

- Q3** What was the reason for Sheila to start working from home?
- A** Sheila wanted to help her husband in his doctor's office.
- B** Her boss made the suggestion that she could start working at home.
- C** Sheila thought that she could handle the workload using the Internet.
- D** Sheila asked for permission to work at home to care for her children.
- Q4** What problem has Sheila's working situation caused?
- A** She has become addicted to surfing the Internet.
- B** She hardly sees her kids any more.
- C** She and her husband want to get a divorce.
- D** She and her family have almost no undisturbed time together.

KEY

- 0-B** a law firm
- Q1-B** She has to work a lot of overtime.
- Q2-B** Both of them want children later on in life.
- Q3-D** Sheila asked for permission to work at home to care for her children.
- Q4-D** She and her family have almost no undisturbed time together.

- Sally:** I mean ... even if you plan to separate work and family life, do you really think it's possible?
- Maria:** It's difficult, that's for sure.
- Sally:** Especially with today's technology. Remember just a few years ago, people used to work from 9 to 5. You went to the office, completed your tasks and went back home. Sometimes – when there were still a few things on your list of things to do – you might have taken some work home with you. Today it's all about the Internet, wireless smart phones and iPads.
- Maria:** I know what you mean. They haunt you and it seems as if you never get a second of peace and quiet.
- Sally:** Let me tell you, I have this friend Sheila who was happily married and has got two beautiful children. About two years ago she put in a request to work from home, which her boss approved of as long as she got the work done. And the Internet made it possible. She can handle all her business obligations via the world wide web.
- Maria:** And ...?
- Sally:** Well, I don't get to see her that often anymore. Not too long ago we met on a weekly basis. Now it's once a month, if I'm lucky.
- Maria:** What has changed?
- Sally:** She started working at home, thinking that she should have more time with her children and her husband who works as a doctor and whose working hours are constantly changing. But what's really happened is that she has got even less time than she had before. The very same technology that allowed her to work at home in the first place is now eating up all her free time. Her children often spend their afternoons with their grandparents or they just go to friends' places.
- Maria:** And her husband?
- Sally:** He has been complaining about her being distracted all the time. She gets called away and interrupted a hundred times a day. She can't even sit through one meal with her family without the phone ringing two to three times.
- Maria:** She could just turn it off ... no?!
- Sally:** She could ... but I guess in the meantime it's almost become an addiction. She cannot NOT answer the phone or check her e-mails.
- Maria:** Which makes me think ... I keep checking my phone too ... like permanently. *(pause)*
- Sally:** I suppose we all do it. But it's dangerous, I believe.
- Maria:** Yes ... it's changing how we talk to each other ... how we spend time with each other ...
- Sally:** ... or don't spend time with each other.
- Maria:** And your friend?
- Sally:** They have now decided to try marriage counselling. It's good that her husband's really fighting hard to make their family work, because she is only beginning to see how problematic her working at home is for all of them. The stress she suffers from has had an impact on all of them.

Prime Time 7

Maria: Em ... (*hesitating*)

Sally: What is it?

Maria: Nothing ... it's just ... your story ... what you've just told me about your friend ... it somewhat puts everything into perspective.


Sally: I know ... I felt the same when she told me about her seeing a therapist ...

Maria: Em, would you like to have some more tea?

Sally: Oh yes, please, I'd love to ...

Maria: And how about you ... (*fading out*)

2. Listening: Love marriage or arranged marriage?

 You are going to listen to a recording about love marriage versus arranged marriage. First you will have 45 seconds to study the task below, then you will hear the recording twice. While listening, complete the sentences (1–5) using a maximum of four words. Write your answers in the spaces provided. The first one (0) has been done for you. After the second listening you will have 45 seconds to check your answers.

Love marriage or arranged marriage?

0	One of the factors that determines love marriages is	<i>independence/self-determination/freedom</i>
Q1	Many Indians' attitude towards arranged marriage changed with the	
Q2	In arranged marriages the parents choose their children's future husband or wife with the help of	
Q3	The main advantage of love marriages is that your partner	
Q4	The reason why arranged marriages developed in India was	
Q5	In India couples deciding to enter a love marriage	

KEY

- 0** independence/self-determination/freedom
- Q1** arrival of the British/the British education system
- Q2** various relatives/matchmakers/astrologers
- Q3** (better) understands (your) wishes/needs
- Q4** the caste system
- Q5** face much resistance/fight for acceptance

TAPESCRIPT

Announcer:

You are going to listen to a recording about love marriage versus arranged marriage. First you will have 45 seconds to study the task below, then you will hear the recording twice. While listening, complete the sentences (1–5) using a maximum of four words. Write your answers in the spaces provided. The first one (0) has been done for you. After the second listening you will have 45 seconds to check your answers.

Speaker 1:

Love marriage or arranged marriage?

Which one is to be preferred?

Listen to this little report and ask yourself which kind of marriage is more appealing to you.

Speaker 2:

Arranged marriages are especially common in India. The Indian mind, however, has changed due to media access and education. As opposed to arranged marriages, in which parents choose their child's future husband or wife, for many people love matches represent independence, self-determination and freedom.

What really drives the debate about whether love marriage should be chosen over arranged marriage is the question of how one can marry a person he or she does not even know and has not even really met before.

While India in particular has a long tradition of arranged marriages, the arrival of the British brought about change. With the British education system being introduced in India, Indians became more educated. THIS plus what people see and hear on TV or on the Internet is altering their way of thinking. One thing more and more Indians are realising is that they do not need to be bound by tradition! They can actually choose their spouses themselves without the help of various relatives, matchmakers or even astrologers. In the past few years, all of this has given rise to love marriages as well.

If we take a closer look at both love and arranged marriages we will see that each has got its advantages and disadvantages.

Let's start with love marriages: love marriages are usually based on relationships that have lasted for some time before the couple decides to get married. This time together gives everybody involved the chance to get to know the other person and to think about whether tying the knot is the right thing to do. It's undeniable that knowing your partner before marrying them allows for a better understanding of each other's wishes and needs. But of course it is not said that love marriages are always successful just because it is the spouses' decision to get married. As we all know, not all love marriages result in happily ever after.

In arranged marriages on the other hand, the parents' expectations are of greater value than the young people's idea of a perfect match. If we look at the evolution of arranged marriages, it was the caste system that gave birth to and promoted this type of marriage. Upper caste families were concerned that their sons and daughters might marry someone from a caste lower than theirs. When this happened because people decided to get married for love, they were often rejected by their families and lost their social status. Traditions and rituals, the need to contribute to family expenses and the wish to produce a male heir – all of these increase the pressure which eventually makes the younger generation conform to

parental expectations even today. In India, lovers whose parents do not approve of their relationship have to face a lot of resistance and really fight for acceptance.

People favouring arranged marriages appreciate their parents' support, experience, and protection as well as the fact that the women in particular are taken good care of.

I'd say it's up to every individual to decide whether they want to get married in the first place. However, if they do, they should have the right to decide freely between love and arranged marriage. What really counts is that the marriage is a happy and stable one.

3. Reading: Abortion

Read the text below, then choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) for questions 1–5. Put a in the correct box. The first one (0) has been done for you.

Abortion

Abortion is an extremely controversial topic in the United States with both sides of the debate duelling it out over what is right or wrong. The law presently controlling abortion in America was introduced in 1973 by the Supreme Court. According to this law, women have the right to choose how they want to handle a pregnancy, whether through termination or continuation. Since this court ruling, abortion has been in the national spotlight and the centre of the debate still remains whether it should actually still be legal or overturned.

Before this ruling there had been abortion laws in the US as early as the 1820s. However, by 1900 most abortions had been outlawed because of the extreme pressure from the American Medical Association, physicians and legislators. Nevertheless, this did not prevent illegal abortions, which at the time were a dangerous practice, from taking place. The main difference was that women did not only risk their lives due to the bad hygienic conditions under which such procedures took place, but also because few abortions were carried out by medical professionals any more. By 1965, all states had banned abortions altogether, with few exceptions being allowed. Finally, abortion was once again legalised in 1973 in all fifty states, using a trimester framework that freed doctors to perform abortions for any reason in the first trimester and giving the individual states the power to regulate the second and third trimester. In the years since this decision many pro-life groups, such as the Human Life Foundation or the Life Coalition, have been formed which have taken up the fight against this ruling and presented alternatives such as adoption. They have been the driving forces behind new restrictions and regulations that have been introduced, such as required parental consent for teenagers. These pro-life organisations arrange many protests and lobby to bring forth legislation to end the age-old debate of how to handle an unexpected pregnancy. Often, these groups see the practice of abortion as an unlawful procedure that takes a defenseless human life and advocate adoption as the only legal alternative. Furthermore, they argue that life begins at

conception, whereas the other side of the debate believes that no rights other than those stated in the Constitution should be judicially recognised and protected.

There are many different reasons why a woman might decide to have an abortion. If there are irreparable defects concerning the fetus, such as major development failures or problems with the heart, nervous system, brain, kidneys or breathing system, a woman might choose to end the pregnancy. There are other common reasons that a woman might choose to have an abortion such as birth control failure, unwanted or unplanned pregnancy, not being able to support or provide for the child or medical conditions that could seriously endanger the woman's health. Most women concerned choose to abort based on their current needs, feelings and economic position. Especially women aged between 15 and 20 often do not feel prepared to take responsibility for another human being. They might lack sufficient means to provide for themselves and a child. Unfinished education and lack of mental maturity are factors that particularly cause young females to abort. However, younger women are not the only ones making such drastic decisions, which may have a strong impact on their future lives. Research shows that abortions are no longer limited to a certain age group of women.

On average, one million women in the US decide to abort their unborn children every year. This decision, which is often made in a moment of desperation or panic, may cause inner turmoil and stress. No matter whether having an abortion is legal or not, in the end it is always the woman who has to deal with the choice she has made.

- 0** The 1973 law
- A banned abortion.
 - B legalised abortion.
 - C led to a protest.
 - D was overturned.

- Q1** Banning abortion around 1900 caused
- A a lot of pressure from doctors and lawyers.
 - B an increase in death following abortion.
 - C a rise in the practice of illegal abortion.
 - D a decrease of medical professionals.

- Q2** Regulations on abortion after 1973
- A** allowed abortion up to the second trimester.
 - B** allowed abortion throughout the US.
 - C** banned abortion after the second trimester.
 - D** banned abortion in individual states.
- Q3** The formation of pro-life groups resulted in
- A** stronger support for single mothers.
 - B** the creation of educational programmes.
 - C** stricter regulations on abortion.
 - D** a ban on teenage abortion.
- Q4** The main reason for teenage girls to abort is their
- A** psychological stability.
 - B** physical maturity.
 - C** financial situation.
 - D** educational background.
- Q5** What is the purpose of the text?
- A** to criticise women who abort
 - B** to illustrate the dangers of abortion
 - C** to argue a ban on abortion
 - D** to explain the background of abortion

KEY

- 0–B** legalised abortion.
- Q1–C** a rise in the practice of illegal abortion.
- Q2–B** allowed abortion throughout the US.
- Q3–C** stricter regulations on abortion.
- Q4–D** educational background.
- Q5–D** to explain the background of abortion

4. Reading: Do you believe in IQ tests?

Read the text below, then complete the sentences (1–6) using a maximum of four words. Write your answers in the spaces provided. The first one (0) has been done for you.

Do you believe in IQ tests?

Although IQ tests have been used for quite some time to determine the intelligence of the people taking them, the question remains whether you can really judge somebody's mental capabilities by letting them answer questions concerning language patterns or mathematical operations. In order for an IQ test to be considered reliable, it has to examine more than one cognitive skill and has to be conducted by a professional, for example a psychiatrist. This ensures that the test taker's intelligence is measured correctly and the results are interpreted in a meaningful way.

Most of us are interested in what kind of result they would receive, but what keeps most people from taking such a test is the insecurity about what they will learn about themselves. The relatively high costs are only a minor obstacle for most of us. Even though we do not think of ourselves as less intelligent as the people around us, being given a number that is below average might change the way we perceive ourselves forever. In addition, we are aware of the fact that the chance that we are geniuses and simply did not know about it is very small. Thus, it seems safer to live without knowing the details.

In recent years another point of discussion concerning this issue has been raised. Many people have difficulties believing that answering a couple of questions is enough to provide valid information about their cognitive skills, especially since one of the most important aspects of a human being, their emotional intelligence, is not addressed in an IQ test at all. This fact is even more crucial since the way we socially interact with others has a huge impact on our job performance and can also influence our success in personal life. After all, we respond much more to how a person talks to us than to the actual content of their words.

But does the result of such a test come as a surprise to most people having taken it? Well, it must be said that although there are occasional exceptions, the majority of test takers have a quite precise idea of how they performed. Apart from the fact that they should be able to pass a certain judgment on how they were doing throughout the test, namely whether they had trouble answering questions or not, most people compare their skills and abilities to those around them their entire lives. They usually know if they are having trouble learning and understanding and do not need a test telling them exactly that. It might even make matters worse for them if they receive a rating below average. A person's self-esteem could be seriously damaged or even vanish entirely if they do not perform well due to having a bad day. Following such a blow to their self-image, they might suffer from family or job problems.

So should we abandon IQ tests as a whole? Of course, this is not the best way of dealing with this matter. We simply need to realise that the result we get is only a number and it does not by far give anyone an idea of who we are and what we can do. We might even see it as a challenge to prove to ourselves that this number cannot possibly be right since we can do and achieve so much more.

0	An IQ test measures	<i>the intelligence/the mental capability</i>
Q1	In order to be valid an IQ test has to test	
Q2	Most people do not take an IQ test to avoid	
Q3	Our perception of our intelligence might suffer from	
Q4	Emotional intelligence affects the way we	
Q5	Most test takers... by their rating.	
Q6	If their fears are confirmed, they might lose	

KEY

- 0** the intelligence/the mental capability
- Q1** more than one skill
- Q2** getting bad results
- Q3** low results/results below average
- Q4** interact socially
- Q5** are not surprised
- Q6** their self-esteem

5. Language in use: Do extrovert people have an easier life?

You are going to read a text about extrovert people and whether they have an easier life. Some words are missing from the text. Choose from the list (A–P) the correct part for each gap (1–13) in the text. There are two extra words you should not use. Write your answers in the boxes provided. The first one (0) has been done for you.

Do extrovert people have an easier life?

Do you see yourself as an extrovert **(0)** ... ? Today's society tells us that being an introvert **(Q1)** ... is old-fashioned and makes your life much harder than it has to be. People who are **(Q2)** ... seem to have many benefits in everyday life. They are said to achieve higher job positions, tend to be better paid and find partners more **(Q3)** But is it true that holding back and displaying **(Q4)** ... can have a negative effect on your **(Q5)** ... and professional life?

While it must be said that most people respond **(Q6)** ... to an open attitude and a **(Q7)** ... behaviour, this does not mean that introverts are automatically perceived as **(Q8)** ... or unsociable. Even if you are a shy person, you can send the right **(Q9)** ... in almost every social context. For example, you can easily communicate that you are interested in what others have to say by holding eye-contact and nodding. Smiling goes a long way, too, if you are too timid to speak your mind **(Q10)** So instead of trying hard to be something you are not, make sure the **(Q11)** ... you try to communicate are the right ones. You might already have discovered that **(Q12)** ... behaviour that does not fit your personality is usually not successful. People will perceive you as more honest and **(Q13)** ... if you admit to your weaknesses and work on improving your strong points.

Prime Time 7

- | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| A adopting | E extroverts | I messages | M positively |
| B charming | F initially | J person | N shyness |
| C differently | G likeable | K personal | O signals |
| D easily | H openness | L personality | P unfriendly |

0	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10	Q11	Q12	Q13
J													

KEY

0	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10	Q11	Q12	Q13
J	L	E	D	N	K	M	B	P	O	F	I	A	G

KEY

It's the stressful times that we live in that will make many people ask for	<u>will</u>	0
more. They want to feel as themselves again, they want to live life to the	<u>as</u>	00
fullest, and they want to achieve that what they think they deserve.	<u>that</u>	Q1
Ed Stafford, a former British Army captain, for example, did just that	<u>✓</u>	Q2
when he walked 4,000 miles from the Southern Peru to the Atlantic	<u>the</u>	Q3
Ocean, following the Amazon River from at its source to its mouth in	<u>at</u>	Q4
Brazil. Stafford began on his expedition in April 2008 and finished it 859	<u>on</u>	Q5
days later in August 2010. He started to the journey together with his	<u>to</u>	Q6
friend Luke Collyer who had had to leave after three months. Gadiel	<u>had</u>	Q7
“Cho” Sanchez Rivera soon became the man to accompany Stafford on	<u>✓</u>	Q8
the entire way. Ed Stafford, who had retired from the British Army as a	<u>✓</u>	Q9
captain in 2002, had already led on a couple of expeditions worldwide,	<u>on</u>	Q10
before he had finally decided that he wanted to be the first man to walk	<u>had</u>	Q11
the entire 4,000 mile length of the Amazon River in all South America.	<u>all</u>	Q12
Apart from his wish to achieve something that incredible and almost	<u>✓</u>	Q13
impossible, Stafford was driven to by his aim to inspire other people.	<u>to</u>	Q14
With what he did he wanted to motivate people to make them realise	<u>✓</u>	Q15
that they can really turn their dreams into the reality.	<u>the</u>	Q16

7. Writing: Adolescence

“Times were harder for teenagers 50 years ago than they are today.”

It seems that nowadays teenagers have it a lot easier than ever before. They have easy access to education and information and they have many technological advantages. However, it must be said that there are also more dangers and risks for teenagers out there than there were before. Write an **opinion essay** in which you either agree or disagree with the statement given on top. In your essay, you should:

- analyse the differences in the social lives of teenagers now and 50 years ago
- explain the educational and technological advantages of teenagers today
- outline the risks and dangers teenagers face today

Write an **opinion essay** of about **400 words**. Give your opinion essay a **title**.