

USE OF ENGLISH –GAPPED TEXTS

Exercise 1: Complete the text with the words from the box on the right. There are THREE words you will not need!

age	agency	approaching	depending	different	disagree	existence
fatal	humans	pass	popular	possibility	predictions	reality
storyline	survive	technology	traveller	universe	unclear	experience

Time travel - moving between ⁽¹⁾ _____ points in time – has been a ⁽²⁾ _____ topic for science fiction for decades. Films ranging from *Doctor Who* to *Star Trek* have seen ⁽³⁾ _____ getting into a vehicle of some sort and arriving in the past or future, ready to take on new adventures. The ⁽⁴⁾ _____, however, is much more unclear. While some scientists claim that time travel is possible others say, even if it were, it would be ⁽⁵⁾ _____ for humans to try it.

For Albert Einstein, the 20th century's greatest physicist, time is relative. It does not ⁽⁶⁾ _____ equally for everyone. His theory of special relativity says that time slows down or speeds up ⁽⁷⁾ _____ on how fast you move compared with something else. ⁽⁸⁾ _____ the speed of light, a person inside a spacecraft would be much younger than his twin on Earth. In the same way, astronauts who are sent into space ⁽⁹⁾ _____ slightly slower than they would on earth.

According to the American space ⁽¹⁰⁾ _____ NASA, there are scenarios that would make travelling back and forth in time imaginable. One ⁽¹¹⁾ _____ would be through wormholes, bridges between certain points in space and time. While theoretically possible, we do not even know if wormholes exist. In addition, we are far from creating a ⁽¹²⁾ _____ that would let us move through them.

Besides the physics problem, time travel may also come with some unique situations. A classic example is the grandfather effect, in which a time ⁽¹³⁾ _____ goes back and kills his parents or his grandfather – the main ⁽¹⁴⁾ _____ in the “Terminator” movies – so that he is never born or his life is forever changed. If that were to happen, some physicists say you would not be born in one parallel universe but still be born in another.

A large number of scientists ⁽¹⁵⁾ _____ with all the above-mentioned options. They claim that time travel will never work because it is mathematically impossible. In addition, nobody could ⁽¹⁶⁾ _____ traveling at the speed of light. Despite these bleak ⁽¹⁷⁾ _____, we can still ⁽¹⁸⁾ _____ time travel through movies, television and books.

https://www.english-grammar.at/online_exercises/vocabulary-missing-word-cloze/mwc009-time-travel.htm

Exercise 2: Read the text about how opioid use has changed life expectancy in the US. Fill in the gaps with the right words. There are THREE items you will not need to use.

US Life Expectancy Drops Because of Opioid Abuse

For the second year in a row life expectancy in the United States has (1) _____. One of the main reasons is the (2) _____ in opioid-related deaths, especially with young adults.

Life expectancy in 2016 was 78.4 years, (3) _____ to 78.6 years two years earlier. It is the first two-year decline in over 50 years. While life expectancy in other parts of the world is increasing, the (4) _____ American is dying at an earlier age.

According to a recently (5) _____ report, overdoses of painkillers and other opioids are causing more and more (6) _____ deaths. The figures have risen from 6.1 per 100,000 people in 1999 to 21 per 100,000 people in 2016. Last year, 63,000 people died from some form of (7) _____ overdose. While 15,000 of them were heroin addicts, an (8) _____ 14,000 died from other painkillers. Most of them were in the 28-54 year age group.

In many cases, drug is caused by a general dissatisfaction with a person's (9) _____ situation. This results in depression and (10) _____ if addicts don't have a family to support them. Such victims don't have the stability that they need. As a (11) _____, they turn to alcohol and drugs.

Opioids are drugs that (12) _____ pain by (13) _____ pain receptors in the brain. You need a doctor's (14) _____ to get them, but more and more people are buying them illegally on the streets. While many start out with painkilling drugs, they later turn to heroin, also an opioid. In the terminal (15) _____ of cancer, morphine is often used to reduce a patient's pain.

abuse aiming alarming average compared consequence
decreased drug hopelessness prescription published personal
premature reduce rise steps stages targeting

Taken from: https://www.english-grammar.at/online_exercises/vocabulary-missing-word-cloze/mwc027-us-life-expectancy-drops-because-of-opioid-abuse.htm