

Yarn Bombing

Yarn bombing is the artistic movement of knitting for the streets. Colourful wool is wrapped around public objects such as sign posts and trees in an attempt to change the visual landscape of otherwise dreary urban areas. Unlike graffiti, which is synonymous with crime, yarn bombing brings a warm, gentle feel to street art.

Yarn bombing is said to have begun in the USA in 2005 when a door handle was tagged in Texas. When people began photographing the woolly door handle, its creator, Magda Sayeg, felt compelled to take yarn bombing to the streets. She formed a yarn bombing crew called Knitta and together the artists developed their signature piece, a cosy cover for car-antennas. Since then, yarn bombing has spread throughout the world and the objects targeted have become more ambitious: a tank in Denmark, a bus in Dubai, and a bridge in Canada have all been tagged.

While some yarn bombers make political statements with their work, many others just want to bring smiles to our faces by appealing to our sense of the ridiculous. Sweaters for trees and woolly hats for statues are some of the more common works of art that you may see around. But you will have to keep your eyes open: in many countries, yarn bombing is considered a form of vandalism and, as such, some pieces will have a short life-span.

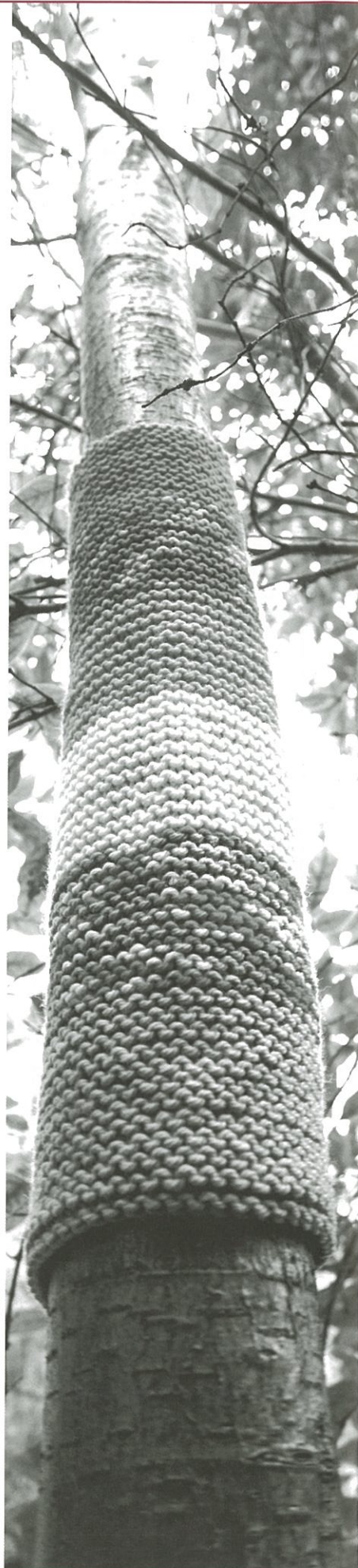
Want to yarn bomb? Seek permission from the property owner first, and then follow these tips from knitting expert Rita Grollo.

1. Plan ahead – Knit as much as you can at home so you only need to add finishing touches when you're putting up your work. And it's a good idea to measure your target beforehand.

2. Make a tight fit – No-one wants to see a tree sweater slumped at the bottom of a trunk like a loose sock. Though plastic cable ties can look ugly, they do keep your work in place.

3. Take photos – Because of the impermanence of your art, you'll need a record of it. Taking pictures of the steps in the process can help other yarn bombers learn the craft.

4. Blog about it – This gives people a chance to comment on your work, and possibly go to see it for themselves.



21 This text portrays yarn bombing as being

- A serious.
- B pointless.
- C harmless.
- D dangerous.

22 Why is Magda Sayeg mentioned in this text?

- A She yarn bombs large objects around the world.
- B She was arrested for yarn bombing in the USA.
- C She photographs yarn bombing on the streets.
- D She founded the yarn bombing movement.

23 *Sweaters for trees and woolly hats for statues ...*

Why are these objects mentioned in the text?

- A They demonstrate how wool can protect objects.
- B They show the light-hearted side of yarn bombing.
- C They demonstrate the need for rules around yarn bombing.
- D They show how yarn bombing can be considered vandalism.

24 What does Rita Grollo encourage new yarn bombers to do?

- A Make art that can change the world.
- B Be organised and document their work.
- C Make political statements with their pieces.
- D Work with others to create larger pieces of art.

25 *... its creator, Magda Sayeg, felt compelled to take yarn bombing to the streets.*

What does this mean?

- A She created a huge blanket to cover an entire street.
- B She knitted objects for people who live on the streets.
- C She no longer had space to keep all of her yarn at home.
- D She wanted yarn bombing to have a wider audience.

Choose the correctly spelt word for each blank space.

The Speech

Professor Walto _____ **26** _____ to give an electrifying speech. Sadly, many students found the speech _____ **27** _____ boring and dozed off. The _____ **28** _____ tone of the delivery combined with an _____ **29** _____ amount of detail proved to be the speech's undoing. However, the professor was far too carried away by the _____ **30** _____ of the occasion to notice.

26 Choose the best option for space **26**.

- A endeavored
- B endeavoured
- C endeavored
- D endeavoured

27 Choose the best option for space **27**.

- A excedingly
- B exsedingly
- C exceedingly
- D exseedingly

28 Choose the best option for space **28**.

- A monotonous
- B monotonous
- C monotonus
- D montonous

29 Choose the best option for space **29**.

- A excruciating
- B excruxiating
- C excruciating
- D excrusciating

30 Choose the best option for space **30**.

- A magnificience
- B magnificiense
- C magnificense
- D magnificence



16 Which word should have a colon (:) after it?

The World Cup has produced some football legends Pele, Maradona, Zidane, Batty.

- A Cup
- B produced
- C legends
- D Pele

17 Which two words should have a comma (,) after them?

Mark lost his composure albeit temporarily while speaking to the group.

- A lost composure
- B composure temporarily
- C composure speaking
- D temporarily speaking

18 Which word should have a semi-colon (;) after it?

We were all hoping that the rain would hold off the tennis match had to go ahead.

- A hoping
- B rain
- C off
- D match

19 Which part of the sentence should have brackets () around it?

Jarrold Bates owner of the world's largest cat is allergic to animal fur.

- A owner of
- B owner of the world's largest cat
- C the world's largest cat
- D largest cat

20 Which word should have a comma (,) after it?

Wang was never satisfied with his invention his colleague Roy revealed to the press.

- A never
- B satisfied
- C invention
- D colleague

Choose the best word(s) for each blank space.

The Queue

On Saturday night, the girls **11** to bed early with **12** getting up before dawn. The plan was for them **13** at the front of the queue for the concert tickets. If they had remembered to set the alarm clock, they would not **14** to rush around like they did on Sunday morning. Clothes **15** everywhere as they clambered over each other to get out the door.

11 Choose the best option for space 11.

- A had gone
- B had went
- C were gone
- D had being going

12 Choose the best option for space 12.

- A an intention to
- B an intending of
- C the intention of
- D the intent to

13 Choose the best option for space 13.

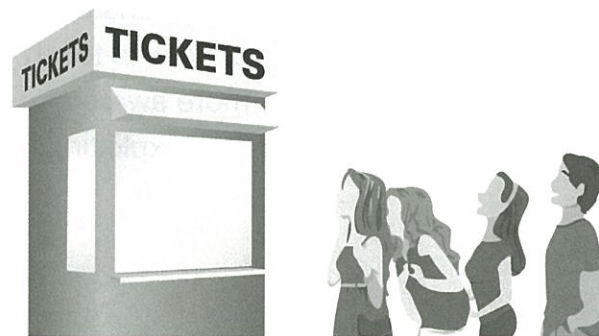
- A be
- B to be
- C to being
- D were being

14 Choose the best option for space 14.

- A had
- B have
- C have had
- D having had

15 Choose the best option for space 15.

- A did strew
- B be strewing
- C had strewed
- D were strewn



Replace the **bolded** words. The meaning of the text should remain the same.

Police Report

In the past twelve months there has been a **significant** rise in the number of cases of **counterfeit** currency. Despite a **rigorous** investigation the criminals have not been caught, leaving the police **dumbfounded**. Intelligence reports suggest that this criminal activity is one of many **orchestrated** by a new, unknown gang leader.

31 Select the best word to replace **significant**.

- A slight
- B unusual
- C expected
- D considerable

32 Select the best word to replace **counterfeit**.

- A fake
- B illegal
- C foreign
- D expensive

33 Select the best word to replace **rigorous**.

- A swift
- B modern
- C thorough
- D complicated

34 Select the best word to replace **dumbfounded**.

- A astonished
- B disgusted
- C frustrated
- D embarrassed

35 Select the best word to replace **orchestrated**.

- A played
- B invented
- C arranged
- D committed



Deepsea Challenger

The Deepsea Challenger is a manned submersible vehicle – or ‘sub’. It was specifically designed to dive to the deepest spot in the world’s ocean, the Mariana Trench, nearly 11 kilometres below the surface. The objective of the mission was to not just reach the unexplored depths of the Earth but to stay there for sufficient time to capture 3D video images and to collect rock and mineral samples for scientific study.

The engineering challenges involved in creating such a vehicle were so substantial that it took seven years to develop the necessary equipment. A new kind of material had to be created for the sub’s frame that was strong enough to withstand the enormous crushing pressure at the bottom of the ocean. To aid buoyancy this material also had to be light, and so a special foam was invented consisting of millions of hollow glass spheres embedded in resin.

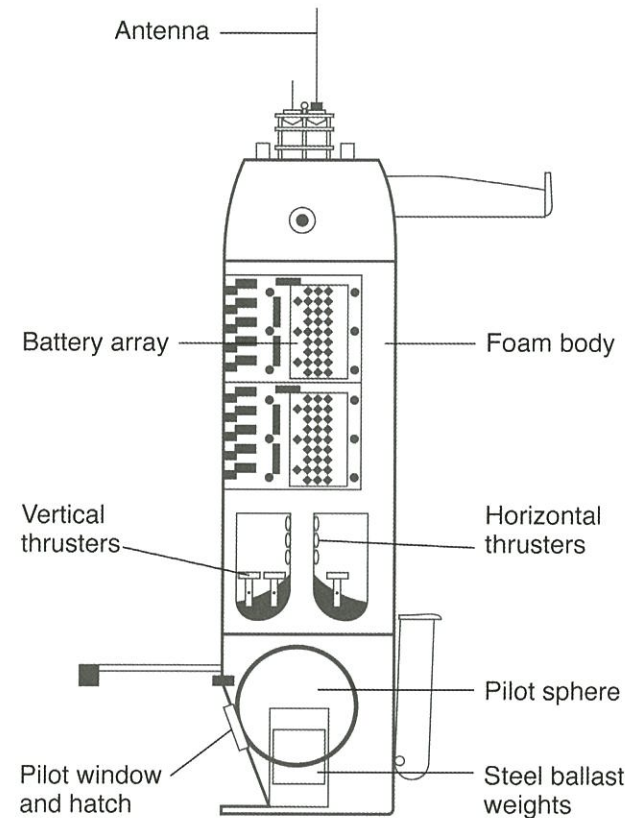
Whereas most other subs have a horizontal orientation, the Deepsea Challenger remains upright while diving. This unique approach allows the sub to move through the water more quickly, so it can stay longer at the bottom.

The 7.3 metre long sub consists of three sections. At the bottom is the cramped pilot sphere from where the sub is controlled. The main section, the beam, consists of 12 thrusters to propel the sub and more than 70 battery packs to power them. The batteries are spread over three different locations so that, in the event of an accident, the sub can still function. Above the beam are the sub’s communication systems.

The sub contains state-of-the-art equipment designed specifically for the mission. This includes a ‘slurp gun’ that acts like a vacuum cleaner sucking up mineral samples from the ocean floor, a mechanical arm that collects larger rock samples (and places them in a box) and eight 3D cameras.

The sub has 450 kilograms of steel weights attached to its body by electromagnets. The weights help the sub to descend. To resurface, the pilot flicks a switch to detach the weights and the low density foam does the rest.

The entire mission not only helped scientists learn about one of the most uncharted regions on the planet, it also helped to develop new technologies such as the foam that would have otherwise not been envisaged.



6 *Wolves are to be avoided at all costs!*

What is the author doing with this sentence?

- A mocking a popular belief
- B introducing a new theory
- C stating a personal opinion
- D highlighting a little-known fact

7 According to the text, what is a major effect on ecosystems when wolves are no longer present?

- A The ecosystems become much healthier.
- B The habitats change as new trees do not grow.
- C More people visit forests, trampling down the grass.
- D The population of other predators increases drastically.

8 According to the text, why are some conservationists against the idea of re-introducing wolves?

- A The habitats have changed too much to support wolves.
- B They are worried that people will lose their fear of wolves.
- C Some animals may no longer have defences against wolves.
- D The re-introduction of wolves will have unknown consequences.

9 What does the author think is the reason for people’s fear of wolves?

- A growing attacks by wolves on farmer’s stock
- B wolves’ ability to compete with humans for land
- C people’s personal experiences with wolves as children
- D misconceptions about wolves promoted in popular culture

10 According to the text, the author hopes the presence of wolves in woods will

- A encourage more humans to visit woods.
- B help humans get back in touch with nature.
- C make humans more aware of ecological issues.
- D deter humans from exploiting woods for personal gain.



Wolves in the Woods

In movies, wolves mean danger and wildness. The threat posed by wolves is a familiar theme in many children's stories. Wolves are to be avoided at all costs! But wolves hardly ever attack humans: they are simply the victims of bad publicity, of humans' overactive imaginations.

Wolves are a natural part of most northern hemisphere ecosystems, but persecution and habitat change has driven them to extinction throughout much of their former range. Scientists, however, are now suggesting that wolves be brought back to the forests where they once roamed.

The main reason for this lies in the idea of balance. Ecosystems evolved with wolves in them, and the animals, especially those herbivores eaten by wolves, evolved with the wolves as well. Predators and prey were locked in a kind of evolutionary arms race, which regulated their populations. But now, without the wolves, the numbers of herbivores grow, and the balance of the ecosystems change. Where once the young and defenceless, and the old, the sick and the lame would have been the first target of wolves, they now linger and survive.

Areas where the herbivores would never have gathered for fear of ambush by wolves are now grazed down to a thin carpet of grass where only a few fast-growing species survive. The young and tasty shoots of saplings are nibbled back to the ground before they can become young trees. Where once the forests would have replaced themselves through seed and sapling, they now grow old, with no young trees to replace the ones that die.

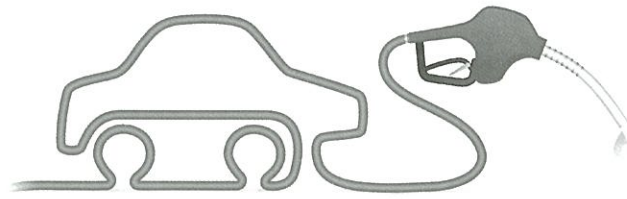
The suggestion that we should return wolves to the woods is part of a grander idea called 're-wilding', where nature as it was should be given the opportunity to return. Those in favour of re-wilding believe that nature without predators is not nature at all, that a wood with wolves is more wild, and more healthy than a wood without them. They also believe that we humans have become too domesticated, too distant from the realities of the wild, and that the knowledge that wolves are out there would help us to reconnect with the sense of wild that we have lost.

But of course, not everybody wants to see the wolves return. Farmers are concerned that the wolves would target their stock, and those conservationists intent on maintaining the status quo remark that returning wolves is cruel to the prey that has evolved to live without this threat. And then, sitting above all of these specific worries, is the irrational fear that wolves in the woods are scary.

So if re-wilding does go ahead, and we become more used to wolves in the shadows of the forests, we will be less likely to fear them. And if, in a movie, the hero walks through the woods and hears a wolf, we will know that he is somewhere wild and natural, and completely normal.

- 36** Why did the Deepsea Challenger take so long to make?
- A It took time to find sponsors to fund the mission.
 - B The sub builders had to undergo extensive training.
 - C Existing technology was inadequate for the mission.
 - D Ocean conditions had to be studied before construction could begin.
- 37** What is the reason the sub was designed with a vertical orientation?
- A A vertical orientation allows the pilot greater visibility.
 - B The amount of time the sub can spend underwater is limited.
 - C Ocean currents greatly affect subs with a horizontal orientation.
 - D Communication between the sub and the onshore team needs to be fast.
- 38** Why are the batteries spread across the three sections of the sub?
- A so they can operate independently
 - B to provide backup in emergency situations
 - C so the main section of the sub does not overheat
 - D to help distribute the weight evenly across the sub
- 39** According to the text, what does the 'slurp gun' do?
- A It shoots jets of water to propel the sub.
 - B It creates a vacuum to keep the sub upright.
 - C It protects the sub from dangerous ocean creatures.
 - D It collects small rocks and minerals from the sea bed.
- 40** Which of these features helps the sub ascend to the surface?
- A thrusters
 - B steel weights
 - C mechanical arm
 - D hollow glass spheres

Crime and Lead



When lead was first introduced into petrol to make engines more efficient, crime increased in every car-driving country in the world.

On first reading, the above “fact” could be disregarded as one of those quirky statistics that pop up from time to time – similar to the one showing the positive correlation between the number of storks in an area and the number of babies born there – but as the use of leaded petrol increased so did crime. And when lead started to be removed from petrol in an attempt to reduce pollution, the trend began to reverse.

The reverse was not instant: American researcher, Rick Nevin, noted that there was a time-lag of around two decades. Lead was removed from petrol in America in the 1970s and crime fell drastically in the 1990s. Unleaded petrol was brought into Europe much later but crime figures followed the same pattern twenty years later. Nevin argued that the accumulation of lead in the body in children under five resulted in them being more likely to commit crime in their early twenties.

There’s no doubt that lead is bad for humans. It can be absorbed into bones, teeth and blood, and can cause damage to the kidneys and the nervous system. Exposure to lead may result in headaches and stomach pains, and prolonged exposure from childhood can hinder brain development and lead to poor decision-making. But does it turn people into criminals?

Not so, argues Professor Sandy Lynn, a leading expert on criminology. ‘Criminal activity is guided more by social factors than by biological ones. Damaged brain tissue does not turn someone into a gangster; poverty and lack of opportunity play a much stronger role.’ The lead argument is recycled thinking according to Lynn, ‘People have always tried to link biology to crime – head size, distance between the eyes, extra chromosomes ... It’s nineteenth century ideology all over again but with the emphasis now on how environmental factors influence our biology.’

But others disagree. ‘The evidence is just too strong to ignore,’ suggests economist Dani Southgate. ‘Countries that experienced drastic declines in lead experienced drastic declines in crime twenty years later. Those who want to discount the lead theory will have to come up with an alternative explanation.’

Alternative explanations are hard to come by, and proof even harder – no-one is going to deliberately poison children to see if they commit crimes later in life – so police and policymakers have little option but to start taking the lead theory somewhat seriously. Police commissioner Ashtu Khan, however, refuses to get caught up in the hype. ‘There are many factors that affect crime rates, and it appears that lead may be one of them. But focusing only on the most newsworthy is short-sighted,’ he says.

1 According to the text, what was the reason for the father’s behaviour towards his son?

- A the son’s insolent behaviour
- B the father’s experiences as a soldier
- C the son’s lack of interest in reading books
- D the father’s desire to maintain a level of privacy

2 Why did the son misbehave as a boy?

- A to force his father to acknowledge him as a person
- B to show his parents that he had become independent
- C to punish his mother for her lack of affection towards him
- D to protest against the breakdown of his parents’ marriage

3 What happened to the son when he won a prize for science?

- A He became more determined to make his father proud of him.
- B He made the decision to hate his father even though it hurt.
- C He began to understand what his father was going through.
- D He started treating his father as his father had treated him.

4 The son adopted different strategies to deal with his father when they lived together. How did these strategies change?

- A from deliberate avoidance to false affection
- B from strained tolerance to outright defiance
- C from peaceful understanding to spiteful antagonism
- D from active engagement to self-imposed indifference

5 What is suggested about the father in the last sentence?

- A He disagreed with the wedding but he tried not to show it.
- B He had never liked his son but he had grown to accept him.
- C He did have emotions but he had problems expressing them.
- D He felt uneasy at social gatherings but he was making an effort.

Strangers

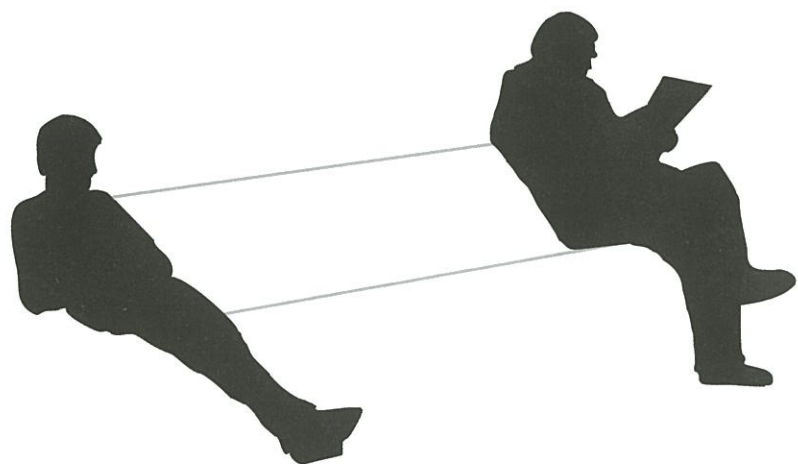
Growing up, I never had what was considered to be a good relationship with my father. He was never mean or violent; he just seemed indifferent to my existence. Shell-shocked from the war, he had become a fiercely private man who rarely spoke to anyone. Most of the time he failed to notice that I was around. This led, throughout my teenage years, to me avoiding him. To say we were not close is an understatement. We were strangers bound by blood.

Of course I tried in the early days, like every young boy does, to get his attention, but it was to no avail. I attempted to be the good son, doing housework and running errands, and when that didn't work I tried my hand at being the bad son, being insolent and untidy even though it was not in my nature. My behaviour made no difference. His response was always the same – a quizzical look cast over the rim of his glasses, first at me and then at my mother, urging her to administer praise or reprimand me as she herself saw appropriate. Then his eyes went back to his book as if they somehow felt uncomfortable being out in the real world.

By the time I was thirteen I had given up hope of him ever connecting with me. I won a prize at school for science and I wanted him to tell me that he was proud of me. The congratulations never came. That was when I stopped speaking to him. I made a decision on that day to ask him no more questions, to make no more comments, and to only speak to him if and when I was spoken to. He never instigated exchanges, and so my stubbornness led us into silence.

I skirted around the house steering clear of him, making an effort to not be in the same room as him. Mealtimes led me to become more and more creative with my excuses. Whether my father knew of my strategy, I don't know. Perhaps he was oblivious. But it was a peace that I eventually grew accustomed to, and I actually started to prefer it that way. We were two individuals waiting on a train platform, aware that the other was there but choosing not to engage.

I left home at sixteen without saying goodbye. My father was reading and I chose not to disturb him. I didn't see him again until my wedding day many years later. It was my mother who had invited him. I expected him to say nothing, and that's exactly what happened. But when he looked at me over the rim of his glasses I thought I saw the very beginnings of a tear.



41 In the second paragraph, why is a correlation between storks and babies mentioned?

- A to provide an example of a theory that has been proven
- B to show that crime is influenced by many different factors
- C to highlight the connection between biology and the environment
- D to illustrate how some statistics show relationships that are absurd

42 What is Nevin's main argument?

- A Reducing the lead in petrol makes people more likely to commit crime.
- B Criminals are more likely to steal petrol that contains high levels of lead.
- C Early exposure to lead makes people more likely to commit crime later in life.
- D As people become more reliant on cars, they become more likely to commit crime.

43 Rick Nevin is American.

Why is Europe mentioned in paragraph three?

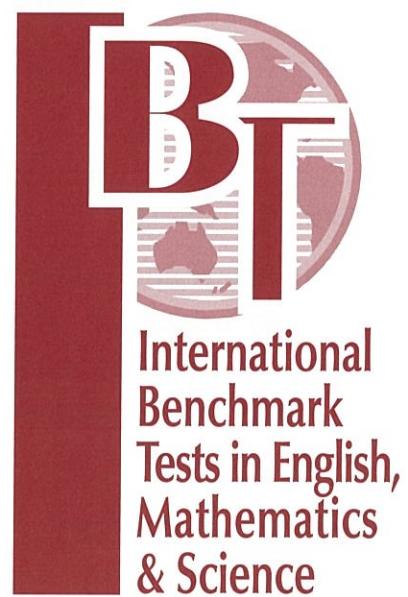
- A to show where Nevin's theory has shaped public policy
- B to suggest that support for Nevin's theory is widespread
- C to imply that there are limitations to Nevin's argument
- D to provide additional evidence for Nevin's argument

44 Which two people share the same view in this text?

- A Rick Nevin and Dani Southgate
- B Rick Nevin and Ashtu Khan
- C Sandy Lynn and Dani Southgate
- D Sandy Lynn and Ashtu Khan

45 Which word best describes Ashtu Khan's reaction to the lead theory?

- A cynical
- B confused
- C optimistic
- D impressed



GRADE 10

2015

English

STUDENT NAME _____

NAME OF SCHOOL _____

TEST INSTRUCTIONS

FILL IN YOUR DETAILS

Turn to your ANSWER SHEET and fill in your name, school, grade, section, today's date, your date of birth and gender.

ANSWERING QUESTIONS

Go to the ENGLISH ANSWER SHEET.

This test has **45 QUESTIONS**. Each question has four possible options.

Choose the **BEST** answer from the four options, **A, B, C** or **D**.

FILL in **ONE** circle on your answer sheet with a pencil.

If you make a mistake, erase the pencil mark and fill in a different circle.

You must colour the entire circle as shown below:

Correct response



Incorrect responses



Line



Very light pencil



Pen



Colored pencil

Marks are NOT deducted for incorrect answers.

ALL ANSWERS SHOULD BE MARKED ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET ONLY.

EQUIPMENT ALLOWED IN THIS TEST

You may use a 2B or B pencil for this test. You may NOT use a dictionary for this test.

TIME ALLOWED FOR TEST

The time allowed to complete this test is **60 minutes**.