## READING PASSAGE 1

*You should spend about 20 minutes on **Questions 1–13**, which are based on Reading Passage 1 below.*

# Sorry—who are you?

*Prosopagnosia is a medical condition that stops people from recognizing people's faces, but how common is it and why does it happen?*

It was Jacob Hodes's first day at college. He can still recall spending an enjoyable afternoon being shown around campus by a second-year student named Daniel Byrne, who happened to be from his home town. Jacob then spent the rest of the year ignoring him. 'I never saw him again,' he says. 'Well, I'm sure I walked past him plenty of times, but I just didn't see him.' This behaviour wasn't intentional. Jacob just couldn't recollect what his fellow student looked like. He had had the same trouble all his life. Friends and relatives would greet him and he would have no idea who they were.

It wasn't until five years ago that it all made sense. That was when Hodes was diagnosed with prosopagnosia, a condition that means he is unable to recognise faces. According to researchers, he is far from alone. In fact, the condition is not that uncommon, but until a few years ago only a few dozen cases had ever been described, and all of these had been caused by brain injury. Recently, though, researchers identified a second form of face blindness, developmental prosopagnosia, which is either present from birth or develops very early in life.

In May a team from Harvard University in the US and University College London (UCL) announced the results of a web survey of 1,600 people, suggesting that up to 2 per cent of people have some degree of face blindness. Then in August, Martina Gruter and colleagues at the Institute for Human Genetics in Munster, Germany, similarly reported that 2.5 per cent of 700 secondary-school pupils they had tested had trouble recognising faces. The results of the surveys took everyone by surprise.

It seems that if you have never known what it is to recognise a face, you don't necessarily know that you are supposed to be able to. Prosopagnosics almost always know that they have trouble recognising people, but they often don't realise that other people have better recognition skills than they do, says Brad Duchaine, a researcher at UCL.

Despite these issues, the majority of developmental prosopagnosics possess strategies that allow them to get around their difficulty—for instance, by recognising hair, clothing, or a person's way of speaking—so, unless they see a familiar person out of context, with a new hairstyle or in different clothes, they can recognise people just fine. Even so, the discovery of developmental prosopagnosia has attracted attention from neuroscientists keen to discover what is different about the brain of face-blind people. This difference, they believe, could help solve the problem of how the brain deals with information in general, not just visual data. In other words, it may show whether the brain has specialised parts for specific tasks or is more of a general-purpose information processor.

One issue, however, that will present challenges for researchers is that no two prosopagnosics are the same. Some have problems only with faces, while others have trouble with ordinary everyday objects and, so it turns out, animals which would normally be familiar as well. Some prosopagnosics can train themselves to recognise specific faces; others can't even recognise their own in a mirror. When some have been tested they could identify the emotion that was conveyed on another's face, even though the face itself seemed unfamiliar, while for other subjects this was an impossibility. Some cannot recognise the faces of old friends or fellow students but have no trouble telling whether a particular face from such groups would be attractive to most people. Because of this diversity, working out the cause of prosopagnosia will not be easy.

In Martina Gruter's study, the prosopagnosics who agreed to have their parents and relatives tested reported at least one relative with the condition. Having looked at 38 cases in seven families, the German team believe they have good evidence that a single gene could be responsible. Duchaine also has some evidence that face blindness could be inherited but thinks other factors might be more significant. He refers to studies of babies born with a condition which means the eye's lens is not clear, and when it's the left one, being unable to see through this eye during the first two months of life is a major risk factor for prosopagnosia.

Whatever the cause, what most prosopagnosics want to know is whether they can do anything to improve their face-recognition skills. Joseph DeGutis, a graduate student at the University of California, recently reported successfully training a severe developmental prosopagnosic to recognise faces during tests carried out in the laboratory. The subject also reported that recognising faces in everyday life became easier due to the training. Duchaine now plans to attempt to train sufferers to recognise the five people they most need to know—maybe their immediate family, for example, and essential colleagues. Thomas Gruter, Martina Gruter's husband, who also works on her team, however, is not convinced it will work. 'I don't know how you can have more training than you have already had,' he says. 'Humans already spend all day looking at faces.' He also points out that cheating is a possibility during tests and provides an example. One person we studied said that when she was doing the face-recognition test, she memorised the distance between nose and upper lip. She wasn't the only one. So you can perform well in the test and not do so well in real life.

*Questions 1–7*

*Do the following statements agree with the information given in Reading Passage 1?*

*In boxes 1–7 on your answer sheet, write*

| | |
|---|---|
| ***TRUE*** | *if the statement agrees with the information* |
| ***FALSE*** | *if the statement contradicts the information* |
| ***NOT GIVEN*** | *if there is no information on this* |

**1** Before attending college, Jacob was capable of recognising people he knew well.

**2** Researchers believe that prosopagnosia may be a growing problem.

**3** It is harder to identify developmental prosopagnosia in babies than in young children.

**4** A German study seems to support the Harvard and UCL research findings.

**5** In general, prosopagnosics are aware that other people can recognise faces more easily than they can.

**6** In most cases, prosopagnosics have developed ways to deal with their problem.

**7** The study of prosopagnosia may help neuroscientists to treat different kinds of brain injury.

*Questions 8–13*

*Complete the notes below.*

*Choose **ONE WORD ONLY** from the passage for each answer.*

*Write your answers in boxes 8–13 on your answer sheet.*

## The challenges for prosopagnosia researchers

**Differences in prosopagnosics**

As well as being unable to recognise facial features, prosopagnosics may also have problems recognising

- commonly seen **8** _____ and objects.
- the **9** _____ on someone else's face.

Some prosopagnosics can recognise that people are regarded as attractive by others.

**Causes of prosopagnosia**

Prosopagnosia may be caused by

- just one **10** _____, according to Martina Gruter
- a defect in the **11** _____ eye, according to Brad Duchaine

**Treatment for prosopagnosia**

Joseph DeGutis's patient proved he had been successfully trained to recognise faces inside the **12** _____ and in the outside world.

Duchaine's training may allow prosopagnosics to recognise faces belonging to family and workmates.

Thomas Gruter doubts that the training will work and mentions that **13** _____ by some subjects can affect research results.

**判断题（Questions 1–7）**

| 题号 | 答案 | 题干翻译 | 精确定位句（英） | 定位句翻译 | 解析 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | **FALSE** | 上大学之前，Jacob 能认出自己熟悉的人。 | “**He had had the same trouble all his life. Friends and relatives would greet him and he would have no idea who they were.**” (P1) | “**他一生都遇到同样的麻烦。朋友和亲戚向他打招呼，他却完全不知道他们是谁。**” | 题干说“能认出”，原文说“一直不行”，直接矛盾，故 **False**。 |
| 2 | **NOT GIVEN** | 研究者认为脸盲可能是一个日益严重的问题。 | （无） | （无） | 文章提到“not that uncommon（并不罕见）”“up to 2 per cent（最高 2%）”“took everyone by surprise（让所有人惊讶）”，但**没有**说它正在“增加/恶化”。无信息，**NG**。 |
| 3 | **NOT GIVEN** | 在婴儿中识别先天性脸盲比在幼儿中更难。 | （无） | （无） | P2 只说“present from birth or develops very early（出生即有或很早出现）”，未比较“婴儿 vs. 幼儿”的识别难度，**NG**。 |
| 4 | **TRUE** | 一项德国研究似乎支持哈佛与 UCL 的研究结果。 | “**...Harvard... and UCL... up to 2 per cent...** Then in August, **Martina Gruter... similarly reported that 2.5 per cent** of 700 secondary-school pupils... ” (P3) | “**……哈佛与 UCL……最高 2%。随后八月，格鲁特团队同样报告在 700 名中学生中有 2.5% 有识人面孔的困难。**” | “similarly reported（同样报告）”与相近的比例共同表明两项研究相互印证，故 **True**。 |
| 5 | **FALSE** | 一般而言，脸盲者意识到他人比自己更容易认脸。 | “**Prosopagnosics almost always know that they have trouble... but they often don’t realise that other people have better recognition skills than they do,** says Brad Duchaine.” (P4) | “**脸盲者几乎总知道自己有困难，但他们往往没有意识到别人比他们更会认脸。**” | 题干说“意识到”，原文说“往往没有意识到”，与之相反，**False**。 |
| 6 | **TRUE** | 大多数情况下，脸盲者已发展出应对方法。 | “**the majority of developmental prosopagnosics possess strategies that allow them to get around their difficulty**—for instance, by recognising hair, clothing, or a person’s way of speaking...” (P5) | “**大多数先天性脸盲者拥有一些策略来绕过困难，**例如通过辨认发型、衣着或说话方式……” | “the majority... possess strategies”=“大多数有办法”，与题干一致，**True**。 |
| 7 | **NOT GIVEN** | 对脸盲的研究可能帮助神经科学家治疗不同类型的脑损伤。 | “This difference... **could help solve the problem of how the brain deals with information in general...** it may show whether the brain has specialised parts...” (P5) | “这种差异**或可帮助**解决大脑一般如何处理信息的问题……或表明大脑是否有专门化模块……” | 原文谈的是**理解/机制**，未提“治疗脑损伤”。故无法推出，**NG**。 |

**笔记填空（Questions 8–13）**

要求：**ONE WORD ONLY**（只填一个词）。我在解析里也注明了原句证据。

| 题号 | 答案 | 题干翻译 | 精确定位句（英） | 定位句翻译 | 解析 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | **animals** | 除了面部特征外，脸盲者也可能难以识别常见的**动物**和物体。 | “Some have problems only with faces, while others have trouble with ordinary everyday objects and, **so it turns out, animals** which would normally be familiar as well.” (P6) | “有的人不仅面孔有问题，还会对日常物品以及**按理说很熟悉的动物**感到困难。” | 空格前已有“commonly seen ... and objects”，与原文并列“objects and ... animals”对应；名词复数“animals”符合单词数要求。 |
| 9 | **emotion** | 别人脸上的**情绪**。 | “When some have been tested they could identify **the emotion** that was conveyed on another’s face, even though the face itself seemed unfamiliar...” (P6) | “一些受试者在测试中可以识别别人的脸上所传达的**情绪**，尽管那张脸本身很陌生……” | 直接原词对应“the emotion on someone else’s face”。 |
| 10 | **gene** | 仅由一个**基因**导致（格鲁特观点）。 | “the German team believe they have good evidence that **a single gene** could be responsible.” (P7) | “德国团队认为，有充分证据表明可能是**单个基因**所致。” | note 里的“just one ___ according to Martina Gruter”即“a single gene”。填 **gene**。 |
| 11 | **left** | **左**眼的缺陷（杜谢恩观点）。 | “He refers to studies of babies... the eye’s lens is not clear, **and when it’s the left one**, being unable to see through this eye during the first two months of life is a major risk factor...” (P7) | “他提到婴儿研究……晶状体不清澈，**如果是左眼**，生命最初两个月看不见会是一个重要风险因素……” | 题干已给出“a defect in the _____ eye”，与原文“the left one”精确对应，填 **left**。 |
| 12 | **laboratory** | 在**实验室**内及现实世界中都能认出人脸。 | “reported successfully training... to recognise faces during tests carried out **in the laboratory**. The subject also reported that recognising faces in everyday life became easier...” (P8) | “报告称在**实验室**测试中训练成功。受试者还表示在日常生活中识别面孔也更容易了。” | 空格处应与“outside world”形成对照，原文唯一对应场域是 **laboratory**。 |
| 13 | **cheating** | 某些受试者的**作弊**会影响研究结果。 | “**cheating is a possibility** during tests and provides an example... So you can perform well in the test and not do so well in real life.” (P8) | “测试中**存在作弊的可能**……所以测试表现好，现实中却未必好。” | Thomas Gruter 的质疑具体指“cheating”，与题干完全对应。 |

## 注：Q2 可能有争议（NOT GIVEN VS TRUE），分析见下页

## Q2 争议分析

- 题干：**“Researchers believe that prosopagnosia may be a growing problem.”**
  关键词是 **growing**（呈增长、越来越多/严重），它引入了**时间趋势**的含义。
- 文中给到的只是**现时的普遍性**与**此前被低估**：
  - **“the condition is not that uncommon”**——说明并**不罕见**，是**状态描述**，不是在说“正在增加”。
  - 两项调查“**up to 2 per cent… 2.5 per cent**”，以及“**took everyone by surprise**”——表示**比想象中常见**、**过去认识不足**，并未说“近年来比例上升”。
  - **“Recently, researchers identified a second form…”** 是在说**研究识别出了第二种类型**（先天/发育型），不是说**发病在增加**。
- IELTS 判断题的规则里，“**growing**”这种趋势词如果要判 **TRUE**，文本中通常会出现 **is increasing / has been rising / is becoming more common** 之类**直接的趋势表达**；而本篇没有任何句子把“研究者认为**正在增加**”这个观点说出来。
- “**may** 非常委婉”并不足以把它判成 TRUE：
  题干整体命题仍然是“研究者**认为脸盲可能是一个日益加重的问题**”。要么文本里有“研究者认为可能在增加”的**观点证据**，要么就判 **NG**。本篇只有“并不罕见”“被低估/未被觉察”的信息，没有“**在变多**”。

**一句话总结：** 文中证据＝“比想象中更常见/以前没识别出来”；题干命题＝“可能是**越来越**常见的**增长性**问题”。缺少“增长”这一关键点，所以应为 **NOT GIVEN**。如果原文出现类似 “is becoming more common”/“increasingly prevalent”，那才会支持 **TRUE**。