

**IGCSE Reading and Writing 1: Exercise 1**

Read the advert about travel packages to Finland and answer the questions that follow.

**Go Wild! Travel Tours**

The best travel packages from the UK!  
Summer Package Tours in Finland

Early bird special: Book before 1 March and get a 10% discount.

All inclusive\* package (Air fare, accommodation, event tickets, meals)

Depart London Heathrow June 21st - Return Helsinki-Vantaa Airport 28 June

\*Travel insurance extra.

**Adrenaline Package****€2199**

Ages 18-30, suitable for individuals/groups  
Max: 60 people

*Clubbing, Sea-kayaking, Provinssirock  
Rock Festival, Rally School, Scuba diving,  
Beach party*

**Day 1:** Arrive in Helsinki, city sightseeing tour, nightclubbing.

**Day 2:** Learn to kayak. Sea-kayak with guides around Helsinki Archipelago. Evening train to Seinäjoki.

**Day 3:** Provinssirock: the largest rock festival in Finland.

**Day 4:** Second day of Provinssirock. Evening coach to Savonlinna.

**Day 5:** Scuba diving in Lake Saimaa with wild seals. Evening train to Mustola.

**Day 6:** Car rally school in Mustola. Evening train to Helsinki.

**Day 7:** Private beach party. Party under the Midnight Sun.

Leave on the morning of Day 8.

**In Style Package****€2899**

All ages, suitable for couples  
Max: 40 people

**Golfing, Cruise, Savonlinna Opera Festival, Hot Air Ballooning, Hiking, Tango dancing, Spa & Sauna**

**Day 1:** Arrive in Helsinki. Deluxe sightseeing tour.

**Day 2:** 18 holes at Finland's best golf course. Dinner at clubhouse.

**Day 3:** Champagne cruise from Helsinki to Turku. Sightseeing. Evening train to Savonlinna.

**Day 4:** Savonlinna Opera Festival performance at the beautiful Olavinlinna Castle. Evening train to Tampere.

**Day 5:** Hot air balloon ride. Sightseeing. Overnight train to Rovaniemi.

**Day 6:** Hiking in the Lapland Fells. Romantic tango dancing under the Midnight Sun.

**Day 7:** Flight to Helsinki. Day spa and sauna. Leave on the morning of Day 8.

- a List **four** water-related activities. \_\_\_\_\_
- b What is not included in price of the package tours? \_\_\_\_\_
- c How can you save €219.90? \_\_\_\_\_
- d Which package takes you to a medieval fortress? \_\_\_\_\_
- e Which package has you behind the wheel? \_\_\_\_\_
- f Which Finnish cities are visited in both packages? \_\_\_\_\_

**IGCSE Reading and Writing 2: Exercise 2**

Read the article below and answer the questions that follow.

### Art versus Sport

Across the United States local school boards are having to weigh up the comparative merits of the arts versus sports. And sports are winning out.

Local school boards have seen cuts in both state and federal funding for education. One underlying reason has been the 'No Child Left Behind' programme signed into law in 2002.

The NCLB was meant to give more money to schools that perform well in national standardised testing, but the NCLB does not cover the cost of buying new sophisticated data management systems, employing highly qualified personnel to manage these computers and software, or even paying for the intensive efforts needed to improve the schools. This has put many school boards in the difficult position of having to make large cuts to their education budgets.

Streamlined through the 1990s by earlier cuts, the schools are now making some tough decisions about cutting programmes considered as not essential for the curriculum. This has inevitably led to a choice between funding physical education programmes, such as the quintessential high school football teams, and fine arts programmes, such as art, music and drama.

Given the popularity of professional sports in American culture, few elected politicians have chosen to axe sports programmes. In New Mexico, the Education Secretary Veronica Garcia sought out \$4 million in the state budget for new physical education spending, while freezing arts programmes. (The state's

governor, Bill Richardson, had initially wanted to cut money from the arts programme, but faced serious protests from arts groups.) Ms Garcia cited high rates of obesity as a driving factor for her decision.

A similar result was seen in Florida's local school boards as they tried to meet the criteria set by the state's Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT), based on the NCLB testing criteria. One interesting difference with the NCLB is that the FCAT leaves out arts as one of its main testing subjects. Many critics believe that rigidly adhering to passing the NCLB tests has led to curriculums across the US to become more focused on testing than on 'real' learning.

Perhaps fuelled by the stereotype of the starving artist, there appears to be many misconceptions about how useful funding the arts is from an economic perspective. A study by Kennesaw State University compared the economic impact in Atlanta, Georgia, of the arts community versus Atlanta's three professional sports teams, the Braves, the Falcons and the Hawks. Based on numbers of attendees, some 36 million people attended arts events across metro Atlanta in 1995 compared to 2,561,831 for the Braves, 496,679 for the Hawks and 456,640 for the Falcons. In economic terms, the arts bring \$624 million per year to the city's economy compared to only \$300 million for all three professional sports teams. However, until local voters are willing to see their taxes increased to pay for a wider-ranging education, students wanting to study art, music and drama are going to be left behind.

**IGCSE Reading and Writing 2: Exercise 2 (continued)**

**a** What **three** things does the 'No Child Left Behind' programme **not** cover?

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**b** What must many local school boards choose between?

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**c** What reason does New Mexico's Education Secretary give for supporting physical education?

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**d** What is the difference between the FCAT and NCLB testing?

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**e** How much more money do the arts bring in to Atlanta compared to professional sports?

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**IGCSE Reading and Writing 3: Exercise 2**

Read the article below and answer the questions that follow.

## The Science of Love

Do you like what you see in the mirror? According to the current science of human attraction, the answer is probably 'yes' if we are speaking of the mirror figuratively. Researchers have found that 'mirroring' or synchronising your movements with those of your object of desire, such as tilting your head at the same time, is one of those subtle cues that tells the other person you like them.

It should be no surprise, though. Researchers have known for quite some time that a larger portion of our communication is transmitted by body language. When we meet someone for the first time, 55 per cent of the message that person gets from us is transmitted by our appearance and body language. In fact, only 7 per cent of what you actually say ever counts. The remaining 38 per cent is taken up by your way of speaking.

### **Hair-Raising Attractions**

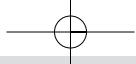
It appears that one of the best aphrodisiacs is adrenaline. In a study led by psychologists Arthur Aron and Don Dutton, they placed an attractive 'female' researcher on two bridges. The first bridge was the well-built Capilano Suspension Bridge in Vancouver, Canada. Looking something straight out of an Indiana Jones adventure, the cable bridge sways in the wind about 70 metres above a rocky riverbed. The second was a very sturdy design just a few metres above sea level. Whenever a single man walked across the bridges, he was approached by the woman halfway for a brief survey. Afterwards, she gave her phone number. The men on the scary bridge were more likely to call her and more likely to ask her out on a date. So,

if you want to create sparks on a date, you should skip the chat over coffee and go straight for a scary movie or a rollercoaster ride.

### **The Sweetest Smell**

It is often joked that women want to meet someone like their father. Oddly enough, this may in fact be more correct than most women would like to admit. In a study by the geneticist Carole Ober, women were asked to smell t-shirts of various scents choosing the shirt they liked the smell of best. What was surprising was that in case after case, the women tended to choose a smell that was closest to their own father.

While this information might make a few men ponder whether or not to buy the cologne worn by their new love's father, other chemicals have shown to have even more dramatic effects. A study on prairie voles has shown that injecting the males with the hormone vasopressin can cause them to become strongly bonded to females. Similar research has not been done on humans (yet). Some illegal drugs have also been found to increase the supplies of neurotransmitter dopamine in the brain believed to trigger the euphoria felt when falling in love. But a person doesn't need to take cocaine or amphetamine when they could get the same level of dopamine quite legally from taking exercise. Another neurotransmitter in the body, phenylethylamine (PEA), has been dubbed the 'love molecule' as it causes strong feelings of excitement. Chocolate has been shown to be a good source of PEA. So after a good workout and a bar of chocolate, you would be more than ready for anyone Cupid might want to send your way.



**IGCSE Reading and Writing 3: Exercise 2 (continued)**

**a** What amount does spoken language account for in communication?

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**b** What is the connection between romance and horror movies?

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**c** Who was not as likely to ask the research woman on a date?

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**d** Name **two** things that can create dopamine.

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**e** How is chocolate a good way to create romance?

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