



Daily Article (Bharath's Reading list) - Answers and Explanations 14.09.2023

Article link : <https://bit.ly/44MCB9P> (The business of silence: is there a hidden cost to noise cancelling?)

1. According to the article, constantly wearing earplugs that block out high pitch frequencies may result in:

- A. Loss of hearing, especially low-frequency sounds
- B. High-pitched tinnitus with the brain overcompensating
- C. Infections of the inner ear
- D. Low-pitched tinnitus with the brain overcompensating

Explanation : B

Refer to the lines, 'In one experiment, the tinnitus people developed was "perceived predominantly as high-pitched", corresponding to the frequency range the earplugs were blocking. "If you stop putting sound into your ears ... your brain overcompensates by turning up its internal gain," McAlpine says.'

2.Noise-cancelling headphones work least for which of the following sounds?

- A. The roar of an aeroplane engine
- B. The low buzz of office conversation
- C. The drone of road traffic
- D. The hum of an air conditioning unit

Explanation: B

Note the lines, ' "The way we listen to sound or attend to sound is to a large extent attuned to speech," he says. "Because obviously human communication is important for humans, it's difficult to ignore speech."

3. Based on the article, which of the following is incorrect?

- A. Moderate ambient noise can boost creativity
- B. Noise pollution has been linked to depressive symptoms
- C. Noise-cancelling technology was first developed and marketed for aviation
- D. Every 3dB increase in noise levels halves the number of hours you can work in the said environment

Explanation: D

All options except D are clearly stated. Option D simply states 'every 3dB increase in noise levels' halves the number of hours you can work in that environment. This is incorrect. According to the article, this applies to every 3dB increase above 85dB.