

READER ARTICLES

for

HAVO 5



- ASSIGNMENT 1: GUESSING WORDS AND GETTING THE MAIN IDEA
ASSIGNMENT 2: LOOKING UP WORDS AND PARAGRAPH SUMMARIZING
ASSIGNMENT 3: MAKING QUESTIONS YOURSELF
ASSIGNMENT 4: MAKING YOUR OWN GAP TEXT
ASSIGNMENT 5: FILLING IN GAPS (NO MULTIPLE CHOICE!!!)
ASSIGNMENT 6: ALL SORTS
ASSIGNMENT 7: ALL SORTS

Assignment 1A:

Read the text and guess the underlined words. In the grid below you first fill in your guess. After that you have to look up the word in a dictionary to see if you were right!

<i>Word from text</i>	<i>Your guess</i>	<i>Dictionary</i>
1 veneer of civilisation		
2 illuminates		
3 curvaceous		
4 moulded		
5 lumped		
6 conditioned		
7 enhanced		
8 lest		
9 resources		
10 equation		
11 coined		
12 incentive		
13 offspring		
14 premium		
15 fertility		
16 contradict		
17 plainer		
18 cues		
19 features		
20 startlingly		
21 traits		

Assignment 1B:

Write down in five sentences what the main issue of this article is. So, what is its subject matter? What is said about men and women? What is the article's conclusion?

The mating game

Read between the lines

If you've never considered searching for a date in the lonely hearts columns, count yourself lucky. It's a jungle out there and that's scientific fact.



Enter the world of lonely hearts and you take a trip back through your evolutionary past, where the veneer of civilisation is stripped away and men and women are slaves to their most basic instincts. The frank vocabulary of the ads illuminates the rules of human mating in the most unambiguous way. If you're a blonde, attractive, curvaceous female, that's exactly how you should describe yourself in your ad. The same applies if you're a handsome, athletic, millionaire male. For this very reason, lonely hearts may give us a unique insight into the reasons for our sexual preferences - preferences that have been moulded by millions of years of natural selection.

Column inches

Professor Robin Dunbar of Liverpool University spent much of the latter half of the 1990s studying the hidden evolutionary signals contained in Lonely Hearts advertisements. "We were studying 19th century folk [love] songs, but it wasn't working out as well as we had thought. Many folk songs are political when you scratch beneath the surface," explains Dunbar. "When we changed our focus to Lonely Hearts, we found a close link with evolutionary preferences," he adds.

The language of love

Dunbar found that the vast majority of words used by people to describe themselves in ads could be lumped into five different categories. He asked 200 university students to rate the appeal of ads containing different categories of words. When Dunbar analysed the results, he found that men and women attached very different levels of importance to the five categories:

Men's preferences Women's preferences

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. Attractiveness | 1. Commitment |
| 1. Commitment | 2. Social Skills |
| 3. Social Skills | 3. Resources |

4. Resources

4. Attractiveness

4. Sexiness

5. Sexiness

Far from being conditioned to regard these things as important, Dunbar argued that men and women had evolved these preferences over millions of years of evolution. These were crucial qualities that enhanced the fitness of children, and, lest we forget, children are the key to the survival of our species.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding place great stress on a mother, so females make the biggest investment in reproduction. This is why women are choosier about their partners than men, with 20-something women being the choosiest of all. This big parental investment also explains why women seek males who are willing to stick around and provide for children.

Diamonds are a girl's best friend

But evolutionary theory tells us that resources should be just as important to women, if not more so. Good fathers need to have the means to feed offspring as well as the willingness to stick around. In our evolutionary past, before resources meant a Rolex watch and a sports car, a well-heeled man was one with high status in a hunting tribe. High status males were often good hunters and likely to provide a steady supply of food. When the desire for reproduction is taken out of the equation, preferences change drastically. Dunbar has shown that lesbians were three times less likely to seek resources than heterosexual women. But why should such an intangible quality like social skills score highly with heterosexual women? Dunbar puts this down to the Scheherazade effect, a phrase coined by cognitive psychologist Geoffrey Miller. The Scheherazade effect refers to the possible tactics used by ancestral women to appeal to a man's conversational skills in order to keep them around.

Research conducted by Professor Doug Kenrick at the University of Arizona seems to support this sexual dynamic. Kenrick has found that both sexes regard social skills as important, particularly a sense of humour. But that a good sense of humour has a different meaning for women than it does for men.

"When women look for a sense of humour in a man, they're saying: 'show me what you've got'. But when a man looks for a sense of humour in a woman, they're saying 'she laughs at my jokes, she must think I'm a great guy'."

Playing the field

The very fact that men need an incentive to stick around leads us to the question of male priorities in the mating game. Men, like women, want to maximise their contribution to the gene pool by having as many offspring as possible. But for males, time spent providing for a pregnant partner could be better spent fathering other children with other women. This may explain why men place such a high premium on attractiveness. Attractiveness is a rough indicator of age, and in women, age is a good indicator of fertility. After her late 20s, a woman's fertility steadily declines, and so does her value on the dating market.

Ageing beauties

Men, so the biological assumption goes, always prefer younger women, because they are likely to bear them more children. But a recent study seems to contradict this theory. Dr George Fieldman, of the Buckinghamshire Chilterns University College showed images of women to about 200 men with an average age of 30. A picture of a 36-year old woman, who a separate group of men had found attractive, was shown to the men

along with eight other photos of women aged 20 to 45 who had been rated as less attractive. Asked to choose one woman as a long-term partner, all three groups chose the beautiful woman regardless of what age they thought she was.

"They are saying: 'I'd rather risk a relationship with an older woman who is not going to give me as many children but is very beautiful, than a woman who is more fecund but whose children will be plainer,'" says Fieldman.

The theory is based on the notion that a beautiful woman is more likely to bear beautiful offspring and that those offspring will be more successful than plainer offspring.

"Female beauty has evolved through sexual selection. If you're beautiful then it's likely that you're also symmetrical," he adds. Symmetry is a difficult characteristic for genes to code for, leading many scientists to conclude that it is an indicator of good genes.

Fieldman's research suggests that beauty is important to men on a deeper level than just a simple indicator of youth.

Led astray

However, Kenrick thinks that in this instance, men are being confused by the benefits of modern healthcare and beauty products. "My suspicion is that we respond to visual cues of attractiveness, not what you see on someone's birth certificate. Liz Hurley, for example, looks attractive because she's got all those cues [despite her age]," he explains. "In evolutionary history, by the time a woman got to be 45, she'd have had five children and various parasites. She wouldn't have looked like one of those Hollywood actresses," Kenrick adds. Studies have shown that men seem to prefer women with smooth skin and glossy hair, features which seem to be associated with higher levels of the female sex hormone oestrogen. In our evolutionary past, these would also have been strong indicators of youth.

Dirty old men

As male lonely hearts age, they seek women who are increasingly younger than they are. This reflects their increasing value on the dating market due to their increasing resources, or wealth. But why males should value commitment so highly is less clear. Dunbar thinks he has the answer: "In males I think commitment is linked to paternity certainty," he explains. If a male is to spread his genes, he needs to know that the children being born are his and not those of a rival. The patterns of preferences amongst homosexual male advertisers are startlingly different. In one study, gay men offered resources and attractiveness half as often as heterosexual men did.

Like everyone else, lonely hearts raise or lower their standards according to their own circumstances. Young men have low expectations because they don't have much wealth to offer. Older women are similarly undemanding, because of their reduced attractiveness.

Liar, liar

But the lonely hearts columns seem to amplify one important tactic of the mating game: lying. One of the most common complaints made by people responding to advertisements is that the advertiser was nothing like their description in the ad.

So if you're thinking of flicking through the lonely hearts, take all those evolutionary traits on display with a pinch of salt, even if it means ignoring your most basic instincts.

Assignment 2A:

The following text has 10 paragraphs: Write down the main idea of each paragraph in the grid underneath!

Paragraph 1:	
Paragraph 2:	
Paragraph 3:	
Paragraph 4:	
Paragraph 5:	
Paragraph 6:	
Paragraph 7:	
Paragraph 8:	
Paragraph 9:	
Paragraph 10:	

Assignment 2B:

Select 20 words you don't know from the following text and put them into a word file.

<i>Word selected:</i>	<i>Context:</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
<i>1</i>		
<i>2</i>		
<i>3</i>		

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The Storms of Youth: Violence and Depression in Adolescents

by M. Allan Cooperstein, Ph.D.

Despair among the Young: Adolescent Depression and Violence

1 "Today, *violence is the second leading cause of death for Americans between the ages of 15 and 24* - and the leading cause for African Americans in this same age group...According to recent statistics, *the death rate from homicide for teens 15 through 19 doubled between 1970 and 1994 to 20 per 100,000. It has also doubled for children 10 through 14.* For African American males, the homicide rate was 136 per 100,000 - nine times that of white males the same age.... *Suicide is also a leading cause of death for young people.* In 1995, about 24 percent of children in grades 9 through 12 - almost one in four - reported that they seriously considered taking their own lives in the previous year. And almost 10 percent reported actually attempting suicide. (Julius Richmond Lecture, Harvard University, Boston, Massachusetts, November 21, 1997, italics added)

2 Depression, according to the National Institutes of Health, occurs with greater frequency among teenagers today than in the past. Because many adolescents' behaviors are attributed to "normal adjustments", they are often not identified as troubled and do not get the help they need. Many teens who believe their problems to be unsolvable, become so despairing that they attempt suicide...and many succeed.

3 Although other causes of teen suicide and violence exist, depression is a major factor. Adolescents often "act out", obscuring depression with aggression, elopement, or antisocial acts. Manic-depressive disorder also begins in post puberty and may be manifested by impulsive episodes, irritability and loss of control alternating with periods of withdrawal and excessive sleeping. If these behavioral signs are considered by parents and professionals as natural to adolescence, the disorders go unrecognized and untreated.

4 Late 18th-century, German romantic literature was influenced by the conception of *Sturm und Drang* (i.e., storm and stress), the theme involving a struggle of a highly emotional individual against conventional society. Possibly a metaphor for youth, adolescent antagonism was represented during the 19th Century largely as rebellion and arguing against parental expectations. By the 1950's, fistfights between peers escalated to chains, pipes, and knives, with zip guns appearing infrequently. After four decades, we have witnessed a significantly increased frequency of firearm-related homicides and suicides by youth.

5 Recently, the nation was stunned by methodically planned murders in a middle-class Denver suburb in April, 1999, taking the lives of 15 (including the young killers) and wounding 28. Barely a month later, a 15-year-old wounded 6 classmates before surrendering. In 1998, a 14 year old opened fire in a school hallway, wounding a teacher and volunteer, a 15-year-old killed 2 students in the school cafeteria, wounding 18 more, this after his parents were found dead in their home. An 18-year-old honor student fatally shot a classmate who was dating his ex-girlfriend. Six more fatalities occurred in 1997 in 2 separate shootings involving a 14 and 18 year old.

6 Whether homicide or suicide, violence among adolescents has forcibly brought these problems to the forefront of our attention, while other, less sensational yet far more frequent adolescent dramas occur among our youth on a daily basis. These appear intimately interrelated to a broader problem in our lack of identification, understanding, and treatment of adolescent disorders in the home, the school and the clinic.

7 The primary focus is less on the adolescent than on the challenges that dealing with the adolescent presents to parents and adults in general in this society, according to Michael Silver, M.D. Director of the Adolescent Unit at Friends Hospital. "The first challenge is that dealing with an adolescent offspring offers us the opportunity (if we're willing to seize and confront it) to assess where we are with our lives, and to review our own satisfactions, accomplishments, disappointments, and losses as manifested and reflected in the hopes and fears we have for our child. The second is that adolescents behaviors continually give us opportunities to deal with our own issues regarding interpersonal power and control. It's a wonderful (and terrifying) arena in which to struggle with the limits of our ability to influence our children, and by extension, to influence our own lives and the world at large."

8 In a excellent review of adolescence literature, Arnett (1999) identifies three major areas of difficulty in adolescence: (1) conflict with parents, (2) mood disruptions, and (3) risk behavior. He asserts that, although current evidence indicates that biological changes contribute to adolescent problems, far too little is known about these factors to make definitive statements about their role. He refers to *delayed phase preference*, adolescents' preference for staying up late and sleeping late, as one sign of a biological effect. This leads to the hypothesis that an adolescent's adjustment to school scheduling demands may contribute towards sleep-deprivation that feeds into mood disruptions and more parental conflicts.

9 From a cultural perspective, Arnett says that pubertal changes do not make the stormy aspects of adolescence inevitable. He reports a recent study in which most traditional cultures experience less adolescent stress when compared with the West, although such stress is not completely unknown. Differences are noted among traditional cultures, with those that exclude adolescent boys from the activities of men as being more likely to have problems with their adolescent boys than cultures in which boys take part daily in men's activities. Arnett concludes that anticipating adolescent stresses may instigate parents and other adults to plan how best to approach possible adolescent problems and be pleasantly surprised if none appear.

10 Dr. Rosenthal predicts that the next decade will bring "exciting changes in the recognition and treatment of psychiatric disorders in children and adolescents. Parents and physicians alike are now beginning to accept that such disorders as phobias, panic attacks, depression, generalized anxiety and bipolar illnesses as well as schizophrenia do not magically appear at age 18, but often have antecedents in childhood. As teachers, pediatricians and other individuals with frontline contacts with children become more in tune with these diagnoses, the interventions for children will become more plentiful, the proper diagnosis and treatment will be made earlier, and children will be less likely to be labeled as 'bad kids' and more likely to be helped with our growing body of knowledge."

Assignment 3:

Be the teacher! Read the text and make 6 questions for your classmate.

In class you will discuss what kind of questions are suitable and which are not.

Once you have finished, you swap your questions with your partner and then you will answer each other's questions.

Your six questions:

Multicultural Britain: An unlikely success story

Broadwater Farm was without hope in 1985 - now it's a beacon for racial harmony

By Cahal Milmo

Published: 05 October 2005

1 Twenty years ago today, Clasford Stirling awoke to the sound of breaking glass and screaming sirens outside his home on the Broadwater Farm estate. He then witnessed from his balcony the riot which within 48 hours turned 12 low-rise housing blocks in Tottenham, north London, into a byword for urban decay, crime and racial tension in Britain's inner-cities. The youth worker, then 26, had his nose broken by a police truncheon as he tried to calm the rioters amid flying petrol bombs and burning barricades in gloomy car parks that had become the private domains of drug dealers and street robbers.

2 Today, Broadwater Farm - the one-time no-go estate which entered infamy after PC Keith Blakelock was hacked to death during the riot on 6 October, 1985 - could hardly be more different. At a time of crisis in faith in multicultural Britain - sharpened by claims from Trevor Phillips, the head of the Commission for Racial Equality, that the nation is "sleepwalking to segregation" - look no further than "the Farm" and its vibrant community of 39 different nationalities for evidence that ethnic diversity in rude health.

3 Mr Stirling coaches a youth football team, Broadwater United, which has produced 25 professional footballers in the past five years. The father-of-two said: "There was complete shock and grief at what took place in October 1985.

But we picked ourselves up and took up from where we had been. Now look - this is officially a low-crime area, it has decent facilities and is one of the most ethnically diverse places on the planet. It is a place to be proud of." The transformation of the 21-acre estate, completed in 1970 and currently home to 3,000 people, is on one level purely physical. Gone are the concrete walkways that linked each of the 12 housing blocks above ground in what designers hoped would be a master stroke of social engineering by lifting inhabitants away from cars and roads.

4 The reality by the early 1980s was less utopian. The walkways formed a warren that could not be policed while the car parks underneath were stalked by crack dealers. Now, each of the housing blocks has a secure entrance hall with a concierge service. Green spaces and play areas punctuate the blocks, renovated at a cost of £33m.

5 But it is only when its inhabitants talk that the true nature of Broadwater Farm 2005 becomes apparent. Yesterday, a £1m Children's Centre was opened next to its existing community centre and primary school. Jennifer Kamara, 35, a mother-of-four who has lived on the estate for 12 years since coming to Britain from the civil war in Sierra Leone, said: "This is not paradise on earth, we still have the same problems as anywhere else, but people have been given back their purpose and dignity. The kids have their free time occupied and we enjoy the fact that so many different cultures are here. My neighbours are Turkish, my kids walk to school with their Bangladeshi friends. We are one big family on Broadwater."

6 The statistics prove her point. In 1985, the population of the estate was 49 per cent white, 42 per cent Afro-Caribbean, and 9 per cent from the Indian sub-continent and other areas. Today it is 30 per cent white, 27 per cent west African, principally Ghanaian, 24 per cent Afro-Caribbean and 15 per cent Turkish or Turkish Kurd. A sign at the entrance to the estate says "welcome" in 14 different languages. Amid such a melting pot of ethnicities, the questioning by Trevor Phillips of practices such as the printing of leaflets in multiple tongues falls on stony ground. Paul Dennehy, who has been Haringey Borough Council's estate manager for 11 years, said: "This estate offers social housing and people who need it are often those who are coming to Britain from another country. It is a reality that people won't speak fluent English instantaneously. It is an interim measure - their children are born here and speak English as well as any of their peers."

7 Less than a mile from the estate stands the 1,220-pupil White Hart Lane School. Its former pupils include Trevor Phillips. Its former headteacher said it was time to celebrate diversity, not to try to quash it. Under multicultural policies such as teaching science in Turkish and implementing special lessons for Caribbean pupils, David Daniels and his team were able to increase the number of pupils passing five or more GCSEs from 10 per cent in 2001 to an expected 50

per cent next year. He said: "Far from being something which impacts upon UK life I see [diversity] as something that revitalises us and makes us powerful economically."

8 The extent to which the tensions that sparked events of 20 years ago have eased was demonstrated last month when police raided a suspected drugs den. Chief Superintendent Stephen Bloomfield, the Haringey commander, said: "There was time when an operation like that would have caused us concern but afterwards the residents came out of their houses and applauded the officers. Broadwater Farm is no longer a place we would consider to be out of the ordinary."

9 Many outside the Farm do not share his view. Residents complain that taxi drivers refuse to visit the estate after dark and some say they use friends' addresses when applying for jobs. So it fell to one of the estate's oldest residents to explain its new allure. Mary Kemp, 82, has lived on the estate with her husband, Bill, since it was opened. She said: "We moved here from a house with no bathroom. It was like a holiday camp and that remains the case. We are pure English and do you know what that means? It means being tolerant of people, regardless of colour or creed. It means embracing people who are different from you. That's why we stayed here."

In the melting pot

1985

POPULATION 3,500

White 49%

West Indian/African 42%

Indian subcontinent 3%

CRIME SNAPSHOT

875 burglaries or attempted burglaries

50 street robberies or muggings

50 physical assaults

2005

POPULATION 3,800

White 30%

West African 27%

African Caribbean 24%

Turkish-speaking Kurds 12-15 %

Somali and Congolese 7%

CRIME SNAPSHOT

0 robberies or serious assaults

1 house burglary

2% of residents felt unsafe. The borough average is 15%

Assignment 4A: Team 1, Make a gap text for team 2!

In pairs you are going to make a gap text for the other pair in your group. In class we will discuss what kind of words are suitable to leave out of a text. Read the following steps:

- 1 Read the text
- 2 Discuss which 7 words you are going to leave out
- 3 Make a multiple choice test: find two suitable wrong answers
- 4 Swop your work with another team and do the test.
- 5 Comment on each other's work

1	A	B	C
2	A	B	C
3	A	B	C
4	A	B	C
5	A	B	C
6	A	B	C
7	A	B	C

Tests blamed for decline of reading for pleasure

By Sarah Cassidy, Education Correspondent

Published: 05 October 2005

Children are spending less time reading for pleasure because the relentless focus on tests and targets has squeezed storytelling and joy of reading out of schools, a five-year study by the education watchdog Ofsted has shown.

Many teachers no longer read poems or stories to their class because they feel guilty that they are "wasting valuable teaching time", the report, English 2000-2005, warned.

Instead teachers now regard texts as "a kind of manual" for teaching about "adjectives, metaphors and contrasting short and long sentences", it concluded.

This had already had an impact on children who now regarded reading as a skill needed to pass tests or to get a good job rather than as something they might do for pleasure. The inspectors said it was vital for children to hear stories being read out loud because this was the best way for them to "develop a vocabulary and an understanding of narrative ... which they need ... in order to read with full comprehension".

Teachers also struggled to find the time to keep up with the latest children's fiction and so schools were forced to rely on the same books year after year.

"Teachers often make use of texts without adequately considering their impact upon the pupils," the study warned. "They appear to regard texts primarily as a means of teaching writing: a poem is mined for its use of adjectives, metaphors and contrasting short and long sentences without attempting to engage pupils' personal response to the ideas and feelings it expresses.

"The text becomes a kind of manual rather than an opportunity for personal response to experience. This can then lead teachers to choose any text, irrespective of quality, instead of choosing the most appropriate texts for different purposes."

Inspectors warned that many schools were failing to promote the importance of reading for pleasure. Individual reading had often been squeezed out of lessons in favour of the group and whole class work, which had been given greater emphasis in the Government's literacy hour.

Most schools expect pupils to keep a record or journal of their reading, but the quality of these is mostly very poor, inspectors found. Pupils did not understand

why they were expected to keep a record of the books they read when most teachers did nothing with them.

Teachers themselves told inspectors that "teaching reading has lost its fun" under the government's strategies. Staff were confused about how to meet government targets and prepare children for tests while still teaching an enriching curriculum, inspectors concluded.

Teachers asked themselves: "Is it appropriate or not any longer simply to read and share stories with their class; do they always need to analyse the text and set exercises?"

The inspectors concluded that all these approaches were potentially valuable ways of improving reading but that staff, unfortunately, often lacked the confidence to adopt them. They also warned that there was still "significant variation" in the quality of schools' teaching of phonics - the sounds needed to decode text.

The issue of how to teach reading has always been controversial but the Government has put it back on the agenda this year by commissioning the Rose review of phonics teaching, which is due to report soon.

Ofsted noted that standards in English have improved but warned that they remained below government targets . The quality of teaching in 30 per cent of lessons in primary schools was no better than satisfactory, which would not be good enough to help the weakest readers.

Assignment 4B: Team 2, Make a gap text for team 1!

In pairs you are going to make a gap text for the other pair in your group. In class we will discuss what kind of words are suitable to leave out of a text. Read the following steps:

- 1 Read the text
- 2 Discuss which 7 words you are going to leave out
- 3 Make a multiple choice test: find two suitable wrong answers
- 4 Swop your work with another team and do the test.
- 5 Comment on each other's work

1	A	B	C
2	A	B	C
3	A	B	C
4	A	B	C
5	A	B	C
6	A	B	C
7	A	B	C

Why dolphins have been enlisted

They're as cuddly as sea creatures ever can be yet the American military has been using them for years. They've got bigger brains than we have and they can even sing the theme tune from 'Batman'. Is there anything these animals can't do? Peter Marren reports

Published: 05 October 2005



Why dolphins have been enlisted

One of the strangest stories to emerge from the ruins of Hurricane Katrina is a tale of military-trained dolphins on the loose in the Gulf of Mexico. Whether they were whistling the Batman theme is not known.

The animals were reportedly being used by the US navy to detect stray torpedoes and mines, and were controlled using signals transmitted to a neck harness. It is possible that some were armed with toxic darts tied to their backs to immobilise terrorists or enemy agents. "If divers or windsurfers are

mistaken for a spy or suicide bomber, they could fire," warned an accident investigator close to the US government's marine fisheries service.

Elsewhere in the dolphin world, a study to be published later this month reveals that they can be trained to respond to music - and even reproduce the simple two-note theme from the 1960s TV programme about the Caped Crusader. Dolphins are clever creatures indeed.

The Louisiana dolphins were apparently kept in training ponds close to Lake Pontchartrain, whose floodwaters helped to devastate New Orleans. The possibility that they escaped into the ocean surfaced after a separate group of "civilian" dolphins disappeared from a commercial dolphinarium on the Mississippi coast during the hurricane. Eight of them were later recovered alive with the help of the navy. However, the dolphins were not returned to their owners until the authorities had had a close look at them, sparking fears that some military dolphins had also escaped during the hurricane. The US navy has refused to comment.

Dolphins have been used by both the American and Russian armed forces since the 1950s. The US navy had originally hoped to observe the dolphin's locomotive and sensory systems in an attempt to improve the design of undersea weapons. They also carried out a range of classified experiments to study the uncanny

ability of dolphins to locate and retrieve objects from the seabed. It soon became apparent that dolphins were very much better at this task than human divers. It was also clear that they were intelligent animals that were capable of learning tasks quickly.

To teach a dolphin new tricks, scientists had to find a way of communicating with them. Unlike humans, dolphins have two forms of speech. One is a medley of whistles that they use to communicate with one another; the second a series of acoustic clicks used to locate food. The clicks are more or less inaudible to the human ear and are used to locate prey in murky water by bouncing high-frequency sound off them. The instant of time between the emission of the pulse and the receipt of its echo tells the dolphin how far away the object is. And by emitting a stream of repeated clicks, the dolphin can also gauge the object's direction and speed. Dolphins studied in Cardigan Bay off the coast of Wales could detect and then catch large fish from up to 72 metres away.

The principle of echo-location is the same as sonar (which we humans learnt from another animal, the bat). A dolphin's mind is therefore like a ship's sonar, gathering sufficient information about the size and speed of an enemy object to shoot it down with lethal accuracy. Their ability to detect and then monitor an object is thought to take place at an unconscious level, much as we see things. After all, how many of us could explain exactly how we know a road sign is roughly 30 metres away?

Scientists learned how to communicate with dolphins using an instrument called a hydrophone, an underwater sound projector which can deliver high-pitched sounds audible to the animals. They learned that dolphins can be trained to recognise commands. They also found that the dolphins were able to mimic sounds and rhythms relayed through the hydrophone.

Studies soon to be presented at a meeting of the Acoustical Society of America will reveal that dolphins can even be trained to respond to music. One has learned to whistle the two-note theme from Batman, one short, the other long: "Bat-maaaaan". Appropriately, perhaps, it learned to produce the tune when presented with a Batman doll, for which it received the usual reward for cetacean intelligence - a fish.

The singing dolphin has broken one of the barriers that seemed to have set humans apart from the rest of the animal kingdom. Gordon Bauer, associate professor at the New College of Florida, says: "This is the first report of a non-human mammal being able to discriminate rhythmic patterns." However, Bauer doubts whether dolphins have any sense of what we regard as music. "I think music is a human construct," he commented to the US cable channel, Discovery News. "I doubt that it has pertinence to animals, but the elements of music, such as pitch, time, timbre and rhythm may be incorporated into animal communication."

With intelligence added to unusual physical gifts, it was only a matter of time before captive dolphins were drafted into the wholly human preoccupation with security and warfare. From the 1960s, the US navy is known to have employed up to 240 dolphins, as well as beluga whales, killer whales and sea-lions. The work was conducted in secrecy but details emerged in 1988 when trainers who worked with navy dolphins went public.

One dolphin known as Tuf Guy was trained to carry tools and messages to an undersea base called Sealab II, and could undertake tasks that were physically impossible for a human diver. Dolphins were on active service before the first Gulf War, where they were mainly used for mine detection. More sinister was the use of dolphins in a "swimmer nullification program", where a long hypodermic needle was fastened to a dolphin's beak for the purposes of firing a bullet of carbonic acid into an enemy frogman.

The US Navy has even reportedly used dolphins to patrol and guard Trident submarines in harbour - though once they had had their fill of fish they were apt to wander off duty. With both the Russians and Americans using dolphins there was, for a while, the science-fiction prospect of "dolphin wars", in which one lot carried electronic counter-measures to jam the sonar of the other. Fortunately with the ending of the Cold War, the prospect of rival dolphins attacking one another has receded.

Are "killer dolphins" on the loose off the Mississippi coast? And are they a danger to divers and surfers? This is not the first time military-trained dolphins have escaped from their human masters. Up to 20 per cent of navy dolphins are said to escape each year. Do they soon forget about mines and torpedoes and refocus their echo-location towards catching fish and finding a mate? One escaped dolphin, called Dolly, later turned up on the Florida coast where she befriended a local family. Tamer than usual, she showed an impressive ability to retrieve and return coins from the water. In fact, she sounds more useful than Robin.

Assignment 5: Fill in the gaps! No multiple choice!

You have to fill in gaps in two different texts. Once you've finished you can compare your answers in your group. Make sure you try to convince each other of the right answer! After that the possible answers will be discussed in class! It is not important that you get the right word. It is important that you have been able to come up with a word that fits!

1		6	
2		7	
3		8	
4		9	
5		10	

Britney auctions bra for charity

A jewel-encrusted bra is one of several personal items being _____ **1** _____ by pop singer Britney Spears to raise money for Hurricane Katrina victims.



Britney's bra has attracted bids of up to \$30,500

Other items include a two-piece sofa, a white swimsuit and a teddy bear.

"This is a great _____ **2** _____ to get cool (and rare) Britney items while contributing to an important cause," reads a message on the star's website.

All proceeds from the week-long sale on the eBay auction site will _____ **3** _____ to the Mississippi Hurricane Recovery Fund.

A benefit concert for the fund, hosted by actor Morgan Freeman, was held in Oxford, Mississippi on Saturday.

Bar stools

Fans of the singer, who gave birth to a baby boy last month, can _____ **4** _____ for an eclectic range of items, from flip-flops and jeans to a set of bar stools.

Also up for grabs is an autographed tank-top bearing the words "I Have the Golden Ticket", similar the one Spears wore at the Hollywood premiere of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory in July.

Britney's bra, _____ **5** _____ in one of her music videos, has attracted

bids of up to \$30,500 (£17,327).

Potential bidders have until Saturday to register their interest.

Lawyer to probe Armstrong claims

An independent expert will _____6_____ doping allegations against seven-times Tour de France winner Lance Armstrong.

French sports _____7_____ L'Equipe claims that samples given by the American icon on the 1999 Tour later tested positive. Armstrong has _____8_____ the allegations.



Armstrong retired after his record seventh straight win in Le Tour

The International Cycling Union (UCI) has now appointed Dutch lawyer and doping specialist Emile Vrijman to probe the complex case.

The UCI said it "expects all relevant parties to _____9_____ co-operate".

Vrijman is a former director of the National Anti-Doping Agency in the Netherlands (NeCeDo).

The UCI added: "The UCI's decision to appoint an independent investigator is supported by numerous authorities, both in sports, as well as in anti-doping."

L'Equipe acquired what it claimed were documents relating to retrospective drug testing carried out on samples supplied by, among others, Armstrong.

It alleged the documents proved that six of the 12 samples which tested positive came from the Texan.

Armstrong has consistently _____10_____ claims he used performance-enhancing substances.

In September, UCI chief Hein Verbruggen promised: "We're going to be looking further into this affair.

"It's another heavy blow to cycling so we have to take it all the way. I want to know who exactly it was who gave out this information."

Assignment 6: Man, 72, to be sperm donor for son and daughter-in-law

1. Put the paragraphs into the right order

2. Look up any difficult words for your wordfile.

3. Summarise the article in one or two sentences.

4. Give a short reaction to this article in which you state your opinion in 50-100 words.

Man, 72, to be sperm donor for son and daughter-in-law

By Jane Kirby Published: 06 October 2007

A "In this case, keeping the identity of the child similar to their own was a huge factor. The husband does not have a brother, which is why he chose his own father to assist."

B Dr Peter Bowen-Simkins, the clinic's co-medical director, told the newspaper that he had never come across a case like this before.

C A 72-year-old man has agreed to donate his sperm to his son and daughter-in-law after the London couple were unable to conceive a child through IVF, the Evening Standard newspaper reported yesterday.

D The sperm is being screened at the London Women's Clinic, where the couple, who are in their 30s and wish to remain anonymous, are being treated.

E He said: "Obviously the wife's mother-in-law also had to be included in all the conversations but she has no objections. Society has also changed its perceptions of what is and what is not acceptable.

F Any baby produced from the treatment would be the grandfather's genetic child and its father's half-brother.

G But advancements in fertility treatment meant that people were now willing to consider all kinds of options.

H A spokeswoman for the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA), which regulates the fertility sector, said that it did not need to approve the decision.

I Donations from family members – such as sisters giving each other their eggs – are allowed under the law, she said.

Assignment 7: Thou Shalt Not Kill

1. Explain the rather old-fashioned language in the first part of the title. Where does it come from?

2. Look up any difficult words for your wordfile.

3. In the article you read the opinions of several persons who do not all agree with each other. Make a list of those people (who are they?) and briefly state their opinion (what do they think?)

4. Now, using you list, summarise the text in your own words.

5. Write a short reaction with your opinion about the topic of this article.

The New York Times

October 7, 2007

Thou Shalt Not Kill, Except in a Popular Video Game at Church



By [MATT RICHTEL](#)

First the percussive sounds of sniper fire and the thrill of the kill. Then the gospel of peace.

Across the country, hundreds of ministers and pastors desperate to reach young congregants have drawn concern and criticism through their use of an unusual recruiting tool: the immersive and violent video game [Halo](#).

The latest iteration of the immensely popular space epic, Halo 3, was released nearly two weeks ago by [Microsoft](#) and has already passed \$300 million in sales.

Those buying it must be 17 years old, given it is rated M for mature audiences. But that has not prevented leaders at churches and youth centers across Protestant denominations, including evangelical churches that have cautioned against violent entertainment, from holding heavily attended Halo nights and stocking their centers with multiple game consoles so dozens of teenagers can flock around big-screen televisions and shoot it out.

The alliance of popular culture and evangelism is challenging churches much as bingo games did in the 1960s. And the question fits into a rich debate about how far churches should go to reach young people.

Far from being defensive, church leaders who support Halo — despite its “thou shalt kill” credo — celebrate it as a modern and sometimes singularly effective tool. It is crucial, they say, to reach the elusive audience of boys and young men.

Witness the basement on a recent Sunday at the Colorado Community Church in the Englewood area of Denver, where Tim Foster, 12, and Chris Graham, 14, sat in front of three TVs, locked in violent virtual combat as they navigated on-screen characters through lethal gun bursts. Tim explained the game’s allure: “It’s just fun blowing people up.”

Once they come for the games, Gregg Barbour, the youth minister of the church said, they will stay for his Christian message. “We want to make it hard for teenagers to go to hell,” Mr. Barbour wrote in a letter to parents at the church.

But the question arises: What price to appear relevant? Some parents, religious ethicists and pastors say that Halo may succeed at attracting youths, but that it could have a corroding influence. In providing Halo, churches are permitting access to adult-themed material that young people cannot buy on their own.

“If you want to connect with young teenage boys and drag them into church, free alcohol and pornographic movies would do it,” said James Tonkovich, president of the Institute on Religion and Democracy, a nonprofit group that assesses denominational policies. “My own take is you can do better than that.”

Daniel R. Heimbach, a professor of Christian ethics at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, believes that churches should reject Halo, in part because it associates thrill and arousal with killing.

“To justify whatever killing is involved by saying that it’s just pixels involved is an illusion,” he said.

Focus on the Family, a large evangelical organization, said it was trying to balance the game’s violent nature with its popularity and the fact that churches are using it anyway. “Internally, we’re still trying to figure out what is our official view on it,” said Lisa Anderson, a spokeswoman for the group.

There is little doubting Halo’s cultural relevance. Even as video games have grown in popularity, the Halo series stands out. The first Halo and Halo 2 sold nearly 15 million copies combined. Microsoft says that Halo 3 “is on track to become the No. 1 gaming title of all time.”

Hundreds of churches use Halo games to connect with young people, said Lane Palmer, the youth ministry specialist at the Dare 2 Share Ministry, a nonprofit organization in Arvada, Colo., that helps churches on youth issues.

“It’s very pervasive,” Mr. Palmer said, more widespread on the coasts, less so in the South, where the Southern Baptist denomination takes a more cautious approach. The organization recently

sent e-mail messages to 50,000 young people about how to share their faith using Halo 3. Among the tips: use the game's themes as the basis for a discussion about good and evil.

At Sweetwater Baptist Church in Lawrenceville, Ga., Austin Brown, 16, said, "We play Halo, take a break and have something to eat, and have a lesson," explaining that the pastor tried to draw parallels "between God and the devil."

Players of Halo 3 control the fate of Master Chief, a tough marine armed to the teeth who battles opponents with missiles, lasers, guns that fire spikes, energy blasters and other fantastical weapons. They can also play in teams, something the churches say allows communication and fellowship opportunities.

Complicating the debate over the appropriateness of the game as a church recruiting tool are the plot's apocalyptic and religious overtones. The hero's chief antagonists belong to the Covenant, a fervent religious group that welcomes the destruction of Earth as the path to their ascension.

Microsoft said Halo 3 was a "space epic" that was not intended to make specific religious references or be more broadly allegorical. Advocates of using the game as a church recruiting tool say the religious overtones are sufficiently cartoonish and largely overlooked by players.

Martial images in literature or movies popular with religious people are not new. The popular "Left Behind" series of books — it also spawned a video game — dealt with the conflict preceding the second coming of Christ. Playing Halo is "no different than going on a camping trip," said Kedrick Kenerly, founder of Christian Gamers Online, an Internet site whose central themes are video games and religion. "It's a way to fellowship."

Mr. Kenerly said the idea that Halo is inappropriately violent too strictly interpreted the commandment "Thou shalt not kill." "I'm not walking up to someone with a pistol and shooting them," he said. "I'm shooting pixels on a screen."

Mr. Kenerly's brother, Ken Kenerly, 43, is a pastor who recently started a church in Atlanta and previously started the Family Church in Albuquerque, N.M., where quarterly Halo nights were such a big social event that he had to rent additional big-screen TVs.

Ken Kenerly said he believed that the game could be useful in connecting to young people he once might have reached in more traditional ways, like playing sports. "There aren't as many kids outdoors as indoors," he said. "With gamers, how else can you get into their lives?"

John Robison, the current associate pastor at the 300-member Albuquerque church, said parents approached him and were concerned about the Halo games' M rating. "We explain we're using it as a tool to be relatable and relevant," he said, "and most people get over it pretty quick."

David Drexler, youth director at the 200-member nondenominational Country Bible Church in Ashby, Minn., said using Halo to recruit was "the most effective thing we've done."

In rural Minnesota, Mr. Drexler said, the church needs something powerful to compete against the lure of less healthy behaviors. "We have to find something that these kids are interested in doing that doesn't involve drugs or alcohol or premarital sex." His congregation plans to double to eight its number of TVs, which would allow 32 players to compete at one time.

Among parents at the Colorado Community Church, Doug Graham, a pediatric oncologist with a 12-year-old son, said that he was not aware of the game's M rating and that it gave him pause. He said he felt that parents should be actively involved in deciding whether minors play an M-rated game. "Every family should have a conversation about it," he said.

Mr. Barbour, the youth pastor at the church, said the game had led to a number of internal discussions prompted by elders who complained about its violent content. Mr. Barbour recently met for several hours with the church's pastor and successfully made his case that the game was a crucial recruiting tool.

In one letter to parents, Mr. Barbour wrote that God calls ministers to be "fishers of men."

"Teens are our 'fish,'" he wrote. "So we've become creative in baiting our hooks."