

A. Read the text below and respond to tasks A1 and A2.

Generation Beta refers to people born beginning in 2025. We don't yet know the end date for this generation, nor how many years it will encompass. “An interesting thing about generations is that they keep getting shorter as the pace of technology accelerates. The macro events that define a generation are happening closer together,” explains Dorsey, who has authored many papers and books about generational trends.

That said, Gen Beta will likely go until around 2039, give or take a few years. This group of children will be the first generation born entirely after the pandemic, growing up in a world reshaped by remote work, virtual education and a constantly changing digital landscape, Dorsey says.

The name, Beta, signals this transition into a new phase of humanity. The previous generation was the first one born entirely in the new millennium, earning it the Generation Alpha moniker—alpha is the first letter in the Greek alphabet, after all. Beta is the second letter, which is why it was assigned to the next generation, much like the next version of software. But don't let the name fool you—these kids will likely be leading “alpha” changes in how we live, work, and interact.

Gen Beta will be the first to grow up with generative AI that's not just a tool but a default part of their lives. Dorsey says, “Gen Alpha is more likely to type a question or search into ChatGPT than Google [...]. Gen Beta won't talk about AI the way we do, as if it's something separate from us. AI will just be a part of everything.”

While some millennials grew up with smartphones, Gen Beta will likely live in a world of wearable tech, augmented reality and possibly even brain-computer interfaces. Their “digital playground” will be larger and more immersive than ever before, and their social interactions may take place as much in virtual worlds as in physical ones.

Unlike earlier generations that were introduced to climate issues later in life—and even then, more as theories than realities—Gen Beta will inherit a world already full of environmental challenges. “Simply put, they won't remember a time when it wasn't a crisis,” Dorsey says.

Adapted from

<https://www.rd.com/article/gen-beta/> (2025)

A. ΚΑΤΑΝΟΗΣΗ ΓΡΑΠΤΟΥ ΛΟΓΟΥ**A1. Answer questions 1-3 using information from the article (max. 30 words each).**

1. What would be a suitable title for this text?
2. What is the purpose of the text?
3. Why is the generation described in the text called Generation Beta? Justify your answer.

A2. Choose the correct answer (A, B, or C) for items 4–9 using information from the article.

4. Where is this text likely to appear?
 A. In an online academic journal. B. On a popular science website. C. On a lifestyle website.
5. According to the text, generational time spans are becoming shorter because of
 A. decreased life expectancy. B. slower population growth. C. faster pace of technological change.
6. Why is Gen Beta considered different from Gen Alpha in terms of historical context?
 A. Gen Beta will be the leaders of Gen Alpha B. Gen Beta will grow up fully in a post-pandemic world C. Gen Beta is an improved version of software.
7. How is generative AI expected to be perceived by Gen Beta?
 A. As a novelty with limited application. B. As a fully integrated aspect of daily life. C. As a controversial and rarely used technology.
8. In what way does the metaphor of a “digital playground” apply to Gen Beta?
 A. It refers to their preference for outdoor games. B. It highlights their passion for computer games. C. It reflects the vast interactive digital environments they will use.
9. Compared to previous generations, how will Gen Beta experience environmental issues?
 A. As an urgent, ever-present reality. B. As distant concerns with little personal impact. C. As challenges resolved in the past.

B. ΓΛΩΣΣΙΚΗ ΕΠΙΓΝΩΣΗ

- B1. Use the correct form of the following words (A-H) to complete the sentences 10-14, as in the example. There are TWO words you do not need.**

A.	extract	B.	renew	C.	<i>accident</i> (example)	D.	predict
E.	grow	F.	reduce	G.	worry	H.	eliminate

The example is in **bold** and *italics*.

'Wind theft': The mysterious effect plaguing wind farms

As wind farms expand, some can (*ex.*) **accidentally** “steal” each others' wind—causing worries over some countries' energy transition to net zero. As offshore wind farms are expanding around the world in the race to meet net zero climate targets, a (10) _____ phenomenon is attracting (11) _____ attention: in some conditions, wind farms can “steal” each other's wind. “Wind farms produce energy, and that energy is extracted from the air. And the (12) _____ of energy from the air comes with a (13) _____ of the wind speed,” says Peter Baas, a research scientist at Whiffle, a Dutch company specialising in (14) _____ energy and weather forecasting.

B2. Use the correct form of the following verbs (A-H) to complete the gaps (15-19) in the text below, as in the example. There are TWO verbs you do not need.

A.	<i>fill</i> (example)	B.	marry	C.	assemble	D.	come
E.	reject	F.	be	G.	propose	H.	wear

The example is in **bold** and *italics*.

Anna Pavlovna's drawing room (*ex.*) **was filling** gradually. The highest Petersburg society (15) _____ there: people differing widely in age and character but alike in the social circle to which they belonged. Prince Vasili's daughter, the beautiful Helene, came to take her father to the ambassador's entertainment; she (16) _____ a ball dress and her badge as maid of honor. The youthful little Princess Bolkonskaya, known as the most fascinating woman in Petersburg, was also there. She (17) _____ during the previous winter, and, (18) _____ pregnant, did not go to any large gatherings, but only to small receptions. Prince Vasili's son, Hippolyte, (19) _____ with Mortemart, whom he introduced. The Abbe Morio and many others had also come.

Excerpt from Leo Tolstoy's "War and Peace".

B3. Here is a fable titled "The Empty Pot". Its paragraphs have been jumbled up. Use the boxes below (20-24) to put paragraphs (A-E) in the correct order.

The Empty Pot

A.	The next day, the king's garden was filled with kids. Ping looked around. Everyone had a beautiful flower, except him. The king studied the plants, but didn't smile. Then he saw Ping. He walked over and asked him, "Why is there nothing inside your pot?" Ping said, "The seed wouldn't grow."
B.	One day in April, he invited children from the village to his garden. He gave each child one seed. He told them to grow a flower. The person with the best flower would be the future leader.
C.	The king smiled. He raised his arm and spoke with a kind voice, "Thank you all, but I do not know how you were able to grow these things. I gave you a bad seed. It wasn't possible to grow anything. This boy has an empty pot. He is honest. He will be the next king."
D.	One boy, Ping, loved to grow things. He went home and planted the seed. Every week, he gave it the right amount of water and sunshine. For weeks, nothing happened. He showed his father the empty pot. Ping said he didn't want to meet the king. His father said, "No my son, go to the king and tell him you worked hard."
E.	Long ago, there was an old king. He didn't have a son or daughter. There was nobody to take his place after he died. So, he made a plan to find a young person to be the future king or queen.

20.		21.		22.		23.		24.	
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Γ. ΠΑΡΑΓΩΓΗ ΓΡΑΠΤΟΥ ΛΟΓΟΥ

TASK: Your school is organising an event to celebrate the International Day of Sports. As the students' representative, you have been asked to deliver a speech on the role of sports in young people's lives. Addressing the school community (fellow students, teachers and parents), write your speech (**180-200 words**) in which you:

- a) give **two** reasons why sports are beneficial for young people, and
- b) describe a **memorable** sports event which you attended or in which you participated.

Do not mention your name anywhere in the text.