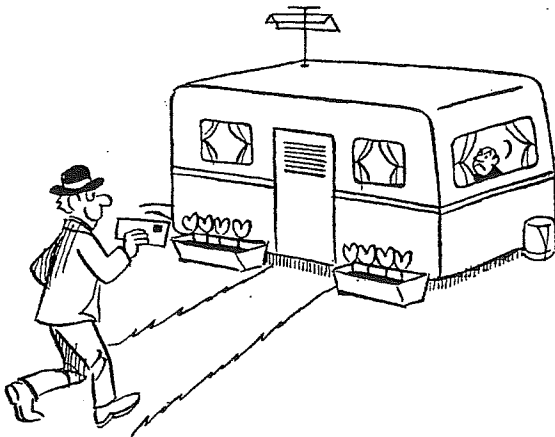


Royal and Ruby Fernandez of West Virginia moved recently. They're beginning to be very sorry that they ever did move. Their new mobile home is large enough and it's very nicely furnished. They have running water and enough heat. Why are they sorry they moved? Their new quarters are nicer than their old ones, but they were more content before.

Royal and Ruby are tired of strangers walking into their new home. At all hours of the business day, people walk right in carrying letters and packages and looking for the stamp machine. The people sometimes get angry when they can't find what they want.

Lovely as their new mobile house is, Mr. and Mrs. Fernandez have found that it has one major drawback. It used to be the Skelton, West Virginia, post office. When the post office moved to another site, the Fernandez family took over the mobile home. Unfortunately, many residents of Skelton (Zip Code 25919) didn't notice. They continued to come to the same old place to mail their letters and buy stamps.



1. Mr. and Mrs. Fernandez live
  - (a) in a very large city.
  - (b) behind the post office.
  - (c) in a mobile home.
  - (d) without any stamps.

2. The mobile home has
  - (a) many good qualities.
  - (b) nothing very nice.
  - (c) four stamp machines.
  - (d) a counter in the bedroom.
3. People looking for the post office
  - (a) sometimes aren't pleasant.
  - (b) never find one.
  - (c) are always correct.
  - (d) bring presents to Ruby.
4. Something mobile
  - (a) contains too many things.
  - (b) is difficult to see.
  - (c) could be moved.
  - (d) costs a lot of money.
5. People bothered the Fernandezes
  - (a) because they were nasty.
  - (b) on every other weekend.
  - (c) looking for the post office.
  - (d) who bothered them right back.
6. A drawback is a
  - (a) long drapery.
  - (b) small bridge.
  - (c) sales area.
  - (d) problem or disadvantage.
7. Which happened first? The
  - (a) mobile home was a post office.
  - (b) Fernandez family moved.
  - (c) post office moved.
  - (d) people came to the wrong place.
8. This story suggests that people
  - (a) don't like other people.
  - (b) don't like to write letters.
  - (c) should buy more stamps.
  - (d) don't always pay attention.

What is your social security number? If you don't have one yet, you will some day. Each social security number is supposed to be assigned to one and only one person in this country.

Whatever your number is or will be, you can be sure that it will be different from 078-05-1120. Although this number was not officially issued, nearly six thousand people at one time thought it belonged to them. How did this happen? How could nearly 6,000 people claim an identification number that the government hadn't given to anyone?

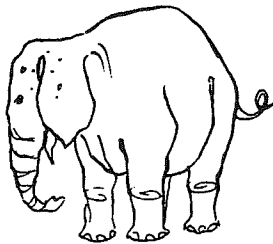
Back in the year 1938, a company marketed a line of wallets. Each wallet contained a sample social security card with the number 078-05-1120. Lots of people who bought the wallets thought the number belonged to them.

In 1943, 5,755 people were using the "pocketbook number," as government workers called it. Nearly forty people were still using the number as late as 1961, and even fifteen years after that, ten people still claimed it as their own. Some day there will be no one left to use it.

1. Each social security number
  - (a) has 6,000 copies.
  - (b) has ten numerals.
  - (c) is 078-05-1120.
  - (d) should belong to one person.
2. The word marketed means
  - (a) ran to a store.
  - (b) wrote numbers on.
  - (c) painted carefully.
  - (d) sold.
3. People got the number 078-05-1120
  - (a) at the grocery store.
  - (b) from Social Security.
  - (c) from cards in wallets.
  - (d) at government offices.
4. A social security number should be
  - (a) like everyone else's.
  - (b) 078-05-1120.
  - (c) different from all others.
  - (d) just like a phone number.
5. The number in this story was called
  - (a) wallet security.
  - (b) the sample card.
  - (c) a master credit card.
  - (d) the pocketbook number.
6. People used the number because
  - (a) someone told them not to.
  - (b) they didn't know any better.
  - (c) they enjoyed causing trouble.
  - (d) they couldn't get another one.
7. This story is mainly about a
  - (a) system that has failed.
  - (b) popular social security number.
  - (c) way to get government money.
  - (d) very old wallet.
8. Some day no one will have the pocketbook number because
  - (a) no one will want it anymore.
  - (b) the government will change it.
  - (c) there will be no numbers.
  - (d) all its users will have died.

Tina is an elephant. She now lives in an animal park in Redwood City, California, but until January, 1983, she lived in New York City's Central Park Zoo. When the zoo was closed for rebuilding, all the animals had to find new homes.

When Tina first lived at the zoo, she didn't seem to have any problems. She caused no trouble and everyone liked her. Then her favorite keeper died, and she didn't get along with her new handlers. She crushed the arm of one and stamped on the foot of another.

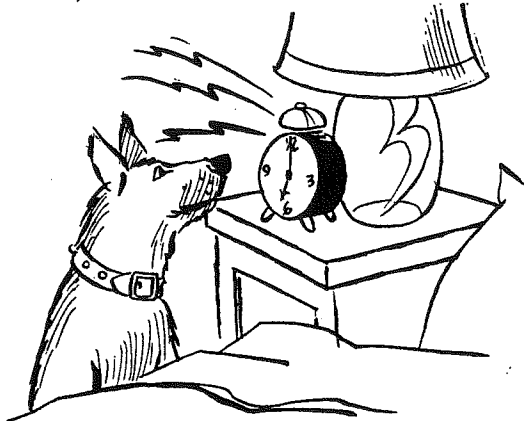


One other zoo expressed an interest in Tina, and New York officials were hopeful that the elephant would find a home there. The director of the zoo which offered to consider Tina paid the animal a visit in Central Park. The interview was going very nicely until the elephant decided she didn't like the person. She charged at him and that ended her chances of being adopted.

Finally the park in California agreed to give Tina a try. Her new trainer, David Blasko, reports that Tina has adjusted very well to her new home. She seems to have learned her manners, and she hasn't caused any trouble. One of Tina's favorite snacks is San Francisco sourdough bread, which is a California specialty. That's something she never had in New York.

1. This story is mainly about
  - (a) the Central Park Zoo.
  - (b) Tina, the zookeeper's daughter.
  - (c) an elephant named Tina.
  - (d) Redwood City, California.
2. Tina began causing trouble
  - (a) because she got too large.
  - (b) after her keeper died.
  - (c) to escape from her cage.
  - (d) because she hated the food.
3. One zoo didn't take Tina because
  - (a) she couldn't walk that far.
  - (b) no one could pay for her.
  - (c) she charged at the director.
  - (d) Central Park still wanted her.
4. You can guess that David Blasko is
  - (a) rough with his animals.
  - (b) an excellent elephant trainer.
  - (c) fond of small children.
  - (d) difficult to get along with.
5. If Tina didn't like someone, she would
  - (a) go in the corner and cry.
  - (b) eat the person up.
  - (c) refuse to eat for days.
  - (d) try to hurt that person.
6. Sourdough bread is something
  - (a) fed only to elephants.
  - (b) popular in San Francisco.
  - (c) no one can eat.
  - (d) sold in every zoo.
7. Which came last? Tina
  - (a) liked her Central Park keeper.
  - (b) charged a zoo director.
  - (c) moved to Redwood City.
  - (d) hurt two zoo employees.
8. Someone who has adjusted
  - (a) eats sourdough bread.
  - (b) charges at enemies.
  - (c) refuses to see anyone.
  - (d) gets along well now.

When the alarm clock rings, Polly licks her owner's face to wake her up. Polly, who is mostly Shetland sheepdog, is a trained hearing dog. Polly's owner, Dorothy Hildreth, is deaf.



When the alarm clock rings, or there's a knock on the door, Polly licks or nuzzles her owner. If necessary, the dog will even jump up or push Dorothy. When the dog has her owner's attention, she then leads her to the source of the sound.

Perhaps the most important sound Polly is trained for is the smoke alarm. Hopefully, the dog will never need to respond to such a sound, but if the smoke alarm did go off, Polly would quickly lead Dorothy to it. Then they both would have a chance to get out.

There are far more people who could use hearing dogs than there are trained dogs to go around. Polly, for example, is one of a small number of such dogs in the New York City area where there may be as many as 65,000 deaf people. When Dorothy Hildreth applied for a hearing dog she had to wait for many months until she finally got one.

1. Polly is
  - (a) part seeing-eye dog.
  - (b) like a Shetland pony.
  - (c) a purebred setter.
  - (d) mostly Shetland sheepdog.
2. Polly licks Dorothy
  - (a) because she likes her.
  - (b) to get her attention.
  - (c) because no other dog will.
  - (d) when she is hungry.
3. Dorothy waited a long time for a hearing dog because
  - (a) she preferred a cat.
  - (b) the dog cost too much.
  - (c) there are too few trained dogs.
  - (d) she never asked for one.
4. Without her dog, Dorothy might
  - (a) sleep through the alarm clock.
  - (b) let her dinner burn.
  - (c) forget to feed the cat.
  - (d) hear a loud knock on the door.
5. The source of a sound is
  - (a) where it is coming from.
  - (b) something to make it louder.
  - (c) the price you pay.
  - (d) often a barking dog.
6. This story is mainly about
  - (a) a hearing dog and her owner.
  - (b) how to use a seeing-eye dog.
  - (c) a nice Shetland sheepdog pet.
  - (d) using a smoke alarm.
7. In a fire, which would be last?
  - (a) The fire would start.
  - (b) The smoke alarm would go off.
  - (c) Dorothy and Polly would leave.
  - (d) The dog would alert Dorothy.
8. A hearing dog can
  - (a) cause a lot of trouble.
  - (b) make a child very happy.
  - (c) help a blind person to walk.
  - (d) make a deaf person safer.

There's a town in Pennsylvania that's in danger of sinking. Some people fear that it really may collapse. One day in May, 1983, the neighborhood Red & White Supermarket sank two feet lower into the ground. It will cost the owner about half a million dollars in repairs and lost business.

This sinking town, named North Belle Vernon, was built over a maze of old mines, about 30 miles south of Pittsburgh. The mines aren't used any more, and the ceilings of some of the old mine shafts are starting to collapse. This causes problems in the town above.

The Usher family lives in a house right behind the supermarket. They like their house, and they won't let a sinking store bother them one bit. "No matter where you live," said Mrs. Usher, "you're going to find one thing or another wrong." The Ushers had to abandon their house for one day, but it didn't fall down with the supermarket and now they're back. They intend to stay.

Jim Nash and his family live in rented property right across the street from the damaged market. They can see the cracked walls and the fallen parking lot from their front porch. They don't intend to move either. "We love it here," Mr. Nash said. Many other people in North Belle Vernon agree. They're willing to stay there and take their chances.

1. This story is mainly about
  - (a) living in Pennsylvania.
  - (b) buildings inside a mine.
  - (c) a sinking town.
  - (d) saving a supermarket.
2. A Red & White Supermarket
  - (a) decided to change colors.
  - (b) served workers in the mine.
  - (c) had to go out of business.
  - (d) sank two feet lower.
3. To collapse means to
  - (a) become very tired.
  - (b) explode with a crash.
  - (c) pause for a moment.
  - (d) fold up or fall in.
4. The Ushers won't move because
  - (a) they like where they live.
  - (b) their house is too small.
  - (c) Mr. Usher won't leave.
  - (d) the market pays them well.
5. The cause of the town's problems is
  - (a) bad people in government.
  - (b) people who won't move.
  - (c) collapsing mine shafts.
  - (d) ceilings that need paint.
6. Jim Nash and his family
  - (a) work in the mines.
  - (b) rent their home.
  - (c) own two houses.
  - (d) dislike the town.
7. Which happened first?
  - (a) Mines were dug.
  - (b) The supermarket sank.
  - (c) Ceilings collapsed.
  - (d) The Ushers wouldn't leave.
8. Many people in North Belle Vernon
  - (a) work in old mine shafts.
  - (b) stay home all day.
  - (c) won't shop at Red & White.
  - (d) seem to love their town.

Karisa Rothey lives near Salt Lake City, Utah, where there's a problem right now with grasshoppers. These hungry insects eat crops. They destroy gardens and fruit trees. Killing the grasshoppers is difficult. People have tried poison. They've tried burning the insects. Both of these methods hurt crops along with the grasshoppers.

Karisa remembered hearing stories about grasshoppers causing trouble back in 1947. When that happened, flocks of seagulls helped the Mormon settlers near Salt Lake City to save their crops. The seagulls ate the grasshoppers and didn't harm the crops. Karisa thought that birds might be able to do the job again. So, she decided to use the chickens she had received as an Easter present from her father. She put the chickens in the garden where they promptly began to peck at the grasshoppers.

After the chickens got rid of the grasshoppers in the Rotheys' garden, Karisa began renting the birds to her neighbors. She also gathered and sold the eggs from the chickens. Perhaps the most amazing part of this entire story is that Karisa Rothey is only six years old!

1. Karisa Rothey is a
  - (a) grasshopper.
  - (b) Mormon settler.
  - (c) clever six-year-old.
  - (d) city girl.



2. Karisa rented chickens to
  - (a) kill grasshoppers.
  - (b) destroy crops.
  - (c) lay eggs.
  - (d) play with seagulls.
3. To destroy something is to
  - (a) clean it off.
  - (b) put it out to sea.
  - (c) feed it carefully.
  - (d) wipe it out.
4. History helped Karisa because
  - (a) she kept busy reading.
  - (b) school was nearby.
  - (c) she knew about grasshoppers.
  - (d) she enjoyed doing work.
5. Karisa's chickens
  - (a) laid eggs on Easter day.
  - (b) pecked and ate grasshoppers.
  - (c) bothered all the neighbors.
  - (d) went into a feed store.
6. Poison and burning can
  - (a) harm crops and grasshoppers.
  - (b) make everything safe again.
  - (c) fix the chicken problem.
  - (d) be used in any barn.
7. What happened first?
  - (a) Karisa got chickens.
  - (b) Seagulls ate grasshoppers.
  - (c) The chickens ate grasshoppers.
  - (d) Karisa rented her chickens.
8. Karisa is unusual because
  - (a) few six-year-olds do business.
  - (b) she goes to school every day.
  - (c) she has some chickens.
  - (d) her family lives in Utah.

A big yellow school bus carrying the Chilton High School girls basketball team left the town of Clanton, Alabama, on a Thursday afternoon. It was headed for Weogufka, 40 miles away, where the girls were scheduled to play in a tournament.

Parents and friends of some of the players drove to Weogufka in their own cars instead of taking the team bus. When the bus never showed up at its destination, people began to worry. Concern turned to panic as the afternoon became night. The bus seemed to have vanished without a trace.

A frantic search was undertaken without immediate success. A search team of police and more than 100 volunteers covered the area. A highway patrol helicopter used spotlights to illuminate forest areas and the nearby river. Parents began to imagine and fear the worst. They saw in their minds the bus at the bottom of the river or lost forever in the dense woods.

The owner of the general store in Weogufka located the bus the next morning, shortly after dawn. The vehicle was mired in the mud on a lonely logging road.

The bus driver, who had taken a wrong turn at a detour, wasn't upset at all. "We weren't in any danger," he said. "It wasn't a panic situation." Few of the parents who had been searching all night for their children shared his calm attitude.

1. The bus was traveling from
  - (a) Clanton to Chilton.
  - (b) Alabama to Georgia.
  - (c) Weogufka to the seashore.
  - (d) Clanton to Weogufka.

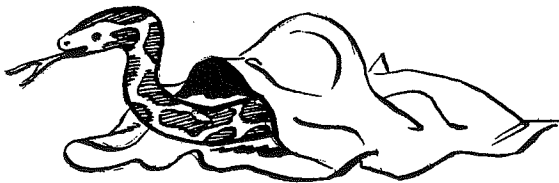
2. To vanish without a trace means to
  - (a) lose everything at once.
  - (b) disappear completely.
  - (c) leave a trail to follow.
  - (d) take a bus to nowhere.
3. The purpose of the bus trip was
  - (a) for seeing the sights.
  - (b) to upset the girls' parents.
  - (c) to get to a basketball game.
  - (d) never clearly stated.
4. The bus was late because it
  - (a) blew two front tires.
  - (b) went in the wrong direction.
  - (c) got stuck in the mud.
  - (d) went slower than necessary.
5. Parents panicked because
  - (a) they didn't know what happened.
  - (b) they knew the girls were hurt.
  - (c) someone told them of a fire.
  - (d) the bus driver was a bad person.
6. Which happened first?
  - (a) The bus got stuck.
  - (b) Parents panicked.
  - (c) The bus was located.
  - (d) The bus left Clanton.
7. To illuminate is to
  - (a) free up.
  - (b) make someone famous.
  - (c) light up.
  - (d) dig something out.
8. The bus driver did not
  - (a) know how to drive a bus.
  - (b) make any mistakes.
  - (c) think the problem was serious.
  - (d) like any of the students.

Rubert is only two years old but he already weighs 100 pounds. When he stretches out, he measures about 15 feet long. Rubert is a python. Pythons are snakes which enjoy feasting on small animals. A python will prepare its dinner by wrapping itself around the animal and choking it to death.

Most pythons live in Africa or Asia. Some live in zoos around the world. Rubert lives in the window of a pet store in Riverdale. Many people in the neighborhood stroll by and watch Rubert as he curls comfortably in his glass-covered home. One day someone looked and Rubert wasn't there. The window was broken and the snake was gone.

Two days after Rubert vanished from the window, a regular customer of the pet store happened to see some teenagers in a local park. He became suspicious when he saw the young people using sticks to poke at a snake in a canvas bag. The man offered the youths \$20 for the snake, and they took him up on his offer. The snake was Rubert, and the man returned him to the pet store and got his \$20 back. Luckily for Rubert, his tough skin protected him and he came to no harm. Luckily for the thieves who took him, Rubert wasn't especially hungry.

- This story is mainly about
  - playing in the park.
  - feeding small pythons.
  - a snake's adventure.
  - breaking a window.



- Before a python eats an animal,
  - the animal must agree.
  - it washes it in a stream.
  - the food is cooked slowly.
  - it chokes it to death.
- A nice meal for a python would be
  - grass and leaves.
  - corn flakes and hot dogs.
  - a rat and a rabbit.
  - chocolate pudding.
- The python in this story
  - lived in a pet store.
  - choked one of the thieves.
  - was very unpopular.
  - refused to eat rats.
- Which happened last?
  - The window was broken.
  - Boys poked at a bag.
  - A man bought the python.
  - The snake was returned.
- To become suspicious is to
  - pay a lot of money.
  - wonder about something.
  - be very particular.
  - ask no questions.
- The thieves were lucky that
  - Rubert didn't hurt them.
  - the police found them.
  - someone bought the snake.
  - the window was broken.
- Rubert wasn't hurt because
  - the thieves knew about snakes.
  - he frightened the thieves.
  - he remained in a bag.
  - he's a tough snake.



There once was a thief who had a very tough day. He tried and tried to get a safe open so he could steal the contents. He failed in his efforts, and managed to get away with an inexpensive radio that happened to be there, but nothing else. That wasn't what the man had planned to do at all.

The fact that the burglar didn't get any cash was certainly not for lack of trying. He tried and tried and tried again. He just wasn't very skillful at what he was doing. First he tried to open the safe by using a chisel on the dial. That didn't work, so instead of trying to chip the dial open he used a drill. Neither the chisel nor the drill made the safe's dial budge. Then the burglar tried to chisel away the outer casing of the safe. That didn't work either.

Convinced that he couldn't open the safe using small tools, the man turned to something larger. He used a fork-lift to move the safe against a wall. Then he tried to ram the safe open using the points of the fork-lift. All he succeeded in doing was making a hole in the wall. The safe remained intact.

Finally the frustrated burglar gave up and left the place. On his way out, he took the only thing he could find—a cheap radio that didn't even work. The man's crime didn't pay, and his stolen radio didn't play.

- For this thief, a tough day
  - was much too hot.
  - meant he failed.
  - sent him to jail.
  - was one with no food.
- First the thief tried to
  - use a fork-lift.
  - take a radio.
  - chisel the dial.
  - drill the dial.
- This story is mainly about
  - making holes in a wall.
  - a successful burglar.
  - getting caught in the dark.
  - a thief who failed.
- After all his actions, the burglar
  - was lucky he wasn't caught.
  - succeeded in robbing the safe.
  - showed he was very skillful.
  - made a lot of money.
- When something remains intact, it
  - is opened.
  - is moved.
  - stays as it is.
  - gets lost in the mess.
- If something does not budge,
  - nothing can buy it.
  - it tastes like chocolate.
  - it moves quite slowly.
  - nothing can move it.
- The thief was probably NOT
  - angry.
  - disappointed.
  - upset.
  - happy.
- Someone who is frustrated
  - steals radios.
  - is unsuccessful.
  - is very noisy.
  - is happy to do a job.

Most parents tell their children never to play with matches. Fortunately, most children obey these instructions. A ten-year-old boy in New Mexico did not listen to this warning. This turned into a very expensive mistake. While playing at a friend's house, the boy started a fire. Before the fire was brought under control, it burned 14,500 acres of trees and destroyed 21 homes.

The child tried to put out the flames, but he failed. He should have called immediately for help, but he didn't. Without telling anyone about the fire, he left his friend's house. The fire spread through Lincoln National Forest, the home of Smokey the Bear. Thousands of pine and juniper trees went up in smoke before fire fighters could put out the blaze. The timber lost was worth many millions of dollars.

Because the young boy caused the fire, a court ruled that his parents had to pay for the cost of putting it out. This cost totaled approximately \$300,000. It will take the family a long time to pay such a large amount. But no amount of money can replace the forest and wildlife lost because a boy disobeyed his parents.

1. The fire was started by
  - (a) a young girl.
  - (b) Smokey the Bear.
  - (c) burning juniper trees.
  - (d) a young boy.
2. The fire caused
  - (a) only one house to burn.
  - (b) the death of Smokey the Bear.
  - (c) many injured fire fighters.
  - (d) loss of land and homes.
3. Someone who disobeyed did not
  - (a) do what he or she was told.
  - (b) put out all the matches.
  - (c) come in out of the rain.
  - (d) fall on the way home.
4. The boy is probably
  - (a) playing with fire again.
  - (b) safely away in jail.
  - (c) too sick to remember.
  - (d) sorry for what he did.
5. Immediately means
  - (a) in a little while.
  - (b) near the forest.
  - (c) right away.
  - (d) with a lot of help.
6. Which happened last?
  - (a) A boy played with fire.
  - (b) The parents got the bill.
  - (c) The fire got out of control.
  - (d) The fire fighters came.
7. The boy's parents were billed for
  - (a) the cost of fire fighting.
  - (b) all the lost homes and trees.
  - (c) Smokey the Bear's forest.
  - (d) each and every tree.
8. The parents paid because
  - (a) they wanted to.
  - (b) the courts ordered it.
  - (c) no one else could.
  - (d) the child asked them to.