

الاسم:
الرقم:مسابقة في مادة اللغة الانكليزية
المدة ثلاث ساعات**Part One: Reading****(Score: 11)**

Contrary to what some others say, the writer in the following text argues that messiness is advantageous and often leads to originality and success. When through with reading, answer the questions that follow.

Why Mess Can Bring a New Order to Your Life

- 1 It was with a grateful sigh that I picked up the new book *A Perfect Mess* by E. Abrahamson and D. Freedman. As someone who has wrestled for years with a chaotic life-style, I was more than ready to entertain the idea that my tendency towards disorganization could be giving me a natural advantage.
- 2 But it's a bold theory because the belief that mess is wrong is deeply ingrained in us. The book's survey shows that 59 % of us think 'somewhat less' or 'the worst' of messy people, and 70% of us think 'more of' someone who is neat and organized. However, Abrahamson and Freedman passionately believe that, for most of us, it's not our mess (an umbrella term for both physical mess and disorganization) that is the problem—it's the concomitant shame and negative emotions that come with it. They argue that most systems—companies, homes, even humans—actually function *better* with 'optimal mess' because an ultra-neat system is less creative and adaptive. 'In most cases, being messy and a little disorganized is a very rational, very normal response to a messy, dynamic world,' claims Freedman.
- 3 'Specifically, messiness can confer six key benefits: flexibility, completeness, resonance, invention, efficiency and robustness,' they claim. Take flexibility: if your usual day is a series of back-to-back meetings, you won't be able to respond instantly to the urgent problem your colleague highlights at 10 a.m.
- 4 Messy thinkers are also likely to embrace a far wider range of ideas and options, whereas a linear, organized mind tends to 'whittle away at the quantity and diversity of elements, eliminating some that would have proved useful or even critical'.
- 5 It was only when Olivia, 37, went into a catering business with her highly efficient friend Louise, that she realized the potential drawbacks of having an ordered mind. 'I'm disorganized, so I presumed Louise would be an excellent business partner,' she says. 'But when it came to thinking up menus, or coming up with creative ways to market the business, she couldn't contribute. Which is why, I think, we make a good team.'
- 6 There are inspiring examples of how messiness can contribute to success. Fleming, for example, only discovered penicillin because he accidentally left a Petri dish by an open window in his somewhat disordered lab. Mess allows random, apparently unconnected thoughts and events to produce meaning. 'The world around us is messy. Inevitably, then, when we set up ourselves and our systems to be neat and orderly, we're creating a sort of barrier,' note Abrahamson and Freedman. 'But while the barrier may succeed in keeping out mess, it can also cut us off from the very aspects of the outside world that are critical to our success.'
- 7 A messy desk provides a rapid, ultra-efficient work 'entry point' in the form of built-up clues and prompts, which we use intuitively to pick up yesterday's unfinished tasks. 'Creativity involves thinking new thoughts, doing things in new ways, and this is aided by randomness,' says Freedman.
- 8 It's a theory endorsed by my friend P. James, 42, who has reached a creative equanimity with her mess. An illustrator for children's books, Penny has an untidy office that becomes even more chaotic when she nears a project deadline. 'I can't file everything away because I need to refer to it all so often, to see how drawings progress,' she says. 'I have a vague intuitive order, so I can find what I need fairly quickly. It looks disordered, but it works.'
- 9 Messiness is a trait that develops early. 'Some children love to line everything up, whereas

others don't notice if they drop a toy. Yet the moral stance society takes against messiness makes us feel we have failed in some way, rather than accepting that it is sometimes just the way we are,' states Dr. Paul.

10 According to Abrahamson and Freedman, those who are genetically blessed with messy thinking should celebrate their natural edge. They argue that our human tendency to 'mentally neaten the world' is limiting. By rationalizing random events, making them fit neatly into our mental categories of chance, luck, coincidence, and fate, we limit our understanding of the world and our chance of succeeding. But even the most linear of thinkers can make their thinking messier: we just need to trust our instincts, overlook the negative attitudes we have towards disorder and listen to our 'inner mess.'

11 In fact, listening plays a key part in Abrahamson and Freedman's theory. They claim that the presence of random noise or signals in the environment is not only harmless, but it can also be helpful. Although it seems counterintuitive, random noise can significantly enhance any meaningful mental signals we are trying to pick up at the time.

12 'Once you understand the benefits of messiness, and develop a better understanding of the costs of neatness, you will feel more relaxed about the ways in which you're naturally and harmlessly messy, says Freedman. 'It's all about finding your own balance between order and disorder, and achieving the optimal level of mess.'

Questions

A. Answer each of the following in 1- 4 sentences of your own.

1. Why do Abrahamson and Freedman believe that 'mess' is not a problem? **(Score: 0.5)**
2. Why does the writer consider Abrahamson and Freedman's theory challenging? **(Score: 0.75)**
3. What problem might face organized people according to the authors of *A Perfect Mess*? **(Score: 0.5)**
4. How does the writer show that 'messiness' may lead to success? Support your answer with evidence. **(Score: 01)**
5. The writers say that neat system might be a sort of barrier. Explain how. **(Score: 0.75)**

B.

1. Describe the tone that prevails in paragraph 10. Support your answer with evidence. **(Score: 01)**
2. What type of conclusion does the writer use? Justify your answer. **(Score: 01)**
3. What is the thematic relation between paragraphs 4 and 5? Explain. **(Score: 01)**

C. Find words in paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 that have the following meanings. **(Score: 01)**

1. planted
2. associated
3. grant
4. react

D. Identify the pattern(s) of each of the following sentences, and then write the indicator(s). **(Score: 2.5)**

1. Sentence 1, paragraph 3, " 'Specifically, messiness can...they claim.'" (one pattern)
2. Sentence 2, paragraph 6, "Fleming,...disordered lab." (two patterns)
3. Sentence 1, paragraph 12, "'Once you...says Freedman.'" (two patterns)

E. Write a one-sentence summary of paragraph 7. **(Score: 01)**

Part Two: Writing **(Score 09)**

Success in business at times does not necessarily lead to happiness, especially when accompanied by a complete change in social and financial status. In an essay of 400-500 words, discuss the above statement, focusing on the case of a person who became rich and famous but felt unsettled and unhappy. Make sure that, in your introduction, you put your reader in the general atmosphere of your topic and clearly provide a thesis statement, and that each of your body paragraphs starts with a topic sentence which you back up with relevant supporting details. Draft, revise, and proofread your essay. Your writing will be assessed for ideas, language and style, and tidiness.

(Score: 05 for ideas and organization, 03 for language and style, and 01 for tidiness and legible handwriting)

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Part of the Q	Answer	Mark
	Competencies: - Utilize reading strategies - Develop literal and interpretive comprehension of written discourse - Produce transactional writing	
I-A-1	They say that many “systems” work better with “mess” which provides creativity; besides, it is not something that is not natural; it is very normal because the world we live in is messy.	0.5
I-A-2	The writer considers their theory challenging because it twists the common understanding of messiness.	0.75
I-A-3	Those who are well-organized may not be flexible. If they have a series of meetings, they may not be able to respond to an urgent call from a colleague or a friend.	0.5
I-A-4	He gives three examples of people whose messiness resulted in great success. For example, Fleming discovered penicillin as a result of his messiness; Olivia’s example proves how disorganization leads to creative ways to enhance business; P. James’ example also shows how success can be achieved by trusting our messy way of doing things.	01
I-A-5	Since the world we live in is messy, then a neat and organized system might be set against it to protect us. In this way it stands between this world and us, but unfortunately may prevent us from communicating with the outside world.	0.75
I-B-1	The tone in general is hopeful and encouraging. This is reflected in “support genetically blessed...” “Celebrate their natural edge”	01
I-B-2	The conclusion is that of restatement plus opinion and a call for action. The writer restates the main idea and at the same time gives his opinion and urges the readers to establish a balance between messiness and orderliness.	01
I-B-3	The thematic relation is that of reinforcement and support (illustration/ exemplification). Paragraph 4 states a kind of theory which is supported with an example in paragraph 5.	01
I-C-1	ingrained (Par.2)	0.25
I-C-2	concomitant (Par.2)	0.25
I-C-3	confer (Par.3)	0.25
I-C-4	respond (Par. 3)	0.25
I-D-1	Cause- Effect; can confer/listing; flexibility, completeness, resonance, invention, efficiency and robustness N.B. one pattern is enough.Score:0.25 for pattern and 0.25 for indicators	0.5
I-D-2	Exemplification; for example-- Cause –Effect; because Score:0.25 for each pattern and 0.25 for each indicator	01
I-D-3	Cause- Effect; Once...will feel—Comparison; more relaxed Score:0.25 for each pattern and 0.25 for each indicator	01
I-E	The writer in paragraph 7 quotes Freedman who stresses the fact that a messy table provides a rapid clue of what might be done to finish the work in a creative way.	01
II-A	Ideas and organization	05
II-B	Language and style	03
II-C	Tidiness and legible handwriting	01

