

Tekst 1

G R A D E S

'A' Is for ...

ANYTHING GOES? FOR MORE than a decade, Ivy League colleges have been handing out superior grades for less than stellar performances. That's partly America's cult of self-esteem, where criticism is deemed harmful to a student's fragile ego. But mostly it's a response to stressed-out pupils determined to win admission to top Wall Street firms and law schools. So what's the report card on grade inflation? "A failure of honesty," Harvey Mansfield, a political philosophy professor at Harvard, calls it. This spring, he introduced a two-tiered grading system of his own: the "inflated" grade goes on a student's transcript, while a second "realistic" grade goes to the student privately. "Grade inflation is anti-intellectual," says Bradford Wilson, director of the National Association of Scholars. "If the Ivy Leagues don't care about excellence, who will?"

Students receiving an "A" average, by percentage	Percentage
Harvard University, U.S.	51%
Stanford University, U.S.	53
Princeton University, U.S.	45
University of Tokyo, Japan	30*
Yonsei University, S. Korea	30
Moscow State U., Russia	25†
Oxford U., England	13**

**EXCELLENT' THIS DATA IS FOR FRESHMEN AND SOPHOMORES ONLY.
†TOP GRADE IS A "B". **TOP GRADE IS A "FIRST".

Newsweek

Tekst 2

LOO REVIEW NUMBER 10:

McDonald's Uncontested

I would never say that the famous McDonald's logo looks gaudily out of place among the chic designer shops in elegant Rose Crescent. Let it be known from the outset that I am not in the least inclined to be critical of this most litigious of multinationals. (For imitators and detractors have found themselves in court quicker than you can say "a bottle of fizzy chemicals and a portion of fries, please".) Staff wages as a percentage of gross profits, the environmental impact of packaging, the effect of cattle ranching on precious rain forests – none of these are my concern. Nor – even though neither Miriam nor I are fast-food junkies – is the quality of food served in the establishment (which I presume to be excellent). What goes into the body concerns us only in that the location of waste removal forms the subject of this study.

2 their toilets are wonderful. Small, though – like those in an aircraft, was Miriam's impression – but clean and well-stocked with toilet paper. Steel and mock marble grey decor, with unusual hole-in-the-wall combined hand washer/driers. Very 21st century. And there were calm sanitisers and air-fresheners supplied by Rentokil. Generally efficient, although the door on the men's cubicle was stiff, and the flush wasn't working properly. Not that I'm complaining, you understand. And anyway, the exercise was purely academic since I had just come in to check out the loo.

WC Rolls

The Cambridge Student

Tekst 3

De volgende tekst is het begin van het eerste hoofdstuk van The Sweetest Dream, een roman van Doris Lessing.

An early evening in autumn, and the street below was a scene of small yellow lights that suggested intimacy, and people already bundled up for winter. Behind her the room was filling with a chilly dark, but nothing could dismay her: she was floating, as high as a summer cloud, as happy as a child who had just learned to walk. The reason for this uncharacteristic lightness of heart was a telegram from her former husband, Johnny Lennox — Comrade Johnny — three days ago. SIGNED CONTRACT FOR FIDEL FILM ALL ARREARS AND CURRENT PAYMENT TO YOU SUNDAY. Today was Sunday. The ‘all arrears’ had been due, she knew, to something like the fever of elation she was feeling now: there was no question of his paying ‘all’ which by now must amount to so much money she no longer bothered to keep an account. But he surely must be expecting a really big sum to sound so confident. Here a little breeze — apprehension? — did reach her. Confidence was his — no, she must *not* say stock-in-trade, even if she had often in her life felt that, but could she remember him ever being outfaced by circumstances, even discomfited?

On a desk behind her two letters lay side by side, like a lesson in life’s improbable but so frequent dramatic juxtapositions. One offered her a part in a play. Frances Lennox was a minor, steady, reliable actress, and had never been asked for anything more. This part was in a brilliant new play, a two-hander, and the male part would be taken by Tony Wilde who until now had seemed so far above her she would never have had the ambition to think of her name and his side by side on a poster. And *he* had asked for her to be offered the part. Two years ago they had been in the same play, she as usual in a serviceable smaller role. At the end of a short run — the play had not been a success — she had heard on the closing night as they tripped back and forth taking curtain calls, ‘Well done, that was very good.’ Smiles from Olympus, she had thought that, while knowing he had shown signs of being interested in her.

But now she had been watching herself burst into all kinds of feverish dreams, not exactly taking herself by surprise, since she knew only too well how battened down she was, how well under control was her erotic self, but she could not prevent herself imagining her talent for fun (she supposed she still had it?) even for reckless enjoyment, being given room, while at the same time showing what she could do on the stage, if given a chance. But she would not be earning much money, in a small theatre, with a play that was a gamble. Without that telegram from Johnny she could not afford to say yes.

The other letter offered her a niche as Agony Aunt (name still to be chosen) on *The Defender*, well paid, and safe. This would be a continuation of the other strand of her professional life as a freelance journalist, which is where she earned money. She had been writing on all kinds of subjects for years. At first she had tried her wings in local papers and broadsheets, any place that would pay her a little money. Then she found she was doing research for serious articles, and they were in the national newspapers. She had a name for solid balanced articles that often shone an unexpected and original light on a current scene.

She would do it well. What else had her experience fitted her for, if not to cast a cool eye on the problems of others? But saying yes to that work would have no pleasure in it, no feeling she would be trying new wings. Rather, she would have to steady her shoulders with the inner stiffening of resolve that is like a suppressed yawn.

How weary she was of all the problems, the bruised souls, the waifs and strays, how delightful it would be to say, ‘Right, you can look after yourselves for a bit, I am going to be in the theatre every evening and most of the day too.’ (Here was another little cold nudge: have you taken leave of your senses? Yes, and she was loving every minute.)

Tekst 4

Welcome to the Fat Slob Way of Life

1 **T**here are many reasons to take with an unhealthy pinch of salt the warning from Yvette Cooper, the minister for public health, that the life expectancy of today's children will be years lower than that of their parents.

2 With a few exceptions – sub-Saharan Africa as a result of the Aids epidemic, and Russia which has its own reasons – there has not been a significant decline in life expectancy anywhere. Rather, the great majority of countries have seen a continuous increase in the lifespans of their populations for several decades.

3 So what was the reasoning behind the health minister's statement?

4 National surveys have established beyond reasonable doubt that children's diets are far from optimal: kids do not eat enough fruit or vegetables, and eat too much salty, sugary and fatty food, usually pre-packaged. Many children take little or no exercise, and an increasing percentage of them are very fat.

5 Inactivity, obesity and high-fat diets are all associated with the fatal degenerative diseases of civilisation, such as cardiovascular disease and non-insulin-dependent diabetes. It stands to reason, does it not, that the life expectancy of children who are fat and lazy must be reduced in comparison to that of their lean and active forebears?

6 What might be called the Fat Slob Way of Life (FSWL) has been prevalent for much longer in the United States than in Britain, but life expectancy there has not decreased; on the contrary. Even in Britain, the rate of heart attacks has fallen, and the whole pattern of the rise and decline of such attacks during the 20th century was, some epidemiologists have suggested, more characteristic of an infectious disease than one brought about by the wrong diet.

7 Cooper discounts the possibility that advances in medicine will be able to save people from the consequences of the



Never mind the length,
Theodore Dalrymple
is more concerned about the
quality of our lives

FSWL. She is almost certainly wrong to do so. Nevertheless, she has pointed to an alarming cultural phenomenon.

8 The FSWL is gaining ground. However, it is not the alleged health consequences that should alarm us so much as what it tells us about the soul of modern man. But the health minister is a member of a government with an ideological belief that one way of life is as good as another; that to make no judgement is the highest moral quality; and

that what the common man does cannot be wrong. Everyone, however, is in favour of health, so it is safe to warn about the health consequences of the FSWL.

9 What is the characteristic smell of modern Britain? It is that of stale fat in which fast food has been fried too many times. Travel on an evening train, and the carriages will smell of the fat of greasy hamburgers; high streets up and down the land smell of it.

10 The eating habits of a large proportion of the British population are appalling, from almost every conceivable angle. But what is worrying indeed is how they eat it. For millions of people, meals are solitary, poor, nasty, British and short.

11 A sociologist told me recently that fewer than half of British households have a dining table. When I go on house visits to patients, I see little sign of cooking ever having gone on, or of meals taken as social occasions (unless the family is of Indian origin).

12 Wherever I walk, the litter in the streets reveals that an Englishman's street is his dining room. Gutters and gardens contain the remains of scores of hastily consumed snacks, with tins, bottles, paper wrappers and polystyrene containers dropped where the last morsel was eaten.

13 This is an extraordinary change in my (not very long) lifetime. Eating in the street was once regarded as uncouth and anti-social. Is it that modern man suffers

stronger, more insistent pangs of hunger than his immediate ancestors?

14 Certainly not. What has changed is his willingness to exercise self-control. I feel a twinge of hunger, and so I must, here and now, assuage it (and it is my right to do so). I have no duty to control myself for the sake of my fellow citizens: if they don't like it, the problem is theirs and they should see a psychiatrist. As for the litter I leave, do I not pay taxes so that it might be cleared up?

15 It is not a question of poverty (except of spirit, imagination, emotion, culture and education). Fast food is not cheap nourishment. Eating properly is almost entirely dependent upon social structure. My wife and I make considerable efforts to eat freshly cooked meals. But if one of us is away, the quality of what we eat declines immediately. The unutterable vileness of the FSWL diet derives, therefore, from two social trends: the

break-up of the family and the spread of radical, indeed solipsistic, individualism, according to which the only guide to a person's actions should be his whim of the moment. And the two trends strongly reinforce each other.

16 It is scarcely any wonder that the public health minister confined herself to spurious concerns about the health consequences of the FSWL. To have addressed the real cultural problems that have resulted in the FSWL would have required great courage: it would have been to question the assumptions upon which the government bases its policies.

17 The most important thing about the FSWL is not that it shortens life by a month, a year or a decade. The Fat Slob Way of Life is symptomatic of a world in which, increasingly, we are solitary when we should be social, and collectivist when we should be individualist.

New Statesman

■ Tekst 5

GLOBALISATION

Local must replace global

Colin Hines argues that globalisation cannot be tamed; it must be stopped in its tracks

We have seen them on the streets in Seattle, London and Melbourne. We shall soon see them in Prague. But it is time for the anti-globalisation protesters to move from opposition to proposition. What is it that will achieve all the goals – job security, a less polluted planet, the relief of poverty – sought by the disparate coalition that mounts the protests? The answer, I believe, is to replace globalisation with localisation.

This alternative insists that everything that can sensibly be produced within a nation or region should be so produced. Long-distance trade is reduced to supplying what cannot come from within one country or geographical grouping of countries. Technology and information would still be encouraged to flow, but only where they can strengthen 14. Under these circumstances, beggar-your-neighbour globalisation would give way to the potentially more co-operative better-your-neighbour localisation.

Globalisation cannot be tinkered with. Campaigns for labour standards or “fair trade” or voluntary ethical codes 15 the nature of the trade liberalisation beast. These attempts are like trying to lasso a tiger with cotton. We should aim, instead, to return the tiger to its original habitat.

International trade was originally a search for 16; Europeans went to India for spices and other exotics, not for coal. That is precisely the “localisation” approach, but without the disastrous social effects of colonialism. Long-distance trade should be only for acquiring what cannot be provided within the region where people live.

We must play the 17 at their own game. They have a clear goal: maximum trade and money flows for maximum profit. They frame policies and trade rules that will achieve this. Those who want a more just, secure, environmentally sustainable future must have an equally clear goal and equally detailed policies for achieving it.

The policies for localisation 18 the reintroduction of protective safeguards for domestic economies (tariffs, quotas and so on); a “site here to sell here” rule for manufacturing and services; the development of local currencies so that more money stays within its place of origin; local competition policies to eliminate monopolies from more protected economies; increased democratic involvement at local level; the introduction of resource taxes.

This will not be the old-style protectionism that seeks to protect a home market, while expecting others to remain open. The global emphasis will be on 19. Any residual long-distance trade will be geared to funding the diversification of local economies.

All opponents of aspects of globalisation should recognise that this is the only way forward. It is no use their fighting the specific issues that concern them. Trade unionists must recognise that “labour standards” are an impossibility under globalisation, because countries have to lower standards to compete. And 20 should see that globalisation, and its commandment that every nation must contort its economy to outcompete every other nation, blocks any chance of dealing with climate change, the greatest threat to the planet. High taxation on fossil fuels will always be trumped by threats from big business to 21. Under localisation, that would not be an option, for companies would not be allowed to sell their goods in a region they had deserted.

The 20th century was dominated by conflict between the left and the right. The big battle of the 21st century should be fought between the globalists of today’s political centre on one side, and an alliance of localists, red-greens and “small c” conservatives on the other. Only if the latter win will we have any chance of a fairer, greener world.

The writer’s Localisation: a global manifesto is published by Earthscan (£10.99)

Tekst 6

‘I found it hard to stay awake’

1 **T**HIS TIME, unlike the last time I saw it in 1972, Stanley Kubrick’s infamous *A Clockwork Orange* did not shock at all, which is itself a bit shocking since it suggests that in the intervening 28 years we have become much more inured than we used to be to scenes of extreme sex and violence.

2 Just how little this was so in 1972 I have cause to remember well. As a member of the Lord Longford Pornography Commission it fell to me and my first wife, Claudie, to accompany Frank to a special private showing of the film. So great was his horror at the brutal rapes, horrific beatings – not to mention the first ever reference to homosexuality in prisons – that I don’t think he would have survived without having my wife’s supportive hand to cling on to.

3 My own, scarcely-less-extreme, sense of shock and outrage was summed up later in *The Sunday Telegraph*, under the heading “Muck in name of Art”. I wrote then: “The cult of sentimentality has given way to the cult of sensuality, the dangers of hagiography to the dangers of muck-raking, the pretence that man is far better than he is to the pretence that he is far worse.”

4 Why do I have no temptation today to replay that record? Partially, as I say, because muck in films, television dramas, novels and advertisements is now so much an everyday occurrence as no longer to be worthy of note. But just as great a reason, for me, is that in the intervening years I have come to suspect that rubbing the public’s nose in muck may do more good than harm.

5 How can this be so? Has it not led to more rapes, more brutality, more violence? Statistically, yes. But that increase could quite as easily be because many more crimes of that kind are now reported and they are now reported, of course, because explicit films etc have taken those most dreadful aspects of human misbehaviour – incest and sexual abuse of children quite as much as rapes and violence – out of the sphere of the unmentionable.



Malcolm McDowell as Alex, leader of the ‘droogs’

6 The novels of Dickens are quite revealing in this respect. For although he shocked the Victorian conscience by portraying the cruelties (floggings, deprivation etc) perpetrated by masters in the charity institutions of the day, he stopped short of ever even hinting at sexual abuse, not because none took place – for it most certainly did – but because he, like his readers, could not bear to face that most dreadful of truths.

7 But was this refusal to go the whole hog desirable? Not if you bear in mind his enormous influence for good in other respects. Unquestionably his brave denunciation of cruelty to children in general did in time create a much gentler culture, from which many generations, including my own, benefited immeasurably.

8 Might, therefore, a denunciation of sexual abuse have done something comparably beneficial in that area as well? True, Dickens would have had great difficulty in finding a publisher for such shocking stuff, and had he been able to do so there would unquestionably have been critics eager to condemn it as “muck in the name of art”. But that would have been a small price to pay for bringing forward by a hundred years or so the kind of public outrage against sexual abuse of children which is only now gathering force following recent revelations of cases in this country.

9 No, I am not disregarding the

fact that explicit portrayals of sex and violence may incite a few loonies to emulate in their lives what they have seen in celluloid or in print. That does happen, and we may well soon read about some new outbreak of gang violence following this week’s reshooting of *A Clockwork Orange*. But for every loony tempted, there must be thousands of ordinary people disgusted. Seeing is believing.

10 *A Clockwork Orange* may brutalise a few, but it will also raise the consciousness – and conscience – of the many. Sex and violence have always been widespread; what has changed in recent years is that now it is more difficult to ignore them. Some are switched on; but many more, I would like to think, are switched off.

11 As to the film itself, it is – apart from the superbly crafted sex and violence bits, which are soon over – largely cliché-ridden twaddle of a standard that no reputable novelist would get away with. When caught, the leader of the “droogs” is subjected to aversion therapy, which makes him literally sick of sex and violence, thereby rendering him, against his will, entirely harmless to the public. Stanley Kubrick, very sensibly, thinks this state cure for crime by depriving a man of his free will be worse than the disease itself, and spends at least an hour and a half demonstrating the obvious.

12 No wonder, at this second viewing, I could hardly stay awake.

Andrew Hagan in
The Weekly Telegraph

■ Tekst 7

O P I N I O N

JOANNA BOURKE

- 1 IN HISTORY, nothing is clear cut. Contradiction and
confusion are always present in the texts we use to interpret
the past. Nowhere is this more so than when we analyse war
stories. Sometimes, the letters and diaries of British
5 servicemen seem to stutter in a desperate attempt to make
sense of the unutterable horror of their surroundings: 'I
cannot, cannot bear this, dear wife, the cries are just awful,
terrible, oh my,' scrawled one soldier during the Battle of the
Somme. Then, at another point, their letters become an eager
10 hymn to the 'joy of slaughter', the 'exhilaration' and
'satisfaction' of destroying human life.
- 2 What is the historian to make of such tensions? With a few
notable exceptions, military historians flinch away from
distasteful subjects involving 'our men'. Discussing British
15 men and women who were both victims *and* executioners is
taboo. My own case, a female historian writing about killing
in warfare, elicited looks of horror and, occasionally, rage
among some of my fellow historians.
- 3 We need to be more willing to discuss such topics,
20 however. There is no sense in being controversial for the sake
of it (poor scholarship wrecks careers, rather than making
them), but historians have a duty to men and women in the
past to discuss them in a full-rounded way. Their stories may
be contradictory, consolatory, and often fantastical, but
25 bewilderment, hope, and fantasy are the very stuff of human
experience.

Prof Joanna Bourke is the author of *An Intimate History of Killing*

BBC History Magazine

Tekst 8

Teaching's true vocation

Correlli Barnett (Letters, February 14) applauds Estelle Morris's "attempt to create a more equal balance between the academic and practical avenues in our schools", but does so in terms which themselves effortlessly reproduce that same old scenario, where "the practical" and "the academic" are opposed.

What are these "intensely boring academic studies"? I wonder whether there may not be a generational problem here — a tendency to look back with indignation and regret, rather than offering any hint of a teaching programme which starts from the supposition that all students need access to the full range of skills and knowledge. Some of these are reading-writing based, and include mastery of those activities; and some are grounded in mixed-mode practices — such as music technology or video production — but which also include critical perspectives and the history of the discipline, as well as mastery of its current and potential applications.

In this different scenario, Barnett's "academic" is also practised, rather than opposed to "practice"; no longer succumbed to as a dominant

code imposed from above. In some instances this is already happening. But what is needed, if that aspiration is to be widely realised, is a different language — and a better grasp of newer possibilities.

Prof Susan Melrose

● If you talk to even the most academically able 15-year-old pupils, you will find that most of them evaluate all school subjects according to their potential usefulness for future employment. This means that some subjects, such as history, English literature, even mathematics, are regarded as "useless". Any attempt by teachers to justify them in terms of usefulness results in trivialisation.

Let us by all means provide young people with training for work and let it have high prestige, but let it also be separate from education. Then the values of both may flourish in their own environments and not conflict. Perhaps, then, we could envisage the best of both worlds: a well-trained workforce of culturally sophisticated individuals.

Michael Bulley
Ashford, Kent

The Guardian

Tekst 9

Have We Lost the Healing Touch?

By Melvin Konner, M.D.

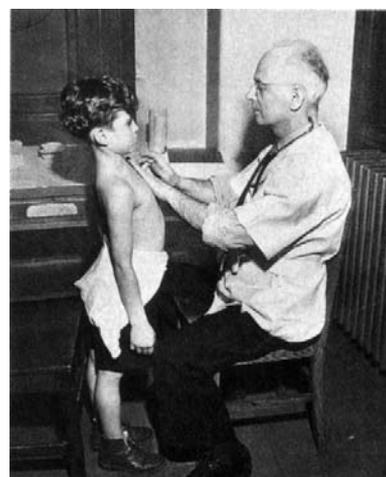
1 ADMIT IT: I LOVE TECHNOLOGY. Its potential astounds me. A friend of mine with a laparoscope takes an appendix or a gallbladder out through a couple of half-inch slits, watching the cutting end of a sleek tube on TV. Another, with his PET scanner, images people's brains every two seconds while they listen, think and talk. Still another uses the most advanced oscilloscope to guide an electrode through the brain of a Parkinson's patient, tracing the territory of the brain's motor centers. He's searching for cells he can burn out, thereby freeing someone from tremor and paralysis. Yet another monitors a dozen different measures in newborn babies' blood through a teeny cuff on a minuscule fingertip; the cuff is connected to a big bank of displays with colored blips and numbers. It's cool, it's pretty and it helps battle illness. If you haven't felt technology's power, you will. To paraphrase an old saying, there are no Luddites¹⁾ in hospital beds.

2 The question is, have we – doctors and patients – fallen so in love with technology that we are losing sight of its proper role? We reach out and touch it, as if to absorb its power. Never mind that 85 percent of the information needed to make a typical diagnosis comes from the history, a conversation with the patient. Or that the rest comes from the physical exam and some simple tests. Technology takes years to master, and doctors in training have only so many years. Will young doctors be prepared for the countless times when slick technology is not the best solution? Will they be able to guide frightened, vulnerable people through life-and-death decisions and know when to stop? Or will the machines take on a life of their own, as doctors who have never really learned to listen or to touch become appendages to computers?

3 We have gotten to where we simply don't feel cared for unless we are on the frontier of technology. "No MRI scan? What's the matter, aren't I good enough?" "No genetic screen? Don't stint, Doc, I want

the best." But technology can come between us and our doctors, who may be afraid to talk to patients and their families – and even more afraid to touch them in today's litigious atmosphere. Doctors are rarely sued for applying high technology, but they are often sued for omitting it. "Why didn't you do that test, Doctor?" is one question no physician wants to hear in court.

4 As countless new gizmos come online, both doctors and patients need more and



more discipline to resist overusing them. Unproven technology can be dangerous. All tests have false positives and trigger treatments that are potentially harmful for people who don't need them. As for fixing things, the newest and shiniest tool is not always the best. Just as there are surgical fads – tonsillectomy was one, Caesarean section another – there are gizmo fads as well. The rotoblator, a whirling burr on the end of a wire to ream out clogged arteries, came and went in the '90s, bogged down by technical flaws – but not before it was tried on thousands of patients, all of whom thought they were getting the latest and the best. Increasingly, technology diagnoses problems, triggering treatments whose effectiveness is judged technologically. Patients are nodded to in passing, rarely coming to understand what is going on, and leave the hospital without knowing how to

noot 1 The term Luddite has become synonymous with anyone who opposes the advance of industrial technology.

maintain complex schedules of medication,
diet and self-monitoring that could keep
them out of the hospital longer. Education
85 and prevention are not as cool as screens
and buttons, but they, too, are lifesaving.
5 One of my teachers came from three
generations of German pediatricians. His
father and grandfather used to make some
90 diagnoses by sniffing babies' stool. I don't
know how useful this was, but since it is a
lost art, we probably won't find out.
Another of my teachers said, "Find some
excuse to touch the patient in every
95 encounter." But as technological diagnosis

replaces physical examination, there is less
and less excuse for touching. However
scientific they are, doctors are always
shamans too. When we are in their hands,
100 they are magical to us. Pre-scientific
shamans claimed to recruit spiritual powers;
scientific ones invoke high technology. And
we want them to, because this is our
wizardry. Yes, it works a lot of the time, but
105 our faith in it goes far beyond its
effectiveness. Unless we find a balance
between the old arts of healing and the new
technology, we may lose as much as we
gain. And the loss may be irreversible.

Newsweek

Lees bij de volgende teksten steeds eerst de vraag voordat je de tekst zelf raadpleegt.

■ Tekst 10

Here kitty kitty...

Jonathan Heddle on a new cure for those who are allergic to furry pets

In many homes across the country lurks a health danger cunningly disguised as a fluffy ball of fun. While pets bring happiness to many, for those owners who are allergic, they can spell misery. Furthermore, the number of sufferers is on the increase.

ABOUT ONE IN THREE PEOPLE in the UK will experience an allergy-related problem in their lifetime. Up to 10% of the population are allergic to their pets, with cats being the number-one culprit. There is one obvious solution to the problem, but many people would rather suffer from sniffles, sneezes and itchy eyes than get rid of their four-legged family member.

Contrary to popular belief, pet allergies are not to the fur itself but rather to molecules of protein (called allergens) that coat the fur and usually come from the animal's urine, skin glands, or the microscopic skin cells (called dander) which they continuously shed. They are also present in the saliva, which is why the fastidious cat is the worst offender. Keeping your pet clean can help reduce exposure but the allergens are produced continuously and can never be completely eliminated.

When an allergic person first comes into contact with an animal, the allergen from the animal causes the sufferer's body to produce large amounts of an antibody called IgE. Antibodies are part of the body's natural defence system. They are usually involved in recognising and sticking to foreign invaders. In this case, as well as sticking to the allergenic animal protein, IgE attaches to some of the body's own cells, called mast cells. These are common in those areas of the body that react most strongly in allergic reactions: notably the nose, throat, lungs and skin.

The over-production of IgE means that a large reservoir of the antibody, already stuck to the mast cells, will be ready the next time the sufferer encounters the pet protein. In the subsequent exposure, the allergen will again attach to IgE. The IgE in turn causes the mast cells to release a number of chemicals including histamines.

IT IS HISTAMINES that are responsible for many of the symptoms of an allergic reaction such as itching, a watery nose and problems breathing. They work by increasing the permeability of blood vessels, causing fluid to leak out into the surrounding area, leading to swelling and itching.

Histamines also trigger other cells to release further chemicals, which in turn cause allergy symptoms, thus setting in motion a chain reaction. They also cause

some muscles, such as those in the airways, to contract. This can lead to the wheezing that some people experience.

The most common treatment for allergies is in the form of anti-histamine drugs. As their name suggests, these drugs work by binding to histamine receptors. Anti-histamine drugs look similar enough to real histamine to be able to compete against it in order to attach to the histamine receptors, but different enough that, once they have replaced histamine, they are unable to trigger the allergic response.

Unfortunately, antihistamines are not always effective and, like all drugs, they are not without side effects. The early drugs caused serious drowsiness. Newer versions are much safer but people often forget to take their daily dose.

In some cases, treatment can involve anti-allergy injections. Allergy shots work by continually exposing the body's immune system to the allergen until it builds up a resistance. However, injections only work against one specific allergen and have to be continued on a monthly basis.

BUT A NEW HOPE IS ON THE HORIZON. An allergy vaccine could give a permanent cure. The vaccine is being developed by Resistentia, a Swedish pharmaceutical company. It stimulates the body's immune system to completely destroy its own IgE antibody: without IgE, most allergic responses will simply not occur. The company claims the vaccine will be effective against pet allergies as well as hay fever and other common allergies and will require just a few treatments a year.

"A vaccine lies some years in the future, but we are very pleased with the current results," says Professor Lars Hellman, whose research group at Uppsala University in Sweden is working closely with Resistentia. "If we can succeed also in coming clinical trials, it will mean a major scientific breakthrough, and it will mean that allergy-sufferers will obtain help in a completely new way."

As with all medical treatments the vaccine does not come without a cost. In this case, it may mean an end to exotic holidays. This is because IgE's natural role in the body seems to be defending against parasitic infections. Such infections are rare in industrialised northern countries but common in the developing world. But for those torn between getting rid of a beloved pet and enduring the misery of allergy it may well be a price worth paying.

The Guardian

Tekst 11

LAN of Magic & Opportunity

Bring your magic to The Walt Disney Company's Worldwide Services Group, where we keep Disney's diverse businesses on the cutting edge of information technology! Through the following opportunity, you could provide advanced networking solutions for our European corporate offices and business units.

Network Engineer

Utilizing your 4-6 years of data communication experience, you will install and maintain network systems (hardware and software) and provide troubleshooting and on-call support for our European WAN. You will also prepare network performance reports; write scripts to automate network functions; and implement layer-3 filters in the routers.

Candidates will have a Bachelor's degree in Engineering, Telecommunications, Computer Science or Mathematics; and knowledge of LAN environments (Ethernet, Token Ring, switching, FDDI, ATM), operating systems (Netware 3/4, Windows NT, AppleTalk/Mac), and routing equipment/protocols (Cisco routers, RIP, NLSF, IGRP, EIGRP, OSPF, BGP, IP, IPX, NETBios/NetBEUI). You must be an excellent problem solver who interacts diplomatically with various business units, and operates effectively in a multinational environment. Excellent interpersonal and written/verbal communication skills are also essential. Travel required.

Get in on our exciting network and earn a competitive salary and excellent benefits! Please forward your resume with salary history to: **The Walt Disney Company, Attn: F. Bobin, Disneyland Paris, F-77777 Marne la Vallee Cedex 4, France.** E-mail: francois_bobin@corp.disney.com

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Let op: beantwoord een open vraag altijd in het Nederlands, behalve als het anders is aangegeven. Als je in het Engels antwoordt, levert dat 0 punten op.

■ Tekst 1 'A' Is for ...

- The heading ('A' Is for ...) is followed by "Anything goes?".
- 1p 1 ■ What does this question suggest, judging from the article?
- A American universities can no longer compete with universities abroad.
 - B Students should be honest about their real level of achievement.
 - C Top students at American universities are not given a chance to stand out.
 - D Universities should award students grades in accordance with their achievements.

■ Tekst 2 McDonald's Uncontested

- 1p 2 ■ Which of the following should fill the gap in text 2?
- A And
 - B Besides,
 - C Even
 - D Nevertheless,

■ Tekst 3 De volgende tekst...

- 3p 3 □ Geef van elk van de onderstaande uitspraken aan of deze in de loop van de passage juist of onjuist blijkt te zijn.
- 1 Frances is normaal gesproken geneigd tot somberheid.
 - 2 Frances heeft niet altijd vertrouwen in het optimisme van haar ex-man.
 - 3 De twee brieven op haar bureau staan symbool voor alles wat het leven Frances heeft geleerd.
 - 4 Frances stelt zich voor dat Tony Wilde's keuze voor haar niet alleen te maken heeft met haar acteertalent.
 - 5 Frances zou er moeite mee hebben de haar aangeboden betrekking bij *The Defender* te aanvaarden.
 - 6 Frances is vastbesloten de haar aangeboden rol aan te nemen.
- Noteer het nummer van elke uitspraak, gevolgd door "juist" of "onjuist".

■ Tekst 4 Welcome to the Fat Slob Way of Life

- 1p 4 ■ Which of the following is/are right, judging from paragraphs 1-2?
- 1 Yvette Cooper's warning on children's health deserves serious attention.
 - 2 Yvette Cooper is concerned that Britain's public health will drop below third-world levels.
- A Both are right.
 - B Only 1 is right.
 - C Only 2 is right.
 - D Both are wrong.

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- “So what ... statement?” (aline 3)
- 1p 5 Waar eindigt de beschrijving van de redenering van Yvette Cooper?
Noteer de laatste twee woorden van de beschrijving.
- 1p 6 Which of the following can be concluded from paragraph 6?
A Heart attacks need not be deadly anymore.
B Heart patients are usually well aware of the dangers of the FSWL.
C The FSWL does not necessarily lead to heart disease.
- “She is almost certainly wrong to do so.” (aline 7)
- 1p 7 Waar gaat Yvette Cooper aan voorbij volgens Theodore Dalrymple?
- 1p 8 What is the point made about the government in paragraph 8?
A It encourages the general public to be more critical about what constitutes a healthy life.
B It fails to go further than just addressing the symptoms of a serious issue.
C It should give the man in the street better information about the health risks of some types of food.
D It should refrain from interfering in private matters of citizens.
- 1p 9 What is the main point made in paragraphs 10-12?
A A great many British people spend their money on eating out.
B For a great many British people eating is no longer a communal activity.
C The British will eat anything at any time of the day.
- “This is an extraordinary change” (aline 13).
- 1p 10 Aan welke oorzaak schrijft Theodore Dalrymple deze verandering toe?
- 1p 11 What is the point made in paragraph 15?
Bad eating habits
A are characteristic of the socially deprived groups in society.
B originate in the pressure of present-day working conditions.
C prevail among the young, and among single people.
D reflect changes in society as well as in personal attitudes.
- 1p 12 Which of the following has been mentioned in the text as one of “the assumptions upon which the government bases its policies” (last sentence paragraph 16)?
A A government is negligent when it does not tackle diseases affecting large population groups.
B A healthy society is one that is based on family values.
C Eating habits are not the only factor to determine the quality of life.
D It is not up to the government to take a moral stance on the way people choose to live.
- 1p 13 What function is paragraph 17 meant to serve?
A To add a last new argument to the writer’s reasoning.
B To illustrate the FSWL.
C To summarise the writer’s point about the FSWL.
D To warn against the FSWL.

Tekst 5 Globalisation

Kies bij iedere open plek in de tekst het juiste antwoord uit de gegeven mogelijkheden.

- 1p 14
- A clean production processes
B international trade
C local economies

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1p 15 ■

- A fundamentally mistake
- B irreparably change
- C seriously harm
- D warmly embrace

1p 16 ■

- A expansion
- B novelty
- C prestige
- D profit

1p 17 ■

- A globalisers
- B local entrepreneurs
- C protesters

1p 18 ■

- A counterbalance
- B include
- C replace
- D undermine

1p 19 ■

- A international competition
- B local trade
- C long-term effects
- D removing trade barriers

1p 20 ■

- A anti-globalisation protesters
- B environmentalists
- C multinationals
- D the rich countries

1p 21 ■

- A cut wages
- B move away
- C raise prices

■ Tekst 6 'I found it hard to stay awake'

"which is itself a bit shocking" (aline 1)

1p 22 □ Waarom, volgens Andrew Hagan?

1p 23 ■ What do paragraphs 2 and 3 serve to illustrate?

- A The capacity to offend that *A Clockwork Orange* had in 1972.
- B The degree of aggression and violence in *A Clockwork Orange*.
- C The hypocrisy of film censors in the 1970s.
- D The way the press sensationalised the unusual aspects of *A Clockwork Orange*.

1p 24 ■ Which of the following is true of the writer's present stance on what he wrote in 1972?

- A He feels that he did not do justice to the film director's artistic achievement at the time.
- B He has since realised there may be a point in confronting people with examples of base behaviour.
- C He insists that the gradual acceptance of violence over the years has proved him right in the end.
- D He regrets it because his judgment had been unfairly influenced by other people's reactions.

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- “How can this be so?” (alinea 5).
- 1p 25 Hoe beantwoordt Andrew Hagan deze vraag?
Vul de onderstaande zin aan op je antwoordblad:
Het openlijk aandacht besteden aan seks en geweld in films en dergelijke...
- 1p 26 Why does the writer call Dickens’ novels “quite revealing” (paragraph 6)?
A They exposed the hypocrisy of those who committed atrocities while pretending to be good citizens.
B They illustrate that the existence of certain types of brutal behaviour could not even be acknowledged.
C They provide insight into the historical background of serious crimes against young people.
D They showed Victorian readers that their world was not as secure as they wanted to believe.
- 2p 27 In welk opzicht en op welk terrein prijst de schrijver Dickens, en in welk opzicht en op welk terrein bekritiseert hij hem, in de alinea’s 7 en 8?
Vul de onderstaande zinnen aan op je antwoordblad:
Hij prijst Dickens omdat...
Hij bekritiseert hem omdat...
- 1p 28 What does the writer mean by “Seeing is believing.” (paragraph 9)?
A Any reader who does not accept the author’s view now, is bound to do so after watching *A Clockwork Orange*.
B Many people want to see for themselves if *A Clockwork Orange* is as violent as reported.
C Once people have seen *A Clockwork Orange*, they will take the issue of violence seriously.
- 1p 29 Wat maakt de schrijver duidelijk over “Some” in alinea 10?
- 1p 30 What is the writer’s final judgment of *A Clockwork Orange*?
A After a promising start it rapidly turns into a vulgar display of sex and violence.
B Both subject and filming technique have become outdated.
C Its solution to the issue presented lacks artistic and intellectual originality.

■ Tekst 7 OPINION

- 1p 31 What is the main point made in the first paragraph?
A At times of war people are capable of crimes too horrendous for explanation.
B Historians often contradict each other when analysing the past.
C Historians would rather ignore certain facts when analysing a war.
D Making sense of war entails dealing with the emotions evoked by warfare.
- 1p 32 What is to be concluded about military historians from the second paragraph?
A They are inclined to pay little attention to the role of women in warfare.
B They feel that writing war history is not a woman’s field.
C They like to emphasise soldiers’ heroism rather than their fears and doubts.
D They tend to close their eyes to the savagery of their compatriots in battle.
- 1p 33 Which quotation sums up the main point made by Joanna Bourke?
A “Contradiction and ... the past.” (lines 1-3)
B “With a ... ‘our men’.” (lines 12-14)
C “There is ... of it” (lines 20-21)
D “historians have ... full-rounded way” (lines 22-23)

■ Tekst 8 Teaching's true vocation

Hieronder staan vijf uitspraken. Twee ervan geven elk een opvatting weer van één van de twee briefschrijvers.

1 Practical training is ultimately the only useful thing in education.

2 Pupils do not realise the relevance of academic subjects.

3 Recently introduced school subjects do not deserve to be called academic.

4 School subjects should be approached from an academic as well as a practical perspective.

5 Teachers are reluctant to experiment with new approaches in education.

- 2p 34 Noteer de naam van de twee briefschrijvers, gevolgd door het nummer van de uitspraak die zijn/haar opvatting weergeeft.

■ Tekst 9 Have We Lost the Healing Touch?

- 1p 35 ■ What do the examples in paragraph 1 serve to illustrate?

- A The appeal exerted by medical technology.
- B The false expectations medical technology has raised.
- C The improvement of public health as a result of medical technology.
- D The writer's conviction that medical technology is being used beyond the permissible.

- 1p 36 ■ Which of the following could replace "Never mind that" (line 29)?

- A It goes without saying that
- B It is rightly assumed that
- C We do not object to the fact that
- D We seem to forget that

- 1p 37 ■ Which of the following is true of the sentence "Or will ... to computers?" (lines 41-44)?

- A It aims to belittle the problem touched upon by the two previous questions.
- B It questions the advantages of the development sketched in the two previous questions.
- C It suggests the writer's misgivings with respect to the issue raised in the two previous questions.
- D It underlines the main concern of the doctors referred to in the two previous questions.

- 1p 38 ■ Which of the following are in line with the writer's point in paragraph 3?

1 Doctors ought to do every available test before making a diagnosis.

2 Nearly every illness can now be diagnosed with technology, even if it cannot be cured yet.

3 The pressure to apply technology does not only come from the medical profession.

4 The threat of facing a claim from a patient may make doctors do unnecessary tests.

- A Only 1 and 2.
- B 1, 2 and 3.
- C Only 3 and 4.
- D 1, 3 and 4.

- 1p 39 ■ What is criticised in "Patients ... lifesaving." (lines 79-86)?

- A Failing medical technology.
- B Patients' passive attitude.
- C The medical world.

- 1p 40 ■ What does the example of the "German pediatricians" (line 88) serve to illustrate?

The writer's view that

- A doctors derive part of their authority from very personal ways of examining the patient.
- B in the past physical disorders were too often seen as symptoms of mental disease.
- C valuable medical expertise may get lost if we rely too much on technology.

Lees bij de volgende opgaven steeds eerst de vraag voordat je de bijbehorende tekst raadpleegt.

■ Tekst 10 Here kitty kitty...

- 1p 41 Citeer de eerste twee woorden van de zin waarin de werking van “a new cure” (onderkop) wordt uitgelegd.

■ Tekst 11 LAN of Magic & Opportunity

- 3p 42 Geef van elk van de onderstaande eisen aan of de “Network Engineer” volgens de advertentie hieraan wel of niet moet voldoen.
- 1 Bereid zijn een aanvullende studie te volgen.
 - 2 Bereid zijn voor het werk te reizen.
 - 3 Bereid zijn in de buurt van Disneyland te gaan wonen.
 - 4 Een academische opleiding gevolgd hebben.
 - 5 Vloeiend meerdere Europese talen kunnen spreken.
 - 6 Mensen kunnen opleiden in het gebruik van netwerksystemen.
- Noteer het nummer van elke eis, gevolgd door “wel” of “niet”.