The Name Game

What's in a name? It may be more than most people realize! DECEMBER 05, 2011

By Stephanie Kraus



Research proves that names really can shape a person's life.

This month, a website for parents released its list of the 100 most popular baby names for 2011. Sophia and Aiden held the number one spot for girls' and boys' names for the second year in a row. With 4 million babies born in the U.S. each year, parents may be finding it harder to think of unique names for their children. Many are looking for a name exceptional enough to stand out, but not considered too strange. It's a great idea for parents to name their child wisely.

Scientific research proves that names can help shape a person's life. David Figlio, a professor at Northwestern University, in Illinois, has studied the effect of names on children. Figlio said parents are doing the right thing by carefully choosing names.

"Name your kids what you love, but be aware there are consequences," Figlio told TIME. "Is a name a guaranteed ladder to success? Of course not. But can a name make your life a little bit easier? For sure."

- 1. What is the main pattern of organization used in *The Name Game*?
 - a. Identification of a problem followed by a solution.
 - b. Presentation of a main idea followed by supporting details.

- c. Criticism of an opponent's position point by point.
- d. Description of causes and effects of a certain issue.
- 2. Given the structure and content of this article, it can best be described as:
 - a. expository
 - b. narrative
 - c. persuasive
 - d. descriptive
- 3. The author writes that "Name your kids what you love, but be aware of the consequences" to show that
 - a. Parents should name their kids what they want
 - b. A child should be named something popular
 - c. Parents should choose their child's name wisely
 - d. Parents should think about naming their child Sophia or Aiden
- 4. What is the proposition of this article?
 - a. Parents should choose their child's name wisely
 - b. Parents should name their child Sophia or Aiden
 - c. Parents should choose from the 100 most popular names list
 - d. Scientific research proves that names are uplifting
- 5. All of the following support the proposition except...
 - a. Name your kids what you love, but be aware there are consequences
 - b. 4 million babies are born in the US each year
 - c. Parents should choose their child's name wisely
 - d. Names are important to a person's life