

Directions: In this section, there is a passage with ten blanks. You are required to select one word for each blank from a list of choices given in a word bank following the passage. Read the passage through carefully before making your choices. Each choice in the bank is identified by a letter. Please mark the corresponding letter for each item on **Answer Sheet 2** with a single line through the centre. You may not use any of the words in the bank more than once.

Imagine you and a stranger are sitting on a couch. How close would you sit to them? It turns out that how much of a 26 zone you prefer may reveal a lot about your personality.

In one study, researchers sought to 27 how our personality may be linked to our preferred amount of personal space. The researchers found that people who scored higher in the 28 of agreeableness tended to sit closer to others, as did people who were more open and outgoing.

Other individual differences, such as gender and age, can also affect how much personal space we 29. Women tend to prefer more physical distance from strangers or acquaintances and older adults also generally tend to prefer to keep more distance between themselves and others.

Beyond reflecting our personality and 30, the amount of personal space we prefer is also linked to our cultural backgrounds. In a study involving participants from 42 countries, researchers found that around the world people's desired amount of personal space varied 31. For example, in Romania, the average amount of personal space people said they would prefer from a stranger was more than 4 feet, whereas in Argentina it was roughly half that.

What might 32 this variation? The researchers looked at a number of 33 factors, but the only one that was significantly 34 with preferred interpersonal distance was average temperature. The warmer the place, it seems, the "warmer" the people and the less space they needed between them and others.

Personal space may also reflect interpersonal attraction. Researchers have found that our chosen physical 35 also appears to reflect how much we like others. The more people would like to be friends with the other person, the closer they sat to them.

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| A) ascertain | I) potential |
| B) buffer | J) proximity |
| C) correlated | K) rigid |
| D) crave | L) statistics |
| E) demographics | M) substantially |
| F) entail | N) trait |
| G) legitimately | O) underlie |
| H) mandated | |