



SACHSEN-ANHALT

Kultusministerium

**SCHRIFTLICHE ABSCHLUSSPRÜFUNG 2008
REALSCHULABSCHLUSS**

ENGLISCH

Arbeitszeit:

120 Minuten

TATTOOS

Tattoos are a very old form of body art. Tattooing has been around for nearly as long as humans have been living. An early example was found on a frozen body 9000 years old.

5 Tattoos have always had an important role in ritual and tradition. Throughout history tattoos have signified membership of a clan or society. The earliest tattoos can be found in Egypt during the time of the construction of the great pyramids. In Borneo, women tattooed symbols on their forearms indicating their particular skill. Early Christians used tattoos as symbols of recognition. Romans marked criminals and slaves. The Ainu people of western Asia used tattooing to show social status, and even
10 today, groups like the Hells Angels tattoo their particular group symbol on their body. Tattooing did not develop in one specific place on earth. All communities and societies have practised it in some form.

The Polynesian word 'tatoe', which means 'striking something', or the Tahitian word 'tatu', which means 'to mark something', may be the ancestors of the modern word
15 'tattoo'. The word 'tattoo' first came into the English language after Captain Cook's voyages to Tahiti. Western sailors then began to adopt tattooing.

Nowadays tattoos are seen as the ultimate fashion statement among all ages, the general public as well as celebrities. Tattooing is more popular than ever before. Japanese and Chinese characters and loved ones' names are among the most
20 popular designs.

Robbie Williams was decorated with traditional patterns by a famous Maori artist. David Beckham has a crucifixion scene and his sons' names on his back. Pink has a bar code on her neck and a dragon on her thigh. 50 Cent has a complete coverage of his back, arms and shoulders. But fashion isn't the only reason people get a tattoo.
25 For some, it's a statement about what kind of person they are. Others just love the way tattoos look or see them as a way of expressing their individuality. Some want to indicate membership of a particular group or way of life, or make the body more pleasing to the eye. Some establish a permanent reminder of an event – such as the death of a loved one – and others want to annoy their parents.

30 In the UK, you have to be over 18 to get a tattoo. Even with parental permission most tattoo artists will turn you away if you are younger than 18.

- Getting a tattoo at a professional tattoo parlour is relatively risk-free, but artists point out health risks such as hepatitis or HIV, skin infections or allergic reactions. Tattooing is a painful process. If you decide to get a tattoo, you need to go to a qualified professional artist. Make sure that the artist has a licence and references and uses new, sterile equipment for each client, and that the tattoo parlour looks clean, safe and professional. You should keep away from a parlour that seems dodgy¹. A tattoo is an open wound until it heals, so follow the advice of the artist about how to care for it.
- 40 And do not forget: a tattoo is permanent – you are stuck with it for life. Trends come and go, but a badly chosen tattoo lasts forever. Removal is not impossible but it is expensive, painful and very time-consuming. It is certain that the skin will never be the same.
- So if you are not sure about having a tattoo, you could try a temporary henna² tattoo.
- 45 The henna mixture is pasted onto the skin and then scraped off, leaving behind a deep red design. A professional henna artist can create amazing designs, which only last a few days.

from: www.bbc.co.uk/radio1
www.britishcouncil.org/languageassistent-tattoos.htm
www.cyh.com/HealthTopics
www.tattoo.dk/engelske/tattoo-history
www.tattoos-by-design.co.uk/history.html

¹ dodgy – doubtful, difficult and dangerous

² henna – reddish-brown substance made from the leaves of a bush and used for colouring hair or skin

I Understanding the text

I.1 Multiple Choice

Mark the right statement according to the text.

a) The text is about

- the tattooing of famous artists, celebrities and criminals.
- financial risks, consequences and tattooing.
- the history, the reasons and the health risks of tattooing.
- piercing, branding and tattooing of celebrities.

b) A frozen body 9000 years old

- was a symbol of a clan in Egypt.
- proved that body painting goes back thousands of years.
- was an early example of the long tradition of piercing.
- influenced people's rituals and traditions strongly.

c) The earliest tattoos can be found

- in western Asia.
- in Egypt.
- in Borneo.
- in Tahiti.

d) Fashionable designs of tattoos are

- Japanese and Chinese characters and crucifixion scenes.
- love designs and Japanese and Chinese characters.
- Japanese and Chinese symbols and loved ones' names.
- Japanese and Chinese symbols and names of lovers.

e) David Beckham

- was decorated by a Maori artist.
- was tattooed with writing on his arm.
- has his daughters' names on his back.
- has a crucifixion scene on his back.

f) The singer 50 Cent has got a tattoo on

- his neck, back and shoulders.
- his arms, shoulders and thigh.
- his shoulders, arms and legs.
- his back, arms and shoulders.

g) Tattooing causes a lot of health risks like

- hepatitis, skin infections, allergic reactions and cancer.
- skin infections, hepatitis, cancer and pain.
- skin infections, hepatitis, HIV and allergic reactions.
- HIV, skin infections, influenza and allergic reactions.

h) Tattooing artists should have

- a certificate and germ-free instruments for each person.
- a qualified education and equipment for emergencies.
- a clean studio and sterile equipment for every second person.
- a dodgy parlour and sterile instruments for everybody.

I.2 True/False

Which of the sentences are true or false according to the text?

Mark the right box.

	statement	true	false
1	The history of tattooing goes back to the beginning of the existence of mankind.		
2	Romans used tattoos to identify criminals and slaves.		
3	The Hells Devils have a special group symbol.		
4	The word "tattoo" came into the English language after Captain Cook's journeys to Tahiti.		
5	Sailors from the west were the first who used tattoos to cover their bodies.		
6	The majority of British tattoo artists will not tattoo people under the age of 18.		

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I.3 Finding headings

Find headings for the following passages:

lines 1 – 12: _____

lines 13 – 16: _____

lines 17 – 29: _____

lines 32 – 43: _____

lines 44 – 47: _____

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I.4 A closer look at the text

Find the **word groups in the text** which express the following German meanings and write them down.

a) während der Zeit der Erbauung der großartigen Pyramiden

b) die soziale Stellung zeigen _____

c) beliebter als je zuvor _____

d) eine ständige Erinnerung an ein Ereignis

e) die Erlaubnis der Eltern _____

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I.5 Matching

Choose the suitable expressions from the box which match the following sentences and write them down. There are more words than you need.

ancestor – (to) decorate – (to) indicate – permission – shoulders – sterile – tradition

a) It is the way of doing something that has existed for a long time among a particular group of people. _____

b) It is something that is completely clean and free from bacteria. _____

c) These are the two parts of the body between the top of each arm and the neck.

d) This is a person in your family who lived a long time ago. _____

e) It is another word for making something look more attractive by putting things on, painting walls and ceilings and replacing things. _____

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II Guided Writing

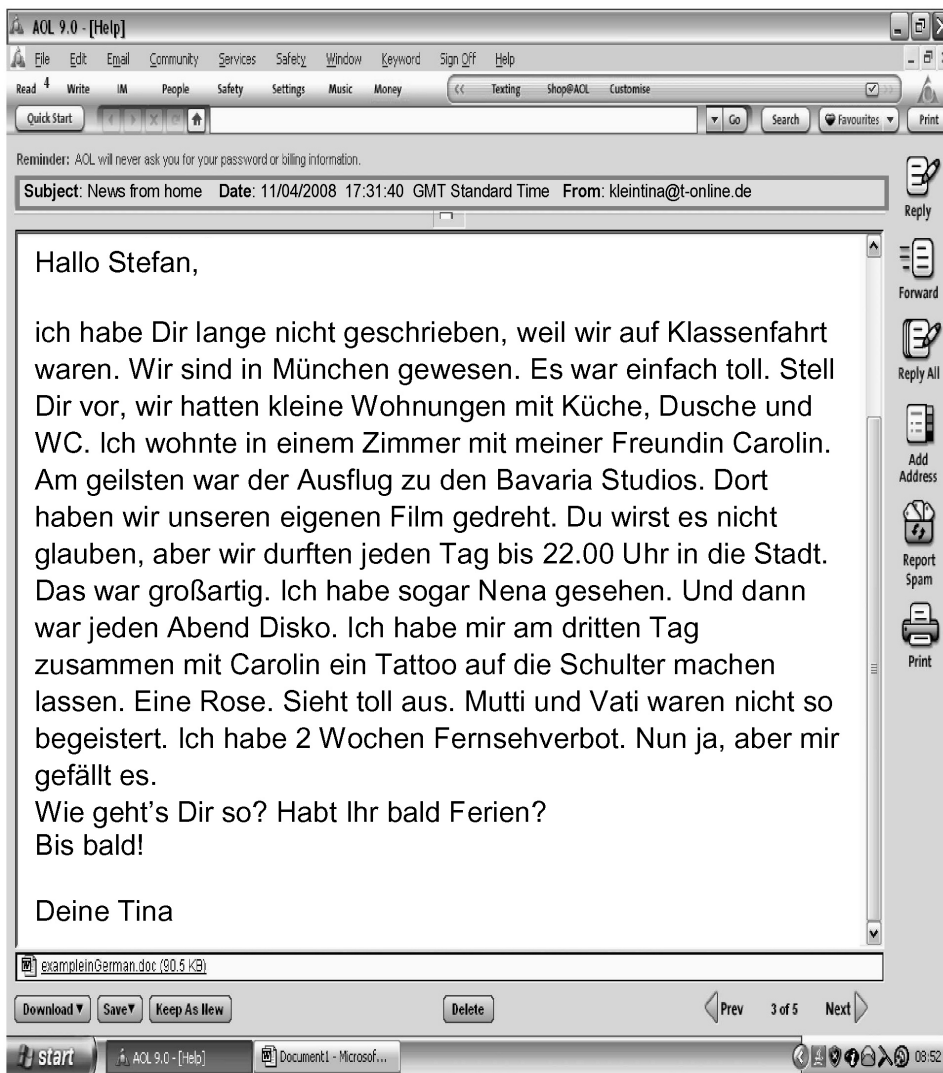
II.1 Picture Story – A Dream Came True

Aus urheberrechtlichen Gründen kann die Vorlage zur Picture Story leider nicht veröffentlicht werden.

II.2 Mediation

Stefan, a 16-year-old boy, is staying in England now. He is in close contact with his sister Tina by e-mail. Sometimes he tells his host family about the situation at home in Germany.

He got the following e-mail recently and tells his host family what Tina and her classmates did during the class trip. Write it down but do not translate the e-mail word by word.



Stefan: _____

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III Creative Writing

Choose task A or task B.

Task A:

- Read what Alex has written in the Teenline forum.
- Then write back, giving some advice.
- Write at least 120 words. Do not use Internet slang.

TEENLINE		Search the Web
www.teenline.co.uk	Members Login Below:	
	Username: _____	
	Password: _____	
	Login	
	<p>Hi guys! I have got a problem. I love piercings but my parents don't want me to have one. Mum and dad are always worried. What do you think about piercings? What can I do? How can I persuade my parents? I hope I'll get some help from you. Alex</p>	
Name: Alex (16)		
Joined Teenline: May 2008		

Hi Alex,

Count your words: _____

