

Do the preparation task first to help you with the difficult vocabulary. Then read the article and do the exercises to check your understanding.

Preparation: matching

Match the vocabulary with the correct definition and write a–h next to the numbers 1–8.

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|--------|------------------|----|---|
| 1..... | poetry | a. | writing that is in sentences and paragraphs |
| 2..... | a thrill | b. | a prize you get for doing something good |
| 3..... | prose | c. | the activity of thinking deeply about your own self |
| 4..... | an MRI scanner | d. | a feeling of excitement |
| 5..... | a reward | e. | a driving manual containing the rules of the road |
| 6..... | introspection | f. | a result of a research study |
| 7..... | a finding | g. | writing that tries to express feelings, often made of lines with rhyme and rhythm |
| 8..... | the Highway Code | h. | a machine which can examine the inside of the body (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) |

1. Check your understanding: true or false

Circle *True* or *False* for these sentences.

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|----|---|-------------|--------------|
| 1. | Reading can give you the same enjoyable feeling that you get when listening to music. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 2. | Scientists asked people to read texts while a machine examined activity in their brain. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 3. | All reading texts produced the same emotional response in the participants. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 4. | There was no difference in brain activity between reading poetry and reading prose. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 5. | Professor Zeman thinks that more research needs to be done on how the brain reacts to poetry and prose. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 6. | The study confirmed something the researchers had believed before. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |

2. Check your vocabulary: gap fill

Read the text and write the correct form of the word in brackets to complete the gaps. Look at the example at the beginning of the text.

There is no doubt that many people get a great deal of *PLEASURE* (**PLEASE**) from listening to music. This type of _____ (**ENJOY**) sometimes gives music listeners a thrill that activates certain areas of the brain.

The scientists gave some participants a _____ (**VARY**) of texts to read while a scanner examined their brain. The _____ (**CHOOSE**) of texts ranged from boring driving manuals to poems. Some of the _____ (**FIND**) confirmed what scientists already believed, but some other results were more surprising. For example, when the text was more emotional, there was _____ (**ACTIVE**) in the same area of the brain which reacts when someone gets a thrill from listening to music. This indicates that there are _____ (**SIMILAR**) between the emotional responses to music and literature.

A lot of questions still need to be answered. Despite the _____ (**DISCOVER**) made by the research team, many things remain _____ (**KNOW**) about how the brain reacts to music and literature.

Discussion

Do you prefer reading poetry, reading prose or listening to music?

Vocabulary Box

Write any new words you have learnt in this lesson.