

READING

Part 1

Match the headings (A-F) with the paragraphs (1- 4). One heading has been done as an example. There are TWO headings which you do not need.

You Are Driving Me Crazy

EXAMPLE: A. Small Problems With Serious Consequences

Without doubt, there are big problems that afflict relationships; But it may be the petty problems that destroy love completely. The dirty socks on the floor. The way our partner chews so loudly. Such trivial problems may erode the goodwill that underlies all relationships. Before you know it, you feel unloved, unheard, and unappreciated, if not criticized and controlled.

1. "My boyfriend throws his dirty socks on the floor when he gets to bed," says Victoria, a legal recruiter in New York. "Once a man is living with a woman, he doesn't really see the need to clean up after himself. He assumes I'll just pick them up in the morning."

"He will never clean the way you want him to," says family therapist Cloe Madanes Jolla, California. "I cannot tell you how many couples are going to divorce over this."

2. When our efforts in a relationship are noticed and acknowledged, it makes us willing to do things to please our partners. But if we feel our efforts are not being noticed – or, worse, that our partner notices only what we're not doing – we lose interest in performing those generous acts that help the relationship develop. The feeling that our spouse takes us for granted is one of the commonest complaints.

3. A young couple decided to try living together and bought a house. One day, early in the relationship, he perched on the sofa to read the newspaper after work while she went to the sink to prepare dinner. "Hey, could you get me a glass of water?" he said. "Get your own glass of water," she replied – and that was the end of the relationship. She's grown up with a military father who was always trying to control people, and she was not about to enter such a situation voluntarily. He was astonished by her refusal. "We human beings don't like to be told what to do," says John Jacobs. And when we feel that we are, it gives us reason to go away.

4. One of the toughest aspects of a relationship is dividing the chores and responsibilities between the couple. Who does the household cleaning? Who pays the bills? Who picks the children from school? Such issues often make the one partner feel that the other is just not doing enough and they are common causes for conflicts.

Questions 1- 4

Match a heading (A – G) with a paragraph (1 – 4). There are TWO headings, which you do not need to use.

- A. Small Problems With Serious Consequences (EXAMPLE)**
- B. Feeling Controlled
- C. Lack of Fairness
- D. New Responsibilities
- E. Messiness
- F. Feeling Unappreciated
- G. Getting a Divorce

Questions 5- 10

Read the text above and choose the correct answer for each question (A, B, C, or D)

5. The dirty socks in the first paragraph are mentioned
 - A. as an example of a problem of most relationships
 - B. as an example of a trivial problem which may destroy a relationship
 - C. as an example of a problem which should not be taken seriously
 - D. as an example of a serious problem that afflicts relationships

6. The word 'petty' in the first paragraph means
 - A. unexpected
 - B. unimportant
 - C. serious
 - D. unusual

7. According to Victoria, once a man is living with a woman
 - A. he thinks he doesn't have to be clean any more
 - B. he never cleans the house
 - C. he thinks the woman will clean his mess
 - D. he throws his dirty socks on the floor

8. Why did the couple in the fourth paragraph break up?
 - A. because he didn't help her to prepare dinner
 - B. because he was rude to her
 - C. because he wanted to be able to tell her what to do
 - D. because she thought he wanted to control her

9. . When the woman refused to bring him the glass of water the man felt
 - A. desperate
 - B. furious
 - C. surprised
 - D. unappreciated

10. In the last paragraph the word "chores" means
 - A. things the couple has to do
 - B. things that belong to the couple
 - C. the money the couple earns
 - D. the problems the couple has_

Part 2

Read the text and answer questions 11 to 15 below by choosing the correct answers for each question (A, B, C, or D)

Video Games Can Improve Your Vision And Your Future.

Video games get a bad reputation: they're blamed for adolescent obesity and even for promoting violent behavior. But finally some good news comes to the gaming world: the latest research from *Nature Neuroscience* proves action video games actually improve vision. That's right: researchers at the University of Rochester discovered that shooter games increase contrast sensitivity, the primary factor with which doctors measure eyesight. Contrast sensitivity allows people to see slightly different shades of gray, and until now, doctors believed that this important aspect of vision could only be improved with eyeglasses, contact lenses or surgery. But the findings suggest not only that contrast sensitivity can be improved with certain video games, but improved significantly.

Another study conducted by researchers at Michigan State University suggests that playing video games helps the development of visual-spatial skills among school students. The ability to think visually is important in order to do well in fields like engineering and surgery. Video games, by improving visual-spatial skills, can essentially serve as pre-professional training for careers in science, math, technology, and engineering.

But the total lack of games produced just for girls could be giving male students an academic advantage over their female counterparts. "Girls are at a disadvantage by not having that three-dimensional experience," according to a statement by professor Linda Jackson, who led the three-year long study. "So when they get to medical school and they're doing surgery in the virtual world, they're not used to it."

It's hard to argue with Jackson's point. If you had to run out and buy an Xbox game for a 12-year-old girl, what title would you purchase? There are some games, which are supposed to be for both genders, but even these are mostly for boys, and are advertised accordingly. Phone calls to six video game companies around the country to ask about games designed especially for girls produced nothing more than a handful of confused clerks.

The gaming industry, however, is well aware of the problem. At this year's Southwest Festival on Technology, a discussion was held entitled "Gaming: Getting Girls Interested in Technology," in which different factors contributing to the gender-gap were explored. One of the topics discussed was how girls' approach to gaming is quite different from that of boys. Games won't appeal to girls until they facilitate socializing rather than distract from it. Listen in on any conversation between girls and it will be 95% about people, with other subjects coming up only as necessary. Games will need to become more social before girls tune in.

Developing a popular video game is hard enough, though, let alone developing a game that is popular, educational, and attractive for both genders. But Jackson hopes that in the future developers will focus on creating games, which will appeal to more female players.

11. According to the first paragraph, games are accused of
- A. damaging vision
 - B. encouraging violence
 - C. slowing down the process of thinking
 - D. causing eyesight problems which then require surgery

12. According to the text, girls may be at a disadvantage when they study medicine because

- A. they do not have three-dimensional vision
- B. there are not enough video games for girls
- C. there are not given the chance to try virtual surgery
- D. there are not good at maths

13. It would be difficult to buy a video game for a 12-year-old girl because

- A. girls don't like video games
- B. girls are too social
- C. game developers do not make games just for girls
- D. video games for girls are not advertised enough

14. When girls are having a conversation they talk

- A. mostly about other people
- B. about every subject
- C. only about necessary things
- D. about everything but games

15. The purpose of this article is

- A. to discuss the negative effects of video games
- B. to talk about the differences between girls and boys
- C. to present some positive aspects of video games
- D. to give advice on buying video games for girls