

PART 1

You are going to read an article about viruses. Choose from the list (A-H) the one which best summarises each part (1-6) of the article. There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use. There is an example at the beginning (0).

- A Advanced technology prevents viruses from escaping.
- B A simple virus can multiply in many different types of cell.
- C Scientists are trying to discover how viruses reach us.
- D It is important to find the right people to work in the laboratory.
- E The building is designed to stop viruses from escaping.
- F Animals are responsible for spreading most viruses.
- G Viruses can often disappear for periods of time.
- H Sometimes not even the most advanced security can prevent accidents.

Inside the Hot Virus Laboratory

0 E

In grey countryside in the heart of England there stands a high security fortress. It is no ordinary fortress however. It is a laboratory, and the security is dedicated not to stopping things from getting in, but stopping things from getting out. We are about to enter Britain's Hot Virus Laboratory where the most deadly viruses known to man are kept.

1

The virus is the simplest form of life and can only exist inside cells. These can be plant, animal or human cells. Once inside these cells, they begin to multiply, often with deadly results. Where they come from is often a mystery as well. At this laboratory, the staff are dedicated to discovering this. Some viruses, they believe, can come from insects, animals and even water.

2

Some viruses can kill in as little as two weeks, and if they are very infectious can be spread from one part of the world to another by people travelling on planes. Sometimes the viruses just vanish for a while, but the team at the laboratory believe that often the virus is simply looking for ways of improving its chances of survival, and is waiting for another chance to attack human or animal cells.

3

Dr Graham Lloyd, who works at the laboratory, is trying to discover where these viruses come from. They have been making tests on a variety of possible sources, from rats to spiders, in an effort to find out which one is responsible for passing killer viruses on

to humans. Dr Lloyd and his team are part of the "thin red line" of scientists between us and the next deadly attack by a virus.

4

They work in very high-security conditions - in fact, there is more security in the Hot Virus Laboratory than anywhere in the country. But even so, when Dr Lloyd first went to work at the laboratory in 1976 a fellow worker was infected with a deadly virus by accident. As we go through another high security door, we are faced with steel cabinets in which the viruses live. There are long rubber gloves attached to these cabinets and by putting their arms through these, the scientists can make contact with the viruses.

5

Even though Dr Lloyd is very careful, the long rubber gloves look very delicate when you think that there is a deadly killer at the end of them. What if a hole should appear in a glove? Dr Lloyd says if this happens, then alarms go off, and through a variety of technical methods they have made sure that infected air can never escape from these cabinets.

6

The Hot Virus Laboratory is clearly a place for people who take security very seriously. They only employ people who have a great deal of experience in working with viruses. They do not employ aggressive people, or people who don't get on with others, as they work in pairs in the laboratory so they can check each other. This is to prevent incidents like the case of a scientist in another laboratory who accidentally spilt some dangerous liquid on himself. He did not report this and infected five other people before he was stopped. Luckily, they all survived.

PART 2

You are going to read an article about dinosaurs. For questions 7-13, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

On a visit to a film studio in Los Angeles, I saw a fleet of dinosaurs being built to star in Steven Spielberg's movie, *Jurassic Park*, based on the best selling novel by Michael Crichton. In building these dinosaurs, the creators are striving for perfection. They want these creatures to move so naturally that people who see the film will think they really are living animals.

There are five main dinosaur characters. There's a T-Rex, a Triceratops, a Dilophosaurus, a Brachiosaurus and the Velociraptors. The T-Rex is the largest. The Brachiosaurus would be larger, but the studio is only building its head and neck. The Velociraptors look the most evil. They hunt in groups and appear to be very intelligent. They have cold eyes and their open mouths and jagged teeth make them likely to scare anyone who sees them in *Jurassic Park*.

Velociraptors may appear to have been intelligent, but were dinosaurs really clever? I put the question to Dale Russell, who works at the Canadian Museum of Nature, and who has been studying this for years. Russell has actually built a model of what he thinks a dinosaur would look like today, if they had not died out. He has called this creature the Troodon. It is about as big as a wildcat and the model looks like a cross between a lizard and a human. Russell believes the Troodon would have had the largest brain of all similar creatures.

Russell also believes that dinosaurs such as the Troodon would have continued to develop if they had not died out. Features such as walking on two feet instead of four, developing larger brains and manual skills would have continued to evolve through the ages. Russell thinks that if the Troodon had survived, they would have developed brains the size of humans by now. But many scientists have argued that a bigger brain does not make creatures more intelligent. They have agreed with Russell, though, that the Velociraptors in *Jurassic Park* were about as intelligent as chickens!

Unlike the story of *Jurassic Park*, in which dinosaurs become a threat to civilisation, Russell believes that they would be too stupid and slow to create a problem in the modern world. Human beings would be able to defeat them, and even the plants they eat have developed defence systems such as thorns and poisonous substances. The modern world would simply overpower them. But because dinosaurs died out such a long time ago, we can only guess at how these creatures would cope today.

- 7 The creators of the dinosaurs want them to be perfect because
 - A they are to star in *Jurassic Park*.
 - B they are supposed to scare filmgoers.
 - C they want them to appear real.
 - D they want to use them again.
- 8 The Brachiosaurus is smaller than the T-Rex because the studio
 - A is only building the T-Rex.
 - B is not making a complete model.
 - C is in a hurry to finish.
 - D does not have enough money
- 9 What does "this" (line 12) refer to?
 - A how dinosaurs developed
 - B the intelligence of dinosaurs
 - C the relative size of dinosaurs
 - D the intelligence of Velociraptors
- 10 The Troodon is
 - A a wildcat.
 - B a half-human lizard.
 - C a hunting animal.
 - D a model of a modern dinosaur.
- 11 Russell believes that the Troodon would have had a human-size brain by now because
 - A it was more intelligent than other animals.
 - B it was unlike any other animal.
 - C it had begun to develop manual skills.
 - D it would have continued to evolve through the ages.
- 12 The Velociraptors in *Jurassic Park* had
 - A very little intelligence.
 - B very large brains.
 - C the ability to fly.
 - D very good manual skills.
- 13 Dinosaurs would not threaten modern society because
 - A they would not be able to hunt.
 - B humans would kill them.
 - C they could not tolerate the climate.
 - D there would be no space for them.

