

Why Do We Laugh?

Young

2019-4-3

The first reason for laughing

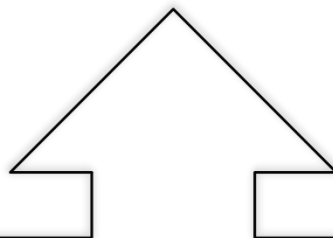
reason

People laugh to be social.

explanatio

They want to make a connection with other people.

examples



➤ For example, people laugh at simple statements that people use to begin a conversation.

➤ In addition, babies laugh because they too want to connect.

➤ As an example, we laugh loudly only when other people are around.

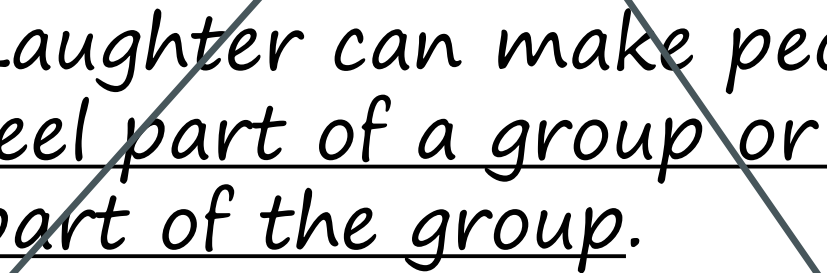
The second reason for laughing

reason

It can connect or divide social groups

explanation

Laughter can make people feel part of a group or not part of the group.



Someone laughs to say something back, and it **communicates something.**

example

People use laughing at someone to let someone know they don't belong.

The third reason for laughing

Laughter is a response that we don't have to think about.

reason

explanatio

example



Laughter contagious (会蔓延的)
is spontaneous (自发的、无意识的)

S

- What are the benefits of laughter?
- Is this paragraph well-organized? Why?
and...



Why Do We Laugh? (reasons)

Reading

Why Do We Laugh?

When was the last time you laughed hard, really hard? Can you remember a time when you couldn't stop laughing? Babies first laugh when they are three and a half or four months old. The age people laugh the most is five or six. Maybe you remember a time from

your childhood. What was so funny? While people often tell a joke to be funny, research shows that people laugh for many reasons. For example, people laugh at statements that people use to begin a conversation. For example, "I'm a comedian." Questions like "How did you do on your test?" or "Did you pass?" are common. People laugh to be social. They want to make a connection with other people. In addition, this is why babies laugh. It's not that they are laughing at a funny face, but they too want to connect. Laughter is one of the first steps we

take to be social. As an example, consider this joke. What did the fly say to the 92? For I

was near him? Did you laugh out loud? Probably not. We may read something or think

something that makes us laugh, but it is usually only when other people are around.

Laughter can be used to connect or divide social groups. Someone might say, "I'm a comedian," which is a word but a way to respond, or say something back, and it communicates something. What does laughter say? "I like you," "I'm listening to you," "I'm a comedian." It is a reason why one of the most used

text messages that people send is an abbreviation for "laugh out loud", LOL. Of course, when we send this text message, we are not actually laughing out loud. We are communicating that we think the person is funny. However, laughing at someone is

different. Laughter can be spontaneous. People laugh to let someone know they don't belong.


When we hear someone laugh, we laugh too. Laughter is a response that we don't have to think about. Many TV shows use laughter to make people laugh. When TV viewers at home

hear this, it makes them laugh too. And the laughter has an effect on our body. When we laugh, our face muscles move and our breathing changes. Muscles all over our body in our arms, core, and legs are affected. Laughter releases chemicals in the brain. They make us relax. We laugh and we feel good.

reason
explanation

for social
purposes

a
contagious/
spontaneous



LIVE
LAUGH
LOVE

Homework: Why do we laugh ? Write a passage to give your reasons, with explanations and examples. You can use what we have learned or think further to present your own ideas.