



The Power of Per

Scene: Comprehension Questions


Respond in writing to the questions, then compare and discuss your answers with someone else.


 Complete this sentence about the main idea of the article in the journal of *Bioelectromagnetics*.

Professor Abramson found in his study that


 Reggie's dad says that Reggie is impulsive because his brain isn't connected to his body. What does the word *impulsive* mean in this use?

- A) doing things quickly
- B) doing things repetitively, or time after time
- C) acting without thinking things through
- D) doing physical things that don't require much thinking

 Professor Abramson wanted to find out if students who used their phones a lot behaved impulsively, so he observed students who texted at least 20 times **per** week or called at least 15 times **per** week. When Reggie heard this, he said, "Twenty times **per** week is nothing! My BFFs text way more." Can you restate Reggie's point in more scientific language?

 Reread this part of the Reader's Theater, when Giselle explained to Reggie what a **correlation** is:

Giselle: Kind of, but not necessarily tied together like a cause and effect. They just happen at the same time. Kind of like: I grew taller this week, and my hair grew longer, but growing taller didn't cause my hair to grow longer. They both happen together, but some other reason causes both of them to happen. According to my mom, that reason is eating disgusting vegetables like broccoli.

 Here are two more examples of **correlations**:


- ▶ People who eat yogurt every day weigh less than people who don't eat yogurt every day.
- ▶ People who are taller earn more money.


Write some **correlations** you think may be true:


1. _____


2. _____


Discuss each question with a partner.

 Aymara believes since her friends use cell phones, they've learned to do many things faster and expect other people to answer their questions quickly. Do you agree with Aymara? Can you provide examples to back up your opinion?

 Professor Abramson thinks that if teens use tools to complete words when is texting, they will do many other things before thinking them through. Giselle, Reggie, and Aymara all disagree with the professor. What is your opinion?

 For the previous question, did you really think about it, or did you decide on your opinion instantly?

 Giselle timed how fast Reggie texted. His **rate** was 19 words in 30 seconds. Then Giselle calculated his **rate** of words **per** minute. Why do you think Giselle wanted to know how many words Reggie could text in one minute instead of 30 seconds?

 Aymara texted Giselle a long message. But Giselle couldn't use it to compare Aymara's texting **speed** to Reggie's. Why not?