

Inglês – Text Comprehension – Médio [20 Questões]

TEXTO: 1 - Comum às questões: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

DIET/NUTRITION

Obesity linked to cold-like virus

(Associated Press)

July 27 – A cold-like virus may cause obesity, new experiments suggest. Researchers at the University of Wisconsin in Madison have found that mice and chickens infected with a common human virus put on much more fat than uninfected animals. They have also discovered that the same virus is more prevalent among overweight people, a strong indication that it may also cause obesity in humans. In four experiments, the Wisconsin researchers inoculated chickens and mice with adenovirus-36, a member of a viral family that includes about 50 strains. Most adenoviruses cause colds, diarrhea or pinkeye.

After several months, animals infected with adenovirus-36 weighed only 7 percent more on average than those without the virus, but their bodies contained more than twice as much fat.

“This is the first human virus that has been shown to cause obesity in animals,” said Nikhil Dhurandhar, one of the study’s authors. It is also the first virus the researchers looked at, raising the possibility that other human viruses may also cause obesity. Dhurandhar and his colleagues picked adenovirus-36 simply because little is known about it and the strain is relatively easy to work with. Their study is being published in the August issue of the International Journal of Obesity.

“It raises a host of very interesting questions,” said John Foreyt, an obesity expert at Baylor College of Medicine. “If it really does play a role I think it’s a real breakthrough.” The latest results do not indicate that all obesity is caused by viruses, Foreyt said. But they strongly suggest that infection plays an important role.

“There’s just so much more we need to do on this before we can say anything definitive,” said Richard Atkinson, a University of Wisconsin professor and author of the study. Unpublished studies in humans show that 20 percent to 30 percent of overweight people are infected with adenovirus-36, compared to about 5 percent of the lean population.

Experts are not completely surprised by the Wisconsin group’s results. In the last few years, they have found signs that many chronic health conditions are caused by infections. Three different microbes are thought to contribute to clogged arteries. Long thought to be a

product of high stress and a poor diet, ulcers are now known to be caused by the bacterium *Helicobacter pylori*. In addition, several animal viruses are already known to cause obesity in both animals and humans. But adenovirus-36 is the first human virus known to cause an increase in fat. Researchers do not know yet how adenovirus-36 causes obesity. Infected animals did not eat more than uninfected ones, suggesting that the virus decreases energy expenditure rather than increasing appetite. "I feel that it increases the number of fat cells, which encourages them to store more fat," said Dhurandhar, who recently joined Wayne State University in Detroit.

The animal obesity viruses appear to work differently from adenovirus-36, by damaging the part of the brain that controls appetite. The Wisconsin researchers saw no brain damage in chickens and mice infected with adenovirus-36. Aside from a day or two of cold-like symptoms, Atkinson said, the virus produced no observable effects besides obesity. Paradoxically, animals infected with the virus also had decreased levels of cholesterol and triglycerides in their blood. Generally, obesity is associated with high cholesterol and triglyceride levels.

Far more research is needed before any practical benefits can be reaped from this research, Atkinson said. It is still too early to know whether it may be possible to develop an effective vaccine against obesity or otherwise counteract the effects of the virus.

(MSNBC's Diet and Nutrition archive)

01 - (UFMogi das Cruzes MG)

De acordo com os resultados das pesquisas, é possível afirmar que

- a) os animais infectados com o adenovírus-36 passaram a comer mais, o que sugere que o vírus leva a um aumento de apetite.
- b) a obesidade nos animais infectados com o adenovírus-36 levou a um aumento nos níveis de colesterol e triglicérides dos mesmos.
- c) os animais obesos infectados com o adenovírus- 36 apresentaram danos na parte cerebral que controla o apetite.
- d) os animais infectados com o adenovírus-36 tiveram uma queda no seu gasto de energia.
- e) os animais infectados com o adenovírus-36, embora tenham sofrido um aumento de apetite, tiveram seus níveis de colesterol e triglicérides diminuídos.

02 - (UFMogi das Cruzes MG)

De acordo com o texto, pode-se afirmar que os experimentos científicos sugerem que

- a) o mesmo vírus, que causa resfriados em seres humanos, pode causar obesidade em animais.

- b) um vírus parecido com o que causa resfriados pode levar seres humanos e animais à obesidade.
- c) um vírus parecido com o que causa resfriados em seres humanos provoca um aumento de peso em ratos e frangos.
- d) o vírus causador de resfriados está ligado à obesidade tanto em seres humanos quanto em animais.
- e) o vírus que causa resfriados em seres humanos é o mesmo que causa diarreia e aumento de peso em ratos e frangos.

03 - (UFMogi das Cruzes MG)

Os vocábulos grifados no primeiro parágrafo referem-se a

- a) pesquisadores – vírus – membro da família viral
- b) animais – indicação – membro
- c) pesquisadores – vírus – vírus
- d) animais – vírus – família viral
- e) pesquisadores – indicação – membro da família viral

04 - (UFMogi das Cruzes MG)

De acordo com o texto está INCORRETA a seguinte afirmativa.

- a) Com base nas pesquisas, ainda não se pode afirmar que será possível desenvolver uma vacina eficaz contra a obesidade.
- b) Resultados de experimentos científicos demonstram que a obesidade pode estar ligada a infecções.
- c) A maioria dos adenovírus causam resfriados, inflamação do globo ocular e diarreia.
- d) Já foram publicados estudos mostrando que de 20 a 30% da população acima do peso normal estão infectados com o adenovírus-36.
- e) Os pesquisadores ainda não foram capazes de identificar como o adenovírus-36 causa obesidade.

05 - (UFMogi das Cruzes MG)

De acordo com o texto, é correto afirmar que após um longo período de observação os pesquisadores descobriram que

- a) os animais inoculados com o vírus pesavam muito mais que os animais não infectados.
- b) a quantidade de gordura corporal quase duplicou nos animais infectados com o vírus.
- c) apenas 7% dos animais infectados não haviam sofrido mudança de peso.
- d) os animais infectados com o vírus pesavam, em média, apenas 7% a mais que os não infectados.

- e) apenas 7% dos animais sofreram um aumento de peso e de quantidade de gordura no corpo.

TEXTO: 2 - Comum às questões: 6, 7, 8, 9

By **Cathy Newman** Photographs by **Steve McCurry**



Her eyes have captivated the world since she appeared non our cover in 1985. Now we can tell her story

Get a taste of what awaits you in print from this compelling excerpt.

Names have power, so let us speak of hers. Her name is Sharbat Gula, and she is Pashtun, that most warlike of Afghan tribes. It is said of the Pashtun that they are only at peace when they are at war, and her eyes—then and now—burn with ferocity. She is 28, perhaps 29, or even 30. No one, not even she, knows for sure. Stories shift like sand in a place where no records exist. Time and hardship have erased her youth. Her skin looks like leather. The geometry of her jaw has softened. The eyes still glare; that has not softened.

<http://mesa.nationalgeographic.com/ngm/afhangirl/index.html>



The young Afghan refugee who stared from the cover of *National Geographic* in June 1985 was an enigma for 17 years. What was her name? Had she survived? This past January photographer Steve McCurry joined a crew from National Geographic Television & Film to methodically search for her.

They showed her photograph around the refugee camp in Pakistan where McCurry had encountered her as a schoolgirl in December 1984. Finally, after some false leads, a man who had also lived in the camp as a child recognized her. Yes, she was alive. She had left the camp many years before and was living in the mountainous Tora Bora region of Afghanistan. He said he could find her, and three days later he and a friend brought her back to the camp. There, the remarkable story of this woman, Sharbat Gula, began to be told.

<http://mesa.nationalgeographic.com/ngm/afghangirl/zoom1.html>

Portrait of a Survivor

Photograph by Steve McCurry

06 - (UFRN)

A idade exata de Sharbat Gula é uma informação

- a) cuja divulgação é proibida.
- b) registrada em cartório.
- c) somente conhecida por ela.
- d) difícil de ser confirmada.

07 - (UFRN)

O que permanece inalterado em Sharbat Gula é a

- a) intensidade do olhar.
- b) fibra do cabelo.
- c) textura da pele.
- d) geometria do queixo.

08 - (UFRN)

Steve McCurry

- a) passou dezessete meses pesquisando a vida de uma desconhecida.
- b) participou de uma mostra fotográfica sobre cinema e televisão.
- c) organizou uma pesquisa escolar em um acampamento paquistanês.
- d) fotografou uma mesma pessoa em dois momentos distintos.

09 - (UFRN)

A fotografia publicada em junho de 1985

- a) foi feita na região montanhosa de Tora Bora.
- b) retratou uma jovem afegã de dezessete anos.

- c) serviu de base para encontrar Sharbat Gula.
- d) lançou profissionalmente a moça da capa.

TEXTO: 3 - Comum às questões: 10, 11

Superstitions

Since I am not a superstitious person myself, I'm always amused when other people behave¹ superstitiously². In fact, when I was young and wanted to drive³ my mother crazy, I would open an umbrella in the house. As a child, I could never understand⁴ why her⁵ reaction was so extreme. To tell⁶ you the truth, I still haven't been able to figure out why opening a broom⁷ indoors is supposed to bring bad luck.

Some superstitions can be traced back to ancient religions. Take the number 13, for example. Some people are so superstitious about it¹⁵ that they will avoid having thirteen people at a table at all costs. In America, some well-known hotels have no rooms or floors numbered 13. Scholars say this superstition came from Scandinavia. According to a Norse myth, twelve gods and goddesses were having a feast when the evil god Loki joined them uninvited. This caused an argument, which resulted in the death of Balder, the most beloved of all the Norse gods.

However, this explanation sounds illogical to me. I find it hard to believe that people are still so strongly⁸ affected by something which⁹ never really happened.

A more recent superstition is the belief that lighting three cigarettes in a row with one match is unlucky. This strange belief has its¹⁰ roots in the Boer War, which took place in South Africa between the British and the Afrikaners at the end of the nineteenth century. The Afrikaners could kill three soldiers who had just lit their¹¹ cigarettes with the same match. At least the explanation to this superstition sounds more realistic than an old fairy tale.

However, not all superstitions have to do with bad luck. Horseshoes, for example, are thought to be lucky. These objects are probably associated with good luck because in ancient times making iron into something useful was regarded as magic. Another explanation might be that the horse was a sacred animal for the Celtic people of Europe. Even Admiral Nelson nailed a horseshoe to the mast of his ship to bring¹² good weather and calm seas on his journeys.

Whatever the explanations for superstitions are, none of them sound totally¹³ convincing to me. But then again, that is exactly¹⁴ the reason why these beliefs are considered superstitions and not science.

(Source: MITCHELL, H. Q.; SCOTT, J. Channel your English. Intermediate. Students' book. London: MMPublications, 2002.

10 - (UFV MG)

According to the text, it is CORRECT to say that the author:

- a) used to believe in superstitions when he was young.
- b) was able to understand his mother's reactions to some superstitions.
- c) is totally convinced that superstitions can affect human behavior.
- d) doesn't believe in superstitions, although he finds it interesting.
- e) believes that superstitions have plausible and scientific explanations.

11 - (UFV MG)

According to the text, it is CORRECT to say that:

- a) thirteen people at a table bring luck at all costs.
- b) all hotels in America have only thirteen floors.
- c) the origin of some superstitions is related to ancient religions.
- d) horseshoes are thought to bring bad luck because they are magic.
- e) it's lucky to light three cigarettes sequentially with the same match.

TEXTO: 4 - Comum às questões: 12, 13, 14

Read the text carefully and choose the correct alternative for each question.

WHY SHOULD PEOPLE DRINK MILK?

Humans have probably been drinking milk for as long as they have been on earth. People who study the history of the world have found pictures from long, long ago that show people milking cows and using the milk for food.

Milk is the first food of babies. Animals that produce milk to feed their babies are called mammals. Their mother's milk is usually the best food for all young mammals.

The milk that people in America drink every day comes from cows, although many people prefer to drink the milk of goats. These two animals produce more milk than what their own babies need, and farmers collect the milk to sell it. In other countries, people also drink the milk of camels, horses, yaks, reindeer, sheep, and water buffaloes.

Milk is sometimes called the most nearly perfect food. It contains many of the things that humans need for healthy bodies, such as calcium, phosphorous, and protein. Milk also has

several necessary vitamins and is easily digested by most humans. Another reason milk is such a good food is because some of its ingredients are found nowhere else in nature.

The one problem milk has is that it contains a lot of animal fat. This is good for young children, but not for adults. Foods with too much fat cause adults to have heart disease. Sometimes the fatty part of milk, the cream, is removed. This milk is called low-fat milk or skim milk. The cream that is removed from the milk is used to make ice cream and other foods. Milk is also used to make butter, cheese, and other dairy foods that people enjoy.

Besides being an important food, milk also provides chemicals that can be turned into other products. These chemicals are used to make paint, glue, cloth, and plastic.

(Spectrann Test Prep)

12 - (UFLA MG)

Milk is used to make all of these things, **EXCEPT**

- a) cheese.
- b) ice cream.
- c) butter.
- d) protein.
- e) yogurt.

13 - (UFLA MG)

According to the text, the milk that people in the United States drink comes from

- a) farm animals
- b) wild animals
- c) big cities
- d) yaks and water buffaloes
- e) horses

14 - (UFLA MG)

Which of these would be best for an adult?

- a) High-fat milk.
- b) Ice cream.
- c) Butter.
- d) Regular milk.
- e) Low-fat milk.

TEXTO: 5 - Comum às questões: 15, 16, 17, 18

Read the text carefully and choose the correct alternative for each question.

How do Hearing-Impaired People Talk?

Hearing-impaired people do not hear sounds well. How do they “hear” words and talk?

Many hearing-impaired people use American Sign Language (ASL). They talk with their hands.

Sometimes two hearing-impaired people talk to each other. They use ASL. Sometimes a person interprets for hearing-impaired people. The person listens to someone talking, and then he or she makes hand signs.

There are two kinds of sign language. One kind has a sign for every letter in the alphabet. The person spells words. This is finger spelling. The other kind has a sign for whole words. There are about five thousand of these signs. They are signs for verbs, things and ideas.

Some of the signs are very easy, for example, **eat**, **milk**, and **house**. You can see what they mean. Others are more difficult, for example, **star**, **egg**, or **week**.

People from any country can learn ASL. They do not speak words. They use signs, so they can understand people from other countries.

ASL is almost like a dance. The whole body talks.

(Ackert, Patricia: Facts & Figures - Heinle & Heinle, 1999:58)

15 - (UFLA MG)

Chose the best alternative to complete this sentence: “Hearing-impaired people talk...”

- a) using their body to spell words.
- b) using their hands to make signs.
- c) using their eyes to make signs.
- d) using their hands to dance.
- e) by interpreting what people say.

16 - (UFLA MG)

All the statements below are true, **EXCEPT**

- a) Not only the hands move in ASL.
- a) Japanese people can learn ASL.
- c) Hearing-impaired people cannot hear sounds well.
- d) There are more signs for words than letters.
- e) Africans cannot learn ASL because they do not speak English.

17 - (UFLA MG)

The main idea of the passage is:

- a) A person who interprets for hearing-impaired people can use ASL.
- b) ASL helps hearing-impaired people talk, but it is difficult to learn.
- c) There are two kinds of sign languages.
- d) ASL is a beautiful language that helps hearing-impaired people talk to others.
- e) Finger spelling is a kind of ASL.

18 - (UFLA MG)

Read the paragraph with the blank. Chose the answer that is the best topic sentence for the paragraph.

_____ - Whales swim many thousands of miles to where their calves are born. Some fish return to the same stream where they were born to lay their eggs. Even land animals like elk travel great distances to find places where there is a lot of food.

(Spectrum-Test Prep - McGraw-Hill, 1998:63)

- a) Many animals migrate from place to place.
- b) Some animals stay in the same place all year.
- c) Animals move more than plants.
- d) Fish travel great distances every year.
- e) Land animals do not migrate from place to place.

TEXTO: 6 - Comum às questões: 19, 20

DIRECTIONS: Read passage carefully and choose the one best answer to questions 31 through 33.

IACOCCA

Chrysler Chairman Lee Iacocca remarks on success

“The ability to concentrate and use your time well is the key to success. I work hard during the week and, except for very difficult times, keep my week-ends for my family and recreation. On Sunday nights I make a list of things to do in the coming week. I can’t believe so many people can’t control their schedules! When an executive⁴ says proudly, ‘Boy¹, I worked so hard last year² that I didn’t take any vacation³’, I want to say, ‘You dummy! You can plan an \$ 80.000,00 project⁵, but you can’t plan for taking a two-week vacation!’”

(Harmes and Surguine. Coast to Coast, Longman, 1991)

19 - (UFLA MG)

The passage deals mainly with

- a) how to succeed in life.
- b) how to plan a vacation.
- c) how to plan an \$ 80.000,00 project.
- d) how to work hard.
- e) how to plan a two-week vacation.

20 - (UFLA MG)

According to the passage, which statement about Iacocca is not true?

- a) He is a successful businessman.
- b) He makes \$ 80.000,00 a year.
- c) He works hard during the week.
- d) He works for Chrysler.
- e) He does not work on weekends.



GABARITO:

1) Gab: D

2) Gab: B

3) Gab: A

4) Gab: D

5) Gab: D

6) Gab: D

7) Gab: A

8) Gab: D

9) Gab: C

10) Gab: B

11) Gab: E

12) Gab: D

13) Gab: A

14) Gab: E

15) Gab: B

16) Gab: E

17) Gab: D

18) Gab: A

19) Gab: A

20) Gab: B