

THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN
GENERAL ENGLISH

المستوى الرابع

Read the following text carefully, and then in your ANSWER BOOKLET answer all the questions that follow. Your answer should be based on the text.

Does the language we use influence the way we think? Or does our culture influence the way we use language? Sociologists have been looking into this question for hundreds of years. **They** have now begun to look at not just how people talk, but also how they think asking whether the way we understand and remember experiences is influenced by language. As a result of these Sociologists, they have come up with some interesting results

A lot of research has been carried out on the relationships between mind, world and language. In one study, a psychologist points out that when describing an event, English speakers tend to mention the person who was responsible. Whereas English speakers might say, 'John broke the vase', Spanish or Japanese speakers would use a passive form. It is believed that such differences between languages have an effect on how their speakers understand events, and whether someone is blamed for an action or gets away with **it**.

In another study, speakers of English, Spanish and Japanese were asked to watch videos of two people popping balloons, breaking eggs and spilling drinks, either on purpose or accidentally. Later, when asked to recall the videos, the English speakers mentioned the person **who** did the action. The Spanish and Japanese mentioned the person responsible for intentional events, but left this out when they considered that event to be an accident.

Scientists at Newcastle University, UK, have carried out tests to prove that different cultures also have different ways of seeing colours. **They** found that in Japanese, for example, there are different words for light blue and dark blue which are not found in English. Native speakers of Japanese, therefore, made a clearer distinction between colours on the spectrum.

Is it our language that has affected our way of thinking? Or has a difference in cultural habits affected both our thoughts and our language? Most likely, culture, thought and language have all come about together.

Question Number One (22 points)

1. English, Spanish and Japanese speakers watched a video that included some activities. Write down two of these activities.
2. The article states that Sociologists started to examine two things in order to study the effects of language on our thinking. Write down these two things.
3. Quote the sentence which shows that a passive form is used mainly by Spanish and Japanese speakers when describing an event .
4. Find a word in the text which means " **someone who studies how people's mind work**".
5. What does the underlined word "**they**" refer to?

6. Different cultures have different ways of seeing colours. Write down an example which explains that from the article.
7. The article states that differences between languages have an impact on speakers when describing an event. Give two examples of this impact from the article.
8. Quote the sentence which explains that researchers are very interested in investigating the relationships between mind, world and language.
9. Find a word in the text which means "**to say or think that someone or something is responsible for something bad**".
10. What does the underlined word "**who**" refer to?
11. The article states two groups of scientists who are interested in studying the relationship between mind, world and language. Write down these two groups of scientists.
12. The article explains that there is a language difference between English speakers and Spanish, Japanese speakers when describing an event. Write down this difference.
13. Quote the sentence which shows that English, Spanish and Japanese speakers were asked to remember an event from the past.
14. Find a phrasal verb in the text which means "**produce something, especially when pressured and challenged**".
15. What does the underlined word "**they**" refer to?
16. It is claimed that speaking a foreign language improves the functionality of your brain in several different ways. Think of this statement and, in two sentences, write down your point of view.
17. The article is about the relationship between two things. Write them down.
18. Sociologists have come up with some interesting results about the relationship between culture, thought and language. Write down two of these results.
19. Quote the sentence which explains the reason why native speakers of Japanese made a clearer distinction between colours on the spectrum.
20. Find a word in the text which means "**to remember a particular fact, event or situation from the past**".
21. What does the underlined word "**it**" refer to?
22. It is believed that language learning can improve your decision-making skills. Think of this statement and, in two sentences, write down your point of view.
23. Habits are one of the cultural differences that may cause problems to bilingual people. Suggest three possible cultural differences that bilingual people may experience while living abroad.
24. *The limits of my language are the limits of my world.* Think of this statement and, in two sentences, write down your point of view.
25. Language is one of the main factors that influences the way we think. Suggest other three possible factors that may affect our way of thinking.
26. The writer believes that the way in which bilingual people see the world depends on which language they are using. Think of this statement and, in two sentences, write down your point of view.