

Pre-IB examination

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READING COMPREHENSION

Task 1 : Read the text and choose answers a-d (5 p)

ARE SIZEISM AND LOOKISM THE LAST PREJUDICES?

Sonya is heavily overweight and used to what she describes as 'fatism' from the general public. But she hadn't expected her obesity to affect her career prospects. 'I knew the moment I turned up to my last job interview that my chances were low,' she says. 'When I met my two interviewers, I knew I'd lost immediately because of the way they looked at me. The thing that was most upsetting was that the telephone conversation I'd had with one of them beforehand suggested I had all the skills and experience necessary and the interview was just a formality.'

'Lookism' is the latest discrimination to hit the workplace, according to the law firm, Eversheds. Victims of the trend are judged by employers on aspects of their appearance ranging from weight to clothing and from hairstyle to body piercing. Some are turned down for jobs, others miss out on promotion. The latest research has revealed a culture of appearance discrimination sweeping businesses across the world. A staggering 16% of Americans believe they have been discriminated against because of the way they look and 33 % believe that those who are more physically attractive are more likely to get promoted.

Discrimination claims involving alleged lookism are surging in the US. In fact, there are only two states of America that have specific laws against appearance discrimination. In other states, lawyers are turning to discrimination laws relating to issues like gender, race and disability. So if someone is overweight because of a clinical problem, they can claim disability discrimination.

There are examples of lookism issues already arising in the UK as well. A couple of years ago, *Fitness First* received widespread criticism after a leaked email claimed that larger employees did not fit the firm's image. In the UK, we don't have any laws against appearance discrimination, but Ms Emma Harris, an associate at Eversheds, believes it won't be long before we do. 'I think it's only a matter of time before some kind of beauty bias legislation comes into play,' she says. In the meantime, victims of lookism are, like most Americans, relying on sex, race and disability discrimination. Among the British who have been successful in an indirect discrimination claim are Matthew Thompson, who last year argued that he had suffered sexual discrimination because he was forced to wear a tie while his female colleagues weren't, and a man was made to cut his long hair by his employers.

1. Before her last job interview, Sonya

- a) had expected problems getting the job.
- b) had never felt discriminated against.
- c) had not realised how overweight she was.
- d) had thought the interview would be a formality.

2. During the interview

- a) Sonya was surprised there were two interviewers.
- b) she didn't like the way the interviewers looked.
- c) the interviewers were surprised at her qualifications.
- d) she had a feeling she wouldn't be accepted.

3. Lookism

- a) is not limited to job applicants.
- b) Is opposed by one third of Americans.
- c) only affects unattractive and overweight people.
- d) Has been researched for many years now.

4. In the USA

- a) lookism is forbidden by federal law.
- b) race discrimination is more widespread than lookism.
- c) the number of cases related to lookism is growing.
- d) lawyers turn down people who claim appearance discrimination.

5. In the UK

- a) there is public acceptance of lookism.

- b) legal regulations against lookism are expected soon.
- c) victims of lookism have no chance to claim their rights.
- d) there have been no cases related to lookism so far.

TASK 2. Read the text and decide if the sentences are (T) true or (F) false (5 p)

Librarian finds lost Beethoven manuscript in cabinet

A handwritten score of one of Ludwig van Beethoven's most revolutionary works has been discovered by a librarian cleaning out a cabinet in a seminary in Pennsylvania.

The 80-page manuscript for a piano version of *Grosse Fuge*, thought to have been written by Beethoven himself, dates from the final months of his life when he was completely deaf. The work, which had been missing for more than a century, was described by scholars of the German composer last week as an 'amazing find' and 'extremely important.'

The lost work came to light in July when Heather Carbo, a librarian at the Palmer Theological Seminary outside Philadelphia, was cleaning out an archival cabinet. 'it was just sitting on the shelf, I was in a state of shock,' she told *The New York Times*. 'I'd heard oral history about a Beethoven manuscript, so I recognised what I had found immediately.'

The work, which went on display last week, will be sold at Sotheby's in London in December and is expected to fetch about £1.5m.

Grosse Fuge was composed in 1825 and, despite criticism by contemporaries, it is now seen as one of his most important works. The composer later produced a version for piano, and it is a manuscript of that reworking that has been discovered in Pennsylvania. Stephen Roe of Sotheby's said the manuscript was written in brown and black ink, sometimes over pencil, and includes annotations in pencil and red crayon. It shows the extent of Beethoven's reworkings and includes deletions, corrections and deep erasures - occasionally the paper is rubbed right through. The passion that Beethoven endured is also in evidence on the manuscript: the higher and more intense the music becomes the larger the notes.

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| 1. The lost manuscript was discovered by accident. | T / F |
| 2. It's been proved the score was written in Beethoven's own hand. | T / F |
| 3. The manuscript is going to be auctioned. | T / F |
| 4. The piece of music that the manuscript contains was composed in 1825. | T / F |
| 5. The notes in the manuscript vary in size. | T / F |

USE OF ENGLISH

TASK 3 . WORD FORMATION.

Use the words given in capitals to form a word which best fits in the gap. The example is given. (5 p.)

TILE ART

Just imagine relaxing in your bath (0) *surrounded* (**SURROUND**) by a tropical beach scene. Or working in the kitchen alongside a wonderful (1) (**SELECT**) of hand-painted fruits. These are just two examples of the beautiful (2) (**INDIVIDUAL**) designed wall tiles that Jan and Barry Harmer (3) (**SPECIAL**) in. The Harmers have been very (4) (**SUCCESS**) with their company, Tile Art, which they started two years ago. 'There was limited (5) (**AVAILABLE**) of good

quality English tiles', explains Barry. "We both felt this was an (6) (DEVELOP) area that we could explore together.' Their designs are very (7) (IMAGINE) and they have had some (8) (USUAL) orders. One man turned up with a picture of (9) (DIG) machine, wanting a mural of himself in the driver's seat holding his new-born baby. The Harmers clearly enjoy running their small business from home and say they have no plans for (10) (EXPAND)

TASK 4. Paraphrase the following sentences. There is no word limit. (20 p)

1. I am sorry I didn't have time to visit my grandparents.
I wish
2. Chris was driving too fast. He had an accident.
If Chris
3. They repaired my car at the garage for me.
I at the garage.
4. 'Jane, I didn't touch your jewellery box!'.
Mike denied
5. I am sure Robert did not cheat during his exam.
Robert cheated in the exam.
6. Mr. Brown suddenly realized that the neighbour was watching him.
Mr Brown realized he
7. I am afraid you can't smoke here.
You are smoke here.
8. 'How about spending this afternoon in the park?' - said Tom.
Tom suggested
9. I continued walking although I was exhausted.
I continued walking despite
10. The day was so nice that we went for a picnic.
It was such

TASK 5 : GAP CLOZE. Read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only ONE word in each gap. There is an example at the beginning. (5 p.)

KEN HOM

I started cooking in my uncle's Chinese restaurant **(0)**.....at..... the age of 11. At first, I just washed the dishes, then chopped and sliced the vegetables. But as soon **(1)**..... the chefs went out of the kitchen I'd try to copy the dishes I'd seen **(2)** cook. The first dish I attempted to make was fried rice. It's **(3)**..... difficult to mess up that anyone can cook it. By the **(4)** I was 15 I was fed **(5)** working 12-hour days in the restaurant. So, I **(6)** up my mind to go to university to study History of Art and only started cooking again when I needed some extra money. I think Americans eat too **(7)** fat. Chinese food is much healthier. My mission **(8)** always been to encourage people to eat **(9)** fat and meat and more vegetables. Kids say they don't eat vegetables, but they usually haven't had them stir fried. Cooked **(10)**..... this they are delicious, healthy and fun.

Total /50 points