

PART I: ACCESS TO INFORMATION FROM WRITTEN TEXTS (60 points)

Read the article below and then answer questions 1–7.

A LIFE WITHOUT IMAGES

In 2015, Jacqueline Price was amazed to find out that most people could see images in their head. The fifty-seven-year-old portrait artist had always painted what she saw; if she tried to “see” things that were not in front of her, all she saw was darkness. “I have gone my whole life not knowing what I was missing,” she says. “I am so
 5 jealous.”

Price only discovered the existence of her condition when reading an article about a 2015 study performed by Professor Adam Zeman from the University of Exeter. Interestingly, even that study came about almost by chance. Zeman, a neurologist, first started researching the
 10 inability to produce mental images in 2005 when a patient came with an unusual complaint. After undergoing minor surgery, the man had suddenly lost the capability to picture things in his mind. Zeman did not find any mention of the issue in medical literature, but he was determined to learn more about the fascinating phenomenon. He gave his patient various memory tests while simultaneously scanning his brain.
 15 Although the man had a fairly good memory, he failed the exams that required visualization—and the regions of his brain that should have been active during those tests were not activated.

After *New York Times* science journalist Carl Zimmer published an article about the unique case in 2010, he and Zeman were flooded with e-mails from people
 20 claiming that they shared the same condition. “I have spent my entire life explaining to people that I do not think visually,” wrote one reader. “I cannot conjure a mental image of a person or place to save my life.” Zeman was so intrigued that he invited the e-mail writers to take part in a formal study of the condition, which he and his colleagues eventually coined “aphantasia.”

25 Zeman was surprised by the consistency of his findings. Very few of the participants could picture a sunrise, or summon up the image of a friend or relative, but most of them were familiar with visualization because they experienced imagery in dreams.



Unlike Price, some had long been aware of their condition. “My stepfather, when I couldn’t sleep, told me to count sheep,” recalls Neil Kenmuir. “I tried to do it and I found myself turning my head to watch invisible sheep fly by.”

Zeman estimates that 2 percent of the population suffers from aphantasia and emphasizes that most people with the condition function quite normally. Nevertheless, many sufferers are keenly aware that something is lacking in their life. Tom Ebeyer feels isolated from society because he is “unable to do something so central to the average human experience.” Neil Kenmuir admits that he has never been a musician, and wonders if “an inability to ‘imagine myself in a place ten years from now’ as a concrete image has affected me.” Jane Hammond is “extremely distraught” that she can’t recall any images of memories she has of her mother. “After seven years, I hardly remember her,” she says sadly.

QUESTIONS (60 points)

Answer questions 1–7 in English according to the article. In questions 1 and 5, circle the number of the correct answer. In the other questions, follow the instructions.

1. What do we learn in lines 1–5?

- i) How Jacqueline Price visualizes things.
- ii) What Jacqueline Price plans to do to solve her problem.
- iii) How Jacqueline Price found out about visualization.
- iv) What Jacqueline Price was missing her whole life.

(7 points)

2. PUT A ✓ BY THE TWO CORRECT ANSWERS.

What can we understand from lines 6–24?

- ___ i) Before 2005, no one had seriously researched aphantasia.
- ___ ii) Zeman’s patient passed the tests that didn’t require visualization.
- ___ iii) The results of the memory tests didn’t match the results of the brain scans.
- ___ iv) Zeman is one of the best known neurologists in the world.
- ___ v) Minor surgery often causes people to suffer from aphantasia.
- ___ vi) Zeman also suffers from an inability to produce mental images.

(2x7=14 points)

3. Carl Zimmer described Zeman’s first case of aphantasia as “unique,” but later discovered others who suffered from aphantasia.

How is Zeman’s first aphantasia patient still “unique” as compared to the other sufferers of aphantasia mentioned in lines 1–24? Write ONE thing.

ANSWER: _____

(8 points)

4. COMPLETE THE SENTENCE.

What is the main subject of lines 6–24?

How _____.

(8 points)

5. Which of the following statements is true according to lines 25–30?

Sufferers of aphantasia (—).

- i) never see images in their head
- ii) are usually diagnosed at birth
- iii) can’t visualize on command
- iv) can picture people more easily than they can picture nature

(7 points)

6. COMPLETE THE SENTENCE.

Why does Kenmuir use the term “invisible sheep” in lines 27–30?

He _____.

(8 points)

7. What do the examples of Ebeyer, Kenmuir, and Hammond show? (lines 31–39)

ANSWER: _____

(8 points)

PART II: WRITTEN PRESENTATION (40 points)

Write 120–140 words in English on the following topic.

8. Your school newspaper has asked students to write on the following topic:

The Ministry of Education has decided to require all students to learn at least one foreign language in addition to English, starting from the seventh grade. Do you agree or disagree with the decision?

Write a passage for the newspaper stating and explaining your position. You may use examples to support your opinion.

TOTAL BAGRUT STRATEGY # 5—CONNECTORS FOR COMPOSITION WRITING

To write a good Module G composition, it is important to use a variety of connectors. Whether you are asked to write an opinion composition or a description, the use of connectors can make a difference in your final grade. (Vocabulary, which includes connectors, is worth eight out of the forty points awarded for a perfect composition.) Using different connectors allows you to say the same thing in different ways. Therefore, it's recommended that you memorize at least two or three connectors from each of the lists that appear below.

- 1. Sequence / Logical order:** First(ly) / Second(ly) / Third(ly), Next, Then, Last, Finally, To begin / start with, Last but not least
These connectors can be especially useful when writing a description of a process.
- 2. Time:** Presently, At present, At the moment, Nowadays, Currently, In the past, Previously, At that time, In the meantime, Meanwhile, Eventually, Finally
These connectors can be especially useful when writing a description of an event that occurred or of a previous / current situation.
- 3. Addition:** First(ly) / Second(ly) / Third(ly) / In addition, Furthermore, Moreover, Finally
These connectors can be especially useful when giving a number of arguments in an opinion composition.
- 4. Importance:** More / Most important(ly), Most significantly, Above all, Primarily, It is essential / vital
These connectors can be especially useful when giving one especially important argument in an opinion composition.
- 5. Comparison:** Similarly, Likewise, In the same way, equally, Just as ... so, too, another
These connectors can be especially useful when comparing situations, ideas, decisions, etc.

- 6. Contrast:** but, On the one hand / On the other hand (*not* “On the one side” and “On the second side”!), However, In contrast, In comparison, On the contrary (*not* “Opposite”!), Nevertheless, Even so, Alternatively, At the same time, Instead (of), Unlike, although, even though, despite, in spite of
These connectors can be used in an opinion composition to contrast the advantages and disadvantages of the thing that you are writing about, or of two opposing situations, ideas, decisions, etc.
- 7. Cause and effect / Result:** Therefore, As a result, Consequently, because, because of, due to, since, as a result of, so
These connectors can help you justify your opinion.
- 8. Example:** For example, for instance, such as
These connectors are important when you want to give examples to support and explain your ideas.
- 9. Rewording:** In other words, that is, To rephrase it another way
These connectors allow you to repeat / further explain something important without being overly repetitive.
- 10. Opinion:** I (strongly) think / believe / feel that, In my (humble) opinion, Personally, As I see it, It seems to me that, I am sure / convinced that, I agree, I (strongly) disagree, Undoubtedly, There is no doubt that, Obviously, Clearly, It is clear (to me) that, To be honest
These connectors can be used to state your opinion in a variety of ways.
- 10. Conclusion:** In conclusion, In short, In brief, In summary
One of these connectors should be used in the concluding paragraph of an opinion composition.

TOTAL BAGRUT STRATEGY PRACTICE # 5

Read the compositions below and on page 63 (one description and one opinion) and complete the sentences with suitable connectors from the lists in Total Bagrut Strategy #5. Pay attention to punctuation, especially to commas! Use each connector only once. There may be more than one correct answer.

My Life Twenty Years from Now

It's difficult for me to imagine what my life will be like in twenty years from now, especially 1. _____ I don't always know what will happen from one minute to the next 2. _____, I will try to envision what I'd like my life to look like based on my current goals and aspirations.

3. _____, I am studying in the twelfth grade and preparing for my Bagrut exams, 4. _____ my dream is to become a famous writer. I started writing short stories and even novels at a young age, and have already experienced some success in the field. 5. _____, I won first prize in a writing competition when I was eleven years old, and three of my short stories have been published in magazines for teenagers. 6. _____, 7. _____ I have a good chance of achieving my professional goals.

8. _____, I would like to get married and start a family. My own family is especially warm and loving, 9. _____ my parents are great role models for me.

10. _____, while I don't know exactly what my future will hold, I do have clear aims in life and very much hope that I can make them a reality.

Self-Driving Cars: An Amazing Technology

11. _____, many companies, 12. _____ Google, are working on the development of self-driving cars. 13. _____, self-driving cars are an amazing technology that will change the world as we know it.

14. _____, self-driving cars can prevent accidents and save countless lives. 15. _____ some people prefer to rely on their own driving skills, 16. _____ machines have many advantages when it comes to driving. 17. _____ human drivers, self-driving cars never get tired, become distracted, or drink alcohol. They are focused on only one thing: arriving at their destination safely.

18. _____, self-driving cars will reduce people's stress and increase their leisure time. 19. _____ spending hours just staring at the road while commuting to work every day, car owners will be able to spend their travel time reading, doing crossword puzzles, or even sleeping. _____, people will arrive at work and back home in a calmer and happier state of mind.

21. _____, I am strongly in favor of self-driving cars and very much hope that the technology will be perfected in the near future. _____, this is something that will benefit billions of people around the world.

TOTAL BAGRUT LANGUAGE REVIEW # 5—THE PAST PERFECT

“In 2015, Jacqueline Price was amazed to find out...The fifty-seven-year-old portrait artist **had** always **painted** what she saw...” (lines 1–3)

“Zeman, a neurologist, first started researching...when a patient came with an unusual complaint. After undergoing minor surgery, the man **had** suddenly **lost** the capability to picture things in his mind.” (lines 9–12)

We use the Past Perfect to talk about completed events in the past which happened *before* other events in the past. For example, in the first set of sentences above, the action of painting what she saw happened *before* the action of finding out that people could see images in their head. In the second set of sentences, the loss of visualization occurred *before* the patient came to Zeman.

However, note that if we want to talk about a number of short actions that happened one after the other, we usually just use the Past Simple.

The form of the Past Perfect is **had + verb + ed / V3**. It is usually used together with one or more sentences in the Past Simple (the event/s that happened after it).

We often use the Past Perfect with the following verbs: **realized, remembered, forgot, knew, understood**, etc.

For example: When I arrived at school, I **realized** that I **had left** my project at home.

We also use the Past Perfect in the third conditional, in some *wish* sentences (see Total Bagrut Language Review 4) and in reported speech.

For example: If I **had studied** longer for the test, I would have gotten a better grade. (*third conditional*)

I wish that I **had studied** longer for the test. (*impossible wish about the past*)

She told me that she **had studied** a long time for the test. (*reported speech*)

Time expressions used with the Past Perfect include **already** (*in positive sentences only, between had and the verb*), **still** (*in negative sentences before hadn't*), **yet** (*in negative sentences between hadn't and the verb*), **after**, **before** (*in the Past Simple clause*), **by the time** (*in the Past Simple clause*), **until** (*in the Past Simple clause*), **earlier**, **previously** (*in between had and the verb*)

For example: They had **already** eaten **by the time** we came.

They **still** hadn't heard the news. They hadn't **yet** heard the news.

We arrived long **after** the bus had left. We had arrived long **before** the bus left.

He had never tasted falafel **until** he came to Israel.

He told us the same joke that he had told me **earlier** that day.

I had **previously** heard the joke, so it wasn't very funny for me.

TOTAL BAGRUT LANGUAGE PRACTICE # 5

A. Circle the correct word / phrase in each set of brackets.

1. I was shocked to hear that my friends (**had abandoned** / are abandoning / **abandoned**) the city in order to become hobby farmers.
2. Mr. Avni (**underwent** / was undergoing / **had undergone**) surgery last week, but now, everything is fine.
3. They purchased a rural property only after they (**had spent** / spent / spend) a few months volunteering on a farm.
4. Last year, Nava was offered a great job, but she turned it down. Now, she wishes that she (**took** / could take / **had taken**) advantage of the opportunity.
5. The doorbell (**had rung** / rang / rings) and I ran to open it.
6. No one understood why Rami (**hadn't** / leave / left / **had left**) the school.
7. I tried to persuade him to invest some of his lottery winnings, but he told me that he (**already had spent** / already spent / **had already spent**) all of it.
8. Maya is sorry that she (**splurged** / had splurged / **was splurging**) on such an expensive sweater last week.
9. Very few of the restaurant's customers (**hadn't** / ordered / order / **were order**) salads before researchers installed a large digital display of delicious looking salads.
10. I realize that you (**hadn't yet had** / **hadn't had yet** / **hadn't yet had**) time to finish the task, but have you at least started working on it?

B. In each sentence, fill in the correct form of the verb(s) in brackets (Past Simple or Past Perfect).

1. When Talia _____ (wake) up, she _____ (not remember) anything that she _____ (dream) about.
2. Our apartment is really small. I wish that we _____ (live) in a bigger house.
3. The researchers _____ (prove) what they _____ (previously hypothesize).
4. For decades, experts _____ (consider) public awareness the best way to combat obesity.

5. Jane _____ (tell) me that her family _____ (own) the farm for generations.
6. I really wish that I _____ (not neglect) my health. Now, the doctor says that it's too late.
7. The initial costs of running a business _____ (be) much steeper than we _____ (expect).
8. Zeman _____ (perform) an additional study on aphantasia several years after he _____ (start) researching the condition.
9. If she _____ (not confess) to committing the crime, no one would have known that she was the culprit.
10. When I _____ (reach) our meeting place in the shopping center, Yael _____ (still not arrive).

C. Continue each sentence / question using either the Past Perfect or the Past Simple.

1. It's so hot in here! I wish _____.
2. When I made my appointment, I forgot that _____.
3. My teacher informed me that _____.
4. I would never have guessed if _____.
5. It was a big miracle that everyone _____.
6. Previously, we _____.
7. I was terrified because _____.
8. Why didn't you tell me that _____?
9. She didn't believe me _____.
10. By the time _____.

TOTAL BAGRUT VOCABULARY PRACTICE # 5

A. Translate the words in **bold** according to the context of the sentence.

1. Neil Kenmuir has long been aware of his **condition**. _____
2. Zeman was surprised by the **consistency** of his findings. _____
3. Zeman was **determined** to learn more. _____
4. Zeman **emphasizes** that most people with aphantasia lead a fairly normal life.

5. To Zeman, his patient's medical issue was **fascinating**. _____
6. People **flooded** Zimmerman and Zeman with e-mails. _____
7. Most people who suffer from aphantasia can **function** normally.

8. Zeman was so **intrigued** that he invited the e-mail writers to take part in a formal study of the condition. _____
9. Kenmuir tried to count sheep and found himself turning his head to watch **invisible** sheep fly by. _____
10. Tom Ebeyer feels **isolated** from society. _____
11. Zeman didn't find any mention of the **issue** in medical literature.

12. Jacqueline Price is **jealous** of people who can see images in their head.

13. Many aphantasia sufferers are aware that they **lack** something in their life.

14. Aphantasia is the inability to produce **mental** images. _____
15. Zeman researched the fascinating **phenomenon**. _____
16. Some **regions** of the man's brain were not activated during the memory tests.

17. Zeman gave his patient memory tests while **simultaneously** scanning his brain.

18. **Surgery** caused Zeman's patient to develop aphantasia. _____
19. After **undergoing** surgery, the man suddenly lost the capability to picture things in his mind. _____
20. The patient failed the **various** memory tests that required visualization.

B. Match the words to make phrases.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| ___ 1. listen to a fascinating | a. willpower |
| ___ 2. be jealous | b. simultaneously |
| ___ 3. determined | c. condition |
| ___ 4. do a number of tasks | d. to succeed |
| ___ 5. deal with | e. with phone calls |
| ___ 6. suffer from a medical | f. region |
| ___ 7. lack | g. of someone's success |
| ___ 8. a farming | h. from surgery |
| ___ 9. recover | i. story |
| ___ 10. be flooded | j. an issue |

C. True or false?

- ___ 1. You need a lot of mental energy to talk on the phone with your friends.
- ___ 2. There are many things in the air which are invisible to the eye.
- ___ 3. People sometimes use capital letters to emphasize something important.
- ___ 4. Most Israelis live in isolated places.
- ___ 5. The winter migration of birds to warmer countries is a common phenomenon.
- ___ 6. When you do your job with consistency, you usually do it at the same level and / or speed.
- ___ 7. You function best when you are lacking sleep.
- ___ 8. In Israel, people speak various languages.
- ___ 9. When you are intrigued by something, it doesn't really interest you.
- ___ 10. Having a good friend can make it easier for you when you undergo difficulties.

D. Fill in the sentences using the words printed in bold in Exercise A. Change the form of a word if necessary.

1. The store _____ with customers after it had announced a big sale.
2. To start the machine, you must press the red and the green buttons _____.
3. This is a very serious _____ which most doctors are unable to treat.
4. He was _____ by what he had heard that he decided to investigate the story further.
5. I am _____ to do well on the Bagrut exam, and I will do everything possible to achieve my goal.
6. There are three important _____ that we must resolve before we can sign an agreement.
7. A child who lacks _____ stimulation will not progress properly in school.
8. The doctor suggested _____ cream for her skin condition, but none of them helped her.
9. When you have a job interview, _____ your strengths, not your weaknesses.
10. Children are often _____ of their siblings.
11. He finds astronomy _____. He can stand outside and gaze at his telescope for hours at a time.
12. In my opinion, the area of the Swiss Alps is one of the most beautiful _____ in the world.
13. When Ariella arrived at school, she felt like she was _____. No one smiled at her or even said hello.
14. Before you decide to undergo _____, go to another doctor for a second opinion.
15. I hope that they finish the construction on the building next door soon. I can hardly _____ when there is so much noise right outside my window.