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English B – Higher level – Paper 2 – Reading comprehension
Anglais B – Niveau supérieur – Épreuve 2 – Compréhension écrite
Inglés B – Nivel Superior – Prueba 2 – Comprensión de lectura

Monday 7 November 2022 (afternoon)

Lundi 7 novembre 2022 (après-midi)

Lunes 7 de noviembre de 2022 (tarde)

1 h

Text booklet – Instructions to candidates

- Do not open this booklet until instructed to do so.
- This booklet accompanies paper 2 reading comprehension.

Livret de textes – Instructions destinées aux candidats

- N'ouvrez pas ce livret avant d'y être autorisé(e).
- Ce livret accompagne la partie de l'épreuve 2 portant sur la compréhension écrite.

Cuadernillo de textos – Instrucciones para los alumnos

- No abra este cuadernillo hasta que se lo autoricen.
- Este cuadernillo acompaña a la parte de comprensión de lectura de la prueba 2.

Text A

Why Kids Need to Spend Time in Nature

- 1** As the suburbs continue to expand, nature is parcelled off more, and kids seem less inclined to spend time in a fenced-in yard, let alone jump the fence into a neighbor’s yard or walk in the woods. Moreover, for kids who are growing up with multiplayer video games and social media accounts, indoor activities can seem more sociable and even safer.

Non-essential image removed
- 2** Most studies agree that kids who play outside are happier and more attentive. They appear less anxious than kids who spend more time indoors. While it’s unclear how mood improvements occur, there are a few things we do know about why nature is good for your kids’ minds.
- 3** **It improves personal decision making**

The way that kids play outdoors has a lot less structure than most types of indoor play. There are infinite ways to interact with nature and letting your child choose how they treat nature means they have the power to control their own actions.
- 4** **It stimulates creativity**

This unstructured style of play will soon have kids responding to their surroundings. They will be able to use their imagination, improvise their own activities, and approach the world in more inventive ways.
- 5** **It teaches responsible behaviour**

Living things die if mistreated or not taken care of properly and entrusting a child to take care of the living parts of the environment means they’ll learn what happens when they forget to water a plant or pull a flower out by its roots.
- 6** **[– 5 –]**

Nature may seem less inspiring than your child’s violent video game, but in reality, it activates more senses—they can see, hear, smell, and touch outdoor environments. As the young spend less and less of their lives in natural surroundings, their senses narrow, and this reduces the richness of human experience.
- 7** **[– 6 –]**

Most ways of interacting with nature involve more exercise than sitting on the couch. Your kid

doesn't have to be joining the local soccer team or riding a bike through the park—even going for a walk will get their blood pumping.

8 [– 7 –]

Nature creates a unique sense of wonder for kids that no other environment can provide. The phenomena that occur naturally in backyards and parks every day make kids ask questions.

9 [– 8 –]

In natural environments, we practice an effortless type of attention known as “soft fascination” that creates feelings of pleasure and peacefulness, not tiredness and boredom.

10 So, while screen time might be the easier, more popular choice for your children, it's important to set aside time for outdoor play.

Text B

Generation Z not ready to eat lab-grown meat: study

People born between 1995 and 2015 now number two billion globally and scientists say that these Generation Z consumers are a force to be reckoned with.

5 Consequently, researchers questioned 227 randomly selected people born between 1995 and 2015. The respondents were asked questions about their demographics, dietary preferences (such as how often they liked to eat meat), and how they felt about cultured meat. They were also asked whether they thought it was necessary to accept and consume different meat alternatives (such as insects, plant-based and cultured meat).

Non-essential image removed

10 They discovered that 72% of respondents were not yet ready to consume cultured meat, defined in the survey as a lab-grown meat alternative made from animal cells, instead of slaughtered animals.

15 However, despite their lack of enthusiasm for the new meat alternative, 41% believed it could be a viable nutritional source because of the need to transition to more sustainable food options and improve animal welfare.

20 59% of participants were concerned about the environmental impact of traditional livestock farming; however they were not clear what specific effects it was having.

The researchers noted that some respondents viewed cultured meat as a conspiracy orchestrated by the rich and powerful and they were determined not to be deceived by it.

25 Several participants were also unsure whether cultured meat was truly a long-term environmentally-friendly option.

In summary, it was found that the respondents were effectively divided into two groups: the “against” described cultured meat as “another thing our generation has to worry about” while supporters described it as “money invested for a good cause” by people who are “advanced thinkers”.

30 What’s your beef? Generation Z’s attitudes towards cultured meat

- 17% of respondents rejected all alternatives, including cultured meat, seeing it as chemically produced and heavily processed.
- 11% rejected all alternatives, preferring to consume more fruit and vegetables and saying they would stick with a vegetarian diet.
- 35 • 35% rejected cultured meat and edible insects but accepted plant-based alternatives because they “sounded more natural” and were “normal”.
- 28% believed cultured meat was acceptable or possibly acceptable if the technology could be mastered.

Text C

An extract from *Exit West*

The next day, at work, Saeed found himself unable to stop thinking of Nadia. Saeed’s employer was an agency that specialised in the placement of outdoor advertising. They owned billboards all around the city, rented others, and struck deals for further space with the likes of bus lines, sports stadiums and proprietors of tall buildings.

5 The agency occupied both floors of a converted townhouse and had over a dozen employees. Saeed was among the most junior, but his boss liked him and had tasked him with turning around a pitch to a local soap company that had to go out by email before five. Normally Saeed tried to do copious amounts of online research and customise his presentations as much as possible. “It’s not a story if it doesn’t have an audience,” his boss was fond of saying, and for 10 Saeed this meant trying to show a client that his firm truly understood their business, could really get under their skin and see things from their point of view.

But today, even though the pitch was important – every pitch was important: the economy was sluggish from mounting unrest and one of the first costs clients seemed to want to cut was outdoor advertising – Saeed couldn’t focus. A large tree, overgrown and untrimmed, reared up 15 from the tiny back lawn of his firm’s townhouse, blocking out the sunlight in such a manner that the back lawn had been reduced mostly to dirt and a few wisps of grass, interspersed with a morning’s worth of cigarette butts, for his boss had banned people from smoking indoors, and atop this tree Saeed had spotted a hawk constructing its nest. It worked tirelessly. Sometimes it floated at eye level, almost stationary in the wind, and then, with the tiniest movement of a wing, 20 or even of the upturned feathers at one wingtip, it veered.

Saeed thought of Nadia and watched the hawk.

When he was at last running out of time he scrambled to prepare the pitch, copying and pasting from others he had done before. Only a smattering of the images he selected had anything 25 particularly to do with soap. He took a draft to his boss and suppressed a wince while sliding it over.

But his boss seemed preoccupied and didn’t notice. He just jotted some minor edits on the printout, handed it back to Saeed with a wistful smile, and said, “Send it out.”

Something about his expression made Saeed feel sorry for him. He wished he had done a better job.

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References:

- Text A** Cohen, D., 2020. *Why Kids Need to Spend Time in Nature*. [online] Available at: <https://childmind.org/article/why-kids-need-to-spend-time-in-nature/> [Accessed 1 November 2021]. Source adapted.
- Text B** Morrison, O., 2020. *Gen Z not ready to eat lab-grown meat: study*. [online] Available at: <https://www.foodnavigator.com/Article/2020/09/09/Gen-Z-not-ready-to-eat-lab-grown-meat-study> [Accessed 1 November 2021]. Reproduced with permission of the Licensor through PLSclear. Source adapted.
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