

LISTENING TEST 50

Preparation task: Match the first part (1–6) and second part (a–f) of the phrase.

First part	Second part
1. hand	a. a life
2. widely	b. up
3. spare	c. gesture
4. make	d. five
5. high	e. believe
6. thumbs	f. sense

Now listen to the audio, and answer questions 1 – 14.

EXERCISE 01

Questions 01 – 08

Complete the summary with one, two or three words.

The salute

Thought to have originated from the (1)..... British Army, the Grenadier Guards. Soldiers touched head quickly before returning their hand back down to (2).....

Thumbs up

Originally thought to be a symbol to save the life of (3)..... in Ancient Rome. However, evidence suggests that the crowds actually (4)..... their thumbs if they wanted to spare his life.

High five

Origins are not from the world of baseball, but from the 1920s (5)..... . Possibly based on the ‘low five’, also called (6)..... .

Handshake

Evidence of this gesture goes back to (7)..... . In 17th-century art we see examples of handshakes between (8)..... . Now is used for a multitude of reasons.

EXERCISE 02

Questions 09 – 14

Complete the sentences with words from the box.

<i>gesture</i>	<i>raise</i>	<i>references</i>
<i>universal</i>	<i>claim</i>	<i>greeting</i>

9. The hand gestures the professor talks about are very common, if not , around the world.
10. Because it had chinstraps, soldiers could not their helmet easily so instead they would touch their head with their hand.
11. There are no reliable historical that crowds in Ancient Rome used a thumbs-down gesture.
12. Two sports teams to have invented the high-five gesture.
13. The handshake is a that dates back to Ancient Greece.
14. Handshakes are thought to be a of trust between equals.

Discussion

Are there any other hand gestures that are common in your culture?

EXERCISE 03

Questions 15 - 19

Listen to a Ted-Ed video, and answer the following questions.



15. Discreteness is one characteristic of human language. Discreteness means:

- a.** People can talk about topics in the past, in the future, or things not immediately present either temporally or physically.
- b.** People can combine the units of their language (sounds, words, signs) to create, communicate and understand new ideas.
- c.** People use discretion or tact when talking so as to not offend the person or people they are talking to.
- d.** People talk about imaginary or abstract topics, such as "Liberty" and "Love."

16. Displacement is a quality found in the communication of both honeybees and in humans.

Displacement means:

- a.** Both bees and humans are capable of discussing information that is not immediately present.
- b.** Bees and humans can talk about abstract concepts or imaginary topics.
- c.** Bees and humans follow grammatical principles when communicating.
- d.** Bees and humans can rearrange individual units of their communication to communicate new ideas.

17. Grammar ...

- a.** refers to the rules of how to write a composition correctly
- b.** has been evidenced in the natural communication of dolphins in the wild
- c.** provides a system of rules that tell us how to combine the units of our language
- d.** is a characteristic of all animal communication systems

18. "Productivity" refers to:

- a.** an animal's ability to produce effective messages for survival
- b.** the ability by both humans and animals to talk about abstract topics
- c.** the unique human capability to use language to create an infinite number of messages
- d.** the ability for any animal to produce and receive signals from others

19. Great apes like Koko and Washoe:

- a.** can talk about abstract topics such as liberty and love
- b.** use grammatical rules when communicating just like human children
- c.** do not exhibit the same grammatical capabilities as human children
- d.** can use sign language fluently as a deaf person would.



EXERCISE 04***Questions 20 - 25***

Are the sentences **TRUE** or **FALSE**?

20. Millennials spend more time on smartphones than any other generation.
21. Some people who work in the tech industry are fighting against smartphone addiction.
22. The presenter thinks most adults' behaviour towards their phones and apps is under control.
23. Babies' brain development is delayed because they're looking at screens.
24. We're likely to see a rise in teenage mental health problems because of social media addiction.
25. Changing the colour settings on your phone may make you spend less time on it.

Discussion

1. How are the communications systems of humans and animals similar?
2. Why should humans continue to research the communication systems of animals? What might we learn?
3. Think of the animals in your life--what have you learned about them and about yourself from observing their communication?

