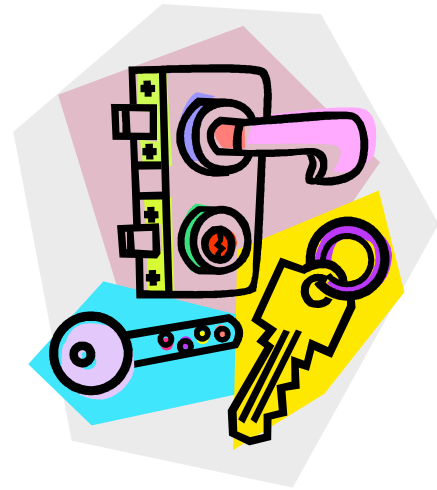




## *Personal Responsibility*

1. If you open it, close it.
2. If you turn it on, turn it off.
3. If you unlock it, lock it.
4. If you break it, repair it.
5. If you can't fix it, call someone who can.
6. If you borrow it, return it.
7. If you use it, take care of it.
8. If you make a mess, clean it up.
9. If you move it, put it back.
10. If you don't know how to operate it, leave it alone.
11. If it belongs to someone else and you want to use it, get permission.
12. If it doesn't concern you, mind your own business.





## 20 Words to the Wise

1. God wants spiritual fruit, not religious nuts.
2. Dear God: I have a problem. Sometimes, it's me.
3. Growing old is inevitable, growing up is optional.
4. There is no key to happiness. The door is always open.
5. Silence is often misinterpreted, but never misquoted.
6. Do the math. Count your blessings.
7. Faith is the ability to not panic.
8. Laugh every day; it's like inner jogging.
9. If we worry, we probably didn't pray. If we pray, we probably don't worry.
10. As a child of God, prayer is kind of like calling home every day.
11. Blessed are the flexible, for they shall not be bent out of shape.
12. The most important things in our homes are the people.
13. When we get tangled up in our problems, be still. God wants us to be still so He can untangle the knots for us.
14. A grudge is a heavy thing to carry.
15. He who dies with the most toys is still dead. And who knows where he has gone?
16. We do not remember days, but moments. Life moves too fast, so enjoy your precious moments.
17. Nothing is real to you until you experience it, otherwise it's just hearsay.
18. Surviving and living our lives successfully requires courage. The goals and dreams we seek require courage and risk-taking. Learn from the turtle -- it only makes progress when it sticks out its neck.
19. Be more concerned with your character than your reputation, because your character is what you really are, while your reputation is merely what others think you are.





## *Kid's - You Gotta Laugh*

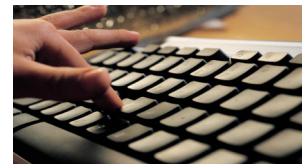
When my grandson, Billy, and I entered our vacation cabin, we kept the lights off until we were inside to keep from attracting pesky insects. Still, a few fireflies followed us in. Noticing them before I did, Billy whispered, "It's no use, Grandpa. The mosquitoes are coming after us with flashlights."

After putting her children to bed, a mother changed into old slacks and a droopy blouse and proceeded to wash her hair. As she heard the children getting more and more rambunctious, her patience grew thin. At last she threw a towel around her head and stormed into their room, putting them back to bed with stern warnings. As she left the room, she heard her three-year-old say with a trembling voice, "Who was THAT?"

A mother was telling her little girl what her own childhood was like: "We used to skate outside on a pond. I had a swing made from a tire; it hung from a tree in our front yard. We rode our pony. We picked wild raspberries in the woods." The little girl was wide-eyed, taking this in. At last she said, "I sure wish I'd gotten to know you sooner!"

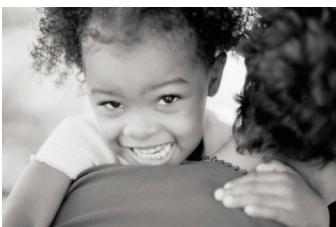
My grandson was visiting one day when he asked, "Grandma, do you know how you and God are alike?" I mentally polished my halo while I asked, "No, how are we alike?" "You're both old," he replied.

A little girl was diligently pounding away on her father's computer. She told him she was writing a story. "What's it about?" he asked. "I don't know," she replied. "I can't read."



I didn't know if my granddaughter had learned her colors yet, so I decided to test her. I would point out something and ask what color it was. She would tell me, and always, she was correct. But it was fun for me, so I continued. At last she headed for the door, saying sagely, "Grandma, I think you should try to figure out some of these yourself!"

Our five-year-old son Mark couldn't wait to tell his father about the movie we had watched on television, "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea." The scenes with the submarine and the giant octopus had kept him wide-eyed. In the middle of the telling, my husband interrupted Mark. "What caused the submarine to sink?" With a look of total shock Mark replied, "Dad, it was the 20,000 leaks!"



When my grandson asked me how old I was, I teasingly replied, "I'm not sure." "Look in your underwear, Grandma," he advised. "Mine says I'm four."

~ anonymous



## *One Nation And A Vegetable*

Adapted from an article by Ralph Keyes



Our first grader recently learned the Pledge of Allegiance and happily recited it this way:

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for Richard stands . . ."

"Wait," we said. "Who's Richard?"

David looked puzzled. "I don't know," he replied shrugging. "That's just the way it goes."

I've since discovered that David is part of a great American tradition: Mislearning the Pledge. The New York Times columnist William Safire once suggested that "Richard Stans" is the most saluted man in America - others say it's actually "Richard Sands"). Safire also reports that many small children think they've "led the pigeons to the flag," but many simply "pledge a legion to the flag."

As long as children have learned recitations and songs, they have been doing it in creative ways. During debate on a bill to require Illinois schoolchildren to recite the Pledge of Allegiance daily, Assemblyman Alan Greiman confessed that until the end of grade school he was sure the line "one nation, indivisible" was "one nation, invisible." Another variation teachers sometimes hear is "one nation and a vegetable."

Theatrical producer Cheryl Crawford remembered her own childhood interpretation of this line for so long that half a century later she titled her autobiography One Naked Individual. In an author's note, Ms. Crawford explained that her girlhood blooper "perfectly describes my sense of myself in the face of the formidable world in which I led my life."

Seventy years after she moved from the United States to Windsor, Ontario, Canada, children's author Marion Holland still remembers the way she learned God Save the King. In her second-grader's mind the phrase "long to reign over us" was clearly "long to rain over us." As she sang this song every morning Holland imagined raindrops gently caressing her face -- and pictured a rhinoceros with reindeer horns sauntering by as well!



In Nova Scotia, my 10-year-old nephew, Jeremy, first learned his country's anthem, O Canada, as the more familiar "Air Canada." I understood his mistake, remembering baseball games at which young fans sang "Jose, can you see?" in my own national anthem.

Children who are taught unfamiliar words and phrases often convert them into ones that make more sense - or simply invent new words altogether. According to our family lore, my elder brother, Gene, first mastered "The Lord's Prayer" by condensing the mysterious phrase "hallowed be thy name" into "halovanina." Others recall learning this prayer's line about "daily bread" as "give us this day our jelly bread" or "our dirty bread."

One Connecticut school girl was not only on a first-name basis with the Lord to whom she prayed, but imagined he lived nearby: "Our Father, who are in New Haven, Harold be thy name." (This man reappears every Christmas when kids sing, "Hark the Harold Angels Sing.")

Like the Connecticut youngster, and the many young New Yorkers who have prayed, "lead us not into Penn Station," children commonly use nearby locales to bring confusing lines closer to home. Rhode Island lawyer Robert Ellis Smith recalls that as a first-grader in Providence he thought Silent Night included the phrase, "Brown University, mother and child." Smith had trouble visualizing Mary and baby Jesus in a distant town called Bethlehem, but no difficulty at all imagining them among the nativity scenes on the nearby college campus.



The same line had a different meaning for Mark Gordon, grown and working in Illinois for the state government. Gordon recalls a childhood of singing, "Round **young** virgin," and remembers picturing an overweight Mary with baby Jesus on her lap."

Then there is "Round John Virgin." As the story goes, a student was asked to draw a Nativity scene. His drawing included a plump gentleman standing beside Mary and the baby Jesus. When asked who the fat man was, the boy said earnestly: "That's Round John Virgin."

It's striking how much a part of our folklore such mistakes have become. When she speaks before church groups, Sharon Marr Brown carries a cross-eyed teddy bear whom she introduces as "Gladly" to knowing smiles. This is because, like her, so many of her listeners learned the hymn Gladly the Cross I'd Bear as "Gladly, the Cross-Eyed Bear." Sharon Brown also recalls learning "There is a Bomb" -- rather than a "Balm" in Gilead-- wondering when it would explode.



English-born Judy Owen -- a college biology professor in Pennsylvania -- reports that "while shepherds washed their socks at night" was as standard in her childhood carols as she's sure it is in her daughter Tricia's Christmas singing.

The prize for the most creative interpretation of memorized lines takes us back to the Pledge of Allegiance. In a children's book called In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson, author Bette Bao Lord tells the story of a 10-year-old girl named Shirley who has moved from China to Brooklyn. With hand over heart, her soft voice barely audible over those around her, Shirley murmurs: "I pledge a lesson to the frog of the United States of America, and to the wee puppet for witches' hands. One Asian, in the vestibule, and little tea and just rice for all."





## *A Popular Email Forward*

You Know You Are Living In 2007 When...

1. You accidentally enter your password on the microwave.
2. You haven't played Solitaire with real cards in years.
3. You have a list of 15 phone numbers to reach your family of 4.
4. You e-mail the person who works at the desk next to you.
5. Your reason for not staying in touch with friends and family is that they don't have e-mail addresses.
6. You pull up in your own driveway and use your cell phone to see if anyone is home to help you carry in the groceries.
7. Every commercial on television has a web site at the bottom of the screen.
8. Leaving the house without your cell phone, which you didn't have the first 20 or 30 (or 50) years of your life, is now a cause for panic and you turn around to go and get it.
10. You get up in the morning and go on line before getting your coffee.
11. You start tilting your head sideways to smile. : )
- 12 You're reading this and nodding and laughing.
13. Even worse, you know exactly to whom you are going to forward this message.
14. You are too busy to notice there was no #9 on this list.
15. You actually scrolled back up to check that there wasn't #9 on this list



AND NOW YOU ARE LAUGHING at yourself. Go on, forward this to your friends. You know you want to!!





## *World's Easiest Quiz*

You require only 4 correct answers to achieve a passing grade.

It is that easy!!!

1. How long did the 100 year war last?
2. Which country makes Panama hats?
3. From which animal do we get catgut?
4. In which month do Russians celebrate the October Revolution?
5. What is a camel's hair brush made of?
6. The Canary Islands in the Pacific are named after what animal?
7. What was King George VI's first name?
8. What color is a purple finch?
9. Where are Chinese gooseberries from?
- 10 What is the color of the black box in a commercial airplane?

All done?

Remember, you need 4 correct answers to pass.

Now check your answers.

Turn the page. . .



ANSWERS TO THE QUIZ (Remember, passing requires 4 correct answers!!!!!!)



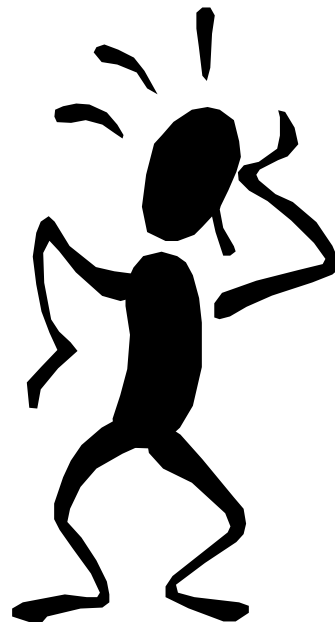


## *World's Easiest Quiz - Key*

- 1) How long did the Hundred Years War last? 116 years
- 2) Which country makes Panama hats? Ecuador
- 3) From which animal do we get cat gut? Sheep and Horses
- 4) When do Russians celebrate the October Revolution? November
- 5) What is a camel's hair brush made of? Squirrel fur
- 6) The Canary Islands in the Pacific are named after what animal? Dogs
- 7) What was King George VI's first name? Albert
- 8) What color is a purple finch? Crimson
- 9) Where are Chinese gooseberries from? New Zealand
- 10) What color is the black box in a commercial airplane? International Orange, of course.

Now add up your correct answers.

How did you do?





## Noah in 2007

In the year 2005, the Lord came unto Noah, who was now living in the United States, and said, "Once again, the earth has become wicked and overpopulated, and I see the end of all flesh before me.

Build another Ark and save 2 of every living thing along with a few good humans."

He gave Noah the blueprints, saying, "You have 6 months to build the Ark before I will start the unending rain for 40 days and 40 nights."

Six months later, the Lord looked down and saw Noah weeping in his yard -- but no Ark.

"Noah!" He roared, "I'm about to start the rain! Where is the Ark?"

"Forgive me, Lord," begged Noah, "but things have changed. I needed a building permit. I've been arguing with the inspector about the need for a sprinkler system. My neighbors claim that I've violated the neighborhood zoning laws by building the Ark in my yard and exceeding the height limitations. We had to go to the Development Appeal Board for a decision.

Then the Department of Transportation demanded a bond be posted for the future costs of moving power lines and other overhead obstructions, to clear the passage for the Ark's move to the sea. I told them that the sea would be coming to us, but they would hear nothing of it.



Getting the wood was another problem. There's a ban on cutting local trees in order to save the spotted owl. I tried to convince the environmentalists that I needed the wood to save the owls - but no go!

When I started gathering the animals, an animal rights group sued me.

They insisted that I was confining wild animals against their will. They argued the accommodation was too restrictive, and it was cruel and inhuman to put so many animals in a confined space.

Then the EPA ruled that I couldn't build the Ark until they'd conducted an environmental impact study on your proposed flood.

I'm still trying to resolve a complaint with the Human Rights Commission on how many minorities I'm supposed to hire for my building crew.



Immigration and Naturalization are checking the green-card status of most of the people who want to work.

The trades unions say I can't use my sons. They insist I have to hire only Union workers with Ark-building experience.

To make matters worse, the IRS seized all my assets, claiming I'm trying to leave the country illegally with endangered species.

So, forgive me, Lord, but it would take at least 10 years for me to finish this Ark."

Suddenly the skies cleared, the sun began to shine, and a rainbow stretched across the sky. Noah looked up in wonder and asked, "You mean you're not going to destroy the world?"

"No," said the Lord. "The government beat me to it."

~ unknown





## Think You Know Everything?

- "Stewardesses" is the longest word typed with only the left hand and "lollipop" with your right.
- No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver, or purple.
- "Dreamt" is the only English word that ends in the letters "mt".
- Our eyes are always the same size from birth, but our nose and ears never stop growing.
- The sentence: "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog" uses every letter of the alphabet.
- The words 'racecar,' 'kayak' and 'level' are the same whether they are read left to right or right to left (palindromes).
- There are only four words in the English language which end in "dous": tremendous, horrendous, stupendous, and hazardous.
- There are two words in the English language that have all five vowels in order: "abstemious" and "facetious."
- TYPEWRITER is the longest word that can be made using the letters only on one row of the keyboard.
- A cat has 32 muscles in each ear.
- A goldfish has a memory span of three seconds.
- A "jiffy" is an actual unit of time for 1/100th of a second.
- A shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes.
- A snail can sleep for three years.
- Almonds are a member of the peach family.
- An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.
- Babies are born without kneecaps. They don't appear until the child reaches 2 to 6 years of age.
- February 1865 is the only month in recorded history not to have a full moon.
- In the last 4,000 years, no new animals have been domesticated.
- If the population of China walked past you, 8 abreast, the line would never end because of the rate of reproduction.
- Leonardo Da Vinci invented the scissors.
- Peanuts are one of the ingredients of dynamite!
- Rubber bands last longer when refrigerated.
- There are 293 ways to make change for a dollar.
- Two-thirds of the world's eggplant is grown in New Jersey.
- The longest one-syllable word in the English language is "screeched."
- The average person's left hand does 56% of the typing.
- All 50 states are listed across the top of the Lincoln Memorial on the back of the \$5 bill.
- Maine is the only state whose name is just one syllable



- Los Angeles' full name is "El Pueblo de Nuestra Senora la Reina de los Angeles de Porciuncula" (*The Town of Our Lady the Queen of Angels of the Little Portion*)
- Tigers have striped skin, not just striped fur.
- In most advertisements, the time displayed on a watch is 10:10.
- Al Capone's business card said he was a used furniture dealer.
- A dragonfly has a life span of 24 hours.
- A dime has 118 ridges around the edge.
- It's impossible to sneeze with your eyes open.
- The giant squid has the largest eyes in the world.
- In England, the Speaker of the House is not allowed to speak.
- Mr. Rogers was an ordained minister.
- The average person falls asleep in seven minutes.
- There are 336 dimples on a regulation golf ball.
- The cruise liner QE2 moves only six inches for each gallon of diesel that it burns.
- The microwave was invented after a researcher walked by a radar tube and a chocolate bar melted in his pocket.
- The winter of 1932 was so cold that Niagara Falls froze completely solid.
- There are more chickens than people in the world.
- Winston Churchill was born in a ladies' room during a dance.
- Women blink nearly twice as much as men.

Now you know everything! . . . You could be a teenager!





## *You've Got To Be Kidding!*

In case you needed further proof that the human race is doomed through stupidity, here are some actual label instructions on consumer goods:

On a Sear's hairdryer: Do not use while sleeping. (that's the only time I have to work on my hair).

On a bag of Fritos:!. You could be a winner! No purchase necessary. Details inside. (the shoplifter special)?

On a bar of Dial soap: "Directions: Use like regular soap." (and that would be how???....)

On some Swanson frozen dinners: "Serving suggestion: Defrost." (but, it's "just" a suggestion).

On Tesco's Tiramisu dessert (printed on bottom): "Do not turn upside down." (well... duh, a bit late, huh)!

On Marks & Spencer Bread Pudding: "Product will be hot after heating." (... and you thought????...)

On packaging for a Rowenta iron: "Do not iron clothes on body." (but wouldn't this save me more time?)

On Boot's Children Cough Medicine: "Do not drive a car or operate machinery after taking this medication." (We could do a lot to reduce the rate of construction accidents if we could just get those 5-year-olds with head-colds off those forklifts.)

On Nytol Sleep Aid: "Warning: May cause drowsiness." (and.. I'm taking this because???....)

On most brands of Christmas lights: "For indoor or outdoor use only." (as opposed to... what?)

On a Japanese food processor: "Not to be used for the other use." (now, somebody out there, help me on this. I'm a bit curious.)



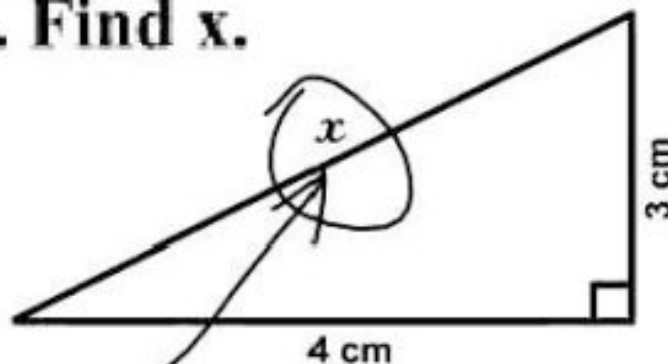
On Sunbury's peanuts: "Warning: contains nuts." (talk about a news flash)

On an American Airlines packet of nuts: "Instructions: Open packet, eat nuts." (Step 3: maybe, uh... fly Delta?)

On a child's superman costume: "Wearing of this garment does not enable you to fly." (I don't blame the company. I blame the parents for this one.)

On a Swedish chainsaw: "Do not attempt to stop chain with your hands."

**3. Find  $x$ .**



*Here it is*





## *Unanswered Questions ...*

If people from Poland are called Poles, then why aren't people from Holland called Holes?

If a pig loses its voice, is it disgruntled?

Why do croutons come in airtight packages? Aren't they just stale bread to begin with?

Why is a person who plays the piano called a pianist, but a person who drives a race car is not called a racist?

Why isn't the number 11 pronounced onety-one?

If lawyers are disbarred and clergymen defrocked, then doesn't it follow that electricians can be delighted, musicians denoted, cowboys deranged, models deposed, tree surgeons debarked, and dry cleaners depressed?

If Fed Ex and UPS were to merge, would they call it Fed UP?

Do Lipton Tea employees take coffee breaks?

What hair color do they put on the driver's licenses of bald men?

I thought about how mothers feed their babies with tiny little spoons and forks, so I wondered what do Chinese mothers use. Toothpicks?

Why do they put pictures of criminals up in the Post Office? What are we supposed to do, write to them? Why don't they just put their pictures on the postage stamps so the mailmen can look for them while they deliver the mail?

If it's true that we are here to help others, then what exactly are the others here for?

Ever wonder what the speed of lightning would be if it didn't zigzag?

As income tax time approaches, did you ever notice that when you put the two words "The" and "IRS" together it spells "THEIRS"?





## *The Perfect Job*

- My first job was working in an Orange Juice factory, but I got canned. I couldn't concentrate.
- Then I worked in the woods as a Lumberjack, but I just couldn't hack it, so they gave me the axe.
- After that, I tried to be a Tailor, but I just wasn't suited for it -- mainly because it was a sew-sew job.
- Next, I tried working in a Muffler Factory, but that was too exhausting.
- Then, I tried to be a Chef -- figured it would add a little spice to my life, -- but I just didn't have the thyme.
- I attempted to be a Deli Worker, but any way I sliced it I couldn't cut the mustard.
- My best job was a Musician, but eventually I found I just wasn't noteworthy.
- I studied a long time to become a Doctor, but I didn't have any patience.
- Next, was a job in a Shoe Factory. I tried, but I just didn't fit in.
- I became a Professional Fisherman, but discovered that I couldn't live on my net income.
- I managed to get a good job working for a Pool Maintenance Company, but the work was just too draining.
- So then I got a job in a Workout Center, but they said I wasn't fit for the job.
- After many years of trying to find steady work, I finally got a job as a Historian -- until I realized there was no future in it.
- SO, -- I TRIED RETIREMENT AND FOUND THAT I'M PERFECT FOR THE JOB!!



## *Disorder in the American Courts*

Here are things people actually said in court, word for word, taken down and now published by court reporters who had the torment of staying calm while these exchanges were actually taking place.

Attorney: What is your date of birth?

Witness: July 18th.

Attorney: What year?

Witness: Every year.

---



Attorney: What gear were you in at the moment of the impact?

Witness: Gucci sweats and Reeboks.

---

Attorney: This myasthenia gravis, does it affect your memory at all?

Witness: Yes.

Attorney: And in what ways does it affect your memory?

Witness: I forget.

Attorney: You forget? Can you give us an example of something you forgot?

---

Attorney: How old is your son, the one living with you?

Witness: Thirty-eight or thirty-five, I can't remember which.

Attorney: How long has he lived with you?

Witness: Forty-five years.

---

Attorney: Now doctor, isn't it true that when a person dies in his sleep, he doesn't know about it until the next morning?

Witness: Did you actually pass the bar exam?

---

Attorney: The youngest son, the twenty-year-old, how old is he?

Witness: Uh, he's twenty-one.

---



Attorney: Were you present when your picture was taken?

Witness: Would you repeat the question?

---

Attorney: She had three children, right?

Witness: Yes.

Attorney: How many were boys?

Witness: None.

Attorney: Were there any girls?

---

Attorney: Can you describe the individual?

Witness: He was about medium height and had a beard.

Attorney: Was this a male or a female?

---

Attorney: Is your appearance here this morning pursuant to a deposition notice, which I sent to your attorney?

Witness: No, this is how I dress when I go to work.

---

Attorney: Doctor, how many of your autopsies have you performed on dead people?

Witness: All my autopsies are performed on dead people.

---

Attorney: ALL your responses MUST be oral, OK? What school did you go to?

Witness: Oral.

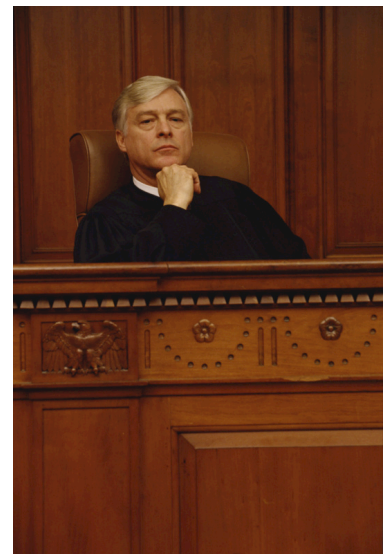
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Attorney: Do you recall the time that you examined the body?

Witness: The autopsy started around 8:30 p.m.

Attorney: And Mr. Denton was dead at the time?

Witness: No, he was sitting on the table wondering why I was doing an autopsy on him!





## *What the Teacher Says and (What the Teacher Means)*

1. Your son has a remarkable ability in gathering needed information from his classmates.  
(He was caught cheating on a test).
2. Karen is an endless fund of energy and viability.  
(The hyperactive student can't stay seated for five minutes).
3. Fantastic imagination! Unmatched in his capacity for blending fact with fiction.  
(He's definitely one of the biggest liars I have ever met).
4. Margie exhibits a casual, relaxed attitude to school, indicating that high expectations don't intimidate her.  
(The lazy student hasn't done one assignment all term).
5. His athletic ability is marvelous. Superior hand-eye coordination.  
(The little boy stung me with a rubber band from 15 feet away).
6. Nick thrives on interaction with his peers.  
(Your son needs to stop socializing and start working).
7. Your daughter's greatest asset is her demonstrative public discussions.  
(Classroom lawyer! Why is it that every time I explain an assignment she creates a class argument).
8. John enjoys the thrill of engaging challenges with his peers.  
(He's a bully).
9. An adventurous nature lover who rarely misses opportunities to explore new territory.  
(Your daughter was caught skipping school at the fishing pond).
10. Unlike some students who hide their emotion, Charles is very expressive and open.  
(He must have written the Whiner's Guide).
11. I firmly believe that her intellectual and emotional progress would be enhanced through a year's repetition of her learning environment.  
(Regretfully, we believe that she is not ready for high school and must repeat the 8th grade).
12. Her exuberant verbosity is awesome! (A mouth that never stops yacking).





## *It's All in the Answer*

\*\* Actual answers on a Science test . . .

Q: Name the four seasons.

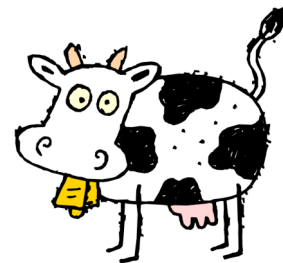
A: Salt, pepper, mustard and vinegar.

Q: Explain one of the processes by which water can be made safe to drink.

A: Flirtation makes water safe to drink because it removes large pollutants like grit, sand, dead sheep and canoeists.

Q: How is dew formed?

A: The sun shines down on the leaves and makes them perspire.



Q: How can you delay milk turning sour?

A: Keep it in the cow.

Q: What causes the tides in the oceans?

A: The tides are a fight between the Earth and the Moon. All water tends to flow towards the moon, because there is no water on the moon, and nature hates a vacuum. I forget where the sun joins in this fight.

Q: What are steroids?

A: Things for keeping carpets still on the stairs.

Q: Name a major disease associated with cigarettes.

A: Premature death.

Q: How are the main parts of the body categorized? (e.g., abdomen.)

A: The body is consisted into three parts---the brainium, the borax and the abdominal cavity. The brainium contains the brain; the borax contains the heart and lungs, and the abdominal cavity contains the five bowels, A, E, I, O, and U.



Q: What is the fibula?

A: A small lie.

Q: What does "varicose" mean?

A: Nearby.

Q: Give the meaning of the term Caesarean Section.

A: The Caesarean Section is a district in Rome.

Q: What does the word "benign" mean?

A: Benign is what you will be after you be eight.

