**Read the article below and then answer questions 1-11.**

**THE POWER OF LAUGHTER**

**by James Loren**

Have you ever been frightened or under stress and suddenly found yourself laughing? After a good laugh, you probably felt a lot better. Laughter often helps us deal with frightening or stressful situations. It relaxes us and makes us feel safe.

Another example of how laughter affects us is its power to strengthen the connections between people and make them feel part of a group. Have you noticed that if someone tells a joke to a group of people, everyone laughs, even if the joke isn't very funny? Researchers discovered that people watching a funny TV program in a group laughed 30% more than those who watched the program alone. Laughing together signals a feeling of belonging.

Political leaders know how to take advantage of the power of laughter. They tell jokes and use laughter to make their audience like them more. They know that creating a relaxed and friendly atmosphere can help to convince people to support them.

Doctors and researchers have also discovered the power of laughter. They have learned that laughter can help people fight diseases. They discovered that laughter reduces stress hormones in the body. This helps patients get better more quickly. Research also showed that laughter has a positive effect on children who had to get injections. Children who watched funny movies while getting the injections were much calmer than those who didn't watch the movies. Even the nurses who gave the injections reported feeling more relaxed.

As a result of these findings, some hospitals trained doctors and nurses to encourage their patients to laugh more. In addition, doctors have published many articles about the effect of laughter on their patients. It seems that laughter is really a very serious subject!

Answer questions 1-11 in English according to the article and according to the instructions.

1. COMPLETE THE SENTENCE. (lines 1-3)

Laughing can relax us when we feel .................................................................................. .

(9 points)

2. Name ONE effect that laughter has on the relationship between people. (lines 4-8)

ANSWER: ............................................................................................................................. .

(10 points)

3. COMPLETE THE SENTENCE. (lines 4-8)

People who watched a funny TV program alone laughed ................................. than those

who watched it with other people.

(7 points)

4. CIRCLE THE NUMBER OF THE CORRECT ANSWER. (lines 9-11)

Telling jokes helps politicians to (—).

i) make people behave politely

ii) get people to agree with them

iii) get to know their audience

(9 points)

5. What does laughter do that helps people fight disease? (lines 12-17)

ANSWER: ............................................................................................................................. .

(9 points)

6. What was the positive effect of laughter on children that got injections? (lines 12-17)

ANSWER: ............................................................................................................................. .

(9 points)

7. What did hospitals do when they found out about the effect of laughter on sick people?

(lines 18-20)

ANSWER: ...............................................................................................................................

.................................................................. .

(9 points)

8. CIRCLE THE NUMBER OF THE CORRECT ANSWER.

We know that laughter is a "serious subject" (line 20) because (—).

i) a lot of research has been done on laughter

ii) politicians make their audience laugh

iii) even serious people tell jokes

(9 points)

9. According to the article, what do politicians, doctors and nurses have in common?

ANSWER: ............................................................................................................................ .

(10 points)

10. CIRCLE THE NUMBER OF THE CORRECT ANSWER.

This article is called "The Power of Laughter" because laughter (—).

i) helps people find friends

ii) influences political leaders

iii) has a strong effect on people

(10 points)

11. CIRCLE THE NUMBER OF THE CORRECT DICTIONARY DEFINITION BELOW.

What is the meaning of the word "signal" as it is used in line 8?

(i) signal n. (ii) signal v. (iii) signal v.

a movement used to show or to show someone

to give a warning express something how to get somewhere

(9 points)

Good Luck

**Part 2: Grammar**

**Fill on the right tense:**

1. My English **(gets really better, is really getting better, get better really).** I **(try, am trying tries)**   to learn the language actively. Thus, I (**am listening, listen, listens) to music, or even (tries, try am trying)** to watch English movies.
2. Nowadays, I **(feel, am feeling, feels)** that **I (make, am making is making)** some progress. By the time I **(start, started, was starting, did starting)** high school in 1988, I **(studies, was studying, study)** the language all the time; however, I **(be, was, is)** only able to introduce myself and utter a few memorized sentences. For a couple more years, I **(was struggle, struggles, was struggling)** through grammar and vocabulary lessons, which made absolutely no difference. Nothing **(was working, worked, work**) so I (**decide, was deciding, decided) to study abroad.**

**2**.      While **I (was look, was looking, looked)** for English programs, I **(found, was finding, did find)** an exchange program in England that (**sounded, was sounding. Did sound)** like the perfect answer for my need. I **(stayed, was staying, stay)** with a host family. It was a huge disappointment!

**Part 3: Vocabulary (15 points)**

**Think of someone you know who can be described by the following words (competitive, down to earth, exceptional, helpless, modest, professional, sophisticated, unaffected, to discourage, life threatening, glamorous) Write at least 10 sentences**

**For example,**

My brother is very competitive; he gets angry when he doesn’t win

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