

READING TIP

STUDY SKILLS: Reading the question carefully

When you do a test or exercise, read the questions carefully. The questions tell you what information you are looking for. Then you can search for keywords and phrases in the text.

This Reading Worksheet is about identifying key words. It gives you a variety of tasks to practise identifying key words, both when they are in questions and when they are in texts.

Practice

1 Look at the extracts. Each extract is given twice, but with different keywords highlighted. With a partner, or on your own, decide which set of keywords (1 or 2) are probably the most important and why.

a 1

Kaspersky Lab is a Russian company. It sells antivirus software to large and small companies. It's a successful, global company and does business in 200 countries.

2

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b 1

IE is a small Spanish university with 2,000 students. It has two campuses, one in Madrid and one in Segovia. It is a very international university. Sixty-five per cent of the students are from other countries, with students from over 100 countries. Most courses are in English and some are in Spanish.

2

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c 1

The university has two restaurants. They serve breakfast, lunch and dinner. In the Star Café you can buy hot and cold drinks, sandwiches and lots of tasty snacks. It is open from 8 a.m. to midnight.

2

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d 1

Adelaide is the capital of South Australia. It has a population of about 1.3 million people and is a friendly student city. It's a very multicultural city. People from many different countries and cultures live and work here. The city is very safe and has lots of green spaces. Adelaide University has 27,000 students. 7,000 of them are international students from 70 countries. The main campus is in the city centre, with lots of great cafés, restaurants and shops.

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e 1

Costa Rica is a small country in Central America. It has borders with Nicaragua and Panama. The Caribbean Sea is to the east and the Pacific Ocean is to the west. Costa Rica has a population of about 4.8 million. Around 30% of people live in the centre of the country around the capital, San José.

2

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2  Read the extract and highlight the keywords. Then compare your answers with a partner.

ZAHA HADID

A world-famous architect

Zaha Hadid was born in 1950 in Baghdad, into a wealthy family. Her interest in architecture began during a family trip to see the ancient Sumerian cities in the south of Iraq in her teens. She knew she wanted to be an architect. She did a degree in Mathematics at the American University in Lebanon. From 1972 to 1977, she studied Architecture at the Architectural Association School of Architecture (the AA) in London.


Early career

Hadid worked for three years in an architecture firm in London, then opened her own office in 1980. In the 1980s, she won many design competitions, but few of her ideas became real buildings. Architects admired her original designs, but she was not well known. In 1994, Hadid got her first big job – to build a small fire station for the Vitra furniture company in Germany. The same year, she won an international competition to build an opera house in Cardiff. However, the project was cancelled. It was a big disappointment to Hadid, and she thought about giving up architecture.

International recognition

Hadid's next opportunity came in 1998, when she got a job building the Rosenthal Center for the Contemporary Arts in Cincinnati, USA. This job made Hadid more famous internationally, and other important jobs quickly followed. In 2004, she received the Pritzker Architecture Prize. She won other awards, including the Stirling Prize for the Maxxi Museum in Rome in 2011, and another in 2012 for a school in London. Until her unexpected death in 2016, she was one of the richest architects in the world and employed over 400 architects. Her unusual buildings can be seen in cities all over the world, from Beijing and Baku to Miami.



3  **Look at the questions below and highlight the keywords in each one. Check with your partner.**

- a Where did Zaha Hadid study?
- b What were her achievements in the 1980s?
- c Where was the first building she was responsible for?
- d Why did she consider moving away from architecture?
- e Which prizes has she won?

4  **Reread the text in Exercise 2. Now highlight the keywords that help you answer the questions in Exercise 3. Does your partner have the same keywords?**

Reflect

5 **How good have you become at identifying keywords and phrases? Read the text and highlight what you think is the key information.**

Are you a morning person or an evening person?

Do you like to get up early? Do you have lots of energy in the morning? OK, you are probably a lark, or morning person. Larks usually wake up early, often before 6 a.m., and without an alarm. A typical lark always has time for breakfast and the gym. Larks are always first in the office and like to do important tasks in the morning. In the evenings, larks like to relax and are ready for bed between 9 and 10 p.m. Many successful larks have their own businesses.



Do you find it difficult to get up in the morning? Do you like to stay up late? OK, you are probably an owl, or an evening person. Owls like to get up late. They need an alarm clock to wake up. A typical owl doesn't eat breakfast and is always last to arrive at the office. Owls are full of energy in the late afternoon and evening, and it's often the best time for them to do important work or to go to the gym. An owl almost never goes to bed before midnight, and often not until 1 or 2 a.m. Many creative people are owls, for example, writers, artists and poets.



According to a recent study, 20% of people are larks and 30% are owls. The rest of the population don't have a strong preference for the morning or the evening, and can change their waking and sleeping times without difficulty.

6 **Now look at some questions about the text in Exercise 5. Which keywords and phrases do you need now?**

- a What kind of person finds it easy to get up in the morning?
- b What is the typical morning routine of an owl?
- c What percentage of the population is:
 - larks?
 - owls?