

Reading Plus

Lesson 3

Exercise 20

A. Scanning:

1. How many sentences are there in the first paragraph?
2. How many lines are there in the second paragraph?
3. How many words are capitalized in the second paragraph?
4. How many times does the word “two” appear in this timed writing?
5. What is the second-to-last word of the second-to-last sentence of the second-to-last paragraph?

B. Locating Information:

1. According to the article, is capital punishment widely practiced throughout the world?
2. Explain the difference between the word “execute” (line 2) and the word “murder” (line 3).
3. According to the article, why was the guillotine developed?
4. Which paragraph discusses the design of the guillotine? Why do you think a paragraph describing the guillotine is necessary in this timed reading?
5. Which paragraph discusses the rationale for the popularity of the guillotine?

C. Grammar:

1. How many affirmative sentences and how many negative sentences appear in the first paragraph?
2. How many present tense verbs appear in the second paragraph?
3. How many adverbs are there in the third paragraph?
4. The phrases “a criminal” and “the criminal” both appear on line 15. Why is the word “a” used in one phrase while the word “the” is used in the other phrase?
5. In what tense is the word “put” (line 15)?

D. Vocabulary:

1. Which verb in the first paragraph is the best substitute for the word “do” in the following expression: “to do a crime”?
2. Find a verb in the first paragraph that means to reduce or make smaller.
3. Find a word in the second paragraph that is used to refer to someone who commits crimes and engages in illegal activities.
4. Find a phrase in the second paragraph that means to be in support of something.
5. Which noun in the second paragraph means a tool or instrument?
6. Find a phrase in the third paragraph that can be substituted by the phrase “is made of.”
7. Find two words in the third paragraph that have the opposite meanings “side to side” and “up and down.”
8. Which word in the third paragraph means “at an angle”?

9. Which verb in the fourth paragraph refers to removing someone's head?
10. Which verb in the fourth paragraph means "took place"?