

1. The president said that he will seek another meeting with congressional leaders next week to convince them to pass a law which would require gun safety locks on all guns in homes. Appearing on a live broadcast, the president noted that every day, thirteen children are victims of accidental gunshot wounds, and he called for the public's help in eliminating this unfortunate statistic. Congress has so far held off passing the legislation because of heat from the Rifle Association, which sees the obligatory gun safety locks as too much government interference.

Q: What can be inferred from the article?

- (a) The president is not as influenced by the Rifle Association as Congress is.
- (b) The Rifle Association is the government office responsible for gun safety.
- (c) Congress will pass the gun safety law if gunshot wound statistics rise.
- (d) Gun laws have been a contentious issue for many past US presidents.

2. Dear Plus Magazine,

I happened to pick up your special fall fashion issue last month and was pleasantly surprised at the main article on various styles for different types of beauty. It was very empowering and a rare find for women of color. I especially appreciated your magazine's portrayal of so many different models of various body types, skin colors, and hair textures. I hope the magazine will continue to show in future issues that there is not a cookie-cutter mold for beautiful women.

Sincerely,
Taylor Jackson

Q: What can be inferred from the letter?

- (a) The writer is a loyal Plus Magazine subscriber.
- (b) Plus Magazine is marketed toward women of color.
- (c) Future issues of the magazine will focus on diversity.
- (d) The writer expected the magazine to uphold one beauty standard.

3. This weekend, the University Young Democrats will host their 5th annual picnic and auction. Join us at Barber's Field next to the baseball stadium for a barbecue, games and, of course, the auction. The auction is to raise money for the James Burke Fellowship fund, which supports undergraduates in traveling to various democratic conventions. If you wish to donate something to the auction, please contact Robert Craig at 243-3466. All are welcome at the picnic (yes, even Republicans!). The entrance fee is \$5 for all the food and drink you can consume. See you there!

Q: Which of the following is correct according to the announcement?

- (a) The Young Democrats are holding their first picnic to attract new members.
- (b) The picnic and the auction are slated to be held at two different stadiums.
- (c) The auction's proceeds provide a fund for students attending political events.
- (d) The picnic is discounted to \$5 for those who bring their own food and drink.

4. Bill Gates, founder of Microsoft, has pledged \$1 billion to supply vaccines to the poor around the world, including \$25 million to promote the development of new tuberculosis drugs. The donation coincides with the release on Friday of a dramatic report by the World Health Organization stating that the most dangerous strains of tuberculosis, which are resistant to conventional drug treatment, are ruffling feathers in even the wealthiest countries, with the poorest, as is always the case, suffering the most.

Q: What can be inferred from the article?

- (a) The donated money will go directly to the poverty-stricken.
- (b) Researchers are close to developing a cure for tuberculosis.
- (c) Vaccines are available but expensive in developing nations.
- (d) Tuberculosis is a cause for concern in developed countries.

5. In 1999, the Tibetan Lunar New Year began with the new moon on February 16. Calculating the New Year for Tibetans is not a straightforward process and depends on the alignment of planets in the solar system. In some years, inauspicious conjunctions of planets have caused the Tibetans to even delete entire months from the calendar, or to add additional ones. As a result, Losar, as the Tibetan Lunar New Year period is called, may fall a month earlier or later on the Western calendar.

Q: Which of the following is correct about the Tibetan Lunar New Year according to the passage?

- (a) It always falls on February 16 following the new moon's arrival.
- (b) It is determined based on calculations made involving solar system bodies.
- (c) It generally begins a month earlier than the Western New Year.
- (d) Tibetans add or delete entire months from the calendar every Losar.

6. With the world becoming increasingly globalized, schools and education systems need to adopt multilingual environments. The number of schools that already highlight foreign language education as a major goal is growing, but these schools remain in the minority despite the pressing need. While it is difficult to acquire an exact figure, many researchers believe that approximately half of the world's population has at least some level of fluency in more than one language. This means that, in the modern world, monolingual students are behind the curve.

Q: Which statement would the writer most likely agree with?

- (a) The need for foreign language education is not immediately apparent.
- (b) Students with fluency in multiple languages have significant advantages.
- (c) The number of multilingual people in the world will decrease in the future.
- (d) Multilingual environments should be cultivated primarily outside of schools.

7. Energy and environmental agencies have spent decades significantly improving the efficiency of traditional appliances, such as refrigerators and water heaters. But what good are those gains if, in the modern technological era, an increasing number of electrical appliances and devices are being left on at all times? To prevent years of energy advancements from being in vain, we should certainly be able to develop better habits about turning off our electronics when they are not in use.

Q: What can be inferred from the passage?

- (a) Today's appliances use more energy than in the past.
- (b) Most electronic devices have default energy saving settings
- (c) Traditional appliances lack the ability to default to an always-on state.
- (d) Energy saved from conservation efforts is offset by devices that are always on.

8. I got to know my husband when we started working in the same department of a big company. When we started dating, it felt a little awkward, but it only became a major problem after I received a promotion. Suddenly, I was his supervisor and felt unsure about how to act around him. Eventually, he was transferred to a different department, so we got to work at the same place without spending all day interacting on a professional level. Thankfully, that improved our relationship, and we eventually got married.

Q: What is the main topic of this passage?

- (a) Why the writer felt uncomfortable while dating a coworker
- (b) Why the writer believes coworkers should not date
- (c) How the writer's career developed after she got married
- (d) Difficulties in balancing work commitments and married life

9. Current regulations related to the drought only apply to businesses, but citizens also have a voluntary part to play. You can minimize the length of showers and not leave the water running while brushing your teeth. Most people do not realize it, but leaky faucets can also waste a lot of water, so you should get them fixed as soon as possible. These small changes could save us all from a more serious crisis.

Q: What is the main purpose of the instructions?

- (a) To notify citizens of drought regulations
- (b) To suggest alternative sources of water
- (c) To recommend ways for individuals to conserve water
- (d) To advise people to stock up on water at home

10. Although popular music is often considered little more than entertainment, it often carries much deeper meanings. Throughout its history, it has carried social and political messages arising from conditions of the times. Besides the obvious messages evident in lyrics and titles, popular music also conveys messages such as desire for freedom or the feeling of angst through the way it is played.

Q: What is the writer's main point about popular music?

- (a) It is not always easy to listen to.
- (b) It can be interpreted in many ways.
- (c) It has become more complex over time.
- (d) It is more meaningful than commonly recognized.