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described old age as "second childishness" - sans teeth, sans eyes, sans taste. In the case of taste he may, musically speaking, have been even more perceptive than he realized. A paper in Neurology by Giovanni Frisoni and his colleagues at the National Centre for Research and Care of Alzheimers Disease in Brescia, Italy, shows that one form of senile dementia can affect musical desires in ways that suggest a regression, if not to infancy, then at least to a patients teens.

Frontotemporal dementia is caused, as its name suggests, by damage to the front and sides of the brain. These regions are concerned with speech, and with such "higher" functions as abstract thinking and judgement. Frontotemporal damage therefore produces different symptoms from the loss of memory associated with Alzheimers disease, a more familiar dementia that affects the hippocampus and amygdale in the middle of the brain. Frontotemporal dementia is also rarer than patients. it has seen only 46 with frontotemporal dementia. Two of those patient interested Dr. Frisoni. One was a 68-year-old lawyer, the other a 73-year-old housewife. Both had undamaged memories, but displayed the sorts of defect associated with frontotemporal dementia a diagnosis that was confirmed by brain scanning. About two years after he was first diagnosed the lawyers, once a classical music lover who referred to pop music as "mere noise", started listening to the Italian pop band "883". As his

command of language and his emotional attachments to friends and family deteriorated, he continued to listen to the band at full volume for many hours a day. The housewife had not even had the lawyers love of classical music, having never enjoyed music of any sort in the past. But about a year after her diagnosis she became very interested in the songs that her 11-year-old granddaughter was listening to. This kind of change in musical taste was not seen in any of the Alzheimers patients, and thus appears to be specific to those with frontotemporal dementia. And other studies have remarked on how frontotemporal-dementia patients sometimes gain new talents. Five sufferers who developed artistic abilities known. And in another lapse of musical taste, one woman with the disease suddenly started composing and singing country and western songs. Dr. Frisoni speculates that the illness is causing people to develop a new attitude towards novel experiences. Previous studies of novelty-seeking behavior suggest that it is managed by the brains right frontal lobe. A predominance of the right over the left frontal lobe, caused by damage to the latter, might thus lead to a quest for new experience. Alternatively, the damage may have affected some specific neural circuit that is needed to appreciate certain kinds of music. Whether that is a gain or a loss is a different matter. As Dr. Frisoni puts it in his article, "de gustibus non disputandum est". Or, in plainer words, there is no accounting for taste. 11. For Shakespeare, old age as "second childishness" for they have the same . [A] favorite [B] memory [C] experience [D] sense 12. Which one is not a symptom of Frontotemporal dementia? [A] the loss of memory [B] the loss of

judgement [C] the loss of abstract thinking [D] the loss of speech 13. From the two patients mentioned in the passage, it can be concluded that . [A] their command of language has deteriorated [B] their emotional attachments to friends and family are being lost [C] the Frontotemporal dementia can bring new gifts [D] Frontotemporal dementia can cause patients to change their musical tastes. 14. The "novel" in the last paragraph means . [A] historical [B] special [C] story-like [D] strange 15. From the passage, it can be inferred that . [A] the damage of the left frontal lobe may affect some specific neural circuit [B] the lawyer patient has the left frontal lobe damaged [C] the damage of the left frontal lobe decreased the appreciation certain kinds of music [D] every patient has the same taste 100Test

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