

Antrosios užsienio kalbos testas

Task 1. Read the text. Choose the correct answer (A, B or C) to the questions below. Each question has only one correct answer.

Duration: 15 minutes.

Reality Television

Reality television is a genre of television programming which, it is claimed, presents unscripted dramatic or humorous situations, documents actual events, and features ordinary people rather than professional actors. It could be described as a form of artificial or "heightened" documentary. Although the genre has existed in some form or another since the early years of television, the current explosion of popularity dates from around 2000.

Critics say that the term "reality television" is somewhat of a misnomer and that such shows frequently portray a modified and highly influenced form of reality, with participants put in exotic locations or abnormal situations, sometimes coached to act in certain ways by off-screen handlers, and with events on screen manipulated through editing and other post-production techniques.

Part of reality television's appeal is due to its ability to place ordinary people in extraordinary situations. For example, on the ABC show, *The Bachelor*, an eligible male dates a dozen women simultaneously, travelling on extraordinary dates to scenic locales. Reality television also has the potential to turn its participants into national celebrities, outwardly in talent and performance programs such as *Pop Idol*, though frequently *Survivor* and *Big Brother* participants also reach some degree of celebrity.

Some commentators have said that the name "reality television" is an inaccurate description for several styles of program included in the genre. In competition-based programs such as *Big Brother* and *Survivor*, and other special-living-environment shows like *The Real World*, the producers design the format of the show and control the day-to-day activities and the environment, creating a completely fabricated world in which the competition plays out. Producers specifically select the participants, and use carefully designed scenarios, challenges, events, and settings to encourage particular behaviours and conflicts. Mark Burnett, creator of *Survivor* and other reality shows, has agreed with this assessment, and avoids the word "reality" to describe his shows; he has said, "I tell good stories. It really is not reality TV. It really is unscripted drama."

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Questions

1. Reality television

A		has been popular since well before 2000.
B		has only been popular since 2000.
C		has been popular since approximately 2000.

2. People have criticised reality television because

A		it uses exotic locations.
B		the name is inaccurate.
C		it shows reality.

3. Pop Idol

A		turns all its participants into celebrities.
B		is more likely to turn its participants into celebrities than Big Brother.
C		is less likely to turn its participants into celebrities than Big Brother.

4. Producers choose the participants

A		on the ground of talent.
B		only for special-living-environment shows.
C		to create conflict among other things.

5. Shows like Survivor

A		are definitely reality TV.
B		are scripted.
C		have good narratives.

Task 2. Read the text. Evaluate the statements (A for "Correct", B for "Wrong" or C for "There is no information in the text").

Duration: 15 minutes.

The World's First "Organic Computer"

Scientists first demonstrated that rats can share, and act on, each other's sensory information by electrically connecting their brains via tiny grids of electrodes that reach the part of the brain that processes movement. It is a major step towards what the researchers call the world's first "organic computer".

The rats were taught to press a lever when a light went on above it. When they did the task correctly, they got a drink of water. To test the animals' ability to share brain information, the rats were put in two separate compartments. Only one compartment had a light above the lever. When the rat pressed the lever, an electronic version of its brain activity was sent directly to the other rat's brain. In tests, the second rat responded correctly to the imported brain signals and pressed the lever 70% of the time.

Incredibly, the communication between the rats was two-way. If the receiving rat failed at the task, the first rat did not get the reward of a drink, and appeared to change its behaviour to make the task easier for its partner. In further experiments, the rats collaborated on a task that required them to tell the difference between narrow and wide openings using their whiskers.

In the final test, the scientists connected rats on different continents and used the internet to send their brain activity back and forth. "Even though the animals were on different continents, they could still communicate," said Miguel Pais-Vieira, the author of the study.

Anders Sandberg, who studies the ethics of neurotechnologies at Oxford University, said the work was "very important" in helping to understand how brains encode information. But the potential future uses of the technology are much wider, said he. "The main reason we are running the planet is that we are amazingly good at communicating and coordinating. Without that, although we are very smart animals, we would not dominate the planet."

"I don't think there's any risk of supersmart rats from this," he added. "There's a big difference between sharing sensory information and being able to plan. I'm not worried about an invasion by smart rats."

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Statements:

		Correct	Wrong	There is no information in the text
		A	B	C
1.	Scientists have proven that rats can share sensory information.			
2.	In one experiment, rats used the internet to communicate over long distances.			
3.	30 per cent of rats cannot be trained to press levers.			
4.	Rats are able to work together to get a reward.			
5.	Anders Sandberg thinks people dominate the world because they are very smart.			

Visa medžiaga naudojama tik mokymo tikslams