



THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN –MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
GENERAL SECONDARY CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION 2018

GENERAL ENGLISH
المستوى الرابع – الدورة الصيفية

DATE: Saturday 14th of July , 2018

TIME: 1 HOUR AND A HALF

Read the following text carefully , and then in your ANSWER BOOKLET answer all the questions that follow. Your answers 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 studies, 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 :

1. Write down the sentence which indicates that sociologists have been interested in finding out the relationships between language, thoughts and culture for a long time.
2. Sociologists have been thinking about two aspects on how people use the language. Write down these two aspects.
3. There are many things affect our way of thinking and cultural habits . Write down two of them.
4. Quote the sentence which indicates that different things affect our way of thinking and cultural habits .
5. Find a word in the text which means “**done on purpose**”
6. What does the underlined word “**They**” refer to ?
7. What does the underlined phrasal verb **come about** mean ?

8. When people communicate with each other, they don't usually speak in the same way. Suggest three factors that affect our way of speaking.
9. The writer of the article believe 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.
10. The limits of my language are the limits of my world. Think of this quotation and , in two sentences , write down your point of view.

ANSWERS:

1. Sociologists have been looking into this question for hundreds of years.
2. how people talk, but also how they think.
3. thought and language.
4. Most likely, culture, thought and language have all come about together.
5. Intentional.
6. Sociologists
7. Happened
8. There are many factors that affect our way of speaking like the language we use which depends on the personality of the speaker . Another thing is the job or career that a person does . Also, our social class can affect our way of speaking .
9. Yes, because the article states that if you are speaking English and are asked about something that has happened, you will answer using the name of the person who caused it. If you speak Japanese or Spanish, if you didn't think the person was to blame, you would answer in the passive. If you speak both languages, you need to adapt to the rules of each language and so you can have different ways of looking at a situation.
10. I agree with this quotation because all you know is what you have words for. So your world, and therefore your language, is limited to where you live and your knowledge. As you expand your world and knowledge, so does your language.

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