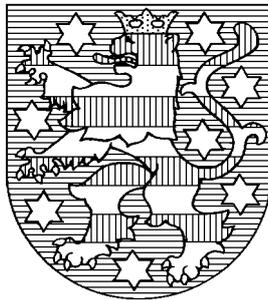


Thüringer Kultusministerium



Abiturprüfung 1995

Englisch

als Leistungsfach
(Haupttermin)

Hinweise für die Prüfungsteilnehmerinnen und Prüfungsteilnehmer

Arbeitszeit: 240 Minuten

Einlesezeit: 30 Minuten

Hilfsmittel: Einsprachiges Wörterbuch

Der Prüfungsteilnehmer wählt von den Aufgaben 1 und 2 eine zur Bearbeitung aus.

Rechts unten neben jeder Teilaufgabe steht die für diese Teilaufgabe maximal erreichbare Anzahl von Bewertungseinheiten (BE).

Die Anzahl der Wörter ist getrennt für die Prüfungsteile A und B zu vermerken.

Aufgabe 1
Worksheet
(Text auf den Seiten 4 und 5)

A

Working on the text

Answer the questions and tasks, using your own words as far as possible.

1. Give a summary of this article. 6BE
2. What prompted Dr. Hall to carry out this experiment? 7 BE
3. Explain the positions of those scientists who are of a contrary opinion to this question. 8 BE
4. Why is it possible to conduct such an experiment in the USA? 4 BE
5. Analyse the position of the author in this article.
Which stylistic devices underline her position? 5 BE

B

Composition

Choose one of the following tasks.

Write at least 400 words. 20 BE

1. The EC has unanimously condemned the cloning of humans "for any purpose whatsoever, including research, as a grave violation of fundamental human rights, contrary to respect for the individual, morally repugnant, and ethically unacceptable".
(From an EC resolution adopted in the Oct. 28, 1993 plenary)

Comment on the position of the EC, comparing it with US policy, and give your personal opinion on the cloning of human embryos.

2. Discuss the ambivalence of scientific progress with reference to the responsibility of scientists.

Aufgabe 2 Worksheet

(Text auf Seiten 6 und 7)

A

Working on the text

Answer the questions and tasks, using your own words as far as possible.

- | | |
|--|------|
| 1. What is Mrs. Mallard's first reaction to the sad news? | 3 BE |
| 2. How does she gradually come to terms with her new situation? | 8 BE |
| 3. Compare the picture of nature painted in the text with Mrs. Mallard's feelings. | 6 BE |
| 4. What do her reflections reveal about her marriage? | 5 BE |
| 5. Interpret the meaning and effect of the last sentence. | 5 BE |
| 6. Analyse the narrative point of view. | 3 BE |

B

Composition

Choose one of the following tasks.

Write at least 400 words. 20 BE

1. "Love- yes, marriage - no, thank you"
The number of singles is rising worldwide. Comment on positions of young people today towards love and marriage. You may include your opinion.
2. Music, books and films have always reflected people's feelings and thoughts, their hopes as well as their fears.
What is your opinion of this statement? You may include your personal experience.

Aufgabe 1

Text

Scientist Clones Human Embryos, And Creates an Ethical Challenge

A university researcher in Washington has, as an experiment, cloned human embryos, splitting single embryos into identical twins or triplets. [...]

The scientist, Dr. Jerry L. Hall of George Washington University Medical Center, reported his work at a recent meeting of the American Fertility Society.

5 The experiment was not a technical breakthrough, since he used methods that are commonly used to clone animal embryos, but it opens a range of practical and ethical questions.

For example, since human embryos can be frozen and used at a later date, parents could have a child and then, years later, use a cloned, frozen embryo to
10 give birth to an identical twin, possibly as an organ donor for the older child.

Dr. Hall works with the in vitro fertilization program at George Washington University, in which doctors help women have babies by mixing sperm and eggs in a laboratory and then implanting the embryos in the women. He was trying to devise a method to create more embryos to implant when couples do
15 not produce enough to result in a pregnancy. The embryos used in the experiment were at the stage of just a few cells. They were not usable for technical reasons and were discarded, not implanted in a woman's womb.

Dr. Robert Stillman, director of the in vitro fertilization program, said in an interview last night that he and Dr. Hall were fully aware of the ethical issues
20 that the work would bring out. Their purpose in doing the work, Dr. Stillman said, was to help infertile couples who have "just the basic human desire to have a family. "In the presentation to the American Fertility Society, Dr. Hall said splitting embryos would allow doctors to try to implant more of them, making it more probable that a woman would become pregnant with at least one of
25 them.[...]

A technique has been developed for making identical twins in animals [...].

Scientists who routinely clone animal embryos said that cloning human embryos should be just as easy.[...]

"It's not scientifically rich, but that's what makes it morally and legally of
30 concern," said Dr. Arthur Caplan, director of the Center for Bioethics at the University of Minnesota.[...]

The ethical implications are perplexing, experts said. Any time scientists seem to be meddling with the stuff of human life, thorny questions about propriety arise.

35 George Annas, an ethicist and a health lawyer at Boston University, said that about 10 years ago, researchers considered the possibility of cloning human embryos some day, but rejected it out of hand. "This is the experiment we were never going to do," he said. "It's a horror story. There is nothing to prevent

40 anyone from doing any of this stuff. We're at a stage of genetics that what can
be done will be done."

Several infertility experts, who run in vitro fertilization programs, said they
have no intention of cloning human embryos even if it is feasible.[...]

45 In fact, said Dr. David Meldrum, the director of the Center for Advanced
Reproduction in Redondo Beach, Calif., it would have been better if Dr.Hall's
experiment had never been discussed.[...]

"The public, I think, feels uncomfortable with meddling with the life-producing
process. They will see this as one more step along a slippery slope toward more
and more meddling."[...]

50 [...] the cloning of humans is part of the nether world of in vitro fertilization, a
research area that the Government has decided to forsake. With no Federal
money to pay for the research, studies of in vitro fertilization have been carried
out by scientist-entrepreneurs, many of whom left Government laboratories to
work on their own, the only way they could study human embryos.

55 Although they have made spectacular advances in the 15 years since the first
child was born from in vitro fertilization, no national board has debated or even
discussed the ethical issues surrounding this research.

60 The cloning research brings this lack of national scrutiny to the forefront, said
Dr. John Fletcher, an ethicist at the University of Virginia. It "shows again why
there needs to be a public forum. Our policy on embryo research is in total
disarray."

Gina Kolata

From: The New York Times, October 24, 1993

Aufgabe 2 Text

The Story of an Hour

Knowing that Mrs. Mallard was afflicted with a heart trouble, great care was taken to break to her as gently as possible the news of her husband's death.

It was her sister Josephine who told her, in broken sentences; veiled hints.[...] Her husband's friend Richards was there, too, near her. It was he who had been in the newspaper office when intelligence¹ of the railroad disaster was received, with Brently Mallard's name leading the list of "killed". He had only taken the time to assure himself of its truth by a second telegram, and had hastened to forestall any less careful, less tender friend in bearing the sad message.

She did not hear the story as many women have heard the same, with a paralyzed inability to accept its significance. She wept at once, with sudden, wild abandonment, in her sister's arms. When the storm of grief had spent itself² she went away to her room alone. She would have no one follow her.[...]

She could see in the open square before her house the tops of trees that were all aquiver³ with the new spring life. The delicious breath of rain was in the air. In the street below a peddler was crying his wares. The notes of a distant song which some one was singing reached her faintly, and countless sparrows were twittering in the eaves.

There were patches of blue sky showing here and there through the clouds that had met and piled one above the other in the west facing her window.[...]

She was young, with a fair, calm face, whose lines bespoke⁴ repression and even a certain strength. But now there was a dull stare in her eyes, whose gaze was fixed away off yonder on one of those patches of blue sky. It was not a glance of reflection, but rather indicated a suspension of intelligent thought.

There was something coming to her and she was waiting for it, fearfully. What was it? She did not know; it was too subtle and elusive to name. But she felt it, creeping out of the sky, reaching towards her through the sounds, the scents, the color that filled the air.

Now her bosom rose and fell tumultuously. She was beginning to recognize this thing that was approaching to possess her, and she was striving to beat it back with her will - as powerless as her two white slender hands would have been.

When she abandoned herself a little whispered word escaped her slightly parted lips. She said it over and over under her breath: "free, free, free!" The vacant stare and the look of terror that had followed it went from her eyes. They stayed keen and bright. Her pulses beat fast, and the coursing blood warmed and relaxed every inch of her body.

She did not stop to ask if it were or were not a monstrous joy that held her. A clear [...] perception⁵ enabled her to dismiss the suggestion as trivial.

40 She knew that she would weep again when she saw the kind, tender hands folded in death; the face that had never looked save with love upon her, fixed and gray and dead. But she saw beyond that bitter moment a long procession of years to come that would belong to her absolutely. And she opened and spread her arms out to them in welcome.

45 There would be no one to live for her during those coming years; she would live for herself. There would be no powerful will bending hers in that blind persistence with which men and women believe they have a right to impose a private will upon a fellow-creature. A kind intention or a cruel intention made the act seem no less a crime as she looked upon it in that brief moment of illumination.

50 And yet she had loved him - sometimes. Often she had not. What did it matter! What could love, the unsolved mystery, count for in face of this possession of self-assertion⁶ which she suddenly recognized as the strongest impulse of her being!

"Free! Body and soul free!" she kept whispering.[...]

55 Her fancy was running riot along those days ahead of her. Spring days, and summer days, and all sorts of days that would be her own. She breathed a quick prayer that life might be long.[...]

60 She arose at length and opened the door (...). There was a feverish triumph in her eyes, and she carried⁷ herself unwittingly like a goddess of Victory. She clasped her sister's waist, and together they descended the stairs. Richards stood waiting for them at the bottom.

65 Some one was opening the front door with a latchkey. It was Brently Mallard who entered,[...]. He had been far from the scene of accident, and did not even know there had been one. He stood amazed at Josephine's piercing cry; at Richards' quick motion to screen him from the view of his wife.

But Richards was too late.

When the doctors came they said she had died of heart disease - of joy that kills.

From: Kate Chopin, *The Awakening and Selected Stories*, 1986
(First published in the 1890s)

Annotations:

1 intelligence	here: news
2 the storm had spent itself	the storm had come to an end
3 aquiver	excited, full of agitation
4 to bespeak	to indicate
5 perception	ability to see, hear and understand
6 self-assertion	confidence in one's own self

7 she carried

here: she moved