

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

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| 1. cast doubt on | a. Positive and giving hope for future success. |
| 2. assumption | b. A thing that is accepted as true or as certain to happen, without proof. |
| 3. decline | c. The mental action or process of getting knowledge and understanding through thought, experience, and the senses. |
| 4. cognition | d. Expressed a feeling of uncertainty about. |
| 5. peak | e. The length of time for which a person or animal lives or a thing functions. |
| 6. encouraging | f. (typically of something regarded as good) becoming smaller, fewer, or less. |
| 7. lifespan | g. Reach a highest point, either of a specified value or at a specified time. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 8. relatively | h. Only just. |
| 9. constant | i. A piece of work to be done or undertaken. |
| 10. task | j. Acting or done without thinking about it beforehand. |
| 11. barely | k. In relation, comparison, or proportion to something else. |
| 12. cautious | l. Occurring continuously over a period of time. |
| 13. impulsive | m. Not thinking of danger or the consequences of one's actions. |
| 14. reckless | n. Careful to avoid potential problems or dangers. |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2202/220221-mental-processing-speed.html>

Scientists in Germany have (1) _____ doubt on a previously believed assumption that the processing speed of our brain starts to (2) _____ from the age of 20. Until now, it has been thought that our cognition level (3) _____ when we are 20 and declines thereafter. Lead researcher doctor Mischa von Krause, of Heidelberg University, offered (4) _____ to older people who worry about increasing forgetfulness or (5) _____ brain power. He said cognitive skills were still powerful at the age of 60 and do not diminish before (6) _____. He wrote: "Our finding is encouraging, as our results show that average levels in mental speed in (7) _____ demanding fast and forced decisions do not decline until relatively late in the (8) _____."

decline
hope
contexts
cast
then
lifespan
peaks
reduced

The study was (9) _____ on data from over 1.1 million people, aged between 10 and 80 years old. The results show that our mental processing speed remains relatively (10) _____ until the age of 60, but does start to decline from our seventh (11) _____. The researchers said people's mental processing speed actually increases in their 20s and (12) _____ high until 60. Dr von Krause said: "Until older adulthood, the speed of information processing in the task we studied (13) _____ changed." He added that older people do take longer to make (14) _____, but said this was because we become more cautious, and less (15) _____ and reckless as we age. The study could cast (16) _____ on neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's.

remains
based
light
barely
decade
impulsive
constant
decisions

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

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- 1) Scientists in Germany have cast doubt on a _____
 - a. previously relieved assumption
 - b. previously enlivened assumption
 - c. previously aggrieved assumption
 - d. previously believed assumption
- 2) the processing speed of our brain starts to decline from the _____
 - a. aged of 20
 - b. ages of 20
 - c. age of 20
 - d. gauge of 20
- 3) it has been thought that our cognition level peaks when we are 20 _____
 - a. and declines thereafter
 - b. and declines there after
 - c. and declines their after
 - d. and declines their afters
- 4) cognitive skills were still powerful at the age of 60 and do not _____
 - a. deem in ash before them
 - b. dim finish before then
 - c. diminish before them
 - d. diminish before then
- 5) fast and forced decisions do not decline until relatively late _____
 - a. on the lifespan
 - b. in the lifespan
 - c. end the lifespan
 - d. and the lifespan
- 6) The results show that our mental processing speed _____
 - a. remains relative constant
 - b. remains relatively constant
 - c. remains relatively constants
 - d. remains relatively constantly
- 7) people's mental processing speed actually increases in their 20s _____
 - a. and remains highs
 - b. and remains highly
 - c. and remains high
 - d. and remains height
- 8) Until older adulthood, the speed of information processing in the task we _____
 - a. studied bear rich changed
 - b. studied bare leech tinged
 - c. studied bared the change
 - d. studied barely changed
- 9) this was because we become more cautious, and less _____
 - a. impulsive and wreck less
 - b. impulsive and reckless
 - c. impulsive and wreak less
 - d. impulsive and rock less
- 10) The study could cast light on neurodegenerative diseases _____
 - a. such was Alzheimer's
 - b. such as Alzheimer's
 - c. such has Alzheimer's
 - d. such is Alzheimer's