Tattoo: Reading Tasks

1 Match the words with their definitions.

- **scar** a red or brown mark on a person’s skin that has been there since they were born
- **birthmark** a small dark brown mark on the skin, sometimes slightly higher than the skin around it
- **tattoo** a mark that is left on the skin after a wound has healed
- **mole** a small, pale brown spot on a person’s skin, especially on their face, caused by the sun
- **freckle** a picture or design that is marked permanently on a person’s skin by making small holes in the skin with a needle and filling them with coloured ink

2 Which of these do you have? Do you like them? Why / why not?

3 Do you think the following information about tattoos is true or false?
   a Tattoos have become more fashionable recently.
   b Tattooing was banned in New York City until 1999.
   c Maoris used to tattoo their faces for camouflage.
   d Only lower class people used to have tattoos.
   e Having a tattoo is very painful.
   f Having a tattoo is a dangerous thing to do.
   g Tattooing should be taken seriously.
   h **Tattoo** is an old Portuguese word.