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## C. Synonyms and Antonyms

### C1. Synonym questions

These questions involve (a) replacing a word or phrase in the text with your own synonym or one from four or five choices; or (b) finding a word in the text that means the same as the word in the question. Here are some examples of synonym questions:

1. Which phrase in paragraph X means Y?
2. What is another word for X?
3. In line X, Y means....
4. In line X, Y could be replaced by....
5. According to the final paragraph, X is ....
6. In line X, Y means that Z was ....
7. The best word to replace X in line Y is ....
8. In line X, Y is closest in meaning to ....
9. Which word or phrase in line X can be replaced by Y?
10. Which alternative cannot be used to replace the words "X Y Z" from line A?

### Task 12: Synonyms – mixed questions

#### Leopard gets gold tooth

**1** SINGAPORE (Reuters) - A leopard at Singapore Zoo has more than a glint in her eye when snarling at passing visitors after two trips to the dentist.

**2** Yen Bai, a six-year-old rare clouded leopard from Vietnam, flashes an expensive golden dental crown worth US\$410 after breaking one of her teeth chewing on a log, a zoo spokeswoman said on Thursday.

**3** A medical team of five, including two dentists for humans, conducted two operations to fit the 1.1-inch cap, she told *Reuters*.

**4** Gold was used instead of cheaper ceramics, she said, because it was stronger.



1. Which phrase in paragraph 1 means 'not just'? \_\_\_\_\_
2. In paragraph 1, which phrase means 'people going by'? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Which word in paragraph 2 means 'whose value is'? \_\_\_\_\_
4. The best word to replace 'chewing' in paragraph 2 is ....  
A. eating. B. biting. C. playing. D. trying.
5. In paragraph 3, 'conducted' can be best replaced by ....  
A. performed. B. made. C. carried on. D. achieved. E. produced.

**Task 13: Synonyms** – Match the words from the article below in column A with their synonyms in Column B.

<b>Big talkers more likely to catch flu</b>		
HONG KONG (Reuters) - Hong Kong people are more likely to catch the flu because they talk too much and are too loud, a university professor said Friday.	1 2	
“When you talk too much and too loudly, you are hurting your throat,” said Thomas Chan, a professor at the department of medicine at Hong Kong's Chinese University.	3 4	
Since the noise level in tiny, crowded Hong Kong is relatively high, people tend to shout in order to be heard, he said.	5 6	
Chan also said people who keep their mouths open longer increase the chance of the flu virus attacking the throat and airways. Air pollution and a busy social life also increase your chances of catching the flu, he added.	7 8 9	
“If you work long hours, you are likely to spend the rest of your waking hours socializing, as it helps you to relax, and that means you are unlikely to have enough sleep. This will reduce your immunity,” said Chan.	10 11 12	
Flu and colds cost Hong Kong HK\$31 billion (US\$4 billion) a year in lost productivity, according to a study conducted by the university.	13 14	

	<b>Column A</b>			<b>Column B</b>
1	catch (line 1)	_____	A	hectic
2	loud (line 2)	<u><b>J</b></u>	B	carried out
3	hurting (line 3)	_____	C	sufficient
4	tiny (line 5)	_____	D	decrease
5	relatively (line 5)	_____	E	boost
6	shout (line 6)	_____	F	comparatively
7	increase (line 7)	_____	G	small
8	busy (line 8)	_____	H	damaging
9	relax (line 11)	_____	I	get
10	enough (line 11)	_____	J	noisy
11	reduce (line 12)	_____	K	unwind
12	conducted (line 14)	_____	L	yell

**Task 14: Synonyms** – Find words in the article which could be replaced by the words below it. Use one word for each blank.

### Police arrest allegedly fake nun

HONG KONG (Reuters) - Hong Kong police arrested a mainland Chinese woman on Thursday for posing as a Buddhist nun in order to beg for money in the territory.

A spokesperson for the Hong Kong police told *Reuters* that the woman, who was arrested near an underground train (MTR) station in Kowloon, held a visitor's visa.

The alleged scam was uncovered after the *Oriental Daily News* reported on Thursday that several men and women had arrived in the territory disguised as monks and nuns to solicit donations.

The newspaper reported that they had been spotted near several MTR stations.

Police tried to arrest a second woman in Central, but said she had to be taken to hospital when she suffered from what appeared to be an emotional breakdown.

1. pretending to be \_\_\_\_\_
2. exposed \_\_\_\_\_
3. beg \_\_\_\_\_
4. seen \_\_\_\_\_
5. representative of \_\_\_\_\_
6. close to \_\_\_\_\_
7. seemed \_\_\_\_\_
8. phoney \_\_\_\_\_

**Task 15: Synonyms** – Find words in the article which could be replaced by the words below it. Use one word for each blank.

### Cows adopt a piglet

ROUEN, France (Reuters) - A wild pig orphaned when hunters killed its mother has found a new family – with a herd of cows where he is suckling happily in northern France.

“He arrived in early spring. He's got a warm welcome from the cows,” said cattle farmer Andre Vieillard. The young boar, about 10 months old, was taking milk but the cows had to lie down to make sure he could feed, Vieillard said.

“Apparently he is happy here and as far as I'm concerned will stay with the cattle herd until September,” said Vieillard, who is rapidly becoming a celebrity in the village of Fleury-la-Foet along with the piglet and its adoptive family.

But Vieillard said he was a little bit worried about what will happen in a couple of months.

“Afterwards, the hunters will be back.”

1. remain \_\_\_\_\_
2. came \_\_\_\_\_
3. famous person \_\_\_\_\_
4. content \_\_\_\_\_
5. shot \_\_\_\_\_
6. quickly \_\_\_\_\_
7. evidently \_\_\_\_\_
8. cattle \_\_\_\_\_

**Task 16: Synonyms** – Find words in the article which could be replaced by the words in the list below it and fill in the crossword puzzle with them. The answers may have one or two words. If your answer has two words, leave a space between the words. One word is used twice.

### Man stuck in garbage chute for love of sweater

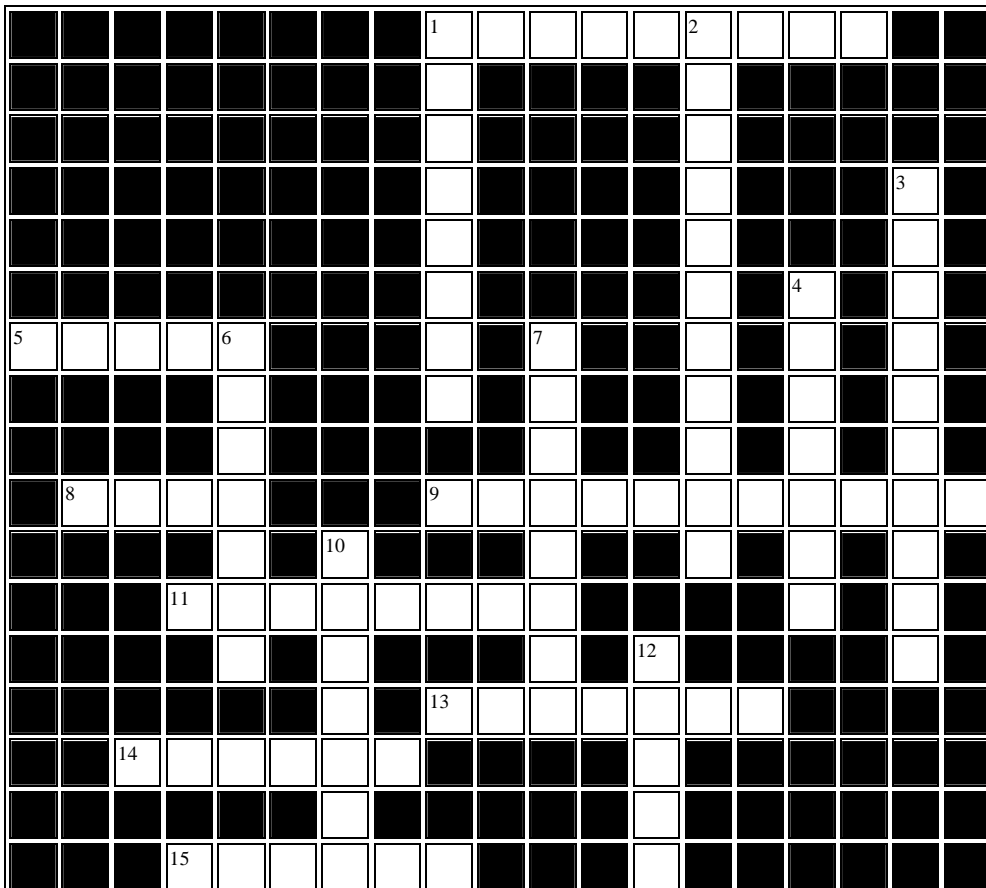
STOCKHOLM (Reuters) - A man squeezed into a garbage chute in an apartment building to retrieve a favourite old sweater thrown away by his wife, but got stuck between floors, the fire brigade said on Friday.

Firefighters had to rescue the 25-year-old Ecuadorian, who had managed to pull himself through the chute's nine-inch-wide garbage hole on the third floor, legs first, after discovering the basement door to the garbage area was locked.

"It was not difficult at all, because I am quite small," he told the *Expressen* newspaper. "I knew the garbage would probably be picked up early in the morning so I rushed to save the sweater."

He got stuck after sliding one floor down and was unable to climb up knotted bedsheets that his wife had lowered into the chute.

After his rescue, the basement doors were unlocked for him to retrieve his now filthy sweater – a present from his mother.



#### Across

1. collected
5. little
8. spouse
9. discarded
11. get back
13. jumper
14. hurried
15. dirty

#### Down

1. likely
2. finding
3. could not
4. rubbish
6. let down
7. recover
10. gift
12. caught

**Task 17: Synonyms** – Find words or phrases in the article that could be replaced by the words below it.

**Well, here's your problem right here, ma'am**

DHAKA (Reuters) - A Bangladeshi snake charmer called in to find two snakes in a suburban home near the capital unearthed over 3,000 deadly cobras and hundreds of eggs.

Police and local newspapers said snake charmer Dudu Miah captured over 3,500 young cobras at two houses in Narayanganj near Dhaka.

The find, however, triggered panic among neighbours who fled their homes, police said.

Newspapers said Miah was called in by Mantu Kasai after his wife found two large cobras on their property on Sunday.

Helped by his assistants, Miah dug beneath the floors of two houses and unearthed the slithering snakes.

Miah said he would look for more cobras elsewhere in the neighbourhood, but was undecided about what to do with his catch.

Cobras, which are highly poisonous and very common in Bangladesh, often nest in houses – often ridding them of rats and other domestic pests.

- |                     |       |                |       |
|---------------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| 1. toxic            | _____ | 8. very        | _____ |
| 2. assisted         | _____ | 9. fright      | _____ |
| 3. plentiful        | _____ | 10. underneath | _____ |
| 4. left quickly     | _____ | 11. hired      | _____ |
| 5. dug up           | _____ | 12. uncertain  | _____ |
| 6. in another place | _____ | 13. caught     | _____ |
| 7. discovered       | _____ | 14. close to   | _____ |

# J. Fiction – Opening paragraphs

**Task 65:** Answer questions 1 to 10 using information from the excerpt below.

<b>The Prince and the Pauper</b> by Mark Twain	
<b>Chapter I. The birth of the Prince and the Pauper</b>	
In the ancient city of London, on a certain autumn day in the second quarter of the sixteenth century, a boy was born to a poor family of the name of Canty, who did not want him. On the same day another English child was born to a rich family of the name of Tudor, who did want him. All England wanted him too. England had so longed for him, and hoped for him, and prayed God for him, that now that he had really come, the people went nearly mad for joy. Mere acquaintances hugged and kissed each other and cried.	1 2 3 4 5 6
Everybody took a holiday, and high and low, rich and poor, feasted and danced and sang, and got very mellow; and they kept this up for days and nights together. By day, London was a sight to see, with gay banners waving from every balcony and housetop, and splendid pageants marching along. By night, it was again a sight to see, with its great bonfires at every corner, and its troops of revellers making merry around them. There was no talk in all England but of the new baby, Edward Tudor, Prince of Wales, who lay lapped in silks and satins, unconscious of all this fuss, and not knowing that great lords and ladies were tending him and watching over him – and not caring, either. But there was no talk about the other baby, Tom Canty, lapped in his poor rags, except among the family of paupers whom he had just come to trouble with his presence.	7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

1. What does 'Mere acquaintances' mean in line 6?
  - A. Friends and family
  - B. People who were only neighbours
  - C. Distant relatives
  - D. People who hardly knew each other
2. What does the expression 'high and low' in line 7 mean?
  - A. drunk and sober
  - B. city and rural
  - C. noble and common
  - D. mountains and valleys
3. What does the expression 'a sight to see' in line 9 mean?
  - A. grand
  - B. the place to be
  - C. full of people enjoying themselves
  - D. easy to see
4. The main point of the opening paragraph is –

- A. to describe the birth of the prince.
  - B. to describe the birth of Tom Canty.
  - C. to show the contrast between people's reaction to the two births.
  - D. to provide a description of London at the time of this story.
5. In lines 4-5, the author's use of three parallel verbs –
- A. emphasises the people's desire.
  - B. shows that the rich and poor got along in old London.
  - C. shows that Londoners preferred rich people.
  - D. shows that Londoners would use any excuse for a party.
6. Which words from the passage best help the reader understand the meaning of the word 'pauper' in the title and final sentence.
- A. born to a poor family (line 2)
  - B. who did not want him (lines 2-3)
  - C. there was no talk about the other baby (line 15)
  - D. whom he had just come to trouble (line 16)
7. The passage ends on a note of –
- A. sadness.
  - B. excitement.
  - C. anger.
  - D. gratitude.
8. Which pair of nouns best describes the contrasting mood of this passage?
- A. Respect and disrespect
  - B. Relief and disbelief
  - C. Excitement and boredom
  - D. Celebration and dismay
9. Which of the following words cannot replace 'wanted' (line 4)?
- A. longed for
  - B. hoped for
  - C. prayed for
  - D. watched over
10. Which of the following words from paragraph 2 is the best context clue to discover the meaning of 'unconscious' in line 13?
- A. not knowing
  - B. not caring
  - C. no talk
  - D. silks and satins



# K. Poetry

**Task 70:** Read the poem and then answer questions 1 to 5.

## Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening ~ Robert Frost

**1** Whose woods these are I think I know.  
His house is in the village though;  
He will not see me stopping here  
To watch his woods fill up with snow.

**2** My little horse must think it queer  
To stop without a farmhouse near  
Between the woods and frozen lake  
The darkest evening of the year.

**3** He gives his harness bells a shake  
To ask if there is some mistake.  
The only other sound's the sweep  
Of easy wind and downy flake.

**4** The woods are lovely, dark and deep.  
But I have promises to keep,  
And miles to go before I sleep,  
And miles to go before I sleep.

1. Which two words in stanza 3 tell us it is snowing? \_\_\_\_\_
2. To whom does 'he' in stanza 1 refer?
  - A. the speaker's horse
  - B. the person to whom he has made a promise
  - C. the man standing in the woods
  - D. the owner of the woods
3. In stanza 3, what does the speaker mean when he says 'easy wind'?
  - A. bitter wind
  - B. strong wind
  - C. light wind
  - D. no wind
4. The phrase 'promises to keep' in stanza 4 likely refers to the speaker's –
  - A. responsibilities in human society.
  - B. promise not to go on the owner's land.
  - C. promise to get home before dark.
  - D. understanding of his horse's discomfort.
5. Which line expresses the speaker's appreciation of the scene before him? Line \_\_\_\_\_

# |Answers

## **Task 12: Leopard gets gold tooth**

1.more than 2.passing visitors 3.worth 4.B 5.A

## **Task 13: Big talkers more likely to catch flu**

1. I get 2. J noisy 3. H damaging 4. G small  
5. F comparatively 6. L yell 7. E boost 8. A hectic 9. K unwind 10. C sufficient 11. D decrease  
12. B carried out

## **Task 14: Police arrest allegedly fake nun**

1.posing as/disguised as 2.uncovered 3.solicit donations 4.spotted 5.spokesperson for 6.near  
7.appeared 8.fake

## **Task 15: Cows adopt a piglet**

1. stay 2. arrived 3. celebrity 4. happy 5. killed 6. rapidly 7. apparently 8. cows

## **Task 16: Man stuck in garbage chute....**

**Across:** 1. picked up 5. small 8. wife 9. thrown away 11. retrieve 13. sweater 14. rushed 15. filthy

**Down:** 1. probably 2. discovering 3. was unable  
4. garbage 6. lowered 7. retrieve 10. present 12. stuck

## **Task 17: Well, here's your problem....**

1. poisonous 2. helped 3. common 4. fled  
5. unearthed 6. elsewhere 7. found 8. highly  
9. panic 10. below 11. called in 12. undecided  
13. captured 14. near

## **Task 65: The Prince and the Pauper**

1.D 2.C 3.A 4.C 5.A 6.A 7.A 8.D 9.D 10.A

## **Task 70: Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening**

1.downy flake 2.D 3.C 4.A 5.line 13