

What's the Context?

Read the short texts below. A number of words are missing from each text. In the context, which is the best alternative to fit in the gap? Choose the best alternative and mark your answer – A, B, C or D. Read through the whole text before you decide.

1

For the first time a vaccine against malaria has shown that it can save children from infection or death. _____. It protected children from catching the disease only about 30 percent of the time and prevented it from becoming life-threatening only about 58 percent of the time. But because malaria kills more than a million people a year, 700,000 of them children, even partial protection would be a public health victory. The disease is found in 90 countries, and drug-resistant strains are spreading.

- A Two thirds of the inoculated children never caught the disease.
- B The vaccine was hardly perfect, yet the findings are significant.
- C Malaria is endemic in rural areas in southern Africa.
- D Researchers say vaccination is not an advisable solution.

2

All languages are works in progress. But the globalisation of English will revolutionize the language in ways we can only begin to imagine. _____. You could use a local English-based dialect at home, a national variety at work or school, and international Standard English to talk to foreigners. With native speakers being a shrinking minority of the world's Anglophones, there's a growing sense that students should stop trying to emulate Brighton or Boston English and embrace their own local versions.

- A From now on, everybody will have to study three "Englishes".
- B Speakers of English in Asia use a local English dialect.
- C In the future, there could be a tri-English world.
- D English speakers everywhere use their local dialect.

3

Hardy souls who like to start the day with a dip in the icy waters of an open-air pond celebrated their victory over the nanny state yesterday when the High Court cleared the way for the return of winter swimming. The judge ruled that the City authority that manages Hampstead Heath would not be held liable if unsupervised swimming was allowed in the Heath's pond.

The ponds are open to the public only when lifeguards are present, but recent changes in opening hours meant that winter swimmers _____. But the judge said that if an adult swimmer chooses to swim unsupervised, the risks they incur are the result of their decision and not of the permission to swim.

- A only use the pond before work.
- B said they were denied their lawful rights.
- C refused to follow the judge's orders.
- D could not get their usual dip before work.