



Factfulness

Kompetenzniveau:	B1
Thema:	Rezension eines Sachbuchs

Testformat:	Multiple Choice (Format der standardisierten schriftlichen Reifeprüfung) und Zusammenfassung
Bearbeitungszeit:	20 Minuten
Wortanzahl (Input):	509 Wörter
Anzahl der Items:	7 Multiple Choice-Fragen und Zusammenfassung

Kommentar:

Diese Aufgabe verlangt das Verstehen der Hauptaussagen einer Buchrezension, die eine klare Meinung zum besprochenen Werk ausdrückt. Die geforderte Zusammenfassung entspricht der Aufgabenstellung bei der mündlichen Kompensationsprüfung. Ab einem (hohen) B1-Niveau ist dies eine gute Möglichkeit, das Gesamtverständnis des Texts zu überprüfen. Das Schreiben von Zusammenfassungen muss vor der Schularbeit geübt worden sein.

Lehrplanbezug:**6. Klasse, Kompetenzmodul 4, Lesen**

- längere, auch literarische Texte über vertraute Themen nach gewünschten Informationen durchsuchen [...] können
- in klar geschriebenen argumentativen Texten die wesentlichen Schlussfolgerungen erkennen können

Deskriptoren des GeR-Begleitbands:**Information und Argumentation verstehen > GeR, 2020, S. 69**

(B1) Kann in klar geschriebenen argumentativen Texten die wesentlichen Schlussfolgerungen erkennen.

(B1) Kann kurze Texte über vertraute oder aktuelle Themen verstehen, in denen Menschen ihre Ansichten äußern.

Lesen als Freizeitbeschäftigung > GeR, 2020, S. 71

(B1) Kann Film- und Buchbesprechungen, Konzertkritiken usw. lesen, die für ein breiteres Publikum geschrieben sind, und dabei die Hauptpunkte verstehen.

Schriftliche Verarbeitung von Texten > GeR, 2020, S. 122

(B1) Kann Informationen und Argumente in Texten von allgemeinem oder persönlichem Interesse schriftlich zusammenfassen.

Hinweis:

Aufgrund der höheren Komplexität ist die Aufgabenstellung insbesondere für die letzte Schularbeit der 6. Klasse geeignet.



1. Read the text. Then choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) for each question (1–7). Write your answers in the spaces provided. The first one (0) has been done for you.
2. What is the text about? Summarise the most important points in about 50 words.

Factfulness

“Things aren’t what they used to be.” It’s a common complaint these days, especially from the older generation who are thinking about what they imagine were the more peaceful, more civilised times of their youth. After reading *Factfulness* by Hans Rosling, the late Swiss professor of international health, I now have a response to this: it’s true that things aren’t what they used to be, because they used to be much worse.

In this important and clearly written book, Professor Rosling sets out ten reasons why so many of us have a mistakenly negative view of the world, and why things are actually much better than we think. He starts with a test consisting of 13 multiple choice questions. The answers to the 13 questions are consistently unexpected. But the main point is that when Rosling posed these questions to the audience of his lectures all over the world, only a tiny proportion got any of the answers right. They nearly always erred on the side of pessimism and bad news, whereas the correct answers are consistently positive.

The rest of the book is taken up with explaining why the majority of people, including the wealthiest and best educated on the planet, get the facts so wrong. Each of the next ten chapters deals with a different reason for this phenomenon. These reasons range from various statistical errors we can easily fall into, to habits of mind and human nature. Rosling illustrates his point with stories from his life, as well as graphs and diagrams showing actual facts about the world. One of the problems causing false assumptions is the media. Unfortunately, journalists are always looking for sensational stories to attract readers. Disaster is what sells newspapers or generates clicks on social media. This is natural, but the result is that what Rosling calls “the silent miracle of human progress” is overlooked. Gradual improvement is not something you will read about in the news.

Do not get the idea that *Factfulness* takes an unrealistically optimistic view of the world. Rosling does not wear rose-tinted spectacles. He acknowledges that we face many difficult problems, and that solving them will involve a lot of international cooperation. He describes the modern situation as “bad and better” – an apparent contradiction, which he explains with an analogy of a premature baby in an incubator. The baby’s health is very bad, and her breathing and heart rate are monitored constantly. After a week, it becomes clear that she is recovering, and her chances of survival are increasing – but she’s still in danger. Things are at once bad and better for her, and there’s a lot of work to do to ensure she survives. This is the state of the world today.

Factfulness is an important and profound book. It will change your view of the world, help you to improve your decision-making and avoid being unnecessarily stressed about the wrong things. By contrast, it will keep you alert to the real dangers and possibilities of life on this fragile, frightening, and wonderful planet.



Bild: congedesign (Pixabay)

1. Questions

0 By reading the book, the author has learned that

- A earlier generations had it better.
- B life is better than it was in the past.
- C there was less fighting in the past.
- D older people are unhappy.

1 Many people have a false opinion

- A about the importance of being positive.
- B about how to stay healthy.
- C of the content of the book.
- D of the situation on Earth.

2 In Rosling's quiz,

- A there are surprising statements.
- B the author tries to trick people.
- C most people pick the worst options.
- D many people choose the correct answers.

3 A large part of the book is about

- A political causes of misinformation.
- B money causing people to get the wrong idea.
- C people learning the wrong things at school.
- D explaining the causes of misinformation.

4 The media is part of the problem because

- A getting better slowly is not interesting.
- B journalists report wrong information.
- C social media is less reliable.
- D influential people pay them.

5 Rosling argues that dealing with current issues

- A needs many people to work together.
- B is easier than people imagine.
- C requires everyone to be more positive.
- D must be a priority for politicians.

6 Rosling compares the world to a baby to show that we can be

- A hurt as easily as a baby.
- B weak but improving.
- C helped by modern medicine.
- D hopeful for the world.

7 If you read the book yourself, you might

- A stop making mistakes in life.
- B learn how to spot misinformation.
- C start looking at things in a different way.
- D become more afraid for the world.

Write your answers here:

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
B							

2. Summary

Lösung

Multiple Choice

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
B	D	C	D	A	A	B	C

Sample Summary

The text is a review of the book *Factfulness* by Hans Rosling. The book explains how we as humans tend to focus on negative events and fail to see positive developments. The reviewer praises the book as being clearly written and profound, being able to improve your view of the world.

Important aspects of the text:

- this is a review of the book *Factfulness* by Hans Rosling
- the book argues that life on Earth is actually better than it used to be
- the book is not unrealistically positive, Rosling admits there are many problems
- most people focus on negative events instead of positive developments
- in ten chapters, the book explains the ten reasons why they do that
- the review is very positive: the book is clearly written, profound and important

(Text: way2go! 6, Test Resource Pack, S. 72 (adaptiert), © Österreichischer Bundesverlag Schulbuch GmbH & Co. KG, Wien 2019)