

to prove the experts wrong. One way to identify types of human enhancements that lie in the realm of possibility - no matter how outlandish they may seem today - is to consider what already exists in the living world. If another living creature already has a particular attribute, then we can work out its genetic basis and eventually we should be able to make it available to humans. For example, we could provide humans with a greatly enhanced sense of smell like that of dogs and other mammals, and the ability to "see" objects in complete darkness through a biological sonar system like the one that allows bats to find their way in the dark.

In the longer term, it might be possible to identify the genetic information which allows creatures to live under extreme conditions here on earth - like the microscopic bacteria that live in scalding hot water around volcanic vents on the ocean floor, far removed from light and free oxygen, and other creatures that are genetically adapted to thrive in subzero temperatures in the Arctic. One day it may even be possible to incorporate photosynthetic units into human embryos so that humans could receive energy directly from the sun, just like plants. Such genetic gifts could allow these genetically modified humans to survive on other planets in the solar system, where they could in turn use genetic engineering to further enhance the ability of their own children to survive on their chosen worlds.

In the short term, though, most genetic enhancements will surely be much more mundane. They will provide little fixes to all of the naturally occurring genetic defects that shorten the lives of so many people. They will enrich physical and cognitive attributes in small ways. But as the years go by over the next two centuries, the number and variety of possible genetic extensions to the basic human genome will rise dramatically - like the additions to computer operating systems that occurred during the 1980s and 1990s. Extensions that were once unimaginable will become indispensable - to those parents who are able to afford them.

1. According to the writer, what has been '*left to chance in the past*'? (para. 1)

- A. The ways in which parents may benefit their children.
- B. The genetic information passed on to children.
- C. The social and environmental factors affecting children.
- D. The qualities and characteristics that children inherit.

2. Genetic engineering may first be applied to conditions affecting children because \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. this would prevent so much suffering
- B. this would be the least controversial use
- C. the greatest long-term benefit would be provided
- D. the social consequences are so severe

3. Once genetic engineering is accepted, it may be used to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. improve the mental capabilities of unborn children
- B. extend understanding of how the brain works
- C. bring a new realism to art and music
- D. cure people with alcohol-related problems

4. *Looking further into the future, the writer suggests that human attributes \_\_\_\_\_.*

- A. could be transferred to other living creatures.
- B. could be improved with genetic information from other creatures.
- C. should not be interfered with beyond certain limits.
- D. can only be enhanced with characteristics from other humans.

5. *He suggests that genetic engineering may ultimately allow humans to \_\_\_\_\_.*

- A. live under the ocean.
- B. reproduce with creatures from other planets.
- C. produce energy by using the sun.
- D. live and reproduce in inhospitable conditions.

6. *In the final paragraph he implies that genetic engineering \_\_\_\_\_.*

- A. should only be used to deal with genetic defects.
- B. will be affected by computer technology
- C. may not be used to benefit everyone equally
- D. will one day be taken for granted by everyone.

7. *The writer is generally \_\_\_\_\_.*

- A. enthusiastic about future developments in genetic engineering
- B. concerned about the implications of future developments
- C. hopeful that there will be rapid developments in the near future
- D. disappointed by the limited advances already achieved.

**III. Fill each blank with a suitable word to complete the passage. (1.0 pt)**

Many countries regard income first and foremost (1) \_\_\_\_\_ the primary means of determining their success in (2) \_\_\_\_\_ with other countries. This measure divides the value of a country's annual production (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the number of people resident in the country. In 1998, however, the King of Bhutan announced that in the future his nation's main measure of success would be happiness (4) \_\_\_\_\_ than income. He did this with a (5) \_\_\_\_\_ to showing the world that money does not (6) \_\_\_\_\_ happiness.

A year later, the King had the fateful decision to allow television into his country. Until then, it had been banned, as (7) \_\_\_\_\_ all forms of advertising. But in 1999, TV sets began to be imported into the country and, as a result, people started to spend a lot of time watching television programmes. Around the (8) \_\_\_\_\_ time, children began fighting more, crime (9) \_\_\_\_\_ and more (10) \_\_\_\_\_ couples separated or divorced.

**PART V. WRITING (2.0 PTS)**

***I. Rewrite each of the following sentences using the word given in bold in such a way that it means the same as the original one (0.5 pt)***

1. Peter is far superior to David in terms of technical knowledge **match**  
When it \_\_\_\_\_.

2. The meeting dragged on for hours and the managers argued aggressively **but**  
Not \_\_\_\_\_.

3. I am glad now you see sense and agree that your parents are right. **senses**  
I am glad \_\_\_\_\_.

4. Ben couldn't finish the crossword despite trying really hard. **might**  
Try \_\_\_\_\_.

5. It seems that no one predicted the correct answer **have**  
No one \_\_\_\_\_.

***II. Rewrite each of the following sentences beginning with the words given so that it has the same meaning as the original one. (0.5 pt)***

1. We didn't take the train, so we were late for the meeting.  
**If we** \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Just thinking about his face at the moment makes me laugh.  
**The very** \_\_\_\_\_.

3. I will never forget the day I heard I'd got into my chosen university.  
The day on \_\_\_\_\_.

4. The facts were not all made public at the time.  
Only later \_\_\_\_\_.

5. Exhaustion prevented the runners from finish the race.  
So \_\_\_\_\_.

**III. Write an essay on the following topic (1.0 pt)**

Some schools now offer their courses on the Internet so that people can study online. Is this a positive or negative trend? Use specific reasons and example to support your view in about 200 – 250 words.

---

---

---

