

1 Comprehension

(40 points)

1.1 True or false?

(16 points)

The following statements are either true or false with respect to the argument put forward in the article that you have just read. Mark those that are true with a **T** and those that are false with an **F**.

Indicate the line(s) of the passage where the information can be found in the text. If several passages are relevant, indicate the one that is most important.

- | | | |
|----|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1) | 9/11 didn't change everything, but the attacks in Paris most probably will. | <input type="checkbox"/> F 83 - 85 |
| 2) | Jeb Bush understands the jihadists' strategy well. | <input type="checkbox"/> F 6 - 8 |
| 3) | If Western hegemony stopped, terrorism would stop, too. | <input type="checkbox"/> F 33 - 41 |
| 4) | According to Ted Cruz, the Americans are too considerate about not killing innocent civilians in the fight against terrorism. | <input type="checkbox"/> T 61 - 63 |
| 5) | Nobody could possibly have anticipated that the terrorists would launch an attack somewhere in the West. | <input type="checkbox"/> F 77 - 78 |
| 6) | For Obama there are graver dangers to humankind than terrorism. | <input type="checkbox"/> T 67 - 70 |
| 7) | The fact that the terrorists were able to organise and execute the coordinated attacks in the middle of Paris testifies to the strength of ISIS. | <input type="checkbox"/> F 21 - 24 |
| 8) | Paul Krugman followed the news from Paris obsessively even though he knew that this was precisely a kind of response that the terrorists had intended. | <input type="checkbox"/> T 1 - 4 |

1.2 Open comprehension questions

(24 points)

Answer the following questions on a separate sheet. Paraphrase! Do not copy whole passages from the article. **Write a short, well-structured paragraph for each question.** Both content and language (vocabulary, grammar, paragraph structure) will be assessed; the maximum score for the content is 4 points and for the language 2 points. For a correct answer that is very poorly written you will get 4 points only. If an answer is totally wrong, you will get zero points, irrespective of how well it is written.

Note to the examiners: Students are not expected to indicate the lines where the relevant info can be found.

- 1) What, according to Krugman, is the causal connection between 9/11 and ISIS? | 4 + 2 = 6 points

The American government [under Georg W. Bush] used 9/11 as a pretext for invading Iraq [to get rid of Saddam Hussein, its former protégé]. The invasion turned into a disastrous war. It is only because of the effects of this war [i.e. political instability, civil war, looting of American military equipment and weapons by jihadists] that ISIS was able to become as strong as it is today. (51 – 58)

- 2) What does Krugman mean when he says that we should not “dignify” (line 26) terrorism “with the name of war”? | 4 + 2 = 6 points

He is convinced that ISIS does not pose a danger to France or even the Western world [in a way that is comparable to, say, Germany in the two World Wars]. The most jihadists can do in the West is kill people randomly, which – for Krugman – is a sign of weakness. Hence calling the struggle against terrorism a “war” makes terrorism appear both more threatening and more important than it in fact is. And it plays into the hands of jihadist propaganda.

- 3) What does the article tell you about Krugman's politics? In other words, where would you situate him in the American party system? Support your answer with a few references to the text. | 4 + 2 = 6 points

It is clear throughout the text that Krugman is strongly opposed to the Republicans/conservatives:

he criticises Jeb Bush, a Republican candidate for President 2016 (line 6)

he criticises Ted Cruz, a Republican candidate for President 2016 (line 61)

he strongly criticises Donald Rumsfeld (by implication also G. W. Bush and his whole administration) for their wrong-headed response to 9/11, which included the invasion of Iraq under false pretences (51 - 60)

he criticises the conservatives in general because they accuse 'liberals' [i.e. people like Krugman] of not being tough enough (rhetorically and otherwise) with terrorists (44-51)

Each of the above points puts Krugman, implicitly, close to the Democrats. In one point, his agreement with the Democratic President is explicit:

he agrees with Obama on the question of global warming (i.e. global warming is a more serious problem than terrorism) [67]

Students should situate Krugman somewhere near the Democratic party and refer to at least four relevant passages in the text. Notice, there is no evidence in the text that Krugman is a member of the Democratic party.

[According to Wikipedia, Krugman sees himself as a "liberal". He is not a member of the Democratic party.]

- 4) In one paragraph Krugman is sarcastic. Which paragraph is it? Comment on this passage; prove that you understand it! What is Krugman sarcastic about? How can you be sure that it is in fact sarcasm?

| 4 + 2 = 6 points

Lines 57 – 60:

He is sarcastic about the American invasion of Iraq, which the Bush government sold to the public as a necessary part of the war against terrorism. For Krugman, this justification was/is a monstrous lie, a travesty, hence his resort to sarcasm.

The 'splendid, politically beneficial little war' is in fact the brutal, politically disastrous, and costly Iraq war that the Americans can't seem to get rid of. Meaning the opposite of what is literally said is the hallmark of sarcasm.

The passage is addressed to an imaginary naïve person/reader/child with the name of Virginia, see footnote 4. In a patronising way, Virginia, who probably stands for starry-eyed Republican partisans, is told that there are (even within the Republicans) bad people like Rumsfeld and Bush, who use the fight against terrorism for their own political agenda, regardless of civilian casualties.

"...do wonders for terrorist recruitment." (lines 63-64) is a minor instance of sarcasm, too.

If students mention only the first passage (57-60), that's fine – not the other way round, though.

Even if students are not familiar with the details of American politics in the aftermath of 9/11, they should be able to explain the passage and spot the sarcasm and the patronising/sarcastic tone.

2 Vocabulary

(30 points)

2.1 Antonyms

(8 points)

Find a word/phrase that is **opposite in meaning** to the word/phrase in **bold** print and that fits (grammatically) into the original sentence.

- 1) the **natural** reaction (line 3) unnatural
- 2) this is **an organized** attempt (lines 6-7) a disorganised, a poorly thought-out/-through
- 3) Killing **random** people (line 21) specific, selected, (well) chosen, handpicked
- 4) from the **wrong-headed** responses (lines 29-30) rational, well thought-through
- 5) if the French were to **withdraw from** the international effort (line 35) join
- 6) But **real-world** examples (line 42) fictional, fictitious, fictive, trumped-up, made-up
- 7) it would, however, **do wonders for** terrorist recruitment (lines 63-64) be bad for, be detrimental to
- 8) **denying** terrorists safe havens (lines 75-76) granting, offering

2.2 Synonyms

(10 points)

Find a word/phrase that means **the same** as the word/phrase in **bold** print and that fits (grammatically) into the original sentence.

- 1) And **remarks** like that (line 9) comments
- 2) with **a deep** well of popular legitimacy (line 14) a profound
- 3) it nonetheless **retains** a powerful military (line 16) keeps, has
- 4) much stronger if it **chooses** (line 17) decides (to), wishes, wants (to), becomes/should become necessary
- 5) is **inspire** fear (lines 24-25) create, generate
- 6) politicians... **knuckling under to** terrorist demands (lines 42-43) giving in to, yielding to, accepting
- 7) every **conceivable** threat (lines 48-49) imaginable, thinkable, possible, supposable
- 8) people can and do **exploit** terrorism (line 58) take advantage of, use, employ
- 9) involved difficult **tradeoffs** (line 74) compromises, deals
- 10) such **an elaborate** plot (line 82) a complex, a sophisticated, a thought-out, a deliberate

2.3 Word formation

(12 points)

In the following text, use **one** word that fits the gap and belongs to the same **word family** as the word in CAPITALS. See the first line for an example.

“Fearing Fear Itself” – where does the phrase come from?

The title of Paul Krugman’s article (Fearing Fear Itself) is likely to be an a.l.l.u.s.i.o.n. ALLUDE
 to a phrase that President Roosevelt used in his inaugural speech in 1933. While Roosevelt
 made the phrase popular, his speech was not the o.r.i.g.i.n. ORIGINAL
 of it. The phrase had
 already been in c.i.r.c.u.l.a.t.i.o.n. CIRCULATE | ASSUMPTION
 for a while. Roosevelt a.s.s.u.m.e.d. the
 presidency at the d.e.p.t.h. DEEP
 of the most severe economic depression in American
 history. His s.o.l.u.t.i.o.n. SOLVE
 was to launch the “New Deal”, the largest government
 programme in U.S. history.

Here is what President Roosevelt actually said in his inaugural address:

“This is preeminently the time to speak the truth, the whole truth, frankly and boldly. Nor
 need we shrink from h.o.n.e.s.t.l.y. HONEST
 facing conditions in our country today. This
 great nation will endure as it has endured, will revive and will p.r.o.s.p.e.r. PROSPERITY
 So,
 first of all, let me a.s.s.e.r.t. ASSERTION
 my firm belief that the only thing we have to fear is
 fear itself—nameless, unreasoning, u.n.j.u.s.t.i.f.i.e.d.* JUSTIFY
 terror which paralyzes
 needed efforts to c.o.n.v.e.r.t. CONVERSION
 retreat into advance. In every dark hour of our na-
 tional life, a l.e.a.d.e.r.s.h.i.p. LEAD
 of frankness and vigor has met with that under-
 standing and support of the people themselves which is e.s.s.e.n.t.i.a.l. ESSENCE
 to victory.”

*unjustifiable

3 Essay

(60 points)

Choose one of the following topics for an essay (300-400 words).

- 1) Invent a story beginning as follows: *Never before had I been so afraid.*

- 2) Discuss the following quote: “There is only one thing that makes a dream impossible to achieve: the fear of failure.” (Paulo Coelho, contemporary Brazilian novelist)

- 3) Is fear a life-preserving instinct? – Discuss.

4 Grammar

(50 points)

4.1 Re-phrasing sentences

(20 points)

Complete the second sentence so that it has a **similar meaning** to the first sentence, using the word given. Do **not** change the word given. You must use **between three and six words per gap**, including the word given. There is an example (0) at the beginning.

- 0) When does the next exam begin? **tell**
 Could you tell me when the next exam begins?
-
- 1) It's difficult to know what my reaction would have been in that situation. **how**
 I'm not sure / certain how ■ I would have reacted in that situation.
-
- 2) 'I didn't cheat in the test!' said the student. **having**
 The student denied ■ having cheated in the test.
-
- 3) My friends have never been here before, so it is possible that they have got lost. **have**
 My friends may / might have got (ten) lost ■ since / because / as / for it is the first time they have ever been here.
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- 4) Once Ed Sheeran had performed, there was no reason for us to stay for the rest of the concert. **point**
 There was no / little / not any point (in) ■ (our / us) staying for the rest of the concert once Ed Sheeran had performed.
-
- 5) Do you think you could help me to fill in this form? **wondering**
 I was wondering if / whether ■ you could / would / might lend / give me a hand filling in this form.
-
- 6) Playing the drums is fun, but so is singing in a choir. **just**
 It is just as ■ much fun singing in a choir as it is playing the drums.
-
- 7) Everyone says Tom's grandfather was an extremely skilful chess player. **supposed**
 Tom's grandfather is supposed to ■ have been an extremely skilful chess player.
-
- 8) We missed the train because we arrived at the station late. **by**
 The train had left / gone / departed ■ by the time we arrived at the station.
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- 9) The final pages were missing from the book, so I didn't find out who the murderer was. **not**
 If the final pages of the book had not been missing ■ I would / might / may / could have found out who the murderer was.
-
- 10) My brother didn't use to be so confident. **than**
 My brother is more confident (now) ■ he used to be.

4.2 Gap-filling

(30 points)

Complete the following text by putting the verbs in *brackets* into the correct form. Include any preposition that may be required. Where there is no verb given, think of one word which best fits the gap.

A week after the Islamic State terror attack in Paris (November 2015), three professors from Columbia University (New York City) were interviewed for the university website. Here is what they said:

Question: What does IS want?

Richard Bulliet: IS wants to dominate the Muslim world. But in ¹o.r.d.e.r. to do so, they have to destroy Saudi Arabia. The question now is what the Saudis are going to do. If the Saudis ignore IS while continuing to allow their citizens to give money and to become recruits, the world ²i.s./w.i.l.l..b.e.l.i.k.e.l.y. (be likely) to see them as enablers of a criminal organization. On the other hand, IS believes in a strict form of Islam not ³t.o.o./v.e.r.y. dissimilar from what the Saudis practise, and it also has a murderous attitude towards Shiites, a group that ⁴i.s.c.o.n.s.i.d.e.r.e.d.t.o.b.e. (consider/be) heretical by the Saudis. If the Saudis did what the West would like them ⁵t.o.d.o. (do) and focused on IS, then in Muslim terms the Saudis would be ⁶a.l.l.i.e.d. (ally) with the enemies of Islam – America, France, Russia, etc. Their authority as a dynasty that controls Mecca would ⁷b.e.u.n.d.e.r.m.i.n.e.d. (undermine). This almost makes the Saudis ⁸f.i.n.d. (find) themselves in a lose-lose situation.

Q: What can they do? What are they doing?

RB: They are simply keeping silent. They ⁹h.a.v.e.n't.d.o.n.e. (not do) anything substantial to discredit or to combat IS in recent months. Now, the Americans, the French, the British, the Russians, everybody wants the Saudis to take action. Yet in ¹⁰s.p.i.t.e. of this pressure, they've remained passive, ¹¹w.h.i.c.h. is undermining their status in the region. Within Saudi Arabia, there ¹²h.a.v.e.b.e.e.n. (be) bombings, and hundreds of people who they say are IS-sympathizers ¹³h.a.v.e.b.e.e.n.a.r.r.e.s.t.e.d. (arrest) so far. But all of the actions against IS within Saudi Arabia have been solely to prevent subversion. So far, Islam ¹⁴h.a.s.b.e.e.n.u.s.e.d. (use) in Saudi Arabia basically as a tool for buttressing the power of the royal family, which has absolutely no intention of ¹⁵g.i.v.i.n.g.u.p. (give up) that power to anyone.

Q: ¹⁶W.h.a.t. does the future look like for IS?

RB: I don't think IS can survive in its current mini-state situation for more than five years. It ¹⁷i.s.i.n.c.r.e.a.s.i.n.g.l.y.b.e.i.n.g.a.t.t.a.c.k.e.d. (attack/increasingly). It could metastasize, so even if it lost its territory in Syria, it might then become a sort of distributed international terrorist organization. But it would be less appealing in such a form because potential recruits need a territory and a figurehead. Recruits ¹⁸a.r.e.s.a.i.d.t.o.b.e.a.t.t.r.a.c.t.e.d. (say/attract) by the romance of recreating the caliphate.

Q: Professor **Stuart Gottlieb**, how do the Paris attacks change the fight against jihadists?

SG: Until now, the stated American strategy to counter the IS ¹⁹h.a.s.b.e.e.n. (be) to first contain the group in its Mideast safe havens, and then eventually degrade and destroy the organization. ²⁰H.o.w.e.v.e.r. the massacre in Paris shows why this is a dangerously short-sighted approach: ²¹w.h.i.l.e./w.h.e.r.e.a.s. the core of IS may ²²b.e.c.o.n.t.a.i.n.e.d. (contain) in some recognizable territory, the group itself – and its ideology – is multinational.

Q: How big a threat are you talking about?

SG: It's global. IS has both local and global ambitions. In fact, what happened in Paris is very similar to the Mumbai attack in 2008, where terrorists carried out a four-day siege on various facilities, ²³k.i.l.l.i.n.g. (kill) 164 people. Since Mumbai, the big fear among security officials ²⁴h.a.s. b.e.e.n. (be) that jihadi groups will increasingly target Western-style cities ²⁵w.h.o.s.e. identities are based on their freedom.

Q: Is U.S. policy responsible for the creation of IS, as some critics claim?

Austin Long: If the US ²⁶h.a.d. n.o.t. i.n.v.a.d.e.d. (not invade) Iraq, there ²⁷w.o.u.l.d. p.r.o.b.a.b.l.y. b.e. (be/probably) no Islamic State now. By the year 2009, Al Qaeda ²⁸h.a.d. b.e.e.n. p.u.s.h.e.d. (push) to the margins of Iraq, mainly because the group alienated a lot of Sunnis. Since then, the rise of IS in Iraq ²⁹h.a.s. h.a.d. (have) a great deal to do with the Shiite-dominated Iraqi government's refusal to deal with legitimate Sunni complaints, which has led to a resurgence of resistance among Iraqi Sunnis.

Q: You were in Iraq with the U.S. military. Did you foresee something like this happening?

AL: If I'd been asked, I ³⁰c.o.u.l.d.n.'t. h.a.v.e. i.m.a.g.i.n.e.d. (could/not/imagine) the collapse of Syria. The Assad regime looked pretty stable.

Source: <http://news.columbia.edu/isis>, 7th February 2016, adapted

5 Translation

(20 points)

Translate the following sentences into English.

- 1) Paul Krugman, der 1953 geboren wurde, ist bekannt für seine Arbeit über internationale Wirtschaftsthemen und Währungskrisen.

Paul Krugman, who was born in 1953, is known for his work on international economic issues and currency crises.

- 2) Er interessiert sich nicht nur für Weltpolitik, sondern äussert seine Meinung auch zu inländischen Angelegenheiten in seiner Kolumne [*column*], welche jeden Montag und Freitag in der New York Times erscheint.

He is not only interested in world politics, but also expresses / states his opinion on national affairs in his column, which appears in the New York Times every Monday and Friday.

- 3) Krugman gibt zu, Präsident Obama gegenüber skeptisch gewesen zu sein. Heute verteidigt er ihn und behauptet sogar, dass er einer der erfolgreichsten Präsidenten der amerikanischen Geschichte ist.

Krugman admits to having been skeptical of/about President Obama. Today he defends him and even claims that he is one of the most successful presidents in American history.

- 4) Vielleicht hat Krugman Recht. Seit 2009 sind mehrere Bereiche verbessert worden, einschliesslich des Gesundheitswesens und der Umwelt.

Krugman may be right. Since 2009 several areas have been improved including healthcare and the environment.

- 5) Krugman wollte, dass Obama 2012 wiedergewählt wurde und ist froh, dass das geschah. In einem seiner Artikel beschreibt er, wie das amerikanische Leben heute aussähe, wenn Obama verloren hätte.

Krugman wanted Obama (to be) re-elected in 2012 and is glad / happy (that) that happened. In one of his articles he describes what

American life would look like today if Obama had lost.

- 6) Obama sagte kurz nach den Angriffen in Paris: „Die Bedrohung durch Terrorismus ist real, aber wir werden sie überwinden. Vergessen wir nicht, dass die Freiheit stärker ist als die Angst.“
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Shortly after the attacks in Paris President Obama said: "The threat from terrorism is real, but we will overcome it. Let's not forget that freedom is more powerful than fear."

- 7) Schweizer nehmen Terrorismus nicht so ernst wie Amerikaner. In der Schweiz sind andere Themen wichtiger.
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The Swiss don't take terrorism as seriously as the Americans. In Switzerland, other issues are more important.

- 8) Gemäss dem Credit Suisse Sorgenbarometer [*worry barometer*] 2015 sind Jugendarbeitslosigkeit und Einwanderung die Hauptsorgen. Die Umfrage zeigte auch, dass die Teilnehmer extrem stolz auf ihr Land sind.
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According to the Credit Suisse Worry Barometer 2015, youth unemployment and immigration are our/the main worries. The survey also showed that the participants are extremely proud of their country.

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