



Student's name _____ code _____

READING TEST 10th FORM

part 1

Read the text. Decide whether each statement (1-5) on the opposite page is true (T), false (F) or not given (N?G). Write down one letter (T, F or N/G) next to each of the statements. Transfer answers to answer-sheet (the form on a separate page).

Family Weekend column

BY TOBY BOLAND

Who's right?

I happened to hear my two children having an interesting disagreement yesterday. It wasn't the usual argument over whose turn it was to do the dishes or to fold the laundry; this was a more intellectual debate. Alice (17) argued that science is more important than art, while her younger brother, Kevin (16), insisted that imagination is far more valuable than knowledge.

Alice said art was perfectly nice as a hobby, but she didn't feel that it was a necessary factor in our human experience. Science, on the other hand, she described as the key to understanding everything we need to know about our universe and ourselves. Kevin was not convinced. He told her that art was vital for human beings because it helps us to express and feel things more deeply. Kevin also claimed that science and scientific knowledge were not particularly special. He said it was easy to acquire knowledge, adding that everyone has it – even the birds flying over our house have knowledge – but what sets us apart from the animals is imagination. With imagination, he said, all things are possible! (Kevin can be quite dramatic.)

My daughter stopped to consider her brother's comments. After a minute or two, she said she could partly agree with him. She liked the idea that art lets us

feel, while science lets us think, but she wasn't ready to give in completely. Thinking, according to Alice, is more important than feeling. At this, Kevin jumped up in disbelief. He started naming all the musicians Alice loves, all the books, the films, the designers, and he was telling her how these are all forms of art. He wanted to know how she could possibly think they were unimportant. Good point, Kevin.

I stood outside the door in silence. I didn't want them to know I was there because I wanted to be an objective listener and not a referee. However, I was discovered when I accidentally dropped the keys I was holding in my hand. Straight away, each one tried to get me to say that their point of view was the correct one. When I suggested that perhaps they were both right, Kevin sighed and Alice laughed. They thought I just didn't want to take sides, but that wasn't it. I explained that science and learning and knowledge were hugely important things, but art and expression and imagination were essential, too; not just as a kind of luxury, but something much more meaningful than that. Imagination and knowledge should exist together. To fully experience life, we need both of them.

My children looked at me with slight interest. They still wanted to know which one of them had won.

Are these statements true (T), false (F) or not given (NG)?

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1 We are told that art is Kevin's hobby. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 We learn that Alice likes music. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 The writer tried to stop the argument. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 He agrees with his daughter more than his son. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 He feels that art and science are equally important. | <input type="checkbox"/> |