

On May 16, 1975, Junko Tabei became the first woman to reach the top of Mount Everest. She began her trip with fourteen other Japanese women who also enjoy mountain climbing.

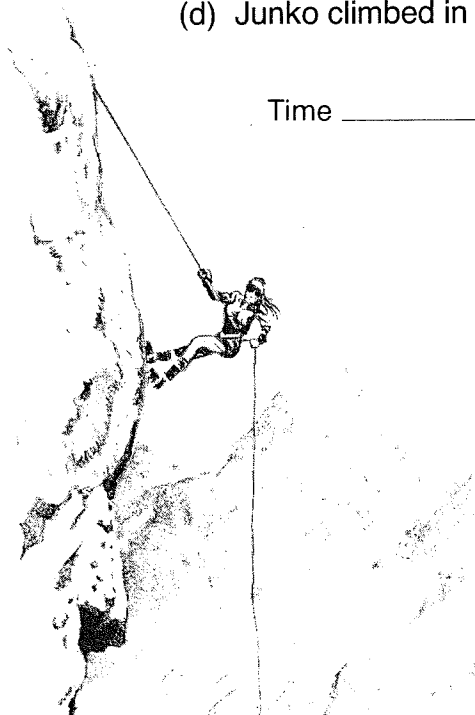
The climb was not an easy one. As the women went up, the weather grew colder. Ten women were hurt when tons of snow broke loose from the side of the mountain and crashed down on them. The rest of the team kept going, but only Junko Tabei reached the very top. Fifteen years of climbing the mountains of Japan had helped her make it.

At the time she climbed Mount Everest, Junko Tabei stood four feet eleven inches tall and weighed ninety-four pounds.

To get an idea of just how amazing Junko Tabei's achievement really was, consider these facts. Mt. Everest, at 29,028 feet, is the highest mountain peak in the world. As of June, 1982, only 122 climbers—including four women—had managed to reach the top. Many tried and didn't reach the top, and some died in the attempt.

- This story is mainly about
  - 14 mountain climbers.
  - mountains of Japan.
  - falling snow on Mt. Everest.
  - a woman's great achievement.
- Junko Tabei climbed to the top of
  - a set of stairs.
  - Japanese skyscrapers.
  - a very small hill.
  - a large mountain.
- It is coldest at
  - the bottom of a mountain.
  - the middle of a mountain.
  - home near a fire.
  - the top of a mountain.
- Junko's climb was important because
  - she brought her friends along.
  - no other woman had made it.
  - ten people were injured.
  - Mt. Everest has snow slides.
- A peak is the
  - loss of water.
  - bill of a bird.
  - slope of a hillside.
  - top of a mountain.
- Junko was a good climber because she
  - was such a small woman.
  - worked very hard at it.
  - knew the right people.
  - sang as she climbed.
- Ten women didn't finish climbing
  - because they wanted to quit.
  - when they lost their boots.
  - because they got hurt.
  - because they climbed badly.
- Which came last?
  - Snow hurt ten people.
  - Junko began to climb.
  - Junko reached the top.
  - Junko climbed in Japan.

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





If you saw a lizard that was ten feet long, what would you do? Most people would run the other way. Does a lizard of that size really exist in today's world? It does. This giant lizard is called the Komodo dragon, and it lives on the island of Komodo, in the Indian Ocean.

The Komodo dragon can weigh as much as 300 pounds and grow to a length of ten feet. This creature moves along very slowly. As it walks, it sticks out its long yellow tongue. The tongue behaves much like a nose, and helps the animal locate its food. For its meals, this lizard likes the flesh of other animals. It swallows large pieces whole, without taking time to chew. One large lizard was seen to eat nearly an entire deer, and then to rest for a week while digesting the huge meal. Another swallowed a whole monkey.

The Komodo dragon can climb trees, but it prefers to spend much of its time on the ground. Home for a dragon is usually a hole among the rocks or a small cave.

1. The lizard in this selection
  - (a) eats very little.
  - (b) can fly a bit.
  - (c) could be anywhere.
  - (d) walks very slowly.
2. To hunt for food, the lizard
  - (a) climbs many trees.
  - (b) crawls under the ground.
  - (c) uses its tongue.
  - (d) runs very quickly.
3. The Komodo dragon sometimes
  - (a) climbs a tree.
  - (b) runs away from people.
  - (c) avoids food for months.
  - (d) flies all the way home.
4. The Komodo animal is
  - (a) a medium-size lizard.
  - (b) a meat-eating creature.
  - (c) friendly to small animals.
  - (d) very fast moving.
5. You could see a Komodo dragon
  - (a) in any small town.
  - (b) in a Kansas City museum.
  - (c) on an island.
  - (d) somewhere in Indiana.
6. Prefers means
  - (a) wraps up.
  - (b) climbs high.
  - (c) likes better.
  - (d) eats something whole.
7. The Komodo dragons are named for
  - (a) St. Komodo.
  - (b) the food they eat.
  - (c) their yellow tongues.
  - (d) the place they live.
8. This selection suggests that
  - (a) most lizards are smaller.
  - (b) these dragons are common.
  - (c) lizards prefer plants.
  - (d) dragons make good pets.

Carmella Lombardi, age 100, was blind for many years. She suffered from a disease which caused the lens of each eye to become cloudy. She could see lights going on and off, but nothing else. Shapes were just a blur. She had never seen the face of her great-grandson.

Mrs. Lombardi lived with her daughter and son-in-law in an apartment in the Bronx, in New York City. They had to help her get around because she couldn't see where she was going.

The problem that made Mrs. Lombardi blind was one that could be corrected. But she didn't go for the help she needed. The old woman was fearful of hospitals. She was afraid to have an operation. So she remained blind.

Dr. Anthony Piscano, an eye surgeon, explained to Mrs. Lombardi that she need not be afraid. He told her that having the operation was likely to restore her vision. The chances were good that she would be able to see clearly again.

Mrs. Lombardi trusted Dr. Piscano to do the operation. The cloudy lens was removed from each eye. The operation was a success. It wasn't long before Mrs. Lombardi was able to see clearly. She could see to get around on her own. She could read a newspaper. And most important, she could see the faces of her loved ones.

1. Carmella Lombardi was
  - (a) an eye doctor.
  - (b) a very old, blind woman.
  - (c) too old for an operation.
  - (d) eager for treatment.
2. Mrs. Lombardi didn't want an operation because she
  - (a) didn't trust her doctor.
  - (b) was afraid to have one.
  - (c) liked being blind.
  - (d) couldn't afford one.
3. Mrs. Lombardi lived
  - (a) on a farm.
  - (b) alone.
  - (c) with her parents.
  - (d) with her daughter.
4. To restore vision means to
  - (a) make someone blind.
  - (b) pay for new glasses.
  - (c) buy a seeing-eye dog.
  - (d) cure blindness.
5. Before the operation, Mrs. Lombardi
  - (a) liked to watch television.
  - (b) saw only blurs and lights.
  - (c) got around quite easily.
  - (d) needed large-size type.
6. Mrs. Lombardi had never seen her great-grandson because
  - (a) he didn't come to visit.
  - (b) she didn't want to.
  - (c) she was blind.
  - (d) he lived too far away.
7. Before operating, Dr. Piscano had to
  - (a) get the woman to trust him.
  - (b) collect all his money.
  - (c) read the newspaper.
  - (d) add to the woman's fears.
8. Mrs. Lombardi is happy because she
  - (a) can see again.
  - (b) wants to live alone.
  - (c) doesn't need a dog.
  - (d) will become a doctor.

Have you ever had the chance to see a large flock of ducks or geese in flight? The sight of a flock of these birds traveling is an interesting one. You will notice that the birds often travel in a V formation. Why do geese and ducks fly this way?

There is a very important reason for the birds' choice of the letter V for their flight pattern. No other letter of the alphabet would do. As the leader flaps its wings, a strong current of air is created. This air flows backward in much the same manner as water waves spread out behind a rapidly moving speedboat.

The moving waves of air give support to the bird behind. Each bird in turn creates an airwave for the bird flying behind it. Thus each bird needs to use up less energy flying in formation than it would have to if it flew alone. Only the leader has no moving air cushion on which to ride.

How can the leader make a long flight without the help of this moving air from a bird in front? The birds have a way of solving this problem, too. The leader does not usually fly the entire trip in front of the flock. The leader often changes places with another bird. So many different birds have a chance to lead the flock.

- This selection is mainly about
  - birds that know the alphabet.
  - how and why birds fly south.
  - speedboats that make waves.
  - how and why birds fly in a V.



- The letter V refers to the
  - name of the flying birds.
  - direction the birds go.
  - shape of the flock.
  - town where the birds stop.
- Birds flying near the back
  - don't get there on time.
  - usually get tired.
  - can't stop to eat.
  - are helped by air currents.
- Birds fly in a V because
  - it makes flight easier.
  - they don't know other letters.
  - it looks pretty in the sky.
  - the leader likes it best.
- The leader of the flock
  - is always the same bird.
  - has to be the largest.
  - often changes.
  - usually dies en route.
- When birds fly in a V, the leader
  - stops for meals.
  - does the most work.
  - uses an air cushion.
  - does the least work.
- The word formation refers to
  - the shape of the flock.
  - what the birds know.
  - something in books.
  - the skill of the leader.
- Birds who fly in a V include
  - robins and crows.
  - ducks and chickens.
  - geese and ducks.
  - speedboats and leaders.

If you like to watch or play basketball, you know that the scores in games are usually quite high. It's not unusual for a very good team to score 100 or more points. Part of the excitement of the game is the fast and frequent scoring. Basketball players bounce, pass, and shoot the ball with their hands.

Can you imagine a game like basketball being played without using the hands to touch the ball? About a thousand years ago or more, such a game really was played in Mexico. Each team tried to get the ball through a little stone ring. The ring was a bit like today's basketball hoop. The players could touch the ball with their knees, elbows, and shoulders. They could not use their hands.

Playing the game without using the hands made scoring a point very difficult. So the first team to get the ball through the ring won the game. The final score was always the same. It was always 1-0.

These early basketball-type games were very popular. Thousands of people came to watch them. Thousands of people watch today's form of basketball. Which kind of game would you prefer to play? Which would you rather watch?

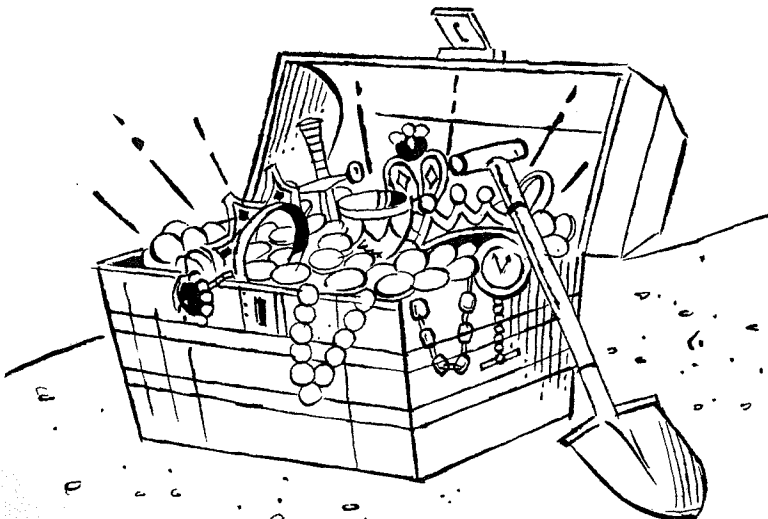
1. This story is mainly about
  - (a) how to play basketball.
  - (b) fast games in Mexico.
  - (c) watching a basketball game.
  - (d) an early type of basketball.
2. Today's basketball players
  - (a) use their hands a lot.
  - (b) don't score very often.
  - (c) move very slowly.
  - (d) use a stone ring.
3. The Mexican game did not permit
  - (a) anyone to score.
  - (b) use of the hands.
  - (c) more than two players.
  - (d) people to watch it.
4. Something popular is
  - (a) related to sports.
  - (b) not well liked.
  - (c) costly to follow.
  - (d) liked by many.
5. In the Mexican game, a team
  - (a) had to run very fast.
  - (b) could only win by 1 point.
  - (c) often scored a lot.
  - (d) didn't do very much.
6. Which came last?
  - (a) The game had no score.
  - (b) Players used their knees.
  - (c) The ball went through the ring.
  - (d) The score was 1-0.
7. Something difficult is
  - (a) hard to do.
  - (b) expensive.
  - (c) like basketball.
  - (d) done in a group.
8. To win the old form of basketball
  - (a) usually took all day.
  - (b) took just one point.
  - (c) was nearly never done.
  - (d) took many scores.

Captain William Kidd was a famous pirate of old. Kidd, who lived during the last half of the eighteenth century, put together one of the largest illegal fortunes of all time. This treasure, which consisted of gold, silver, and jewels, was very well hidden. A large portion of it was said to be buried on an island.

Part of Capt. Kidd's vast fortune was found by someone. This is a story that has not been fully told. Many people had much interest in locating the treasure. Beginning more than 100 years ago, islands all over the world were searched and dug up without success. Then in 1952, a Japanese scholar named Nagashima succeeded in locating the legendary island. He talked to local fishermen and got much information from them to aid him in his search.

Many people, including the Tokyo police, began to look for Nagashima and the treasure. The man disappeared with more than 75 million dollars worth of gold and silver coins. What do you think he did with them? Do you think he buried them on an island?

1. To locate Kidd's fortune,
  - (a) books were written.
  - (b) islands were burned.
  - (c) people dug up islands.
  - (d) maps were used.



2. Something illegal is
  - (a) very expensive.
  - (b) easy to do.
  - (c) fattening.
  - (d) against the law.
3. Something vast is
  - (a) quite quick.
  - (b) on an island.
  - (c) not so big.
  - (d) extremely large.
4. Which happened last?
  - (a) People dug up lots of islands.
  - (b) Captain Kidd hid his fortune.
  - (c) Police looked for Nagashima.
  - (d) Nagashima located Kidd's island.
5. Nagashima
  - (a) wrote a book about Kidd.
  - (b) located Kidd's island.
  - (c) wants to be a police officer.
  - (d) now lives in downtown Tokyo.
6. Nagashima is probably
  - (a) a stupid man.
  - (b) a greedy person.
  - (c) famous and happy.
  - (d) too short.
7. Which was NOT true of Kidd's fortune?
  - (a) It was large.
  - (b) It was illegal.
  - (c) It was safe forever.
  - (d) It was well hidden.
8. The main idea of this story is
  - (a) old pirates left treasures.
  - (b) someone found and took Kidd's loot.
  - (c) the police are wealthy.
  - (d) Japanese scholars are smart.

Most taxi drivers are honest people who take you where you want to go. However, one driver in a big city had worked out what seemed to be a very clever plan for cheating his customers.

The first victim to report the driver's scheme was a young woman. Arriving home late one night in the cab, she paid the \$2.50 fare with a ten-dollar bill. The driver gave her a five-dollar bill, two singles, and fifty cents in coins. The woman gave the driver a fifty-cent tip and left the cab. The driver wished her a pleasant good night.

In the morning, the woman discovered that she had not received the correct change at all. What the driver had really given her was the coins, two normal singles and a dollar bill with the numeral five pasted in each corner. In the dark cab, this made the single pass for a five-dollar bill. In the morning the woman was able to see the paste job and the picture of George Washington.

Now the police are busy looking for the cab driver. And the young woman is looking very carefully at every dollar bill that comes her way.

1. This story is mainly about
  - (a) waiting for a taxi.
  - (b) counting your money.
  - (c) a dishonest taxi driver.
  - (d) a foolish young woman.
2. A victim
  - (a) never calls the police.
  - (b) is harmed in some way.
  - (c) drives a taxi.
  - (d) is often a winner.
3. Most taxi drivers are
  - (a) schemers.
  - (b) honest people.
  - (c) too fast.
  - (d) night persons.
4. George Washington's picture is
  - (a) on a five-dollar bill.
  - (b) on everyone's wall.
  - (c) hanging in the taxi.
  - (d) on a one-dollar bill.
5. The driver fooled the woman because
  - (a) she didn't count her change.
  - (b) it was dark in the cab.
  - (c) she was stupid.
  - (d) she was busy talking.
6. Which happened first?
  - (a) The woman paid the fare.
  - (b) The driver gave change.
  - (c) The police were called.
  - (d) The woman got into a taxi.
7. A scheme is a
  - (a) tricky plan.
  - (b) small taxi.
  - (c) late night.
  - (d) fifty-cent tip.
8. The woman probably will
  - (a) take buses from now on.
  - (b) stay home at night.
  - (c) try to cheat others.
  - (d) look carefully at change.

George is about eight inches tall. She is the biggest grasshopper I've ever seen. She lives in our backyard. It's a bit unusual to have a grasshopper in your backyard when you live in a 24-floor apartment building in Chicago.

When I come home from school, I go around to the backyard and say hello to George.

George is very smart. She has talent. She can dance and make music. I don't know how she does it; she just does. When I visited George this afternoon, she had invented her own little set of drums. She had gathered some stones, a stick, and a small metal disk from a can. She put it all together and started to play.

"Hey, George, I never knew you could play the drums."

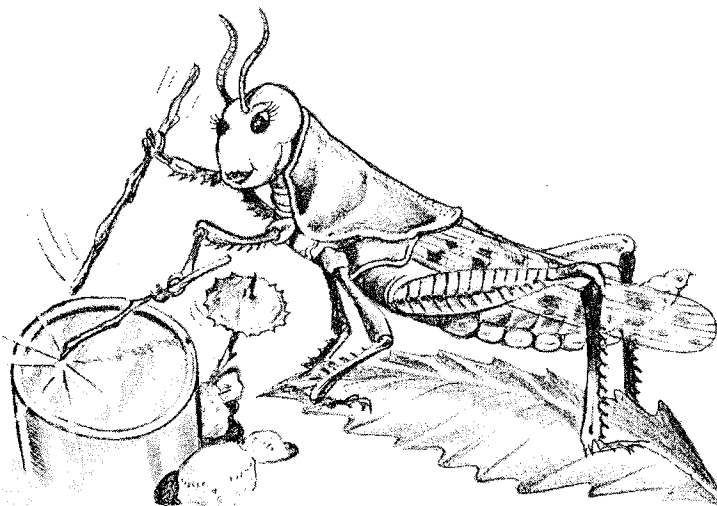
"Oh, I thought you knew I was in the Giant Grasshopper Band."

"In the Grasshopper Band? You mean there are other grasshoppers like you?"

"Oh yeah. There's a whole city of us called Grasshopper City."

Do you believe this story?

1. The person telling this story
  - (a) doesn't like insects.
  - (b) hates music and drums.
  - (c) probably made it up.
  - (d) is a grasshopper too.



2. Someone with talent
  - (a) can't do anything.
  - (b) does something very well.
  - (c) has no skills.
  - (d) makes a lot of money.
3. George's set of drums
  - (a) cost a lot of money.
  - (b) were a Christmas gift.
  - (c) were made from other things.
  - (d) are very commonly used.
4. This story is mainly about
  - (a) George the Grasshopper.
  - (b) living in Chicago.
  - (c) buying a drum set.
  - (d) learning to dance.
5. What happened last? George
  - (a) told about the band.
  - (b) gathered some stones.
  - (c) began to play the drums.
  - (d) made a drum set.
6. George is
  - (a) 24 floors tall.
  - (b) smaller than other grasshoppers.
  - (c) eight inches tall.
  - (d) too big for the elevator.
7. The story says George is a(n)
  - (a) small set of drums.
  - (b) large apartment building.
  - (c) animal-lover in Chicago.
  - (d) very smart grasshopper.
8. George is
  - (a) short and fat.
  - (b) a smart little boy.
  - (c) a female with talent.
  - (d) known in New York.



Janice Snowden, of Fountain Valley, California, had a very successful garage sale on November 4, 1982. She sold lots of things she didn't need, and she made quite a bit of money. One of the things she got rid of was an old jogging suit. She had decided to quit running, so she didn't need running clothes. She got \$2.00 for the suit and was very happy to see it go.

Four days later, Mrs. Snowden was not so happy that the suit was gone. She wasn't about to take up running again, but she definitely wanted that suit back. Before the garage sale, she had forgotten to empty the pockets. Along with the old suit she had sold her diamond wedding ring, several other diamonds, and a necklace worth more than \$10,000. She had let all that go for just \$2.00. She was very upset.

Mrs. Snowden put ads in the newspapers and told her story on radio and television. She got no results. She was sure that her jewels were gone forever. About a week later, Dottie Zuvella, the woman who had purchased the jogging suit, got around to wearing it for the first time. She put her hand into the pocket because the suit felt heavy. Then Mrs. Zuvella remembered hearing something about a woman who sold her jewels by mistake. She realized that she was the one who had bought them by mistake. She immediately returned the suit and the jewels to Mrs. Snowden, who will probably never have a garage sale again.

1. Mrs. Snowden sold a jogging suit
  - (a) to have cash for a new one.
  - (b) because she didn't need it.
  - (c) to get rid of her jewelry.
  - (d) as a favor to her husband.
2. The pocket of the suit contained
  - (a) tissues and a stale lunch.
  - (b) the family's money for the week.
  - (c) several pieces of gold.
  - (d) diamond jewelry and a wedding ring.
3. The woman who bought the jewels
  - (a) intended to steal them.
  - (b) didn't notice them at first.
  - (c) enjoyed getting such a bargain.
  - (d) was a good friend of the seller.
4. The news stories didn't work because
  - (a) no one ever listens to them.
  - (b) the reward wasn't big enough.
  - (c) the suit's owner was dishonest.
  - (d) Mrs. Zuvella hadn't paid attention.
5. Realized means
  - (a) came to understand.
  - (b) entertained.
  - (c) sold for a profit.
  - (d) placed a value on.
6. Definitely means
  - (a) costly.
  - (b) for sure.
  - (c) in a while.
  - (d) endless.
7. Which came first?
  - (a) Mrs. Snowden gave up running.
  - (b) A jogging suit was sold.
  - (c) Jewels were put in a pocket.
  - (d) The jewels were returned.
8. Mrs. Snowden was lucky that
  - (a) Mrs. Zuvella was honest.
  - (b) the jewels hadn't melted.
  - (c) her husband wasn't home.
  - (d) the radio stations found her.

Do you know the real story of Paul Revere? Paul was an American who lived during the Revolutionary War in 1776. A poet named Longfellow wrote a poem about what he thought Paul did in this war against England. The poem says that one night Paul bravely rode from town to town giving a warning that the British were coming. It says that Paul was brave and good. It says his horse was fast and strong.

Maybe the horse was fast and strong, but Paul was not all that good. The real story is that Paul wanted to warn two friends, Hancock and Adams. After he had warned his friends, he was caught by the British. He told them everything he knew. And that was a lot! He even gave one of them his horse! Then, when the British had learned all they could from Paul, they let him go. As fast as he could, Paul Revere went to help Adams and Hancock escape from the oncoming British soldiers.

The British soldiers knew plenty after talking to Paul Revere. If Longfellow had known all that, perhaps he could have written a more truthful poem about that midnight ride!

1. This story is mainly about
  - (a) Longfellow.
  - (b) Paul Revere's horse.
  - (c) the British.
  - (d) Paul Revere's true story.



2. Paul Revere's horse was
  - (a) fast and strong.
  - (b) British.
  - (c) brave.
  - (d) lame in one foot.
3. This story suggests that Paul
  - (a) was a very poor rider.
  - (b) could write a poem.
  - (c) was really a British soldier.
  - (d) was not a perfect hero.
4. Revere wanted to help his friends,
  - (a) Adams and Longfellow.
  - (b) Washington and Hancock.
  - (c) Adams and Hancock.
  - (d) the British.
5. A warning tells people to
  - (a) kill others quickly.
  - (b) save their horses.
  - (c) be careful about something.
  - (d) stay in from the cold.
6. To escape is to
  - (a) wear a long coat.
  - (b) scream a warning.
  - (c) ride a horse.
  - (d) get away from.
7. Longfellow's poem
  - (a) doesn't tell the whole story.
  - (b) makes Revere seem silly.
  - (c) contains no rhymes.
  - (d) was never put in a book.
8. Which happened last?
  - (a) Paul gave away his horse.
  - (b) Paul talked to the British.
  - (c) Longfellow wrote a poem.
  - (d) Paul went riding.