

UOW College Hong Kong / Community College of City University
Student English Enhancement Unit (SEE U)
Daily English Practice

Week 8

#186 Fun Facts about the Brain: Interesting facts about the human brain

Skills/ Objectives: Reading, Listening and Writing Skills

PART 1: Before you read...

Preparatory questions

Qt 1. Do you know what kind of food can help improve your brain memory?

Qt 2. Do you think dieting harms your brain?

Qt 3. Do you think stress can kill your brain cells?

The answers Qt1 to Qt3 will be provided in the next set of exercises.

The answers to relevant questions in the preceding set of exercises (Essay Writing Tip – How to make referencing?) are as follows:

Qt 2: How can we make sure we are making accurate references in our assignment?

Ans: The best way to make sure you reference accurately is to keep a record of all the sources you used when reading and researching for an assignment.

Qt 3: How does referencing help you gain marks from your marker?

Ans: By citing experts in your field, you are showing your marker that you are aware of the field in which you are operating.

Vocabulary

- stride (n): important improvement
- bout (n): a short period of illness or involvement in an activity
- chills (n): sudden unpleasant feelings
- solitary confinement (n): a punishment in which the person is locked up alone in a prison.
- pruning (n): reducing something by removing the unnecessary parts
- opiates (n): a drug that contains opium, especially one that causes sleep
- snap (v): cause something thin to break with a cracking sound
- glitch (n): a small problem or fault that prevents something from being successful or working as well as it should
- jolts (n): sudden movements

PART 2: Article for Reading

Read “49 Interesting Facts and Stories About the Human Brain” collected by Trevor English and posted on You Tube at the following link. You will learn a lot of interesting features of the human brain:

<https://interestingengineering.com/49-interesting-facts-and-stories-about-the-human-brain>

PART 3: Listening Comprehension

Listen to the following video scripts posted on YouTube to learn more about the subject while practicing your listening skills:

Fun Facts about the Brain: Interesting facts about the human brain

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sSbifqr7rGI>

How the human brain works

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9UukcdU258A>

PART 4: Writing Practice

Did you notice the following nicely put sentence in the article:

With that comes a wealth of knowledge and a variety of facts that you probably don't know about the brain.

In a normal sentence order, the prepositional phrase “with that” should come at the end; and, the verb “comes” should be at the middle such that the sentence should read:

A wealth of knowledge and a variety of facts that you probably don't know about the brain comes with that.

So, what is the purpose of this inversion in the sentence? You probably guessed it right. It is for emphasis of the significance of “that” which generates the effects of bringing about the coming of the knowledge and facts. Similar examples can be seen in the following sentences:

e.g., With this tool, I solved the problem.

e.g., With love, I feel my life meaningful.

e.g., With the subsidy of the government, many companies have made great profits in business this year.

Can you write a few similar sentences in this way of expression? **Send your writing to:** see.u@cccu.edu.hk. Remember! Our SEE U teachers are always ready to give you feedback.