

English in Mind Second edition

Level 5 Unit 12

Worksheet**THE** 
INDEPENDENT**How a blind man sees****Lead-in****1 What is Beauty?**

- 1 Write down three things you would describe as beautiful. Share your ideas with a partner.
- 2 What is meant by the saying 'Beauty is in the eye of the beholder'?
- 3 What kinds of things do you think might be beautiful to a blind person?

Reading comprehension**2 Read through the text quickly. Does the author mention any of the things you thought of?****3 Which of the following has he found helpful (H) or unhelpful (U) in building up an idea of beauty?**

- 1 Feeling positive about life. (H)
- 2 Trying to visualise objects by handling them.
- 3 Being present at a live sports match.
- 4 Trying to get a sense of the whole person.
- 5 Feeling a stranger's face with his hands.
- 6 Being reminded that he can't see.
- 7 Playing with his children.
- 8 Paying attention to the weather.
- 9 Being sensitive to the world around him.
- 10 Hearing or remembering the voices of loved ones.

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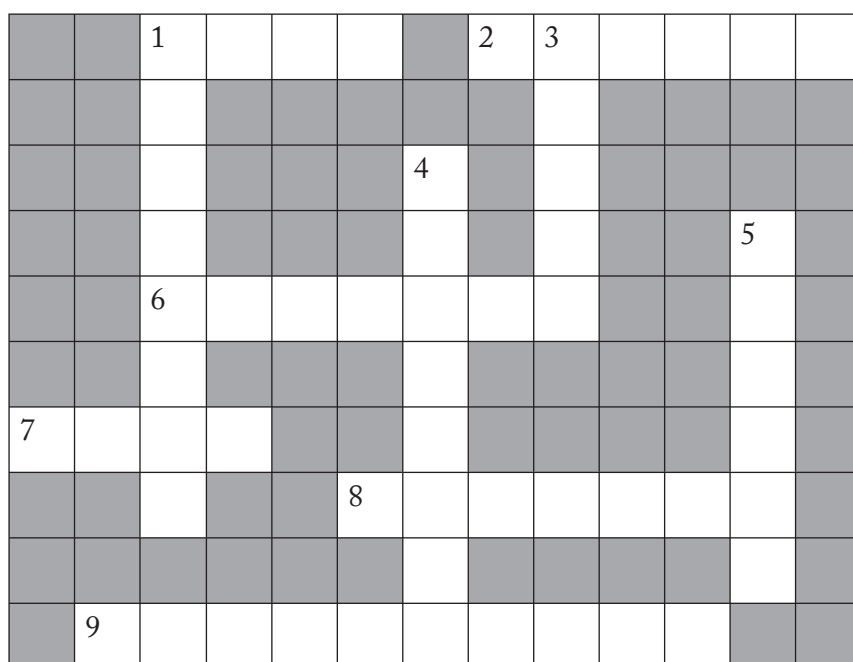
Worksheet

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Vocabulary

4 Complete the crossword with words from the text, matching them to the definitions below.



ACROSS

- 1 Rise high (para 4)
 2 Strange, scary (para 6)
 6 Relating to touch (para 6)
 7 A sudden sharp emotion (para 8)
 8 Loud and unpleasant (para 8)
 9 Madly, crazily (para 10)

DOWN

- 1 The careful and detailed examination of something in order to get information (para 6)
 3 Search (through)(para 6).
 4 Having a strong emotional impact (para 7).
 5 Real enjoyment (para 8)

5 Complete the following expressions from the text. Match them to the alternative phrases given below.

- a 'a two-way _____' (para 3)
 b 'hue and _____' (para 4)
 c 'But to be _____, things don't really ...' (para 5)
 d '... it is _____ as aesthetically pleasing to me as ...' (para 6)
 e 'noisily and with _____' (para 8)
 f 'from top to _____' (para 9)
 g _____ it to say' (para 11)

- 1 energetically and enthusiastically
 2 It's enough to state
 3 to say what I really think
 4 from head to foot
 5 noisy expression of public disapproval
 6 mutually beneficial, working both ways
 7 It's no more ... than

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6 Use the expressions in Exercise 5 to complete the following sentences.

- 1 My relationship with my mum is _____. We support each other.
- 2 _____, I find him annoying. I don't really want to go out with him again.
- 3 The cellist played the final movement _____.
- 4 My mum says that watching a cricket match is _____ exciting _____ watching the grass grow.
- 5 She was dressed _____ in pink.
- 6 _____ that he is a liar and a thief.
- 7 The _____ following the unexpected outcome of the election slowly died away.

Punctuation

7 Look at the punctuation marks in the box below. What do we call them? Insert them in the appropriate brackets in the sentences below.

"..." : , ; - ()

A *comma* ¹() indicates a short pause. It is used

- to separate clauses or phrases in a sentence
- to separate items on a list
- to perform a similar function to brackets ²()
- to clarify meaning by suggesting a break in the sentence

A *colon* ³() introduces a clause, phrase or single word which explains or expands the preceding statement.

A *semicolon* ⁴() can be used between two parts of a sentence, where each could form a separate grammatical sentence of its own. It is intermediate between a comma and a full stop.

Inverted commas or *quotation marks* ⁵() are put around

- speech
- words taken from a written source
- words used ironically or not with their true meaning

A *dash* ⁶() marks a sudden break or change of subject.

Work with a partner. Study paragraphs 1–5 of the text. Find examples of the punctuation marks listed above and discuss their function in the sentence.

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- 8** The following extract is taken from the final paragraph of the article. All the punctuation marks have been removed, apart from the full stops. Re-punctuate the passage.

When you stop and think about it if things are static and silent for us they might just as well not exist and this is nowhere more true than with weather. Hell for me is a still day. Give me thunder lightning hail and snow anything to remind me that I am part of an exciting universe. Rain is a particular delight because it brings alive normally static surfaces painting a landscape for me of what is usually invisible. I love to lie in bed listening to the different noises rain makes depending on where it's falling pattering on the roof tumbling out of gutters rushing down drainpipes drumming on tarmac whispering on to grass.

Compare your version with the original. Have you made the same decisions? How does punctuation help the reader?

Discussion

- 9** Discuss the following questions in pairs or small groups.

- 1 What would beauty mean to a *deaf* person? What, in your view, would be 'missing' from a deaf person's life?
- 2 The poet John Keats wrote: 'A thing of beauty is a joy for ever' (*Endymion*, 1818). Do you agree? Is beauty sometimes transient?

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