

35 Monkey Do

Would you send a monkey to do your shopping for you? Sounds pretty strange, doesn't it? But monkeys can be trained to do some amazing things. Most people are aware that monkeys are one of nature's brainiest beasts. Scientists have been studying the link between monkeys and people for a long time. They have designed experiments that test the monkey's ability to perform simple human tasks.

In one test, a psychologist put two monkeys in cages beside each other. Each cage contained a vending machine. One cage had a machine that gave out water. The other had one that gave out food. Instead of real coins, each monkey was given a bag of black and white tokens. The black tokens worked only in the food machine. The white tokens worked in the machine with the water. In time, both animals were able to figure out which coin worked in which machine.

Then the test was made harder. The coins were taken away. The monkey with the water machine was not allowed to have any water for twenty-four hours. The food monkey was deprived of food. The next day, the coins were returned to the monkeys. This time, though, the monkey with the food machine was given water machine tokens, and the monkey with the water machine was given the tokens that worked the food machine. What did the two hungry monkeys do? These smart creatures simply reached through the bars of their cages and traded tokens.

Main Idea

1

Mark the *main idea*

Mark the statement that is *too broad*

Mark the statement that is *too narrow*

Answer

Score

M

15

B

5

N

5

- a. An experiment showed that monkeys are capable of reasoning intelligently.
- b. Some animals are very smart.
- c. Scientists have studied monkeys' intelligence for a long time.

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Score 15 points for each correct answer.

Score

Subject Matter 2 This passage deals with
☐ a. vending machines.
☐ b. an experiment with monkeys.
☐ c. monkeys that go shopping.
☐ d. why animals are kept in cages.

Supporting Details 3 The black tokens worked for
☐ a. both machines.
☐ b. the food machine one day and the water machine the next.
☐ c. only the food machine.
☐ d. only the water machine.

Conclusion 4 This experiment showed that monkeys can
☐ a. trick the scientists.
☐ b. survive without food and water for a day.
☐ c. solve problems.
☐ d. share with each other.

Clarifying Devices 5 Most of the passage is devoted to
☐ a. an experiment.
☐ b. a strange story.
☐ c. a joke.
☐ d. advice.

Vocabulary in Context 6 In this passage link means
☐ a. ring of a chain.
☐ b. problem.
☐ c. connection.
☐ d. differences.

Add your scores for questions 1–6. Enter the total here and on the graph on page 216.

Total
Score

36 Courage and Skill

John Paul Jones was one of the founders of the United States Navy. During the American Revolution, the colonies were desperate. They needed men to lead their small ships against the British fleet. Jones was more than willing to fight.

John Paul Jones had once been a captain of a British merchant ship. In 1773, his crew mutinied. One member of the crew tried to gain control of the ship. Jones shot the man to death. The mutiny took place near the port of Tobago, an island in the Caribbean. Authorities there decided to have a trial. This meant certain death for John Paul Jones, since the whole crew would testify against him. One night during a thunderstorm, he escaped from the jail.

He fled to the United States and lived with a family named Jones. His real name was John Paul. He added the name of Jones to his, in honor of the family. He outwitted the British ships that were sent to hunt him down. And he did this with little more than his own courage and the skill of his crew.

When the American Revolution ended he went to serve in the Russian navy. There he fought the Turks and achieved one of the few major naval victories in the history of Russia. He died in Paris at the age of forty-five.

John Paul Jones is considered both an American and Russian hero, but the English considered him a fugitive.

Main Idea

1

Mark the *main idea*

Mark the statement that is *too broad*

Mark the statement that is *too narrow*

Answer

Score

M

15

B

5

N

5

- John Paul Jones once killed a member of his crew.
- John Paul Jones was a successful naval fighter.
- Many brave men fought in the American Revolution.

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Score 15 points for each correct answer.

Score

Subject Matter 2 Another good title for this passage would be

- ☐ a. John Paul Jones.
- ☐ b. A British Merchant Seaman.
- ☐ c. The Greatest Naval Fighter.
- ☐ d. Founder of the United States Navy.

Supporting Details 3 John Paul Jones won a major victory for the Russian navy against the

- ☐ a. French.
- ☐ b. British.
- ☐ c. Turks.
- ☐ d. Spanish.

Conclusion 4 You can conclude from this passage that Jones was

- ☐ a. thoughtful.
- ☐ b. fearful.
- ☐ c. kind.
- ☐ d. courageous.

Clarifying Devices 5 The passage is basically a

- ☐ a. biography of John Paul Jones.
- ☐ b. criticism of John Paul Jones.
- ☐ c. history of the United States Navy.
- ☐ d. comparison of the American and Russian navies.

Vocabulary in Context

- 6 Desperate means
- ☐ a. in great need.
 - ☐ b. reckless.
 - ☐ c. hopeless.
 - ☐ d. skillful.

Add your scores for questions 1–6. Enter the total here and on the graph on page 216.

Total Score

37 No Chance to Dream

The thought of not sleeping for twenty-four hours or more is not a pleasant one for most people. The amount of sleep that each person needs varies. In general, each of us needs about eight hours of sleep each day to keep our bodies healthy and happy. Some people, however, can get by with just a few hours of sleep at night.

It doesn't matter when or how much a person sleeps. But everyone needs some rest to stay alive. Few doctors would have thought that there might be an exception to this. Sleep is, after all, a very basic need. But a man named Al Herpin turned out to be a real exception, for supposedly he never slept!

Al Herpin was ninety years old when doctors came to his home in New Jersey. They hoped to negate the claims that he never slept. But they were surprised. Though they watched him every hour of the day, they never saw Herpin sleeping. He did not even own a bed. He never needed one.

The closest that Herpin came to resting was to sit in a rocking chair and read a half dozen newspapers. His doctors were baffled by this strange case of permanent insomnia. Herpin offered the only clue to his condition. He remembered some talk about his mother having been injured several days before he had been born. Herpin died at the age of ninety-four, never—it seems—having slept a wink.

Main Idea

1

Mark the *main idea*

Mark the statement that is *too broad*

Mark the statement that is *too narrow*

Answer

Score

☒ M

15

☐ B

5

☐ N

5

a. Some people don't need to sleep.

☐

b. Al Herpin managed to stay alive without ever sleeping.

☐

c. Al Herpin was watched closely by doctors.

☐

Score 15 points for each correct answer.

Score

Subject Matter 2 This passage centers on

- ☐ a. dream interpretation.
- ☐ b. patterns of sleep.
- ☐ c. Al Herpin's sleepless life.
- ☐ d. sleep and dreams.

Supporting Details 3 One possible clue to Herpin's insomnia was

- ☐ a. his mother's injury before he was born.
- ☐ b. that he never got tired.
- ☐ c. his magnificent physical condition.
- ☐ d. that he got enough rest by rocking.

Conclusion 4 Al Herpin's condition could be regarded as

- ☐ a. normal.
- ☐ b. curable.
- ☐ c. healthful.
- ☐ d. rare.

Clarifying Devices 5 The expression "get by" in the last sentence of the first paragraph is

- ☐ a. a confusing expression
- ☐ b. a vulgar expression.
- ☐ c. an everyday expression.
- ☐ d. an improper expression.

Vocabulary in Context

6 Negate is a synonym for

- ☐ a. support.
- ☐ b. disprove.
- ☐ c. hide.
- ☐ d. verify.

Add your scores for questions 1-6. Enter the total here and on the graph on page 216.

Total Score