A.A. 2023-24   **Lingua e traduzione – Lingua inglese I**   **Date:**

Proff. Bianco, Molloy, Monaco

CURRICULUM: Lingue, Culture e Letterature Moderne

COGNOME:__   **NOME:**   **MATR._**

A. READING COMPREHENSION: Read the passage carefully and answer the following questions in your own words as far as possible.

READING NOVELS IS GOOD FOR THE BRAIN AND THE SOUL

In a world of ever-increasing tech gadgets and digital socialization, it is easy to forget the simple pleasures in life, like reading a good fiction novel. In fact, a recent poll conducted by The Huffington Post found that 28 percent of the 1,000 the people they surveyed had not read even one book in the past year. This is especially troublesome, given how much we have to benefit from reading.

Let's start off with children. Studies have shown that reading stories at bedtime not only helps children sleep better but generally helps them develop a better understanding of phonics and language, leading to increased communication and cognitive skills. As the children grow and continue to read, their vocabulary expands and grammatical knowledge becomes more complex and 'correct'.

Indeed, the more you read, the more words you gain exposure to, and they'll inevitably make their way into your everyday vocabulary. Being articulate and well-spoken is of great help in any profession, and knowing that you can speak with self-confidence to people in important positions can be an enormous boost to your self-esteem. Moreover, those who are well-read, well-spoken, and knowledgeable on a variety of topics tend to get promotions more quickly (and more often) than those with smaller vocabularies and lack of awareness of literature, scientific breakthroughs, and global events.

Reading is also good training for memory. When you read a book, you have to remember an assortment of characters, their backgrounds, ambitions, history, and nuances, as well as the various arcs and sub-plots that weave their way through every story. Amazingly enough, every new memory you create forges new synapses (brain pathways) and strengthens existing ones. Studies have also shown that staying mentally stimulated can slow the progress of (or possibly even prevent) Alzheimer's and Dementia, since keeping your brain active and engaged prevents it from losing power.

Researchers have also found that reading increases the sense of empathy. When we read novels we are thrown into the world of strangers. We can feel their joy or pain, their aspirations and predicaments. In the UK, reading novels is a popular activity, and I don't think it's a coincidence that Britain is such a liberal and open-minded society. I might be stretching a point, but I have rarely met an avid reader of novels who turns also out to be bigoted or narrow-minded. So reading basically makes you a nicer human being!

QUESTION: **Answer the following question in your own words as far as possible.**

According to the writer, what are the benefits of reading?

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B. WRITING: Write a short story (about 100 words) beginning with the line 'I have always loved reading'.

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C. WORDBUILDING: Put the words in brackets into the correct form to complete the sentence.

1. We cannot approve the project as there is inadequate evidence of its _____. **(FEASIBLE)**
2. The committee postponed the decision because there was _____ evidence regarding the new policy. **(CONCLUDE)**
3. They refused to release the report due to insufficient evidence _____ their claims. **(SUPPORT)**
4. The _____ was halted due to a lack of evidence. **(INVESTIGATE)**
5. The court found the defendant not_____ . **(GUILT)**
6. The_____ reader devoured every book in sight. **(VORACITY)**
7. The _____story transported his imagination to faraway lands. **(CAPTURE)**
8. John's very punctual so he is _____ to be late. **(LIKE)**
9. The former President has just published his _____. **(MEMORY)**
10. Unfortunately, many people in some African countries are still_____. **(LITERACY)**

D. TRANSLATION INTO ITALIAN: Translate the following passage taken from "Reading novels is good for the brain and the soul" into Italian.

Reading novels is good for the brain and the soul

In a world of ever-increasing tech gadgets and digital socialization, it is easy to forget the simple pleasures in life, like reading a good fiction novel. In fact, a recent poll conducted by The Huffington Post found that 28 percent of the 1,000 the people they surveyed had not read even one book in the past year. This is especially troublesome, given how much we have to benefit from reading. Indeed, the more you read, the more words you gain exposure to.

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E. TRANSLATION FROM ITALIAN INTO ENGLISH: Translate the passage below into English

Cambiare

     Ieri ho letto un articolo sul giornale che parlava degli inglesi e della loro paura di cambiare. La paura di cambiare, diceva, dipende, tra le altre cose, dalla paura del giudizio e di fare errori. Ma queste non sono paure solo degli inglesi: sono universali. Non ho mai incontrato un inglese né sono andato in Inghilterra, infatti, ma mi rivedo in questa analisi. E tu ti rivedi? Se dovessi cambiare qualcosa di te, delle tue abitudini e comportamenti, cosa sceglieresti?

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