

SECOND EDITION

ON POINT 1

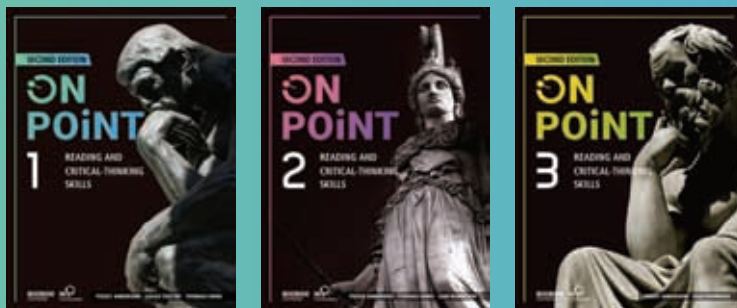
READING AND
CRITICAL-THINKING
SKILLS

On Point is a three-volume series that teaches upper-intermediate and advanced learners of English to analyze, critically evaluate, and intelligently respond to texts. Each unit centers on a high-interest topic and guides learners through engaging discussions and activities.

The series builds learners' cross-disciplinary academic vocabulary. Focus vocabulary for each reading passage is chosen from the Academic Word List (AWL). Created by Averil Coxhead, this list of 570 words is commonly used in written academic English across various fields.

THE SECOND EDITION INCLUDES:

- ❏ New and updated readings on important current topics from a variety of academic subjects
- ❏ Reading comprehension exercises designed to hone comprehension skills
- ❏ Preview and review exercises to reinforce the Academic Word List (AWL) vocabulary words encountered in the readings
- ❏ Activities to hone reading comprehension skills and encourage critical thinking
- ❏ Audio recordings of all reading passages to reinforce correct pronunciation and reading fluency
- ❏ Interactive application for supplemental learning
- ❏ Downloadable materials, including answer keys, words lists, and tests, can be found at www.compasspub.com/OnPoint2e1



SECOND EDITION

ON POINT 1

PEGGY ANDERSON · LUCAS FOSTER · SAM ROBINSON

C1

SECOND EDITION

ON POINT

1

READING AND
CRITICAL-THINKING
SKILLS



SECOND EDITION

ON POINT

1

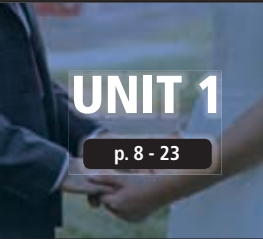
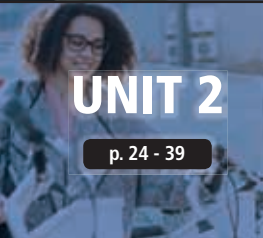
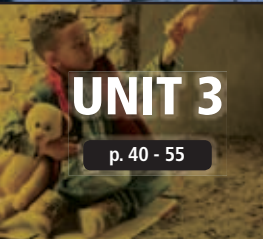
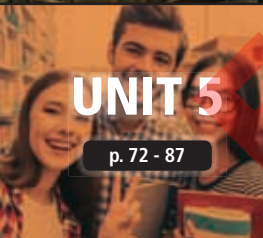
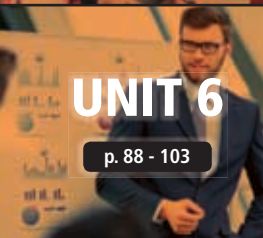
READING AND
CRITICAL-THINKING
SKILLS

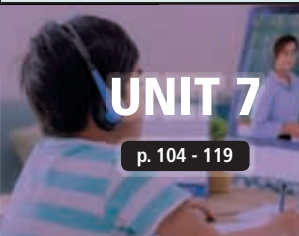
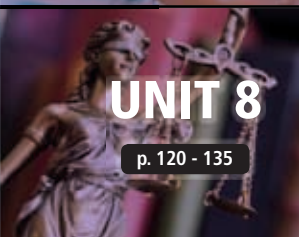
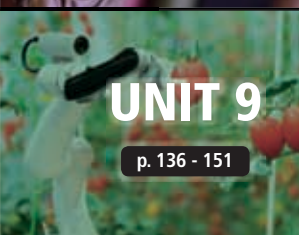
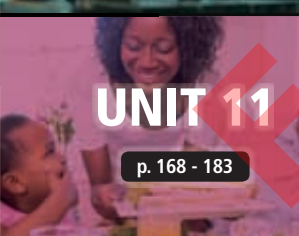
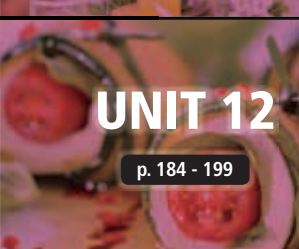
PEGGY ANDERSON • LUCAS FOSTER • THOMAS HONG

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS p. 2 - 3

HOW TO USE p. 4 - 7

		Reading Skills	Critical-Thinking Skills
 UNIT 1 p. 8 - 23	PSYCHOLOGY		
	Lesson 1	Differences That Don't Divide	Setting a Purpose for Reading Detecting the Author's Purpose
	Lesson 2	Should You Swipe?	
 UNIT 2 p. 24 - 39	BUSINESS		
	Lesson 1	The Business of Sharing	Making Predictions Detecting Arguments
	Lesson 2	The Freedom to Work	
 UNIT 3 p. 40 - 55	SOCIOLOGY		
	Lesson 1	People over Profits	Determining Main Ideas and Details Detecting Persuasive Language
	Lesson 2	Hold Out on Handouts	
 UNIT 4 p. 56 - 71	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY		
	Lesson 1	How Do You Like Me Now?	Extracting and Recalling Information Identifying Assumptions
	Lesson 2	Healthy Screen Time	
 UNIT 5 p. 72 - 87	SOCIOLOGY		
	Lesson 1	How Do We Choose Our Friends?	Summarizing Understanding Key Terms
	Lesson 2	Cutting Your Losses	
 UNIT 6 p. 88 - 103	MARKETING		
	Lesson 1	Profits or the Planet	Asking Questions While Reading Identifying Premises and Conclusions
	Lesson 2	Invest in Ethics	

			Reading Skills	Critical-Thinking Skills
 UNIT 7 p. 104 - 119	EDUCATION			
	Lesson 1	E-Learning: A Window of Opportunity	Drawing Conclusions	Classifying Statements
	Lesson 2	No Replacement for the Classroom		
 UNIT 8 p. 120 - 135	CRIMINAL JUSTICE			
	Lesson 1	Crime and Punishment	Making Inferences	Finding Fallacies
	Lesson 2	Second Chances		
 UNIT 9 p. 136 - 151	ENGINEERING			
	Lesson 1	Automation: Here to Help	Distinguishing Facts and Opinions	Distinguishing Overgeneralizations
	Lesson 2	The Real Cost of AI		
 UNIT 10 p. 152 - 167	HEALTH			
	Lesson 1	The Real Cost of Lost Sleep	Understanding Cause and Effect	Detecting Irrelevant Points
	Lesson 2	Burnout Syndrome		
 UNIT 11 p. 168 - 183	CHILD PSYCHOLOGY			
	Lesson 1	Food for Thought	Making Connections	Identifying Cause and Effect
	Lesson 2	Participation Trophies		
 UNIT 12 p. 184 - 199	ETHICS			
	Lesson 1	Plant-Powered Living	Identifying the Author's Point of View	Considering Objections
	Lesson 2	Nature's Food Chain		



LESSON 1

— SKILLS

Reading Skill:

Setting a Purpose for Reading

Critical-Thinking Skill:

Detecting the Author's Purpose

DIFFERENCES THAT DON'T DIVIDE

— WARM-UP

1. Do you believe that opposites attract?
2. What are some advantages of knowing people who are very different from you?

BEFORE YOU READ

Rank the traits of a potential romantic partner from 1 (most important to you) to 6 (least important to you). Discuss your rankings with a partner.

- _____ Attractiveness
- _____ Personality
- _____ Sense of humor
- _____ Level of education
- _____ Wealth
- _____ Career goals

VOCABULARY PREVIEW

Read the sentences. Circle the words **closest in meaning** to the words in bold.

1. **Prior to** meeting her husband, Hannah was shy in groups.
a. Since b. Before c. While
2. How have these two people **retained** their connection for so long?
a. employed b. kept c. absorbed
3. The **conventional** belief is that it's good to have a lot in common with your partner.
a. chosen b. correct c. common
4. **Interactions** ~~between~~ similar people are less likely to create conflict.
a. Impressions b. Contacts c. Conversations
5. **Ultimately**, some opposites attract while others do not.
a. Basically b. Presently c. Rightfully
6. Researchers **compiled** evidence that people can sense a good partner by smell.
a. collected b. edited c. judged
7. You shouldn't **exclusively** search for partners who are like you.
a. additionally b. uniquely c. only
8. Don't look for partners whom you **perceive** as similar to yourself.
a. identify b. mind c. attract

DIFFERENCES THAT DON'T DIVIDE



Practice the skills while reading.

READING SKILL

Setting a Purpose for Reading

Set a goal before reading, such as reading for enjoyment, learning technical information, seeing a new point of view, or learning about a subject.

CRITICAL-THINKING SKILL

Detecting the Author's Purpose

Authors write for many reasons: to inform, persuade, entertain, etc. Knowing the author's purpose helps you think critically about the reading.



Read the title and paragraph 1 and circle your purpose for reading the rest of the article.

- a. For enjoyment
- b. To learn about a subject
- c. To see a new point of view



Read paragraphs 2 and 3 and discuss the author's purpose for writing about opposites.

Tristan and Hannah are as different as two people could be. Tristan loves football, but Hannah hates sports. Hannah loves technology. On the other hand, Tristan doesn't know the first thing about computers. He's from a large family with four brothers and sisters. She's an only child. **Prior to** meeting Tristan, Hannah was soft-spoken in groups. However, she's now far more outspoken than Tristan. The list of differences between them goes on and on. Yet, somehow, they've been married for fifteen years. With so little in common, how did they manage to make a connection and **retain** it for so long?

Unlikely relationships like theirs are kind of **curious**. Most people assume that successful couples have more similarities than differences. That is the **conventional** wisdom: having a lot in common with a partner should make life easier. After all, **interactions** will produce less conflict and unhappiness if the partners share a similar point of view.

However, research shows that this might not be the case. A Columbia University study found that some couples are just too much alike for their own good. Over three years, researchers studied 732 men and women and found that couples with the most similar personalities had some of the weakest relationships. In surveys about levels of closeness, commitment, and overall happiness, those couples scored low. Clearly, having a lot in common is no guarantee of a successful marriage. Relationships between very different people have other advantages as well. In his study of couples, Robert Levenson of the University of California showed that different personalities could balance against each other and give couples different ways to see issues and cope with life's difficulties. For instance, someone with an **outgoing**¹ nature can make up for a partner's shyness. In turn, the outgoing partner can learn to enjoy more time alone.

The causes of attraction between very different people may go even deeper. A study

¹ **outgoing** *adj.* friendly and socially confident

Read paragraph 4 and underline two adjectives describing people with high testosterone.



Read paragraph 5 and then circle the author's purpose.

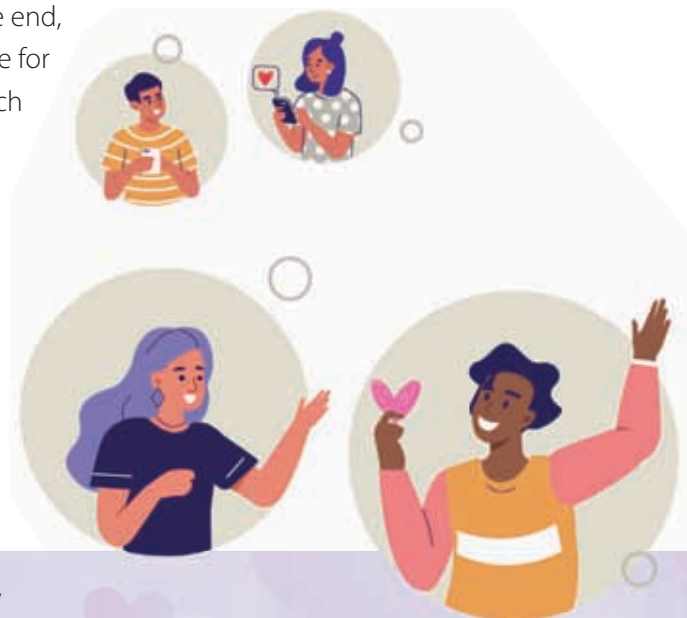
- To explain how genetics affects attraction
- To explain why inbreeding is harmful
- To explain why people have a particular smell



at Rutgers University revealed a **physiological**² reason for attraction between some
 25 opposites. In the study, Dr. Helen Fisher reviewed research on the subject of attraction and
 learned that levels of certain hormones are linked with specific personality characteristics.
 Individuals with high levels of testosterone tend to be competitive and **analytical**³.
 They often are attracted to—and attract—their opposites, who are **introspective**⁴ and
nurturing⁵ individuals with high levels of the hormone estrogen. On the other hand,
 30 people with more curious or flexible personality types tend to be attracted to people
 like themselves. In addition, people who are less anxious and more social are attracted
 to others of the same personality type. These two groups tend to have average levels of
 testosterone and estrogen. **Ultimately**, it seems that opposites do attract among certain
 personality types, but not all.

35 **Genetics**⁶ may also explain why opposites sometimes attract. A University of New Mexico
 study suggests that our genes strongly influence our choice of partners. The study found
 that a woman's unhappiness in a relationship is linked to her partner's genes being too
 closely matched to her own. This preference may have developed to avoid the dangers
 that come with **inbreeding**⁷, which can cause harmful **mutations**⁸ and decreased overall
 40 health. In addition, researchers at the Université Paris Diderot **compiled** evidence that
 people use smell to sense whether a partner is a match. The study suggests that people
 can sense differences in MHC (a part of our DNA that plays an **essential** role in protecting
 the body from disease) and are more attracted to those whose MHC composition differs
 from their own. Differing MHC compositions give partners a genetic advantage when
 45 having children since their offspring will benefit from a diversified gene pool that can
 protect **them** from various diseases.

As with everything in life, there's no one approach to finding love. Like Tristan and Hannah,
 people with very different upbringings, personalities, and interests can have long-lasting
 relationships. Their characters, not to mention their hormones and diversified gene pool,
 50 may even benefit them in the long run. But in the end,
 all of this research doesn't really offer much advice for
 people looking for a perfect match. So don't search
exclusively for partners whom you **perceive** as
 similar to or different from yourself. Leave your
 55 options open and allow yourself to be surprised
 by what you find.



- ² **physiological** *adj.* related to the functioning of the body
- ³ **analytical** *adj.* related to the use of reasoning
- ⁴ **introspective** *adj.* quiet and thoughtful
- ⁵ **nurturing** *adj.* helping someone or something grow or develop
- ⁶ **genetics** *n.* the study of genes in plants and animals
- ⁷ **inbreeding** *n.* producing children from closely related individuals
- ⁸ **mutation** *n.* an error or change in a gene

FOCUS ON CONTENT

1 Choose the best answer.

SEARCHING
FOR DETAILS

1. According to paragraph 1, what is true about Tristan?
 - a. He dislikes sports.
 - b. He is an only child.
 - c. He's outspoken in groups.
 - d. He's been married for years.
2. According to paragraph 3, what did the study at Columbia University find?
 - a. Couples with different personalities can balance against each other.
 - b. Couples with different personalities can cope with life's problems better.
 - c. Couples with similar personalities are more likely to have weak relationships.
 - d. Couples with similar personalities are more likely to have successful marriages.
3. According to paragraph 4, what is NOT true about attraction?
 - a. Individuals with high levels of hormones are likely to be attracted to their opposite.
 - b. Analytical individuals tend to be attracted to competitive personality types.
 - c. Individuals with average levels of hormones are likely to be attracted to each other.
 - d. Individuals who are curious or flexible tend to be more attracted to people with average hormone levels.
4. According to paragraph 5, how does genetics affect attraction?
 - a. People are attracted to individuals who have similar MHC compositions.
 - b. Pairing individuals with differing genes is likely to cause harmful mutations.
 - c. Couples with similar gene pools are more likely to be unhappy.
 - d. People are less attracted to individuals who are unhealthy.
5. According to paragraph 5, why have women evolved to prefer partners who are genetically different?
 - a. To minimize the chances of health problems in their children
 - b. To increase the possibility of success in their relationships
 - c. To avoid partners who are too competitive and analytical
 - d. To select partners who have higher levels of testosterone

2 Choose the best answer.

UNDERSTANDING CONTENT

1. In line 8, the word *curious* is closest in meaning to _____.
 - a. puzzling
 - b. rare
 - c. mistaken
 - d. questioning
2. Which statement best restates the highlighted sentence in the passage?
 - a. Couples with similar personalities can balance out individual flaws.
 - b. Couples with similar personalities typically have an unhealthy relationship.
 - c. Couples with dissimilar personalities may be able to cope better with hardships.
 - d. Couples with dissimilar personalities are more likely to have arguments.

IDENTIFYING PURPOSE

3. In paragraph 1, why does the author mention that Tristan is from a large family?
 - a. To introduce the idea that family background affects attraction
 - b. To show that not all people are attracted to their opposite
 - c. To give an example of how he differs from his wife
 - d. To explain why he was attracted to Hannah

UNDERSTANDING REFERENCES

4. In line 46, the word *them* refers to _____.
 - a. genes
 - b. children
 - c. partners
 - d. MHC compositions

INFERRING INFORMATION

5. In paragraph 5, what can be inferred about genes?
 - a. They determine whether someone has MHC or not.
 - b. They should be tested before two people have children.
 - c. They cause different diseases in men and women.
 - d. They can affect how a person smells.

MAPPING IDEAS

Find the four correct main ideas and match them to the graphic organizer.

DIFFERENCES THAT DON'T DIVIDE		
MAIN IDEA / THESIS		
1. _____		
POINT 1	POINT 2	POINT 3
2. _____	3. _____	4. _____

- Couples with differing gene pools are more likely to produce healthy children.
- People with similar personalities tend to have weaker relationships with less commitment, closeness, and overall happiness.
- People are more likely to be attracted to someone with a similar MHC composition.
- Unlikely relationships between individuals with different personalities have many advantages.
- Individuals who are competitive and analytical are attracted to introspective and nurturing types.
- Attraction is often influenced by hormones that can pull people to certain personality types.

VOCABULARY REVIEW

Fill in the blanks with the correct words from the box. Change the form if needed.

conventional
exclusively

interaction
perceive

retain
analytical

compile
outgoing

- _____ all the information into a single document and send it to my email.
- My friend who is very _____ wants to study either mathematics or physics.
- The new app will be made available _____ to users who get an invitation from an existing member.
- People with _____ personalities find it easier to be in big groups and socialize.
- Beauty is based on how you _____ it. Everyone is beautiful to someone.
- This idea is a bit too _____ for our customers. We need something more exciting!
- It's important to be polite during everyday _____ with people.
- The people must _____ their basic rights, no matter who wins the elections.

CRITICAL-THINKING SKILL

Detecting the Author's Purpose

Authors write for many reasons. Common reasons include to entertain, to inform, to explain, to teach, to persuade, and to compare and contrast. Authors can also have more than one purpose.

Read the excerpts. Evaluate them with a partner and answer the questions.

1. Tristan and Hannah are as different as two people could be. Tristan loves football, but Hannah hates sports. Hannah loves technology. On the other hand, Tristan doesn't know the first thing about computers. He's from a large family with four brothers and sisters. She's an only child. Prior to meeting Tristan, Hannah was soft-spoken in groups. However, she's now far more outspoken than Tristan. The list of differences between them goes on and on. Yet, somehow, they've been married for fifteen years.

PURPOSE Circle the purpose. Then underline the sentence that most clearly illustrates the purpose.

- a. To entertain b. To compare and contrast c. To persuade d. To teach

SUMMARIZE Write a short summary of the author's purpose.

2. A study at Rutgers University revealed a psychological reason for attraction between some opposites. In the study, Dr. Helen Fisher reviewed research on the subject of attraction and learned that levels of certain hormones are linked with specific personality characteristics. Individuals with high levels of testosterone tend to be competitive and analytical. They often are attracted to—and attract—their opposites, who are introspective and nurturing individuals with high levels of the hormone estrogen.

PURPOSE Circle the purpose. Then underline the sentence that most clearly illustrates the purpose.

- a. To entertain b. To compare and contrast c. To persuade d. To inform

SUMMARIZE Write a short summary of the author's purpose.

IDEAS IN ACTION

Talk about the questions with a partner.

1. How would you describe your personality?
2. Do you think the information in the reading applies to you? Why or why not?
3. Describe your ideal partner. Is he or she similar to you or different?

SHARING YOUR OPINION

Write a paragraph about whether you think opposites attract and include the reasons for your opinion.



Scan and find the tracks.

LESSON 2

SKILLS

Reading Skill:
Setting a Purpose for Reading

Critical-Thinking Skill:
Detecting the Author's Purpose

SHOULD YOU SWIPE?

WARM-UP

1. Do you prefer meeting new people online or offline?
2. What are some advantages and disadvantages of both?

BEFORE YOU READ

Read the statements. Check (✓) whether you agree or disagree with each statement. Discuss your answers with a partner.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree somewhat	Agree somewhat	Strongly agree
1. I am very confident in myself.				
2. I have an easy time introducing myself to new people.				
3. I don't easily feel pressured by others.				
4. I have high standards when it comes to friends and acquaintances.				
5. I prefer to have difficult conversations online rather than in person.				

VOCABULARY PREVIEW

Read the sentences. Circle the words closest in meaning to the words in bold.

- Almost one-fifth of the people in the study were in a **committed** relationship.
a. easy b. positive c. faithful
- Nearly one out of every five American **couples** first meet online.
a. marriages b. teams c. pairs
- One of the many criticisms of online dating is that it affects a person's **mental** health.
a. physical b. personal c. psychological
- The researcher found that people who used online dating apps felt **disposable**.
a. acceptable b. unimportant c. necessary
- Getting a **rejection** online can be just as painful as getting one in person.
a. separation b. refusal c. relief
- The **process** of finding a date online can be addictive for many people.
a. system b. organization c. plan
- Many **factors** influence our feelings toward dating and relationships.
a. arguments b. points c. tasks
- No data shows that the online **approach** is better than the traditional one.
a. method b. purpose c. opinion