



Hair: reading tasks

- 1 Decide if the following statements are true or false:
 - a Hair is the fastest growing part of the body.
 - b The average scalp (the skin that covers the part of the head where the hair grows) has 10,000 hairs.
 - c Hair grows on every part of our body.
 - d Hair continues to grow after you are dead.
 - e More men go bald (lose their hair) than women.

- 2 Look at the other students in the class. Do most students have ...
 - a ... short, shoulder-length or long hair?
 - b ... straight, wavy or curly hair?
 - c ... blond(e)*, brown, red, black or grey hair?

- 3 The following people are mentioned in the text: monks, Sikhs, skinheads, hippies, prophets. Who are these people, and what do you think the reading about hair says about them?

- 4 Match the words with their meanings. The number in brackets refers to the paragraph.

1 dyed (1); to dye (4)	a opposed to change, preferring traditional values
2 to stare (3)	b to have too much interest in your own appearance
3 conservative (4)	c to look at somebody or something for a long time
4 a complaint (4)	d to change the colour of something
5 a compliment (4)	e connected with God or a god, considered to be holy
6 shaved (5)	f e.g. 'Our teacher gives us too much homework!'
7 vanity (5)	g to have hair cut from the head or face using a razor
8 sacred (5)	h e.g. 'What a nice dress you're wearing!'

- 5 Now ask another student *three* of following questions:
 - a How often do you wash your hair?
 - b Do you dye your hair - if so, how often do you dye it?
 - c When was the last time you went to a hairdresser?
 - d Do you have the same hairstyle as ten years ago?
 - e Why are men's haircuts so much cheaper than women's?
 - f Do you think blond(e) hair is more attractive than dark hair?

* We use *blonde* for females and *blond* for males.