

A man named Walter Simon, who lives in the state of Washington, is very skilled at putting things together. One of his major projects was a huge animal puzzle unlike any other. The pieces of his puzzle were the real bones of a giraffe. What Mr. Simon did was to put the bones together to rebuild the skeleton of the giraffe. This was an interesting and very difficult task.

The completed giraffe skeleton stood fourteen feet high. Assembly of such a large skeleton did present some problems. Mr. Simon's workroom had to have extremely high ceilings. He had to do much of his work while standing on a long ladder.

Mr. Simon put the giraffe bones together for a reason other than the enjoyment that comes from doing a difficult puzzle. The completed giraffe skeleton became a useful model for study so people could learn more about giraffes.

- This story is mainly about
  - completing jigsaw puzzles.
  - using a tall ladder.
  - a giraffe's habits.
  - the skeleton of a giraffe.
- Mr. Simon works with
  - paper and paste.
  - water and plants.
  - books.
  - bones.
- The finished skeleton was
  - used in the circus.
  - too big to use.
  - fed to the dogs.
  - used for study.
- Mr. Simon's workroom requires
  - very high ceilings.
  - air conditioning.
  - clean windows.
  - extra drawer space.
- Assembly means
  - putting together.
  - sitting on chairs.
  - breaking bones.
  - preparing dinner.
- Without a ladder, Mr. Simon
  - would be much happier.
  - couldn't have done his puzzle.
  - might have fallen down.
  - would need three ropes.
- Which happened last?
  - Mr. Simon climbed a ladder.
  - This giraffe was alive.
  - The bones were put together.
  - People studied the skeleton.
- This story suggests that Mr. Simon
  - dislikes high places.
  - is used to model cars.
  - does unusual work.
  - works in a small shop.

Time \_\_\_\_\_ # Correct \_\_\_\_\_



George Moran draws and paints for a living. He's not the only one in the world who considers himself an artist. Chances are, however, that you'll never read about anyone quite like George. What is it that makes George Moran unique? It's not his talent as much as his subject matter that makes him so special. George Moran draws eggs.

Mr. Moran draws all kinds of eggs, but he likes to draw fried eggs with great big yolks the best. The yolk, in case you have forgotten, is the round, yellow part of the egg. This artist draws yolks flying, yolks sitting under the hair dryer, yolks in the bathtub, yolks on the playground, and yolks dripping out of the kitchen sink, among other places. I think most people would agree that all of these are mighty strange places for an egg yolk to be.

Mr. Moran says he gets ideas for his work by pretending that he is a fried egg. He tries to imagine what it would feel like to be a fried egg. Why don't you pretend for a moment that you are a fried egg? What does it feel like? Watch out for that person over there with the salt and pepper!

1. This story is mainly about

- (a) a man who draws eggs.
- (b) how to be an artist.
- (c) pretending.
- (d) eggs for breakfast.

2. Mr. Moran draws egg yolks
- (a) in frying pans.
  - (b) doing odd things.
  - (c) inside their shells.
  - (d) without yellow.

3. Pretending means

- (a) making believe.
- (b) being very silly.
- (c) cooking eggs.
- (d) feeling like an artist.

4. Someone with salt and pepper

- (a) would eat an orange.
- (b) might want to eat an egg.
- (c) would paint many eggs.
- (d) could catch a bird.

5. Moran's work is definitely

- (a) too expensive to buy.
- (b) common.
- (c) very unusual and strange.
- (d) the best of our day.

6. What does the story tell you about feeling like an egg?

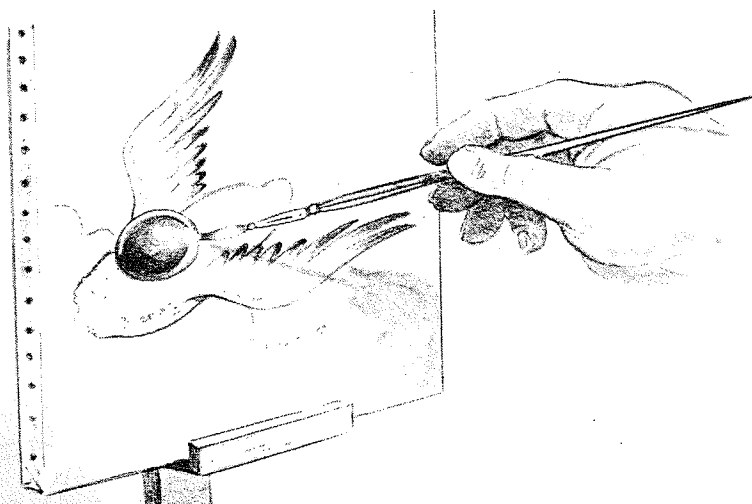
- (a) It feels warm and salty.
- (b) Being an egg feels interesting.
- (c) The story doesn't say.
- (d) An egg feels just like a person.

7. Someone who has forgotten

- (a) does not eat eggs.
- (b) paints for a living.
- (c) does not remember.
- (d) knows an egg yolk.

8. Mr. Moran paints egg yolks because

- (a) he likes to make omelets.
- (b) they're easy to do.
- (c) that's all he can paint.
- (d) he wants to paint them.



George Moran would know what to do with an extra egg yolk. He would paint a picture of it doing something very odd. But he's probably the only one who would do that. What do other people do with leftover egg yolks?

Some recipes that use eggs require only the white part of the eggs. That leaves the cook with one or more extra yolks. The egg yolks might work well in something else that's being prepared. But that is not always so. For a cook who doesn't wish to use the egg yolks in another recipe, there are other things he or she could do with them.

One New York woman began feeding egg yolks to her dogs. She found that they made an excellent addition to her dogs' meals. Much to her surprise, the dogs not only enjoyed the egg yolks but grew shinier and more beautiful coats.

A man in New England uses his leftover egg yolks for plant food. The protein in the yolks is very good for house plants. How do you get a plant to eat an egg? It's easy. Just mix an egg yolk in a quart of water. Then use it to water the plants in the usual way.

There's no need to waste an egg yolk. Even if you don't want to eat it yourself, there's probably a good use for it. You now know at least two uses for an extra egg yolk. Can you think of any others?

1. The yolk of an egg is
  - (a) always extra.
  - (b) not very good to eat.
  - (c) usually wasted.
  - (d) the yellow part of it.
2. Feeding egg yolks to dogs
  - (a) made their coats shiny.
  - (b) helped them run faster.
  - (c) made them sick.
  - (d) wasted the egg yolks.
3. This story is mainly about
  - (a) cooking with egg whites.
  - (b) boiling eggs for lunch.
  - (c) taking care of plants.
  - (d) using egg yolks.
4. To waste something is to
  - (a) eat it too quickly.
  - (b) fail to use it well.
  - (c) mix it with a spoon.
  - (d) use it in cooking.
5. A recipe tells someone
  - (a) what eggs are made of.
  - (b) the name of a plant.
  - (c) how to prepare food.
  - (d) not to use any eggs.
6. Yolks are good for house plants because the yolks have
  - (a) bright color.
  - (b) shells around them.
  - (c) protein.
  - (d) cooks for owners.
7. To feed a plant egg yolks,
  - (a) dry the eggs out first.
  - (b) mix them with whites.
  - (c) use one in a quart of water.
  - (d) stir the eggs into milk.
8. The story suggests that Moran
  - (a) enjoys eating eggs.
  - (b) would let his plants die.
  - (c) feeds eggs to the dogs.
  - (d) uses eggs in an odd way.

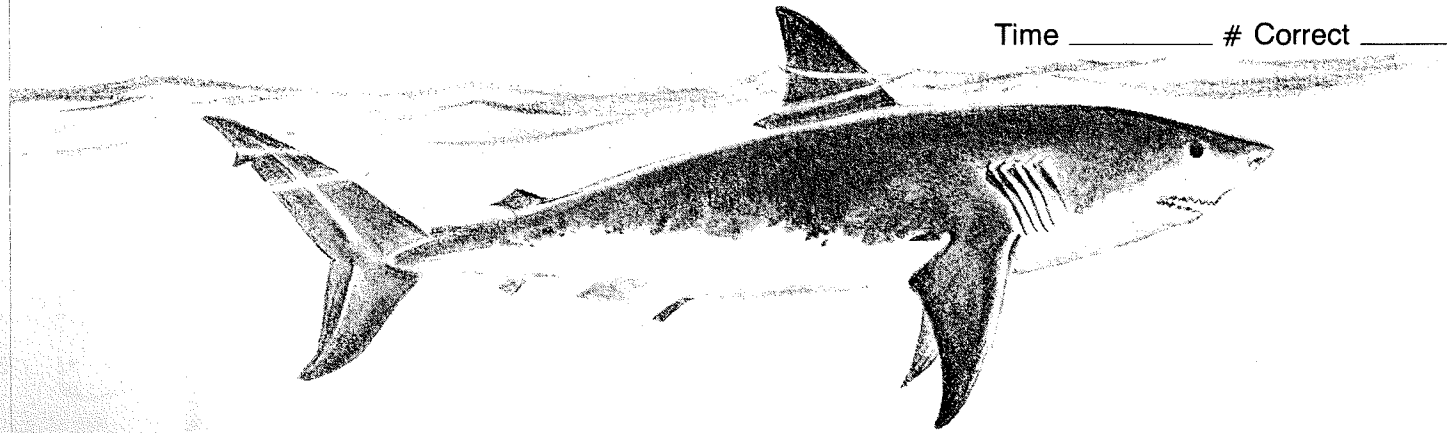
Eugenie Clark is a professor at the University of Maryland. She studies sharks and knows a lot about them. Over the years, Professor Clark has captured more than two thousand sharks so she can study them. She has even trained some sharks. Other people who study the sea and living things in it call her "the shark lady."

The movie "Jaws" made people afraid of shark attacks. Many people stopped swimming in the ocean after they saw the movie. Professor Clark believes this is not necessary, since shark attacks are rare. It's very unlikely that a shark would bother a person unless that person bothered the shark first.

The biggest shark in the world is the whale shark. It grows up to fifty feet long. This shark eats plants and does not bite people. Some sharks do bite people. But, as Professor Clark points out, more people die from being struck by lightning than from shark bites.

1. Professor Clark is a
  - (a) fisherman.
  - (b) ship's captain.
  - (c) shark expert.
  - (d) high school teacher.
2. Captured means
  - (a) called.
  - (b) seen.
  - (c) ended.
  - (d) caught.
3. This selection is mainly about
  - (a) sharks in the sea.
  - (b) the movie "Jaws."
  - (c) a woman who studies sharks.
  - (d) how to be a professor.
4. This selection tells you that
  - (a) all sharks eat people.
  - (b) "Jaws" is a great movie.
  - (c) some sharks eat plants.
  - (d) swimming is dangerous.
5. The movie "Jaws" made people
  - (a) afraid of shark attacks.
  - (b) swim more in the ocean.
  - (c) understand sharks better.
  - (d) want to train sharks.
6. The whale shark is
  - (a) the world's smallest shark.
  - (b) a plant eater.
  - (c) dangerous to people.
  - (d) not really a shark.
7. Another word for struck is
  - (a) shark.
  - (b) hit.
  - (c) rained.
  - (d) seen.
8. According to this selection
  - (a) all sharks are dangerous.
  - (b) most sharks eat other sharks.
  - (c) lightning can kill people.
  - (d) sharks can learn to read.

Time \_\_\_\_\_ # Correct \_\_\_\_\_



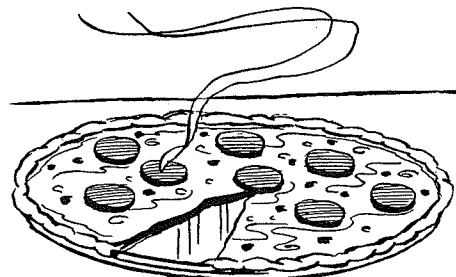
Wolf was a police dog. He was supposed to help his owner, a police officer named Jesse Lewis, catch crooks. Most of the time Wolf did his job very well. But one night the dog got a little confused, and things didn't work out as planned.

A man called a pizza shop and ordered a large pie and several sodas. Pizza worker Michael Hastings thought the voice on the phone sounded familiar. He thought it was the voice of someone who had called for pizza once before. That person had robbed the delivery man. So Michael called the police before putting the pie into the oven.

Officer Lewis told Michael to deliver the pizza and then to drop to the ground as soon as the robber made a move. Lewis and the dog followed Michael, who walked up to the house with the pie. The robber stepped out of the bushes and pulled a gun. Michael fell to the ground as he had been instructed to do.

Lewis ordered the dog to attack. Wolf did attack, but he didn't go for the robber. He went for Michael and the pizza instead. Wolf bit the delivery man several times in the leg while the would-be robber escaped.

1. This story is mainly about
  - (a) ordering a pizza.
  - (b) how to deliver soda.
  - (c) a police dog's mistake.
  - (d) the dangers of delivering.
2. Wolf was a police dog who
  - (a) always got his person.
  - (b) never did his job right.
  - (c) ate pizza for breakfast.
  - (d) was not quite perfect.
3. Which happened first?
  - (a) Someone called for pizza.
  - (b) The dog bit Michael.
  - (c) The robber got away.
  - (d) Michael hit the ground.
4. Michael called police because
  - (a) he wanted to walk a dog.
  - (b) the pizza was getting cold.
  - (c) he knew the caller's voice.
  - (d) their pizza pie was ready.
5. Instructed means
  - (a) ready to eat.
  - (b) on a leash.
  - (c) told or taught.
  - (d) for the police.
6. Something familiar is
  - (a) a close relative.
  - (b) known.
  - (c) very strange.
  - (d) hot like pizza.
7. The robber escaped because the
  - (a) police officer missed.
  - (b) delivery man tripped.
  - (c) dog bit the wrong man.
  - (d) pizza was getting cold.
8. The police officer was probably
  - (a) pleased with his dog.
  - (b) ready for a pizza.
  - (c) too tired to run.
  - (d) angry at his dog.

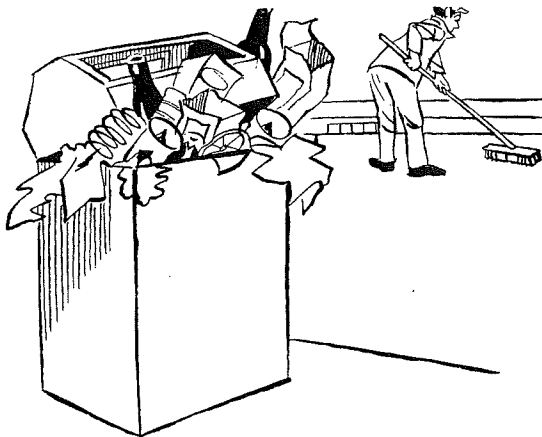


There once was a lovely little village in the English countryside. It was a beautiful place except for one thing. The streets were very dirty. So the people of the village decided to hire someone to keep the roads clean. The town council voted to look for a worker and to pay that person a certain amount each week. The council ordered brushes, shovels, and rakes for the new worker.

Everyone who lived in the village was delighted. The streets were cleaner than they had ever been. However, the people weren't pleased for long. The streets were very clean, but everyone's trash cans were filling up with rubbish. Almost as soon as someone emptied a trash can it would fill up again.

It didn't take long to figure out what the problem was. The town council had given the new worker everything needed to do a fine job except for one thing. They had not provided a cart in which to haul away the rubbish.

1. Which happened first?
  - (a) The streets became clean.
  - (b) A new worker was hired.
  - (c) The trash cans were full.
  - (d) The people were delighted.



2. This story is mainly about
  - (a) filling a job with a rake.
  - (b) solving a worker's problem.
  - (c) how to clean large roads.
  - (d) life in England.
3. To be delighted means to
  - (a) end up in the dark.
  - (b) be pleased or happy.
  - (c) need a new broom.
  - (d) taste delicious.
4. People were happy at first because
  - (a) they didn't have to go to work.
  - (b) all the brushes were new.
  - (c) the town streets were clean.
  - (d) they got rid of their trash.
5. The new worker was hired to
  - (a) use a village cart.
  - (b) take out all the trash.
  - (c) sweep the houses.
  - (d) keep the streets clean.
6. The new worker certainly
  - (a) did the cleaning job.
  - (b) needed an extra broom.
  - (c) spent much time resting.
  - (d) made everyone tired.
7. To solve the problem, the town
  - (a) will go back to dirty streets.
  - (b) should buy a cart.
  - (c) needs to hire two people.
  - (d) should fire the new worker.
8. Another word for rubbish is
  - (a) plastic.
  - (b) container.
  - (c) sweeper.
  - (d) trash.

During the spring of 1983, a pair of seabirds built a nest on a railroad track in North Wales. Soon three spotted brown eggs appeared in the nest. The nest seemed dangerously close to the rails. The high-speed trains roared by at 75 miles per hour or more. The eggs remained safe and sound in the nest by the wooden cross pieces of the track. The trains speeding by seemed to cause the eggs no harm. From time to time, the parent birds would remain right there as the cars of the train passed a few inches above them.

The birds' nest on the railroad track was very interesting. People from BBC, the British television company, decided to do a story about the nest. They sent a television cameraman to the site. The photographer brought all his camera equipment so he could film the nest and tell the story. A railroad worker was sent along with him to help. The two men were walking along the track to find the nest.

All of a sudden there was a crunchy noise. "You've stood in it," said the railroad worker. And that's just what had happened. What was left of the nest and the eggs was right there under the photographer's foot. The photographer was very embarrassed. His blunder wiped out the nest, the eggs, and the television show.

1. This story is mainly about
  - (a) living near a railroad track.
  - (b) a photographer's mistake.
  - (c) how to build a bird's nest.
  - (d) camping out in England.
2. The nest was interesting because
  - (a) it was so close to the rails.
  - (b) it contained three eggs.
  - (c) the birds had built it.
  - (d) the material was odd.
3. BBC wanted to do a story because
  - (a) the photographer asked them.
  - (b) the situation was unusual.
  - (c) seabirds are pretty birds.
  - (d) they had nothing else to do.
4. The crunchy noise was the
  - (a) train around the bend.
  - (b) breaking of egg shells.
  - (c) railroad worker's gum.
  - (d) camera lens breaking.
5. A blunder is a
  - (a) loud noise.
  - (b) railroad track.
  - (c) type of camera.
  - (d) mistake.
6. The photographer probably felt
  - (a) angry at the birds.
  - (b) foolish and very upset.
  - (c) glad the show was over.
  - (d) the assignment had been silly.
7. The trains didn't harm the nest
  - (a) because they slowed down.
  - (b) until after the photographer did.
  - (c) because it wasn't near the wheels.
  - (d) because the birds made noise.
8. Which happened first?
  - (a) The eggs were stepped on.
  - (b) The birds made a nest.
  - (c) BBC sent a cameraman.
  - (d) Three eggs appeared.

Crows eat many different kinds of foods. They like a variety of seeds, grasses, and fruits such as apples or cherries. Crows eat insects such as beetles, and small reptiles such as frogs or toads. A crow will eat smaller birds and their eggs. Crows who live near the shore often eat shellfish.

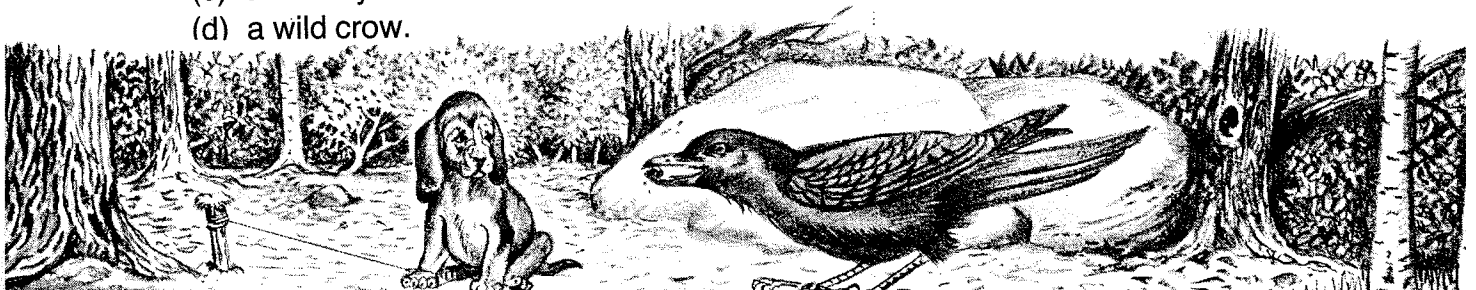
Most crows live in the wild, but sometimes a crow is kept for a pet. One family in Africa had two pets—a crow and a puppy. One day the puppy vanished. Its owners looked for it but couldn't find it anywhere. They feared that their dog was lost forever in the woods.

At about the same time the puppy disappeared, the crow began to eat in an unusual way. Instead of eating its dinner all at one time, the crow would take a piece of food and fly away with it. Then in a little while it would come back and do it again. The people were curious about the crow's new eating habits, so one day they followed the bird. The crow led the people into the woods, where they found their puppy with its leg caught in a trap. The crow had been sharing its dinner with the puppy, and had managed to keep the young dog alive for six days until help came.

1. The people in this story
  - (a) seem to dislike animals.
  - (b) lived in America.
  - (c) kept the crow in a cage.
  - (d) cared about their animals.
2. The bird in this selection was
  - (a) a young puppy.
  - (b) an insect.
  - (c) a friendly crow.
  - (d) a wild crow.

3. The puppy didn't come home because
  - (a) it was naughty.
  - (b) it was caught in a trap.
  - (c) playing in the woods was fun.
  - (d) the crow wouldn't let it.
4. Feeding a crow is easy because
  - (a) crow food is sold in shops.
  - (b) it sits still for feeding.
  - (c) crows eat so many things.
  - (d) it grows its own seeds.
5. What happened first?
  - (a) The crow ate strangely.
  - (b) The puppy vanished.
  - (c) People looked for the dog.
  - (d) The puppy was saved.
6. This story suggests that
  - (a) crows are quite cruel.
  - (b) dogs prefer to eat seeds.
  - (c) crows can be quite clever.
  - (d) puppies must eat dog food.
7. If the crow hadn't fed the puppy,
  - (a) the people would have done it.
  - (b) the dog would have died.
  - (c) the puppy would feed itself.
  - (d) the puppy would be lonely.
8. Variety means
  - (a) many different things.
  - (b) expensive items.
  - (c) painted in colors.
  - (d) something to eat.

Time \_\_\_\_\_ # Correct \_\_\_\_\_





Do you believe everything you read? Some things are hard to believe, and not everything you see in print is true. The rest of this selection contains some very odd facts. These things may be hard to believe, but they are all quite likely to be true.

In the United States, we celebrate the Fourth of July as the day that the country's leaders said that they would not be ruled by England anymore. Some people feel that the holiday should be July 2, not July 4, because it was on the second of July that the leaders agreed to break free from England. But Thomas Jefferson didn't have the Declaration of Independence written and ready to sign until two days later. On July 4, John Hancock was the first one to sign the Declaration of Independence. He wrote his name very large so that King George III of England would be able to read it without putting on his glasses.

Here's an unusual fact about the Fourth of July. Three of the first five presidents of the United States died on the Fourth of July. Perhaps even more strange is the fact that two of the three—John Adams, the second president, and Thomas Jefferson, the third president, died on exactly the same date, July 4, 1826. James Monroe, the country's fifth president, died five years later on July 4, 1831. The deaths of Adams and Jefferson occurred exactly fifty years after the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

1. This selection is mainly about
  - (a) odd facts of history.
  - (b) Thomas Jefferson.
  - (c) John Hancock's writing.
  - (d) a day in July.
2. On July 4,
  - (a) five presidents died.
  - (b) we celebrate Independence Day.
  - (c) Jefferson wrote a letter.
  - (d) King George put on glasses.
3. The presidents mentioned by name in this selection all
  - (a) worked for John Hancock.
  - (b) died on July 4.
  - (c) knew George III very well.
  - (d) came after Abraham Lincoln.
4. Which happened first?
  - (a) John Hancock signed his name.
  - (b) The Declaration was written.
  - (c) John Adams died.
  - (d) Thomas Jefferson died.
5. To celebrate something means to
  - (a) pay no attention to it.
  - (b) make sure it's a lonely day.
  - (c) have a holiday for it.
  - (d) sign the name in big letters.
6. John Hancock wrote his name big
  - (a) because his writing was poor.
  - (b) so Jefferson could read it.
  - (c) for King George III to see.
  - (d) to use up all the space.
7. The Declaration of Independence
  - (a) was written by Jefferson.
  - (b) wasn't signed until July 5.
  - (c) was written by John Hancock.
  - (d) was the work of George III.
8. This selection suggests that
  - (a) all presidents are good.
  - (b) John Hancock was a president.
  - (c) George III was a popular king.
  - (d) some things in books aren't true.

When you are in a large public place like a movie theater or sports arena, do you ever think about how you could get out if you needed to?

Most people do not bother to think about how they will leave a place. They act as if they will always be able to get out the same way they got in. They don't look for the emergency exits and plan what to do if they need to get out quickly. Once in a while, this can cause a problem.

In a town in Georgia, for example, about thirty people were injured, some seriously, as they rushed to exit from a dance hall. Someone inside the ballroom set off a tear gas bomb and everyone ran for the same door. The people hurt each other in their hurry to get out the way they came in.

The town's sheriff said that there were between three hundred and four hundred people in the building when the tear gas bomb exploded. The sheriff told a newspaper reporter that there were several doors in the building, but that everyone ran for the one door they knew. If the people had known where the other exits were, it is likely that no one would have been hurt. If all the exit doors had been used, people would not have stepped on each other trying to get out the one door all at the same time.

The next time you are in a public place, take a look around. Notice where the doors are. Look for the signs that say "EXIT." It will only take a minute to do this. It might be the best minute you ever spent.

- In this story, people ran for the same door because
  - they followed the crowd.
  - all the other doors were locked.
  - there was only one door.
  - that was the one they knew.
- The dance hall in this story was
  - in a town in Georgia.
  - run by the sheriff.
  - mainly for news reporters.
  - built with too few doors.
- A seriously injured person is
  - sure to survive.
  - found on the dance floor.
  - badly hurt.
  - burned beyond belief.
- The main idea of this story is that
  - you shouldn't go to dances.
  - crowded places can kill you.
  - knowing the exits is important.
  - movies can be lots of fun.
- In this story, injuries resulted from
  - the tear gas in the air.
  - falling pieces of glass.
  - the rush for one exit.
  - too much fast dancing.
- You would use an emergency exit
  - to get some fresh air.
  - to avoid the crowd.
  - if something went wrong.
  - to enter a building.
- Which happened first?
  - People ran for the door.
  - Thirty people were hurt.
  - People filled the dance hall.
  - A tear gas bomb went off.
- The story suggests that knowing where the exit doors are could
  - make you get hurt.
  - save you from harm.
  - make the dance last longer.
  - all of the above.