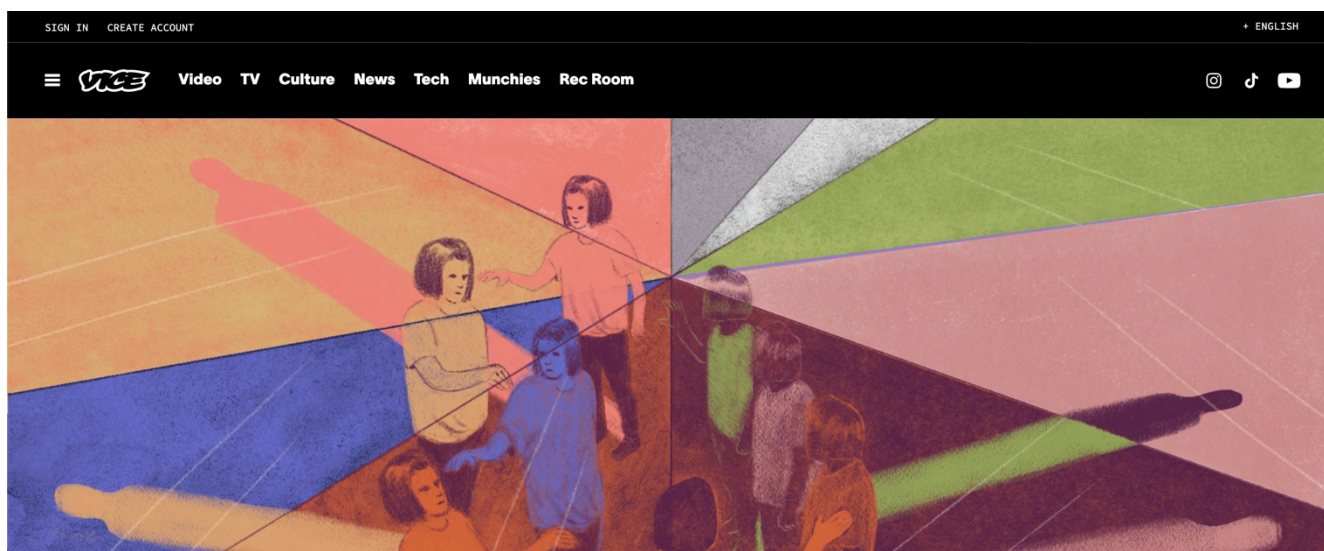
Then, as soon as the sun had risen, the man and the woman went to paint in white letters on both sides of the prow [forepart of the boat] the name that the caravel [small, fast ship] still lacked. Around midday, with the tide, "The Unknown Island" finally set to sea, in search of itself.



## PART B - SHORT ANSWERS

## ACTIVITY 1

- 1.1 Find the best synonym for the underlined words (1b-5b) in Part A of the text below.  
 1.2 Then, find the most suitable word to fill in the gaps (6b-10b) in Part B of the text.



## Does Speaking to Yourself in the Third Person Make You Wiser?

By David Robson

We credit Socrates with the (1b) idea that ‘the unexamined life is not worth living’ and that to ‘know thyself’ is the path to true (2b) wisdom. But is there a right and a wrong way to go about such self-reflection?

A bulk of research has already shown that this kind of third-person thinking can temporarily improve decision making. A preprint at *PsyArxiv* finds that it can also bring long-term benefits to thinking and emotional (3b) regulation. The researchers said this was ‘the first evidence that wisdom-related cognitive and affective processes can be trained in daily life, and of how to do so’.

The (4b) findings are the brainchild of the psychologist Igor Grossmann at the University of Waterloo in Canada, whose work on the psychology of wisdom was one of the inspirations for my book, *The Intelligence Trap*, discussing (5b) intelligence and how we can make wiser decisions.

Simple rumination, the process of churning your concerns around in your head, isn’t the answer. It’s likely to (6b) \_\_\_\_\_ you to become stuck in the rut of your own thoughts and immersed in the emotions that might be leading you astray. Certainly, research has shown that people who are prone to rumination also often suffer from impaired decision making under pressure and are at a substantially increased (7b) \_\_\_\_\_ of depression.

Grossmann’s aim is to (8b) \_\_\_\_\_ a strong experimental footing for the study of wisdom, which had long been considered too nebulous for scientific enquiry. In one of his earlier experiments, he established that it’s possible to (9b) \_\_\_\_\_ wise reasoning and that, as with IQ, people’s scores matter. He did this by asking participants to discuss out-loud a personal or political dilemma, which he then scored on various elements of thinking long-considered crucial to wisdom, including: intellectual humility; taking the perspective of others; recognising uncertainty; and having the capacity to search for a compromise. Grossmann found that these wise-reasoning scores were far better than intelligence tests at predicting emotional wellbeing, and relationship satisfaction – supporting the idea that wisdom, as defined by these qualities, (10b) \_\_\_\_\_ a unique construct that determines how we navigate life challenges.

David Robson is a science journalist specialising in the extremes of the human brain, body and behaviour. A feature writer for the BBC, his first book is *The Intelligence Trap: Why Smart People Do Stupid Things and How to Make Wiser Decisions* (2019). He lives in London.

**ACTIVITY 2**

Fill in each blank (11b-15b) in the text below with the most suitable word. The first letter is provided.

## What is dreaming all about?



The (11b) q\_\_\_\_\_ about whether or not dreams have a function or they are ephemeral images, with no function has run for many years, but research about whether or not dream-sharing has a group-bonding effect is rather new.

While the theory that dreams have a function is (12b) well-k\_\_\_\_\_, psychologists do not agree on what this function is. Some propose that it is the experience of the brain

undertaking the consolidation of memories, so that dreaming reflects or is part of functional neural processes during sleep. Others propose that dreaming involves the freeing and making of associations in a safe place without actual behaviours occurring.

There is also the theory that there is no purpose or function to our dreams – even when they are very meaningful and related to waking-life fears, threats and memories. This is called the *null hypothesis* and it proposes that dreams refer to our individual experiences and therefore differ in individuals, just as people's cognitions, memories and personalities differ between (13b) i\_\_\_\_\_.

There are also those who support the view that dreaming has the role of alerting us to things we have not quite fully noticed yet in waking life. Nevertheless, the epiphenomenal view, that dreams have no lasting (14b) e\_\_\_\_\_ on the brain during sleep, remains very plausible.

More recently, however, a group of researchers have investigated their hypothesis that dream-sharing increases empathy between people and found that dream-discussers had a significant increase in empathy towards the dream-sharers as a result of discussing dreams. The main limitation to their findings is that there was no comparison condition in which some narrative material other than a dream report is used to elicit a meaningful discussion. While the researchers are creating the necessary comparison conditions, our own (15b) c\_\_\_\_\_ is that increased dream-sharing across society might counteract current societal decreases in empathic concern and perspective-taking, the main two components of empathy.

**ACTIVITY 3**

There are many idiomatic expressions and famous quotes related to 'time' in English, such as the ones below. Fill in blanks 16b-20b with the most suitable word.

16b.	Antoine de Saint-Exupéry once said "The time for _____ is now. It's never too late to do something."
17b.	"Time is more _____ than money. You can get more money, but you cannot get more time."
18b.	It's easy to _____ track of time when we're busy, but the downside is that it can cause us to miss meetings, deadlines, or other important appointments.
19b.	Despite the alarmingly low numbers, many people believe that proper time _____ reduces stress, increases productivity, and brings more focus and confidence at work.
20b.	This famous line holds a true sentiment. Within 'the grind' culture today, it might seem that whatever doesn't make us money or is an investment in the future is a _____ of time.

ΣΑΣ ΥΠΕΝΘΥΜΙΖΟΥΜΕ ΟΤΙ ΠΡΕΠΕΙ ΝΑ ΜΕΤΑΦΕΡΕΤΕ ΟΛΕΣ ΤΙΣ ΑΠΑΝΤΗΣΕΙΣ ΣΤΟ ΕΝΤΥΠΟ 1  
**ΤΕΛΟΣ ΜΗΝΥΜΑΤΟΣ**