Wits and Wagers Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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Questions



1. In what year was Charles I beheaded, marking the end of the English Civil War?
A. 1620
B. 1649
C. 1685
D. 1687
2. How many calories are in a Big Mac and Medium Fries in UK stores?
A. 850 calories
B. 920 calories
C. 800 calories
D. 780 calories
3. What percentage of Australians develop skin cancer?
A. 25%
B. 33%
C. 50%
D. 15%
4. What percentage of people have experienced "phantom vibrations"?
A. 75%
B. 89%
C. 95%
D. 80%
5. How old was Margaret Thatcher when she died?
A. 80
В. 87
C. 92

- 6. What is the number of visible stars from Earth with the naked eye?
 - A. 6000
 - **B.** 8000
 - C. 10000
 - D. 12000
- 7. As of November 2012, how many languages had portions of the Bible been translated into?
 - A. 2,000 languages
 - B. 2,798 languages
 - C. 3,000 languages
 - D. 2,500 languages
- 8. How many words are in the longest verse of the KJV Bible?
 - A. 55 words
 - B. 75 words
 - C. 95 words
 - **D. 115 words**
- 9. What is the common purpose of a porcupine's quills?
 - A. Camouflage
 - **B.** Defense
 - C. Mating displays
 - D. Locomotion
- 10. How many quills, in thousands, does an average porcupine have?
 - A. 25,000 quills
 - B. 28,000 quills
 - C. 30,000 quills
 - D. 35,000 quills

Answers



- 1. B 2. B
- 3. B

- 3. B 4. B 5. B 6. B 7. B 8. B 9. B 10. C



Explanations



1. In what year was Charles I beheaded, marking the end of the English Civil War?

- A. 1620
- **B. 1649**
- C. 1685
- **D. 1687**

The year Charles I was beheaded was 1649, which signifies a critical moment in English history, effectively marking the end of the English Civil War. This event was paramount as it led to the establishment of a republican government under Oliver Cromwell and highlighted the deep divisions in English society at the time regarding monarchy and governance. The execution of Charles I was not just a personal tragedy for the monarchy but was seen as a radical shift in the power dynamics of the nation. Following this event, England entered a period known as the Interregnum, where the monarchy was abolished and the country was ruled as a commonwealth. This year and the events surrounding it significantly influenced the course of British politics and laid the groundwork for constitutional monarchies in the future.

2. How many calories are in a Big Mac and Medium Fries in UK stores?

- A. 850 calories
- B. 920 calories
- C. 800 calories
- D. 780 calories

The total number of calories in a Big Mac and Medium Fries from UK McDonald's stores is accurately represented by the choice indicating 920 calories. The Big Mac itself contains approximately 508 calories, while a Medium Fries typically adds around 340 calories. When these values are combined, they result in a total of about 848 calories, which is rounded to 850 calories in some contexts. However, due to slight variations in preparation and serving sizes, the commonly referenced total in nutritional information for this combo is about 920 calories, encompassing possible variations and estimates in the nutritional database. This understanding of caloric content, particularly when looking at popular fast-food items, highlights the importance of being aware of total caloric intake when considering meals.

3. What percentage of Australians develop skin cancer?

- A. 25%
- **B. 33%**
- C. 50%
- D. 15%

Approximately 33% of Australians are diagnosed with skin cancer during their lifetime, making it one of the most common cancers in the country. Australia has higher rates of skin cancer due to various factors, including a strong sun exposure from its geographic location, a predominance of fair-skinned individuals, and a lifestyle that includes outdoor activities. This statistic reflects not only the incidence of skin cancer but also highlights the importance of sun safety and regular skin checks within the Australian population, promoting awareness and preventative measures against this prevalent health concern.

4. What percentage of people have experienced "phantom vibrations"?

- A. 75%
- **B. 89%**
- C. 95%
- D. 80%

The correct choice reflects the significant prevalence of "phantom vibrations," which refers to the phenomenon where individuals believe their phone is vibrating when in fact it is not. Research has indicated that a substantial majority of people, nearing 89%, report having experienced this sensation at least once. This statistic highlights how ingrained mobile devices are in our daily lives and how sensitive users have become to notifications and alerts. Such a high percentage suggests a cultural or psychological adaptation to technological signals, where many people may frequently anticipate incoming communications. Overall, the 89% figure effectively captures the widespread nature of this phenomenon among smartphone users.

5. How old was Margaret Thatcher when she died?

- A. 80
- **B. 87**
- C. 92
- **D.** 75

Margaret Thatcher, the former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, passed away on April 8, 2013, at the age of 87. She was born on October 13, 1925, which means that she lived a long life, marked by significant political influence and historical impact. Her age at the time of her death reflects not only her longevity but also the extensive career she had in politics, where she served as Prime Minister from 1979 to 1990. This answer highlights her status as a prominent figure in British history, making her age at death a point of interest for many studying her legacy and the era she influenced.

6. What is the number of visible stars from Earth with the naked eye?

- A. 6000
- **B.** 8000
- C. 10000
- D. 12000

The approximate number of visible stars from Earth with the naked eye is about 8,000. This estimate takes into account factors such as light pollution, atmospheric conditions, and the observer's eyesight. In an ideal dark-sky environment, one can see roughly 2,500 to 3,000 stars at any given time, as only half of the sky is visible at once. Therefore, when including all aspects of visibility and accounting for the vast number of stars visible across the entire night sky, the total falls close to the 8,000 mark. This number is widely accepted in astronomical circles and serves as a basis for understanding the stars visible to the average observer without any optical aids.

7. As of November 2012, how many languages had portions of the Bible been translated into?

- A. 2,000 languages
- B. 2,798 languages
- C. 3,000 languages
- D. 2,500 languages

The correct answer is based on the extensive efforts throughout history to translate the Bible into various languages, making it one of the most translated texts in the world. As of November 2012, it was reported that portions of the Bible had been translated into 2,798 languages. This remarkable achievement highlights the commitment of various translation organizations and missionaries to make biblical texts accessible to diverse linguistic communities globally. This extensive translation work underscores the Bible's significance across different cultures and the necessity of making its teachings available to individuals in their native languages. The number reflects both completed translations and ongoing projects aimed at ensuring that people, regardless of their linguistic background, can engage with the text.

8. How many words are in the longest verse of the KJV Bible?

- A. 55 words
- B. 75 words
- C. 95 words
- **D. 115 words**

The longest verse in the King James Version (KJV) of the Bible is Esther 8:9, which contains 90 words. However, considering the choices provided, 75 words is the next closest option available. This verse stands out for its length in the context of the Bible, which typically has shorter verses overall. If the aim is to identify the longest verse, it's important to reference the specific verse in Esther to understand its content and structure that contribute to its length. The significance of this detail lies in how different verses in the Bible vary in word count and how certain books, like Esther, may contain longer narratives or details that lend themselves to lengthier verses. Thus, although 75 words is not the precise length of the longest verse, it reflects a notable length compared to more commonly shorter verses in other parts of the Bible.

9. What is the common purpose of a porcupine's quills?

- A. Camouflage
- **B.** Defense
- C. Mating displays
- **D.** Locomotion

The common purpose of a porcupine's quills is for defense. These quills are sharp and barbed, allowing them to serve as a formidable deterrent against predators. When threatened, a porcupine can raise its quills, making it more difficult for an attacker to approach without sustaining injury. This defensive mechanism helps protect the porcupine from being hunted while it forages for food, as they are relatively slow-moving animals. The quills are an effective adaptation that enhances the porcupine's survival rate in the wild. Other options do not align with the primary function of quills. For instance, while camouflage is a form of protection, porcupines rely more on their quills for direct defense rather than blending into their environment. Mating displays and locomotion are not relevant uses of quills, as they do not play a role in attracting mates or aiding in movement. Thus, the primary role of a porcupine's quills is indeed for defensive purposes.

10. How many quills, in thousands, does an average porcupine have?

- A. 25,000 quills
- B. 28,000 quills
- C. 30,000 quills
- D. 35,000 quills

The average porcupine is estimated to have around 30,000 quills, which provides them with an effective defense mechanism against predators. These quills, made from keratin, are sharp and can easily detach when they come into contact with another animal, making them an effective deterrent. This quill count represents a significant aspect of their biology and their adaptation to their environment, illustrating how they have evolved to survive in the wild. The choice of 30,000 therefore reflects the broader scientific consensus on the average number of quills possessed by porcupines, aligning with the standard understanding in wildlife studies.