

Reading Comprehension

1. **Explain ONE fact that led evolutionary anthropologists to conclude that our Stone Age ancestors gave children better childcare than we do today. DO NOT COPY FRAGMENTS FROM THE TEXT.**

Children in the Mbendjele BaYaka community are given nine hours of attention a day by fifteen different people.

OR

When children cry, they are taken care of by a mother's relative or friend, which gives mothers more free time to relax.

2. **How did the researchers of the study collect data on the childcare practices of the Mbendjele BaYaka?**

The researchers of the study spent four months with the Mbendjele BaYaka community and observed the children for 12 hours a day, recording every time they were taken care of and by whom.

3. **Why might older children and teens in the Mbendjele BaYaka community feel less anxious about parenting, according to the text?**

Older children and teens in the Mbendjele BaYaka community might feel less anxious about parenting because they are often involved in caregiving, and this gives them experience and makes them feel more self-confident about parenting.

4. **In what sense do parenting manuals contribute to high-quality child support being limited in Western countries?**

Parenting manuals in Western countries often suggest children should spend extended periods of time playing on their own, which makes society perceive child support as not so necessary.

5. Rewrite the following sentence from the text in your own words:

"The study also notes that Stone Age societies may have better prioritized giving mothers a rest."

You may keep grammatical words (i.e. may, have, a, the, to, etc.) and the following words/phrases in your sentence: Stone Age, mothers.

In addition, the investigation claims that people in the Stone Age may have paid more attention to the mothers' need to relax.

NB. This is just one of the many rewriting possibilities.

6. Find a sentence in the text that means what has been paraphrased below:

"these results indicate that the way parents behave in present-day societies might be in disagreement with/might not be suited to children's age requirements"

these findings suggest that modern parenting methods may be at odds with children's evolutionary programmed needs.

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