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https://www.100test.com/kao_ti2020/163/2021_2022_Writingbas_c81_163281.htm Directions For this task, you will first have five minutes to read a passage about an academic topic. You may take notes on the passage if you wish. The passage will then be removed and you will listen to a lecture about the same topic. While you listen, you may also take notes. Then you will have 20 minutes to write a response to a question that asks you about the relationship between the lecture you heard and the reading passage. Try to answer the question as completely as possible using information from the reading passage and the lecture. The question does not ask you to express your personal opinion. You will be able to see the reading passage again when it is time for you to write. You may use your notes to help you answer the question. Typically, an effective response will be 150 to 225 words long. Your response will be judged on the quality of your writing and on the completeness and accuracy of the content. If you finish your response before time is up, you may click on Next to go on to the second writing task. Now you will see the reading passage for five minutes. Remember it will be available to you again when you write immediately after the reading time ends. The lecture will begin, so keep your headset on until the lecture is over. Directions: You have 20 minutes to plan and write your response. Your response will be judged on the basis of the quality of your writing and on how well your response presents the points in the lecture and their relationship to the reading passage. Typically, an

effective response will be 150 to 225 words. Altruism is a type of behavior in which an animal sacrifices its own interest for that of another animal or group of animals. Altruism is the opposite of selfishness ; individuals performing altruistic acts gain nothing for themselves. Examples of altruism abound, both among humans and among other mammals. Unselfish acts among humans range from the sharing of food with strangers to the donation of body organs to family members, and even to strangers. Such acts are altruistic in that they benefit another, yet provide little reward to the one performing the act. In fact, many species of animals appear willing to sacrifice food, or even their life, to assist other members of their group. The meerkat, which is a mammal that dwells in burrows in grassland areas of Africa, is often cited as an example. In groups of meerkats, an individual acts as a sentinel, standing guard and looking out for predators while the others hunt for food or eat food they have obtained. If the sentinel meerkat sees a predator such as a hawk approaching the group, it gives an alarm cry alerting the other meerkats to run and seek shelter. By standing guard, the sentinel meerkat gains nothing it goes without food while the others eat, and it places itself in grave danger. After it issues an alarm it has to flee alone, which might make it more at risk to a predator, since animals in groups are often able to work together to fend off a predator. So the altruistic sentinel behavior helps ensure the survival of other members of the meerkats group. Narrator Now listen to part of a lecture on the topic you just read about. Professor You know, often in science, new findings force us to re-examine earlier beliefs and

assumptions. And a recent study of meerkats is having exactly this effect. The study examined the meerkats behavior quite closely, much more closely than had ever been done before. And some interesting things were found.....like about eating habits.....it showed that typically meerkats eat before they stand guard so the ones standing guard had a full stomach ! And the study also found that since the sentinel is the first to see a predator coming, its the most likely to escape.....because it often stands guard near a burrow, so it can run immediately into the burrow after giving the alarm. The other meerkats, the ones scattered about looking for food, are actually in greater danger. And in fact, other studies have suggested that when an animal creates an alarm, the alarm call might cause the other group members either to gather together or else to move about very quickly, behaviors that might actually draw the predators attention away from the caller, increasing that animals own chances of survival. And what about people what about some human acts that might be considered altruistic ? Lets take an extreme case, uh, suppose a person donates a kidney to a relative, or even to a complete stranger. A selfless act, right ? Butdoesnt the donor receive appreciation and approval from the stranger and from society ? Doesnt the donor gain an increased sense of self worth ? Couldnt such non-material rewards be considered very valuable to some people ?

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