

FACOLTA' DI STUDI UMANISTICI
PROVA SCRITTA LINGUA INGLESE 2

CDL Lingue e Comunicazione; Lingue e Culture per la Mediazione

Tutti i CdL vecchio ordinamento

NAME _____ MAT. NO. _____

2nd Year Exam – JULY 16th 2015 - ONE HOUR

Total Points ___/40 = ___/30

Reading comprehension – Transformation questions – Verb Forms - Word formation exercise

TWINS

You take it for granted that you are a unique person, different from everybody else on Earth, and you understand that everybody else is also unique. Identical twins are fascinating because they challenge this notion: they are unique people, of course, but they're also unnervingly similar to each other – and not only in terms of appearance. They often share opinions, mannerisms and personality traits.

Identical twins Jim Lewis and Jim Springer were only four weeks old when they were separated; each infant was taken in by a different adoptive family. At age five, Lewis learned that he had a twin, but he said that the idea never truly soaked in until he was 38 years old. Springer learned of his twin at age eight, but both he and his adoptive parents believed the brother had died. The two Jims were finally reunited at age 39.

The similarities the twins shared not only amazed one another, but also amazed researchers at the University of Minnesota. The very fact that both twins were given the same name was a big coincidence. But there's more. As youngsters, each Jim had a dog named 'Toy'. Each Jim had been married twice- the first wives were both called Linda, and the second wives were both called Betty. One Jim had named his son James Allan and the other Jim had named his son James Alan. Each twin had driven his light blue Chevrolet car to the same beach in Florida for family vacations. Both Jims had at one time held part-time posts as sheriffs. Both were fingernail biters and suffered from migraine headaches.

While not as eerily similar as the Jim twins, many more instances of strange likenesses can be found among twins who were raised apart, such as Tom Patterson and Steve Tazumi who had different upbringings but who still chose the same career. It's obvious from these stories that genetics are a major factor in shaping who we are. In fact, research so far indicates that characteristics such as personality are mainly related to genes. This means that our character traits as adults are largely determined before we are born – and there is very little that we, or anybody else, can do to change them.

A) Questions

1. While they were growing up, twins Jim Lewis and Jim Springer
 - a) were in regular contact.
 - b) knew about their twin but had no contact.
 - c) did not know they had ever had a twin.

2. When the two twins met as adults, how did they react to the similarities between them?
 - a) They had always expected them.
 - b) They were surprised.
 - c) They found them very amusing.

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3. As adults, the twins
 - a) both got married to identical twins.
 - b) both had been sheriffs in the same year.
 - c) both had similar habits.

4. How do other cases of twins raised apart compare with the 'Jim' twins?
 - a) They are less surprising, but often show interesting coincidences.
 - b) Most of them show that identical twins are not very similar.
 - c) They are of no interest.

Points ___/6

B) Choose ONE to answer. Indicate your choice; Question number _____.

- 1) What are the advantages and disadvantages of being a twin?
- 2) Do you have similar character traits to any member of your family? Explain.
If not, how is your character different?

Write 50-80 words in your own words.

Points ___/4

C) 5 key-word transformation questions

*Complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first. You must include the word in bold print . Do not change the word given. Use **NO MORE** than 5 words including the word given. Contractions (for example, don't, count as two words).*

Example

0 What type of music do you like best?

FAVOURITE

What **IS YOUR FAVOURITE** type of music?

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1. Two different families adopted the two Jims when they were 4 weeks old.

WERE

The two Jims _____ two different families when they were 4 weeks old.

2. The two Jim twins were amazed at the similarities between them, and so were researchers.

AS

Researchers were _____ the two Jim twins at the similarities between them.

3. Genetics are a major factor in shaping who we are.

AFTER

Genetics are a major factor. We _____ our parents for appearance and character.

4. Although both Jims grew up with different families they had many things in common.

SPITE

In _____ that both Jims grew up with different families they had many things in common.

5. As youngsters, each Jim had a dog named 'Toy'

WHEN

Both Jims had a dog named 'Toy' _____ young.

Points ____/10

D) Verb forms *Put the verbs in brackets into the correct tense. When necessary, put the adverb indicated into the correct position.*

1. If the two Jim twins _____ (to grow) up together, they _____ (not to have) the same first name.

2. When they were 39, the two Jims _____ (to meet) again. They _____ (not to see) each other since they were babies.

3. The kids _____ (to play) outside in the garden at the moment. They _____ (to be) out there for an hour now.

4. Identical twins _____ (to look) the same. Some parents make them _____ (to wear) the same clothes when they are children.

5. As soon as I _____ (to be able to), I _____ (to put) you in touch with the adoption agency.

Points ____/10

GO ON TO EXERCISE E)

E) Word formation exercise

Read the passage and use the word given in capitals at the end of each line to form a word that fits grammatically in the numbered gap. The words are already in order.

ARE GENIUSES BORN OR MADE?

Example: Michael Howe, a (0) PSYCHOLOGIST, has challenged

(0) PSYCHOLOGY

the (1) ____ that geniuses are born. According to him, the secret to genius is hard work! Professor Howe has also shown that nearly all geniuses have the (2)_____ to concentrate for long periods of time. They are not easily distracted by people or events because it is so (3)____ for them to achieve their goal.

(1) BELIEVE

'What makes geniuses (4) ____ is their long term

(2) ABLE

(5) _____ ,' he explains. All geniuses have a clear idea of their goal, and they pursue that goal with total (6) _____ .

(3) IMPORTANCE

'Their (7)____ are exceptional because they make an exceptional effort.'

(4) DIFFERENCE

Throughout the centuries, the (8) _____ composers in the world have often been child prodigies. However, even the most exceptionally able still took at least ten years of hard study to become a major composer.

(5) COMMIT

(6) DEDICATE

(7) ACHIEVE

(8) GREAT

It would be untrue to suggest that every genius begins as a child prodigy. Many (9)____ talented adults, including Charles Darwin, were unexceptional in their youth. What's more, many child prodigies do not go on to achieve anything (10)_____ as adults.

(9) HIGH

(10) SIGNIFICANCE

Write your answers here

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____
- 6 _____
- 7 _____
- 8 _____
- 9 _____
- 10 _____