

Summarize spoken text

You will hear a short lecture. Write a summary for a fellow student who was not present at the lecture. You should write 50-70 words. You have 10 minutes to finish this task. Your response will be judged on the Quality of Your writing and on how well your response presents the key points presented in the lecture.

For my senior collection at fashion design school, I decided to try and 3D print an entire fashion collection from my home. The problem was that I barely knew anything about 3D printing, and I had only nine months to figure out how to print five fashionable looks. I always felt most creative when I worked from home. I loved experimenting with new materials, and I always tried to develop new techniques to make the most unique textiles for my fashion projects. I loved going to old factories and weird stores in search of leftovers of strange powders and weird materials, and then bring them home to experiment on. As you can probably imagine, my roommates didn't like that at all.

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I'm here to talk about the next big thing because what we're finding out is that we have this capacity to report eyewitness accounts of what's going on in real time. We're seeing this in events like Mumbai recently, where it's so much easier to report now than it is to consume it. There is so much information; what do you do? So, what we find is that there is this great deal of wasted crisis information because there is just too much information for us to actually do anything with right now. And what we're actually really concerned with is this first three hours. What we are looking at is the first three hours. How do we deal with that information that is coming in? You can't understand what is actually happening. On the ground and around the world people are still curious, and trying to figure out what is going on. But they don't know. You see this with Twitter, too. You get this information overload. So you've got a lot of information. That's great. But now what? So we think that there is something interesting we can do here. And we have a small team who is working on this. We think that we can actually create a crowdsourced filter. Take the crowd and apply them to the information. And by rating it and by rating the different people who submit information, we can get refined results and weighted results. So that we have a better understanding of the probability of something being true or not. This is the kind of innovation that is, quite frankly — it's interesting that it's coming from Africa. It's coming from places that you wouldn't expect.

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I want to admit that I am an optimist. Any tough problem, I think it can be solved. And part of the reason I feel that way is looking at the past. Over the past century, average lifespan has more than doubled. Another statistic, perhaps my favourite, is to look at childhood deaths. As recently as 1960, 110 million children were born, and 20 million of those died before the age of five. Five years ago, 135 million children were born — so, more — and less than 10 million of them died before the age of five. So that's a factor of two in the reduction of the childhood death rate. It's a phenomenal thing. Each one of those lives matters a lot. And the key reason we were able to do it was not only rising incomes but also a few key breakthroughs: vaccines that were used more widely. For example, measles was four million of the deaths back as recently as 1990 and now is under 400,000. So, we really can make changes. The next breakthrough is to cut that in half again. And I think that's doable in well under 20 years. Why? Well, there's only a few diseases that account for the vast majority of those deaths: diarrhoea, pneumonia and malaria.

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Let me tell you what we think about children. They're hardwired for struggle when they get here. And when you hold those perfect little babies in your hand, our job is not to say, "Look at her, she's perfect. My job is just to keep her perfect — make sure she makes the tennis team by fifth grade and Yale by seventh." That's not our job. Our job is to look and say, "You know what? You're imperfect, and you're wired for struggle, but you are worthy of love and belonging." That's our job. Show me a generation of kids raised like that, and we'll end the problems, I think, that we see today. I would say to companies, this is not our first rodeo, people. We just need you to be authentic and real and say ... "We're sorry. We'll fix it." But there's another way. This is what I have found: To let ourselves be seen, deeply seen, vulnerably seen ... to love with our whole hearts, even though there's no guarantee — and that's really hard, and I can tell you as a parent, that's excruciatingly difficult — to practice gratitude and joy in those moments of terror, when we're wondering, "Can I love you this much? Can I believe in this passionately? Can I be this fierce about this?" just to be able to stop and, instead of catastrophizing what might happen, to say, "I'm just so grateful because to feel this vulnerable means I'm alive." And the last, which I think is probably the most important, is to believe that we're enough. Because when we work from a place, I

believe, that says, "I'm enough" ... then we stop screaming and start listening, we're kinder and gentler to the people around us, and we're kinder and gentler to ourselves.

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If you ask people what the three most important things that they carry are — across cultures and across gender and across contexts — most people will say keys, money and, if they own one, a mobile phone. The question is, why? So why are these things so important in our lives? And it turns out, from our research, that it boils down to survival — survival for us and survival for our loved ones. So, keys provide an access to shelter and warmth — transport as well, in the U.S. increased. Money is useful for buying food, sustenance, among all its other uses. And a mobile phone, it turns out, is a great recovery tool. If you prefer this kind of Maslow's hierarchy of needs, those three objects are very good at supporting the lowest rungs in Maslow's hierarchy of needs. And in particular, it's the mobile phone's ability to allow people to transcend space and time. And what I mean by that is, you know, you can transcend space by simply making a voice call, right? And you can transcend time by sending a message at your convenience, and someone else can pick it up at their convenience. And this is fairly universally appreciated, it turns out, which is why we have three billion plus people who have been connected. And they value that connectivity.

Multiple choice, choose multiple answers

Listen to the recording and answer the question by selecting all the correct responses. You will need to select more than one response.

Readjusting to life in your own country after living abroad for some time is a little like recovering from jet lag after a long flight across several time zones. It takes time and research indicates that after nine years of living in a foreign country you never really do readjust. Of course things have changed governments have come and gone. What you knew is countryside has become a suburb. New technologies have changed the way people go about their daily lives. And so on these changes may well have been taking place in your adopted country but they were happening while you were there so you could adapt as you went along. Those are not the main difficulties however. It is in the smaller everyday things that she might experience what is known as Tocchet shock. Although it's not really a shock but puzzling all the same. For example, the precise way to behave at a supermarket checkout may have changed and in ordinary conversation the frames of reference have changed and quite often you find that you don't really know what people are talking about even though they are speaking your native town.

Which of the following are mentioned as being difficult to re-adapt to when returning to your native country after a long absence?

- A. Technological change
- B. More than nine years' absence
- C. The difference in time zones
- D. The way people go about their daily lives
- E. People's terms of reference in conversation
- F. Changes in government

Yes, it's funny you should mention Merwyn until about a year ago. I thought England was the only country that had a poet laureate after all. It's a pretty odd job isn't it. No salary to speak of and just a barrel of wine or something as payment. But he was or is the American poet laureate isn't he. That's right. But quite a few other countries have one too. I know I looked into it a bit. Other countries in the UK for a start Wales as you'd expect with their eisteddfods and long poetic tradition and Ireland and Scotland. I think some places that were colonies or in the Commonwealth have them or Canada for example. And who's that wonderful Caribbean part the one that wrote Almer Ross Derek Walcott. That's him. He was the poet laureate of St. Lucia. But what about the rest of Europe. Both the French have such a thing. No I don't think so. They've got the Academy and you get elected to that if you are considered the best in your field. But I think Germany might have. No it wasn't Germany somewhere else but I don't remember. By the way you are a bit behind the times in thinking what they get paid is a barrel of wine. All that changed long ago. But one of the more recent ones has to have it back.

According to the text, which of the following countries has a Poet Laureate?

- A. the Caribbean
- B. Ireland
- C. Saint Lucia
- D. the USA
- E. Germany
- F. France

Noises are defined as disagreeable sounds but this suggests that they are no more than an annoyance something to be put up with. There is increasing evidence that noise on the scale that people who live in big cities have to deal with is dangerous and can give rise to serious health and social problems some of which such as its effects on people's behavior. And anger levels you might not have thought were caused by noise and health concerns. There is of course the almost constant noise of traffic though this isn't a particularly modern

problem. In ancient Rome there were rules to minimize the noise made by the iron wheels of wagons which battered the stones on the pavement causing disruption of sleep; traffic noise is one of the health hazards as it can lead to other problems like noise induced hearing impairment. It is also highly distracting interfering with speech communication and leisure time relaxation. And while this doesn't drive you mad in the medical sense it is intensely annoying and can lead to mental health problems. Also noise whether you work in a place where loud machinery is operating or not can have an effect on performance at work though in itself not a health matter. This can lead to other problems.

Which of the following are mentioned as health problems caused by noise?

- A. Extreme irritation
- B. A certain degree on hearing loss
- C. Problems with speech
- D. Mental problems
- E. Behavioral and anger problems

The earliest writers on politics and I'm thinking of Plato and Aristotle here felt free to draw insights from all areas of human knowledge. Unlike modern academic writers who tend to put things into smaller and smaller compartments or focus more closely on one area of inquiry. For example, Plato would examine a whole political system and the philosophy that underlies it whereas modern writers on politics might concentrate on one particular institution. In that system of the House of Lords in England or on voting patterns within a country with this focus the bigger questions that the ancients dealt with what is the best form of government or what is justice tend to get left behind. Many writers on politics these days are university based and so have to have specialized interests and while they may make new and interesting discoveries in their special field it is at the loss of a broader perspective. Not to mention the loss of a general audience or readership. In the 19th century there were still writers who used the same freedom of inquiry as the ancients and are all the more readable and relevant because of it.

Which of the following are suggested as reasons why contemporary writers on politics are less readable and relevant than the ancient writers?

- A. They only write about institutions.
- B. They tend to focus on only one aspect of political systems.
- C. Being university-based forces them to specialize.
- D. They ask largely irrelevant questions.
- E. They follow the example of 19th century writers.

Certainly in Europe and the West we tend to think of bread as the staple food in our diet as many proverbs and sayings such as bread is the staff of life attest. Yet for the majority of the

world's population the most important staple food is not wheat but rice which is the seed of a different type of grass. The earliest evidence we have of rice being cultivated dates back to eight thousand years ago when rice grains of that period were discovered in a village in China by around six thousand years ago. The cultivation of both long grain and short grain rice had become well-established in China and had just got going in India. The word Rice itself however is derived from the Aramaic or Rootsa and came to us by way of Greek and Arabic. In fact, it was the Arabs who introduced rice to the Spanish territories in the seventh century but it didn't spread to the rest of Europe until much later when in the 15th century Spaniards began to cultivate their own short grain variety at Pavia in Italy.

According to the text, who were originally responsible for popularizing rice in Europe?

- A. the Chinese
- B. the Greeks
- C. the Spanish
- D. the Indians
- E. the Italians
- F. the Arabs

Fill in the blanks

You will hear a recording. Type the missing words in each blank.

Teamwork can also lead to inconsistency – a common cause of poor sales. In the case of a smartphone that a certain company launched, one director wanted to target the business market, and another demanded it was aimed at consumers. The company wanted both directors to be involved, so gave the product a consumer-friendly name, but marketed it to companies. The result was that it met the needs of neither group. It would have been better to let one director or the other have his way, not both. Now industriousness or hard work. It's easy to mock people who say they work hard.

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Carbon-rich soil is dark, crumbly and fertile, and retains some water. But erosion can occur if soil is dry, which is a likely effect if it contains inadequate amounts of carbon. Erosion is of course, bad for people trying to grow crops or breed animals on that terrain. In the 1970s

and 80s, Lal was studying soils in Africa so devoid of organic matter that the ground had become extremely hard, like cement. There he met a pioneer in the study of global warming, who suggested that carbon from the soil had moved into the atmosphere. This is now looking increasingly likely.

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So the phone company designed phones for use globally with this added feature. Ethnographic research has also been carried out in computer companies. In one company, IT systems administrators were observed for several weeks. It was found that a large amount of their work involved communicating with colleagues in order to solve problems, but that they didn't have a standard way of exchanging information from spreadsheets and so on. So the team came up with an idea for software that would help them to do this.

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Highlight correct summary

- Speaking
- Writing
- Reading
- Listening

You will hear a recording. Click on the paragraph that best relates to the recording.

Audio Beginning in 6

00:00

Transcript

A new investigation into shark populations in the waters of Australia has discovered that there are two distinct species of great white shark, one to the east and one to the west of Bass Strait. This was discovered by tagging large numbers of sharks in the coastal waters all around Australia, rather, to the investigators surprise. They found that while sharks from the east side certainly travelled to the west side of the continent and vice versa, they always returned to their home areas to breed. The two types of shark were found to have a distinct genetic makeup indicating that interbreeding has not taken place. The implication of these research findings is that sharks may be more susceptible to changes in local marine environments than had previously been thought.

- A. There are fewer Great White sharks in Australian waters than was once believed. This is because tagging has shown that sharks travel considerable distances, and a shark recorded east of Bass Strait one week is often recorded west of Bass Strait the next. However, sharks always return to their place of origin to breed.
- B. A recent research study has shown that Australian Great White shark populations have remained surprisingly distinct as, despite traveling long distances, these sharks do not breed away from their original areas. This means that local shark habitats may have a greater effect on sharks than has been believed up till now.
- C. There is a greater variety in the Great White shark populations in Australian waters than was previously thought to be the case. This means that some types of shark are actually more endangered than was believed. Scientists are therefore developing conservation programs which will help to protect these threatened species.
- D. An investigation of Great White sharks in Australian waters has come up with some unexpected conclusions, as it found that the genetic make-up of sharks in one area was quite distinct from those found elsewhere. This made scientists realize that sharks do not swim as far away from their home areas as used to be thought.

I'd like you to think for a moment about your hands and all the things you can do with them, you can use them to write or drive. You can thread a needle, play the drums, build the walls and so on and so forth. They can be careful and precise. Think of someone doing eye surgery for example. But they can also generate huge forces and here you might think of the sportsperson throwing a discus or lifting a heavyweight. How's it possible for our hands to be so incredibly flexible? Well! it's all down to the extraordinary complexity of the bones, ligaments, nerves and the muscles that lie beneath the skin of our hands. There are for example nine muscles alone controlling just one thumb. Some of these are anchored to the bones within the hands while others linked to the arms.

- A. What makes people unique compared to other creatures is their hands. Their flexibility has allowed us to develop the manual skills that have made society what it is today. People should become more aware of the complicated anatomy of each of their hands.

- B. The thumb is the part of our hand which is most complicated in terms of the number of muscles which are required to control it. However, each of our fingers also depends on a set of nerves and muscles which enables it to carry out an extraordinary variety of different actions.
- C. The amazing flexibility of the human hand is truly remarkable. It is the result of a complex anatomy lying under the skin of the hand, and it can be useful to study this anatomy if you want to learn how to use your hands more effectively for sporting or other purposes.

D. The human hand is extraordinarily flexible. It enables a person to do a remarkable variety of things, some demanding great precision and others requiring considerable strength. This is because of the complex structure of nerves, muscles and ligaments that makes up a hand. Multiple-choice, choose single answer

Listen to the recording and answer the multiple-choice question by selecting the correct response. Only one response is correct.

But the rotation of the moon and its revolution around earth takes twenty seven days, seven hours, and forty three minutes to be exact because of this motion the main appears to move about thirteen degrees against the stars each day, or about how the degree per hour, if you watch the moon over the course of several hours one night you will notice that its position among the stars will change by a few degrees, changing position of the moon with respect to the sun leads to lunar phases

How long does the moon take to rotate Earth?

- Exactly 27 days
- 27 days, 7 hours, and 43 minutes
- Less than 27 days
- 27 days and 8 hours

In nineteen sixty three, Martin Luther king Jr. led a massive demonstration in Birmingham Alabama, the protest was against racism in the United States, people including children and teenagers took to the streets to fight for their rights, however tragically police officers and firefighters tried to stop them with dogs and high pressure water hoses, they were brutally attacked by dogs and torrents of water from fire hoses, these themes were shown in newspapers and on television around the world, of course these themes touched people's hearts so the demonstrators gain support against segregation.

What was the purpose of the demonstration led by Martin Luther King, Jr.?

- A. The purpose was to fight against racism and segregation.
- B. The purpose was to fight against the city.
- C. The purpose was to fight against the state.
- D. The purpose was to fight against police officers and firefighter

now the average don't has about five liters of blood flowing inside his body was the fluid of life growth in health it transports oxygen from the lungs to body tissue in carbon dioxide from body tissues to the lungs, to transport nourishment from digestion and hormones from glands throughout the body and transports disease fighting substances to tissues or waste to the kidneys, blood is alive because it contains living cells red blood cells and white blood cells are responsible for nourishing cleansing the body senses of our lives they need nourishment vitamins and minerals keep the blood healthy, the snows of a definite life cycle is just as all living organisms due approximately fifty five percent of blood plasma of strong colored clear liquid liquid plasma carries the solid cells in platelets when the human body loses a little bit of blood through a minor wound the platelets help the blood CLOT so that the bleeding stops, you would bleed to death without the plate with your body is always making new blood inside your bones, when the human body loses a lot of blood do a major wounds that blood has to be replaced through blood transfusion from other people but everybody's blood is not the same there are four different blood types, your body has or rich factors which make it even more unique blood received through a transfusion must match around sometimes patients donate their own blood when they are scheduled to have major surgery that they will have a perfect match is called an auto longest blood donation,

According to the professor, what was the main reason that patients donated their own blood?

- A. To keep the body healthy
- B. To make new blood in the bones
- C. To have a perfect blood match for transfusions
- D. To donate blood to other people

Select missing word

- Speaking
- Writing
- Reading
- Listening

You will hear a recording. At the end of the recording, the last word or group of words has been replaced by a beep. Select the correct option to complete the recording.

Playing.....

Transcript

Edinburgh Festival Fringe is the world's largest arts festival which in 2015 spanned twenty five days and featured over 50 thousand performances, established in nineteen forty seven as an alternative to the Edinburgh International Festival. It takes place annually in Scotland's capital in the month of August. It is an open access or enjoyed performing arts festival meaning that there is no selection committee and anyone may participate with any type of performance. The official fringe program categorizes shows into many different sections including theatre, comedy dance, and cabaret. Comedy is the largest section and the one that in modern times has the highest public profile. This is in part due to the Edinburgh Comedy Awards which have launched the careers of many household names in British comedy. The Fringe has often showcased experimental challenging or controversial works that might not be invited....

- A. owing to their lack of inspirational music
- B. whenever the Church gets involved
- C. after the first of three engagements
- D. for lack of additional information
- E. to a more conservative arts festival

Two Days after Lennon's death in 1924 architect Alexis Khrushchev was charged with building a structure suitable for viewing the body by mourners. A wooden tomb was made ready in Red Square within the week and Lenin's coffin was placed in it. Pathologists had about embalmed the body shortly after Lenin's death but by 1929, it was determined that would be possible to preserve the body for much longer than usual. The next year a new mausoleum of marble granite and Labrador Wright was completed. The body was removed in October 1941 and evacuated to Siberia when it appeared that Moscow might be captured by German troops after the war. It was returned...

- A. and the tomb reopened
- B. for some reason
- C. by hook or by crook
- D. to sender
- E. to the people of Germany

Highlight incorrect words

- Speaking
- Writing
- Reading
- Listening

You will hear a recording. Below is a transcription of the recording. Some words in the transcription differ from what the speaker(s) said. Please click on the words that are different.

Audio Beginning in 6

00:00

Transcript

Leisure travel was, in a sense, a British invention. This was mainly due to economic and social factors; Britain was the first country to become fully industrialized, and industrial society offered growing numbers of people time for leisure. This, coupled with improvements in transport, especially the railways, meant that large numbers of people could get to holiday resorts in a very short time. Modern mass tourism of a sort we can easily recognize today began in 1841 when Thomas Cook organized the first package tour; in which everything was included in the cost - travel; hotel and entertainment. To cater for the large numbers of new holiday-makers, holiday camps were established, both on the coast and in the countryside; and they became immensely popular. Their popularity declined, however, with the rise of cheap overseas tours; which gave many people their first opportunity to travel abroad.

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When societies were still mostly rural and agricultural, dispersal disposal was hardly an issue, partly because people tended to make use of everything and partly because there was plenty of space to bury rubbish. It was when societies became predominantly urban and industrial that problems arose - mainly to do with health. City authorities had a hard time trying to find efficient ways of getting rid of all the rubbish. One of these was to get people to set out their rubbish into different types, just as these days we are encouraged to separate our rubbish into different categories for easier removal and recycling. So, for example, kitchen rubbish was set aside and used for feeding animals. However, fears of disease put an end to that. In fact, it wasn't until the 20th century that all waste was simply thrown together and ploughed into landfills.

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Write from dictation

You will hear a sentence. Type the sentence in the box below exactly as you hear it. Write as much of the sentence as you can. You will hear the sentence only once.

Transcript

The new biology course will be starting in February.

Many universities are continuously are expanding the postgraduate education online learning resources.