



Institut zur Qualitätsentwicklung
im Bildungswesen

Vergleichsarbeiten 2011

8. Jahrgangsstufe (VERA-8)

Englisch



ACHTUNG: Testheft darf nicht vor dem 30.09.2011 eingesetzt werden!

Anweisungen

Liebe Schülerin, lieber Schüler, du wirst in diesem Test verschiedene Aufgaben zum Hören und Lesen im Fach Englisch bearbeiten. Einige davon sind leichter als die Aufgaben, die du aus deinem Unterricht kennst, andere sind schwerer. Wenn du eine Aufgabe nicht lösen kannst, versuche die richtige Antwort zu erraten. Es können z. B. folgende Arten von Aufgaben vorkommen:

Aufgaben mit Mehrfachauswahl / Multiple-Choice-Aufgaben

Bei diesem Aufgabentyp werden verschiedene Antwortmöglichkeiten angeboten. Setze ein Häkchen in das Kästchen, das vor der richtigen Antwort steht. Es ist immer nur eine der Antwortmöglichkeiten richtig!

Beispiel 1:

The Airport

He was running late. Very late! That was the last flight and he didn't want to spend the night at the airport. He ran as fast as he could. There were only thirty minutes left. When he reached the gate his panic turned to a smile – his flight was delayed.

How did the man feel when he found out that his flight was late?

- a) tired
- b) happy
- c) nervous
- d) funny

Wenn du deine Antwort auf eine Frage ändern möchtest, streiche das Kästchen mit deiner ersten Antwort aus und setze ein Häkchen in das richtige Kästchen, so wie es in Beispiel 2 gezeigt wird.

Beispiel 2:

The Airport

He was running late. Very late! That was the last flight and he didn't want to spend the night at the airport. He ran as fast as he could. There were only thirty minutes left. When he reached the gate his panic turned to a smile – his flight was delayed.

How did the man feel when he found out that his flight was late?

- a) tired
- b) happy
- c) nervous
- d) funny

Zuordnungs-Aufgaben / Multiple-Matching-Aufgaben

Bei diesem Aufgabentyp ordnest du verschiedene Informationen einander zu und trägst deine Antworten in eine Tabelle ein. Es ist immer nur eine der Antwortmöglichkeiten richtig! Bitte schreibe die Buchstaben deutlich und gut erkennbar.

Beispiel 3:

Match the countries (0 to 2) with the capitals (a to d). You may use each letter only once. There is one more capital than you need. There is an example at the beginning (0).

0. France

1. Germany

2. Italy

a) Rome

b) Berlin

c) Madrid

d) Paris

0	1	2
d		

Aufgaben mit Kurzantwort / Short-Answer-Aufgaben

Bei diesem Aufgabentyp schreibst du deine Antwort auf. Halte dich dabei an die angegebene Anzahl der Wörter, die du für deine Antwort verwenden darfst.

Beispiel 4:

Answer the question below in 1 to 5 words.

What do you think about the story?



It is interesting.

Anordnungsaufgaben / Sequencing-Aufgaben

Bei diesem Aufgabentyp bringst du durcheinander gewürfelte Textteile in die richtige Reihenfolge und trägst die Lösung in eine Tabelle ein. Es wird immer mindestens ein Beispiel angegeben. Bitte schreibe die Buchstaben deutlich und gut erkennbar.

Beispiel 5:

Read the paragraphs (a to e) from a short story. Then put them in the correct order by completing the table below. There is an example at the beginning (0).

0	1	2	3	4
a				

Richtig/Falsch/Nicht im Text-Aufgaben / True-/false-/not given-Aufgaben

Bei diesem Aufgabentyp entscheidest du für einzelne Aussagen, ob sie entsprechend den Informationen im Text richtig („true“) oder falsch („false“) sind, oder ob dazu im Text keine Informationen gegeben werden („not given“). Setze ein Häkchen in das entsprechende Kästchen.

Beispiel 6:

Read the text. Then decide if the statements are true, false or not given in the text. Tick the correct box. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Joe Brown loves hunting bears, but he is getting old, and his eyes are not very good any more. Many times he almost shot a person instead of a bear.

	true	false	not given
0. Joe Brown is a young man.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1. Joe Brown likes hunting.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Joe Brown is 65 years old.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Viel Erfolg!

Nicht in allen Fällen war es möglich, Rechteinhaber für Texte und Bilder ausfindig zu machen. Berechtigte Ansprüche werden selbstverständlich im Rahmen der üblichen Vereinbarungen abgegolten. Wir bitten um Verständnis.

Hören

Es folgen jetzt Aufgaben zum Hörverstehen.

Auf der CD sind mehrere Hörtexte, zu denen du verschiedene Aufgaben im Testheft bearbeiten sollst. Zu jeder Aufgabe gibt es eine Arbeitsanweisung, die im Testheft steht und dir zusätzlich von einer Sprecherin vorgelesen wird.

Falls Bilder vorhanden sind, schau sie dir genau an, denn sie können wichtige Informationen enthalten.

Schreibe deine Lösung nur in die dafür vorgesehenen Felder. Gib in jedem Fall eine Lösung an, auch wenn du dir nicht ganz sicher bist. Wenn du noch Zeit hast, überprüfe deine Lösungen.



**Du darfst erst dann umblättern,
wenn du dazu aufgefordert wirst!**

1 British Pupils

Listen to the pupils talking about themselves. While listening, answer the questions below using 1 to 5 words/numbers. There is an example at the beginning (0).

You will hear the recording only once.

You will have 20 seconds at the end of the recording to complete your answers.

You now have 30 seconds to look at the task.

The recording will begin now.

Holly

0. Where does Holly live?



Hedge End

Nicole

1. What is Nicole's hobby?



2. What is her favourite subject?



Oliver

3. What are Oliver's hobbies? (Name one.)



Michelle

4. How old is Michelle?



5. What is her favourite subject?



2 Dr. Mazandi

While on holiday in England, you have to see a dentist. You call Dr. Mazandi's dental practice. While listening, complete the table below using 1 to 5 words/numbers. Some of the information has been filled in for you.

There is an example at the beginning (0).

You will hear the recording twice.

You will have 20 seconds at the end of the second recording to complete your answers.

You now have 15 seconds to look at the table.

The recording will begin now.

day(s)	(0) Mon. + Tues.	(2) _____	Fri.
morning	(1) _____	9-11	(4) _____
afternoon	3-6	(3) _____	--

3 Bears

Listen to the recording and answer the question below. Tick the correct answer (a, b, c or d).

You will hear the recording only once.

You will have 15 seconds at the end of the recording to complete your answer.

You now have 15 seconds to look at the question.

The recording will begin now.

Audio: <http://www.houstonzoo.org/attachments/articles/10/GrizzliesPodcastV1.mp3>, © Houston Zoo

What is the main aim of the text?

- a) It informs people how to entertain bears in zoos.
- b) It gives a personal opinion about bears in zoos.
- c) It makes people come and see the bears in the zoo.
- d) It warns people about feeding the bears in the zoo.

4 Shopping List

Listen to two people making a shopping list. While listening, write down what they put on their list. Some of the information has been filled in for you. There is an example at the beginning (0).

You will hear the recording twice.

You will have 15 seconds at the end of the recording to complete your answers.

You now have 15 seconds to look at the task.

The recording will begin now.

Shopping list:	
0.	milk
1.	_____
	flour
2.	_____
3.	_____
	peaches
4.	_____
5.	_____
	ground beef

5 At Work

Listen to a woman talking about her job and answer the question below using 1 to 5 words.

You will hear the recording only once.

You will have 10 seconds at the end of the recording to complete your answer.

You now have 10 seconds to look at the question.

The recording will begin now.

What is the woman's job?



6 London Tour

You are standing in front of the London Visitor Centre. Listen to a woman talking about London Tour. While listening, complete the table below in 1 to 5 words/numbers. Write feet, kilos, miles, years, minutes, etc. in your answers when needed. There is an example at the beginning (0).

You will hear the recording only once.

You will have 30 seconds at the end of the recording to complete your answers.

You now have 30 seconds to look at the task.

The recording will begin now.

0. One attraction you visit	Buckingham Palace
1. Number of stops	
2. The bus leaves every	
3. Opening times of the Visitor Centre	From: _____ to: _____
4. Price of a ticket for children	

7 Message

Listen to the following telephone conversation. While listening, answer the question in 4 to 7 words.

You will hear the recording twice.

You will have 30 seconds after the second recording to complete your notes.

The recording will begin now.

Why is Jim calling?



Lesen

Es folgen jetzt Aufgaben zum Leseverstehen.

Im Testheft findest du verschiedene Texte. Lies dir die Arbeitsanweisungen und die Texte sorgfältig durch und bearbeite dann die Aufgaben zu jedem Text.

Schreibe deine Antworten nur in die dafür vorgesehenen Felder. Gib in jedem Fall eine Lösung an, auch wenn du dir nicht ganz sicher bist. Wenn du noch Zeit hast, überprüfe deine Lösungen.

Zur Bearbeitung hast du insgesamt 20 Minuten Zeit.



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wenn du dazu aufgefordert wirst!**

8 Poster

Look at the poster about a lost dog and complete the table below in 1 to 5 words/numbers. There is an example at the beginning (0).



Poster: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-1095327/Queen-searches-Windsor-Great-Park-for-Princess-Beatrices-missing-dog.html>, © David Parker

0. Lost	Max
1. Colour	
2. Kind of dog	
3. Since when	
4. Where	
5. Identifiable because of	
6. Telephone	

9 Eating Habits

You are doing a research project about the eating habits of British students. Look at the table “What do you usually have for breakfast?”. Then decide if the statements are true, false or not given in the text. Tick the correct box. There is an example at the beginning (0).

What do you usually have for breakfast?

School year	Gender	Nothing at all to eat		Just a drink		Cereal		Cereal & toast		Cooked breakfast		Fruit	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
6	male	862	9	479	5	3640	38	575	6	575	6	192	6
6	female	917	10	550	6	3210	35	459	5	459	5	367	5
8	male	1455	13	783	7	4364	39	671	6	448	4	224	6
8	female	2297	20	1148	10	3675	32	344	3	230	2	344	3
10	male	2188	19	1036	9	4261	37	691	6	461	4	230	6
10	female	3290	27	1584	13	3290	27	244	2	244	2	487	2

Key: N – absolute number; % – percentage rate

Text: <http://www.sheu.org.uk/publications/yp07docs/yr6.pdf>, © Sheu

	true	false	not given
0. 20% of Year 8 males have nothing to eat at lunch.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1. More Year 10 females than Year 8 females don't have breakfast.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. 10% of Year 8 females and 9% of Year 10 males just have a drink.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. 35% of Year 6 males and 27% of Year 10 males eat only cereal.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. 20% of Year 10 males have their breakfast at school.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

10 For Sale

Read the text from a website. Then complete the table below in 1 to 5 words/numbers. Write feet, kilos, miles, years, minutes, etc. in your answers when needed. There is an example at the beginning (0).

For Sale: Second-Hand Tyrannosaurus Rex

A *Tyrannosaurus rex* skeleton is expected to sell for £4.8 million when it is auctioned next month.

The 66-million-year-old dinosaur measures 15 feet tall by 40 feet long and is one of the largest ever discovered.

The female skeleton, named Samson, is made up of 170 bones and is more than 50 per cent complete.

Its head is undistorted and one of the most complete in existence.

Samson was found in South Dakota, United States, in 1987 and excavated in 1992.

Experts mounted the skeleton ready for sale at the Venetian Hotel, Las Vegas, on October 3rd. It had previously been stored in a crate.

The reason for the sale has not been disclosed.

Text: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1211662/For-sale-Second-hand-Tyrannosaurus-rex-66-million-years-old-4-8million-ono-good-condition.htm#xzz0QW7SBbQY>, © Daily Mail

0. Item to be sold	Tyrannosaurus rex skeleton
1. Price	
2. Age	
3. Height	
4. Length	
5. Name	
6. Where found ?	
7. When found ?	
8. Place of auction	

11 Marathon

Read the questions (0 to 5) and match them with the answers (a to h). You may use each letter only once. There are two more answers than you need. There is an example at the beginning (0).

How to prepare for a marathon

You are going to prepare for a marathon and have some questions for an expert.



0. Can everybody start training for a marathon?
1. Where can I get advice about preparation?
2. What can I do after I have found a suitable program?
3. What equipment is necessary to prepare for a marathon?
4. Should I have a certain race in mind when starting to prepare?
5. What do I have to bear in mind on the big day?

- a) Then follow the training plan, all the way up to race day.
- b) Just show up for your race, all the effort and time put in will pay off!
- c) Eat special food while preparing for the race.
- d) Before you begin the training pick a goal race preferably six months to one year from now.
- e) Look online for training plans that help you to reach your goal.
- f) Make a date with your doctor to get clearance to begin a running program.
- g) It is better to train with a friend.
- h) Make sure you buy a good pair of running shoes before you start.

0	1	2	3	4	5
f					

12 Twenty's Plenty

In a Scottish village you see the sign below. Look at the sign and read the explanation. Then answer the question below using 1 to 5 words/numbers.



"Twenty's Plenty" areas are bounded by green-coloured 20mph *advisory* signs, which ask drivers to keep to a 20mph limit. There are no enforcement powers or costs associated with these signs. They are merely *advisory*.

What does the sign express?



Hören

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13 Class Trip

Listen to Bob talking about his last class trip. While listening, complete the sentences below using 1 to 5 words/numbers. Write miles, years, minutes, etc. in your answers when needed. There is an example at the beginning (0).

You will hear the recording twice.

You will have 20 seconds at the end of the first recording and 20 seconds at the end of the second recording to complete your answers.

You now have 20 seconds to look at the task.

The recording will begin now.

0. Bob went on a class trip with _____ 8th graders _____ .

1. They went to _____ .

2. They stayed in a _____ .

3. They went by _____ .

4. On the ride they listened to music and _____ .
(Name one more activity.)

5. The trip took _____ .

14 Brazilian Music

Listen to a DJ talking about a Brazilian party. While listening, complete the notes below using 1 to 5 words/numbers. There is an example at the beginning (0).

You will hear the recording twice.

You will have 20 seconds at the end of the second recording to complete your answers.

You now have 20 seconds to look at the task.

The recording will begin now.

Audio: <http://www.podbean.com/podcast-detail?pid=30819>, © DJ Vivo

0. Name of speaker:



DJ Vivo

1. Subject of this week's episode:



2. Place of Brazilian party:



3. Number of people at the last party:



4. Activities there: listening to music, dancing and



5. Place where pictures can be seen:



15 Negotiating

Listen to a discussion between a teenager and his mother and tick the correct answer (a, b, c or d). There is an example at the beginning (0).

You will hear the recording twice.

You will have 15 seconds at the end of the second recording to complete your answers. You now have 60 seconds to look at the task.

The recording will begin now.

0. Ben's mother wants him to

- a) do his homework.
- b) do some housework.
- c) go out this afternoon.
- d) go to Kyle's house.

1. Kyle's brother

- a) is a high school student.
- b) wants to go to college.
- c) is at his parents' house.
- d) will move out in two years.

2. Last summer someone called the police because

- a) the teenagers were too loud.
- b) the teenagers were drunk.
- c) Kyle's parents were away.
- d) there were too many parties.

3. Ben has to be home by

- a) 1:00am.
- b) 2:00am.
- c) 11:00pm.
- d) 12:00am.

4. When Ben gets back, he'll have to

- a) be really quiet.
- b) let his mother know.
- c) take the car.
- d) pick up some friends.

5. In the end, Ben and his mother

- a) begin folding the laundry.
- b) decide to pick up Kyle.
- c) decide to talk about it later.
- d) find a compromise.

16 Guys

Listen to a conversation between Mike and John. While listening, tick the correct answer (a, b, c or d). There is an example at the beginning (0).

You will hear the recording twice.

You will have 20 seconds between the recordings and 20 seconds at the end of the task to complete your answers.

You now have 20 seconds to look at the task.

The recording will begin now.

0. Before their talk Mike had

- a) just got up.
- b) had maths.
- c) done his homework.
- d) done a lot of things.

1. In the afternoon they want to

- a) go to the park to watch a football game.
- b) go to the park and the movies.
- c) do John's homework in the park.
- d) do their homework and go to the movies.

2. They want to invite everybody except

- a) Andy.
- b) Felix.
- c) David.
- d) Jacob.

3. Jacob

- a) likes Arsenal.
- b) is in hospital.
- c) has broken his leg.
- d) hates David.

4. They think the new James Bond movie is

- a) exciting.
- b) bad.
- c) expensive.
- d) good.

5. They're going to meet

- a) at 4 o'clock.
- b) at 10 o'clock.
- c) at half past ten.
- d) in four hours.

17 Halloween

Listen to an announcement from the Monroe County Sheriff's Office.

While listening, tick the correct answer (a, b, c or d).

You will hear the recording only once.

You will have 10 seconds at the end of the recording to complete your answer.

You now have 15 seconds to look at the task.

The recording will begin now.

Audio: www.keyssso.net/pio/public_service_announcements/psa_index.htm#Holiday%20PSAs, © Monroe County Sheriff's Office

The announcement addresses

- a) tourists.
- b) teachers.
- c) children.
- d) cyclists.

Lesen

Es folgen jetzt Aufgaben zum Leseverstehen.

Im Testheft findest du verschiedene Texte. Lies dir die Arbeitsanweisungen und die Texte sorgfältig durch und bearbeite dann die Aufgaben zu jedem Text.

Schreibe deine Antworten nur in die dafür vorgesehenen Felder. Gib in jedem Fall eine Lösung an, auch wenn du dir nicht ganz sicher bist. Wenn du noch Zeit hast, überprüfe deine Lösungen.

Zur Bearbeitung hast du insgesamt 20 Minuten Zeit.



**Du darfst erst dann umblättern,
wenn du dazu aufgefordert wirst!**

18 Free Meals

Read the article about a school meals plan. Then complete the table below using 1 to 5 words. There is an example at the beginning (0).

School meals plan to boost brains

More and more children may be eating a hot meal at school if a plan to give them away for free takes off.

One school in South London has already started letting every single one of its pupils tuck into a school meal for free, if they want to. It's part of a plan to make children eat more healthily and so far 270 of the 300 pupils are tucking in. More schools in England will be trying the scheme out next year, and trials have finished in Scottish schools.

It's not just the cost of the meals that is different as everyone sits together and eats together at meal times – even the teachers! One of the pupils at the school, George, told Newsround: "They're free, and there are better choices, and it saves my mum and dad money."

Teachers think they'll help in lots of ways. The school's Executive Head, Dr Sidwell, said children would learn better after lunch, because they'd eaten a hot meal earlier.

Text: CBBC NEWSROUND: http://newsimg.bbc.co.uk/cbbcnews/hi/newsid_7630000/newsid_7634400/7634403.stm; Published: 2008/09/24 18:11:39 GMT © BBC MMVIII

0. Aim of the project	free hot meals for pupils
1. Arguments for the project (Name <u>three</u> .)	a)
	b)
	c)

19 A Day in September

Read the sentences (a to g) from the beginning of a short story. Then put them in the correct order by completing the table below. There are two examples (0) and (3).

A Day in September by JD Hessinger

a) As he walked out of his bathroom he looked at the clock, 5:45am, September 11, 2025.
b) As on every weekday Tom Tuckett was awakened by his annoying, buzzing alarm clock at 5:30.
c) As he started his walk down the hall to the street, he made sure not to step on the cracks in the stone.
d) After a fifteen minute shower, he got out, dried off and shaved.
e) He turned the knob all the way to the right to make sure the water would be as cold as it could be. He had started this ritual when he moved to New York to take a teaching job in Manhattan.
f) He got out of bed and proceeded to his bathroom for his daily cold shower to wake him up.
g) Today would be the toughest day of the year for him. As he thought about the significance of the date, he finished getting dressed and walked out of the apartment.

Text: <http://www.aboutteens.org/fiction/jdhessinger.htm>, © JD Hessinger

0	1	2	3	4	5	6
b			d			

20 The Micro Pig

Read the paragraphs (0 to 4) from an article and match them with the questions (a to g). You may use each letter only once. There are two more questions than you need. There is an example at the beginning (0).

November 28, 2009

Pet of the week: The micro pig

by Jamie Buckley

0. They're micro pigs, and no, your eyes do not deceive you – they really are quite wee. Unlike pigs that are bred for bangers, micro pigs are kept as loving, adorable pets that are actively encouraged to stay small.



1. According to the good people at Little Pig Farm, a specialist breeder and supplier of micro pigs based in Cambridge, they like nothing more than to lounge around indoors (or outdoors when the weather is fine), and be cuddled.

2. Although ideally suited to life in the country, micro pigs do not need a huge amount of space, or much in the way of exercise, so a large suburban garden would be ample space and would certainly keep your neighbours guessing. They are perfectly happy with human company, but if you plan on getting two, then you will have to consider the fact that breeding pairs can produce up to a dozen piglets a litter. Up to three times a year.

3. They'll need feeding twice a day. Little Pig Farm recommends a good quality sow and weaner mix, but if you overfeed the hungry little fellows and give them all your scraps, they will soon outgrow their "micro" status. A plentiful, clean water supply is essential to keeping happy hogs.

4. The price might make you squeal – anything from £300 up to £700. And that's just to get your hands on one of the little wrigglers, before you've even factored in feed costs, fencing, etc. You have to consider vaccination and guarding against swine flu, all of which the farm can help you with. For more information, contact Jane Croft at littlepigfarm.co.uk, or call 01354 638 005.

Text & Picture: <http://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/pets/features/pet-of-the-week-the-micro-pig-1827737.html>, © The Independent

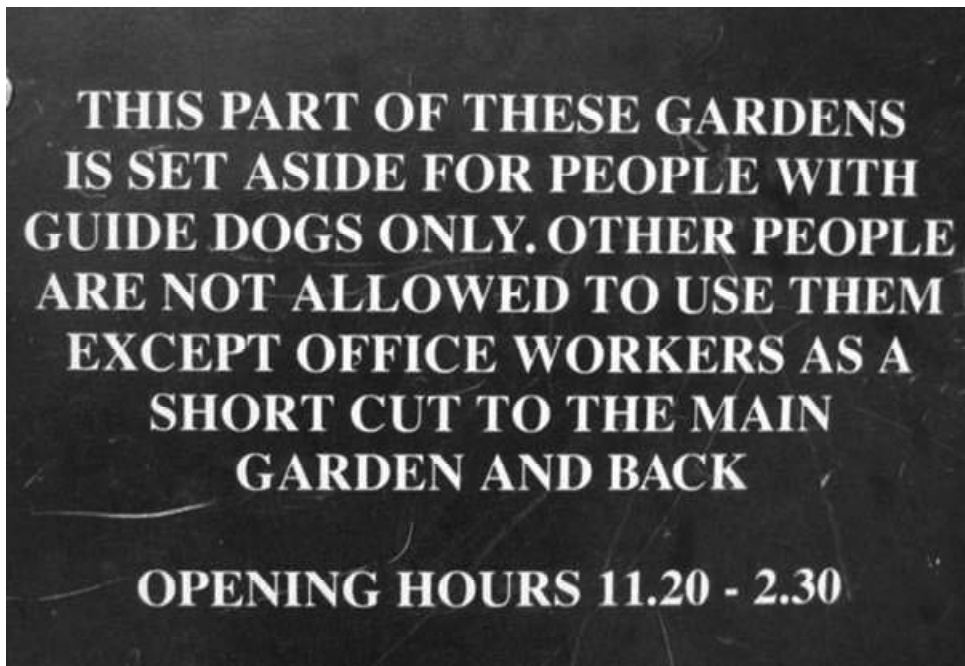
Questions

- a) Where on earth am I going to keep a pig?
- b) How long does a micro pig live?
- c) What do they do all day?
- d) How much do they cost?
- e) Who are these little porkers?
- f) How do I look after a micro pig?
- g) How often do you have to take them to the vet?

0	1	2	3	4
e				

21 Gardens

Read the sign and answer the question below using 1 to 5 words/numbers.



Who has a right to be in this area?



a) _____

b) _____

22 Game Show Winner

Read the text and complete the sentences with the words from the list (a to m). You may use each letter only once. There are four more words than you need. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Schools' Chief in Georgia Wins a Bundle for Students

The Georgia state school superintendent, Kathy Cox, has **(0)** \$1 million on the Fox game show "Are you smarter than a fifth grader?" and says that the money will go to two state schools for the deaf and one for the **(1)**. "These kids, it's very hard for them sometimes to **(2)** in a lot of extracurricular activities and do a lot of the regular things elementary and high school kids do," Cox said in a telephone interview.

On the show in Los Angeles, Cox, a former high school history teacher, correctly answered 10 questions, all of which were taken from elementary **(3)**. That took her to the million dollar question:

Who was the longest-reigning British **(4)**? She answered Queen Victoria. The **(5)** question, Cox said, was the sixth, which drew on fourth-grade world geography: Costa Rica borders two countries. Nicaragua is one. What is the other? She answered Panama.

Cox said she agreed to go on the show to send a **(6)** to students that it was cool to be smart. "Kids love the show," she said. "I like the show. It's **(7)**. It's centered around school." With only a couple of days to **(8)**, Cox said she memorized the state capitals and reviewed standard fifth-grade geography and grammar. Her two sons, Alex, 14, and John, 18, helped her study.

Text: Herald Tribune, 10 September 2008, p.15; From the New York Times, © 2011 The New York Times All rights reserved. Used by permission and protected by the Copyright Laws of the United States. The printing, copying, redistribution, or retransmission of the Material without express written permission is prohibited. www.nytimes.com

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) angry b) blind c) cheapest d) family friendly e) message f) monarch g) movies | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> h) prepare i) remember j) school books k) take part l) most difficult m) won |
|--|---|

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
m								

23 German Language

Read the texts (0 to 4) from an interview about German people and their language and match them with the questions (a to f). You may use each letter only once. There is one more question than you need. There is an example at the beginning (0).

0. In general, speaking the native language of the people you encounter will make it much easier to get into contact and will be highly appreciated. It is also a question of politeness and shows your interest in the culture and people.
1. The way you perceive the sound of a language is subjective, and you might even like it yourself. There are about 100 million native speakers of German, and none of them has reported any throat problems from merely speaking the language so far!
2. The grammar is certainly complex but the pronunciation, for example, is straightforward. After all, learning a new language always involves hard and steady work, but it will be rewarded.
3. This is as true as the hypotheses that all English people wear bowler hats, always carry an umbrella and live on fish & chips only (well, maybe some Marmite as well).
4. Actually this feature of the German language is really practical because you can give a precise name to everything even if the word didn't exist before. Thus you can exploit your full creative potential.

Text: <http://www.rhul.ac.uk/Modern-Languages/admissions/courses/ab-initio-qa.html>, © School of Modern Languages

- a) Is German really so much harder than the other European languages?
- b) Why does German make use of those extremely long words?
- c) What is the point in learning a new language?
- d) German is pronounced harshly and it is not a romantic language. Is that right?
- e) Why don't you just come along and find out yourself how Germans really are?
- f) I heard that Germans are unfriendly and lack any sense of humour. Is that right?

0	1	2	3	4
c				