

## Articles

### Mindfulness

#### Exercise 6

Choose the correct answer of the available possible options.

1. 'Mindfulness' is \_\_\_\_ word we hear a lot these days, but what exactly does it mean? Find out what it is, what the benefits of mindfulness are and how you can start to practise it.

**A. a/an**

B. the

**Explanation: New information, HK- (member of a category)**

2. Have you ever driven somewhere and realised when you arrived that you couldn't really remember anything about \_\_\_\_ journey?

A. a/an

**B. the**

**Explanation: "driven somewhere" implies a journey = HK+**

3. Or have you ever eaten \_\_\_\_ whole packet of biscuits when you were planning to only have one?

**A. a/an**

B. the

**Explanation: New information/referent, HK-**

4. Or have you stayed up much later than you planned, or even all night, watching 'just one more' episode of \_\_\_\_ TV series? All of these are examples of mindlessness. When we live this way, we are not fully awake and not fully living our lives.

**A. a/an**

B. the

**Explanation: New information/referent, HK-**

5. When we are mindful, we are more conscious of our thoughts, our actions and what is happening around us. We might notice a beautiful sunset or really listen carefully to what \_\_\_ friend is saying, rather than planning what we're going to say next. We are also more aware of our own feelings and our thoughts. Jon Kabat Zinn, who has done a lot to make mindfulness popular, says mindfulness is: 'Paying attention, on purpose, in the present moment, and without judging.'

**A. a/an**

B. the

**Explanation: New information/referent, HK-**

6. So we are consciously deciding what to pay attention to, we are not worrying about \_\_\_ past or planning for the future and we are not trying to control or stop our thoughts or feelings – we're just noticing them.

A. a/an

**B. the**

**Explanation: past as a concept = HK+**

7. Mindfulness Day is celebrated on 12 September, so maybe that would be a good day to try a few mindfulness techniques and see if they make \_\_\_ difference. But, of course, you can try these on any day of the year.

**A. a/an**

B. the

**Explanation: New information, HK-**

8. A very simple technique that you could try right now is to close your eyes for a couple of minutes and count how many sounds you can hear. This will help to focus you on what is happening right now. Another technique is to focus on \_\_\_ piece of food, typically a raisin. Instead of eating it without thinking, slow down. Look carefully at it and notice how it feels in your fingers. Smell it. Then put it on your tongue and taste it. Only then start to eat it slowly, noticing how it feels and how it tastes.

**A. a/an**

B. the

**Explanation: New information/referent, HK-**