The Millau Viaduct, France

The Millau Viaduct is one of the tallest bridges in the world. When it was opened in 2004, it attracted worldwide interest because it was considered an engineering masterpiece, and is still considered one of the biggest engineering achievements of all time. The bridge is 343 metres tall, which makes it 19 metres taller than the Eiffel Tower in Paris, and 2,460 metres long. The bridge is part of the A75 motorway that runs from Paris to Beziers and Montpellier. It was jointly designed by Sir Norman Foster and Dr. Michel Virlogeux, costing €394,000,000, and was officially opened by French President, Jacques Chirac. While drivers now have to pay a toll to use the bridge, it has cut the travelling time between Paris and southern France.

Questions 1-3

Are the following statements true, false or not given according to the information in the passage?

- True = the information matches the information in the passage
- False = the information contradicts the information in the passage
- Not Given = the information is not found in the passage

1. The bridge did not attract much attention when it opened in 2004.
2. The Millau Viaduct is the tallest structure in France.
3. Drivers have to pay a fee to drive across the bridge.
Bilingualism

The evidence is clear: Bilingualism can lead to a number of benefits. Being able to speak two languages has obvious practical benefits such as being able to communicate with others in an ever increasing globalised world, but there are also cognitive benefits. Evidence has shown that both languages interact with each other and help to develop a person's brain function because even when someone is speaking one language, the brain can process information in the other language. There are also a number of health benefits that can be derived from being bilingual, such as the ability to recover from a stroke more quickly, or it can even slow down the effects of dementia.

What is the best age to learn another language? There seems to be a consensus among most experts that learning two languages from an early age is most effective because they unconsciously acquire the second language with ease, although there is no reason why adults cannot learn a second language later in life and become bilingual.

Do the statements below agree with the views expressed in the passage?
Answer YES, NO or NOT GIVEN.

1. Being bilingual makes people more successful.
2. The onset of dementia can be delayed by being bilingual.
3. All experts agree that learning two languages is most successful as a child.