

Read the text about the process of making group decisions. Some words are missing. Change the word in brackets to form the missing word for each gap (1–9). Write your answers in the spaces provided on the answer sheet. The first one (0) has been done for you.



## Are group decisions better?

What do governments, airline pilots and NFL referees have in common? They all make decisions with the help of another person or group of people. Governments make huge policy decisions as a big group and also break down the big picture into scores of (0) \_\_\_ (**small**) committees. Airline pilots in distress consult and reaffirm one another. Referees in every sport huddle together when an important call needs to be (1) \_\_\_ (**make**). The general thinking among humans is that typically two heads are better than one. But are they? Is a group decision always best, or does all that discussion (2) \_\_\_ (**ultimate**) slow down or muddle the process? Thanks to some insightful studies, we have answers.

Psychologists, (3) \_\_\_ (**economy**) and historians are fascinated by the process of decision making because it says a lot about how humans interact, and by (4) \_\_\_ (**study**) it, we can learn how to make the best decisions with the most (5) \_\_\_ (**favor**) outcomes. Many studies have been performed on group decision making, and the results have all been fairly (6) \_\_\_ (**consistency**). The experiments typically don't involve social decisions, but are visual in nature because most (7) \_\_\_ (**research**) feel that simple visual recognition experiments eliminate bias.

For example, in one study, subjects studied circles on a screen to determine which one was darker. In another study, pairs put their minds together to decide which striped duos had the highest contrast. Many other studies have followed a similar model, and across the board, the results indicate that two heads are (8) \_\_\_ (**absolute**) better than one. But there's a qualifier: This is only the case when the subjects could converse about their (9) \_\_\_ (**confident**) in the decision. Not only that but honesty about one's own abilities is also necessary to ensure a positive result for a group decision.

## Are group decisions better?

0	<i>smaller</i>
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	

Von der  
Lehrperson  
auszufüllen

richtig falsch

\_\_\_ P.