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2025학년도 수능 41~42번

2024년 11월 시행 · 대학수학능력시험

Imagine grabbing a piece of paper between your thumb and index finger. Maybe you already are, as you turn this page. We use this type of forceful, pad-to-pad precision gripping without thinking about it, and literally in a snap. Yet it was _____. Other primates exhibit some kinds of precision grips in the handling and use of objects, but not with the kind of efficient opposition that our hand anatomy allows. In a single hand, humans can easily hold and manipulate objects, even small and delicate ones, while adjusting our fingers to their shape and reorienting them with displacements of our fingertip pads. Our relatively long, powerful thumb and other anatomical attributes, including our flat nails (which nearly all primates possess), make this possible. Just picture trying—and failing—to dog-ear this page with pointy, curved claws. With a unique combination of traits, the human hand shaped our history. No question, stone tools couldn't have become a keystone of human technology and subsistence without hands that could do the job, along with a nervous system that could regulate and coordinate the necessary signals. Anybody who's ever attempted to make a spear tip or arrowhead from a rock knows that it requires strong grips, constant rotation and repositioning, and forceful, careful strikes with another hard object. And even with a fair amount of know-how, it can be a bloody business.

1. 빈칸 추론 윗글의 빈칸에 들어갈 말로 가장 적절한 것은?

① a skill shared by all primates
② a habit learned only recently
③ a breakthrough in human evolution
④ a weakness of the human hand
⑤ an ability we rarely use

2. 내용 불일치 윗글의 내용과 일치하지 않는 것은?

① 인간은 한 손으로 작고 섬세한 물체도 쉽게 다룰 수 있다.
② 다른 영장류는 물건을 다룰 때 어떤 정밀한 쥐기도 하지 못한다.
③ 평평한 손톱은 거의 모든 영장류가 가지고 있다.
④ 석기 제작에는 강한 쥐기와 계속적인 회전과 재배치가 필요하다.
⑤ 석기를 만드는 일은 노하우가 있어도 다칠 수 있다.

2026학년도 6월 모평 36번

2025년 6월 시행 · 한국교육과정평가원

If we take an evolutionary look at our beginnings, we see a life in which high levels of physical activity were ① required for survival. Even one century ago, most people needed to be physically active to work, to travel, and to take care of homes and families. Our modern world has ② engineered such activity out of our lives. There are ③ fewer manual jobs, we do not need to travel on foot, we do not need to hunt and harvest for our food, and many domestic chores have been mechanized. While these changes have created many ④ benefits for our longevity and quality of life, they have also created many problems. Lack of sufficient physical activity has now been linked to at least 17 unhealthy conditions, almost all of which are chronic diseases or considered risk factors for chronic diseases. Adrianne Hardman has summarized this serious situation for public health: "Physical inactivity is a ⑤ gain of human potential for health and well-being."

1. 어휘 윗글의 밑줄 친 부분 중, 문맥상 낱말의 쓰임이 적절하지 않은 것은?

① ② ③ ④ ⑤

2. 요지 윗글의 요지로 가장 적절한 것은?

① 현대의 기계화는 건강에 아무런 이점도 주지 않았다.
② 한 세기 전 사람들은 지금보다 신체 활동이 적었다.
③ 만성 질환은 신체 활동과 관계가 없다.
④ 현대 사회는 신체 활동을 생활에서 없앴고, 그로 인한 활동 부족은 심각한 건강 문제를 낳고 있다.
⑤ 수작업 직업이 현대에 더 늘어났다.

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2026년 11월 시행 · 대학수학능력시험

The need to sleep interferes with other more biologically pressing needs, such as finding and gathering food, building shelter, and anything else you might do to ensure that your genetic line lives on. Sleep is so important, yet so poorly understood, that it led one biologist to say, “If sleep doesn’t serve an absolutely vital function, it is the greatest mistake evolution ever made.” That function is still a mystery. It would be nice to say that sleep is nothing more than the time when a body rests, but that wouldn’t be quite right either. You can relax in a hammock on a beach all day long if you want to, but after about twenty hours you will be in pretty bad shape if you don’t fall asleep and stay that way for a while. Humans need roughly _____, and the body innately knows when this ratio becomes unbalanced. Each hour of missed sleep one night will result in deeper sleep the next, until the body’s sleep debt is wiped clean.

1. 빈칸 추론 윗글의 빈칸에 들어갈 말로 가장 적절한 것은?

① one hour of sleep for every two hours they are awake
② as much rest as their bodies want
③ sleep only when they feel tired
④ eight hours of rest in a hammock
⑤ no sleep if they relax enough

2. 주제 윗글의 주제로 가장 적절한 것은?

① why resting in a hammock replaces sleep
② how to stay awake for twenty hours
③ the evolutionary origin of dreams
④ the dangers of oversleeping
⑤ the vital yet mysterious nature of sleep

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2026년 6월 시행 · 한국교육과정평가원

A telescoping of time correlates with size. Small animals' reflexes must be ① slower in order to control much smaller limbs and respond to rapid locomotor feedback. Further, decision making must be ② streamlined in small species because their high metabolic rates and minimal energy reserves offer few choices in food-searching activities, defending against predators, or mating behaviors. And, perhaps most important, a short lifetime offers ③ little time for learning from experience. As a result, being short-lived puts a premium on the effectiveness of preprogrammed behavior patterns that require little in the way of environmental fine-tuning. Large animals, in comparison, can get by with rather ④ slower reflexes, can afford to vary their mating and food-searching behaviors in an effort to better optimize their behaviors, and may have a considerable opportunity to learn by observation and trial and error. Being longer-lived puts a greater premium on learning and memory, and ⑤ less on automatic preprogrammed behaviors. In addition, living a long time or having the capacity to travel for long distances is more likely to expose an animal to significant changes in the environment.

1. 어휘 윗글의 밑줄 친 부분 중, 문맥상 낱말의 쓰임이 적절하지 않은 것은?

① ② ③ ④ ⑤

2. 제목 윗글의 제목으로 가장 적절한 것은?

① Why Small Animals Learn Faster
② The Brain Size of Large Mammals
③ Fast Lives, Fixed Programs; Long Lives, Learned Behavior
④ How Predators Choose Their Prey
⑤ Travel: The Secret of Long Life

정답 및 해설

5-17 **1.**③ **2.**② · 5-18 **1.**⑤ **2.**④ · 5-19 **1.**① **2.**⑤ · 5-20 **1.**① **2.**③

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1. ③ 엄지와 검지로 정밀하게 쥐는 능력은 다른 영장류에는 없는 효율적 대립 구조로, 도구 제작을 가능하게 한 진화의 돌파구였다. ①은 글과 반대다.

2. ② 다른 영장류도 물건을 다룰 때 '몇 가지 정밀한 쥐기'를 보이지만, 인간 손과 같은 효율적인 대립은 아니다.

5-18 · 2026학년도 6월 모평 36번

1. ⑤ 신체 활동 부족은 17가지 이상의 건강 문제와 관련되므로 건강과 안녕을 위한 인간 잠재력의 '낭비'다. ⑤ gain → waste.

2. ④ 진화적으로 활동적이던 삶에서 신체 활동이 사라진 현대 생활이 장수 등의 이점과 함께 만성 질환 같은 문제를 낳았다는 것이 요지다.

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1. ① 뒤의 '이 비율이 깨지면 몸이 안다'는 문장과 이어지므로 깨어 있는 시간과 잠의 비율이 와야 한다.

2. ⑤ 잠은 생존에 필요한 다른 활동을 방해할 만큼 중요하지만 그 기능은 여전히 수수께끼이며, 단순한 휴식이 아니라는 내용이다.

5-20 · 2027학년도 6월 모평 23번

1. ① 작은 동물은 훨씬 작은 팔다리를 제어하고 빠른 피드백에 반응해야 하므로 반사가 '더 빨라야' 한다. ① slower → quicker.

2. ③ 몸집과 수명에 따라 작은 동물은 빠른 반사와 사전 프로그램된 행동에, 큰 동물은 학습과 기억에 더 의존한다는 글이다. ①은 글과 반대다.