

Reading for the Real World 2

Midterm Test (Units 1-6)

A. Fill in the blanks with the words in the box.

finite	synthetic	enforcement	antiquity	predominantly
tremendous		transaction	conserve	rational
				availability

1. There is no rational reason to believe that astrology is real.
2. After several kids were injured, people called for stricter enforcement of toy safety rules.
3. The availability of seats on a flight particular depends on many factors, including the day of the week and the season.
4. The Greeks of antiquity believed that the gods and goddesses lived on Mt. Olympus.
5. Most cash machines charge you a small fee for each transaction.
6. Athletic shoes and clothing are usually made of synthetic materials that are strong yet light.
7. In the predominantly Chinese neighborhoods of New York City, you can see a lot of signs in the Chinese language.
8. Economics is the study of how people try to meet unlimited wants and needs with finite resources.
9. When oil prices go up, we try to conserve gasoline by making fewer trips in their cars.
10. The pile of plates fell from the waiter's hands to the floor with a tremendous crash.

B. Match each word with its definition.

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|--------------|----------|--|
| 1. identical | <u>c</u> | a. a substance made from another substance |
| 2. clue | <u>h</u> | b. a state of balance |
| 3. retrieve | <u>e</u> | c. the same |

- | | | |
|-----------------|----------|--|
| 4. equilibrium | <u>b</u> | d. physical characteristics |
| 5. consultation | <u>g</u> | e. to call to mind again |
| 6. derivative | <u>a</u> | f. a set of moral principles |
| 7. proposition | <u>i</u> | g. a formal meeting |
| 8. ethics | <u>f</u> | h. a piece of evidence |
| 9. transmit | <u>j</u> | i. a statement to be proved or discussed |
| 10. morphology | <u>d</u> | j. to pass from one person or thing to another |

C. Read the excerpt from “UFOs.” Then answer the questions.

“UFO” stands for “unidentified flying object.” Although many people associate this term with aliens or spaceships, it can refer to any unknown object seen in the atmosphere.

Many people believe that UFO sightings began in modern times, but thousands of reports of extraordinary lights and mysterious objects in the sky have been documented around the world since antiquity. One of the earliest sightings was in the 15th century BCE in Egypt, where observers reported “foul-smelling circles of fire and discs in the sky.” Centuries later, in 1516 CE in Nuremberg, Germany, sightings of more than 200 UFOs of differing shapes, including cylinders, spheres, and spinning discs, were reported.

The most interesting part of UFO history began in the mid-20th century. During World War II, fighter pilots reported many luminescent and cylindrical UFOs at high altitudes. Sightings of these objects were reported by both airplane pilots and high-ranking intelligence officials. Interestingly enough, both the Allies and the Germans recounted such occurrences. At first, they both thought that these objects were new weapons made by their enemies. However, when they realized that the other side was seeing them too, they concluded that these sightings were UFOs. Both the British and Germans created committees to investigate. Ultimately, it was determined that these UFOs, nicknamed “foo fighters,” were not man-made; no conclusive alternative explanations were forthcoming at the time.

In the late 1940s, following WWII, the “flying saucer” era began. In 1947, a man named Kenneth Arnold reported seeing “nine silvery, circular objects” in the sky. He

told his story to many people, including the press. He eventually wrote a book titled *The Coming of the Saucers*. In it, he described the UFOs as flying saucers because they were shaped like large china cup saucers. After the book's release, more and more people reported UFO sightings. Previously, anyone who reported a UFO had been considered a liar or a lunatic. However, because authorities were receiving so many reports, some with photographic evidence, they decided to set up a committee called Project Blue Book to investigate these sightings.

1. Circle T for true or F for false.

The term "UFO" means "a flying object that might be an alien spaceship." T **F**

2. Which is NOT true about "foo fighters"?

- a.** They were reported only by fighter pilots from Britain and Germany.
- b. People at first thought that they were enemy weapons.
- c. Authorities on both sides looked into the reported sightings.
- d. Investigators concluded that they were not machines made by people.

3. What can be inferred about Kenneth Arnold from the passage?

- a. He did not really believe in "flying saucers" but wanted to sell his book.
- b. He provided photographic evidence for the "flying saucers" he had seen.
- c.** He helped change people's attitudes toward those reporting UFO sightings.
- d. He was the most influential member of the Project Blue Book committee.

D. Read the excerpt from "Morphine." Then answer the questions.

Morphine is a very potent member of the opiate family of drugs used in the field of medicine to relieve pain. Opiates are natural products of poppy seeds, and synthetic versions can be manufactured. They work on the area of the brain that perceives pain, reducing the sensation. Because morphine is such a strong drug, it is meant to be used only by people in severe pain. This is because the side effects are significant and the risk of addiction is high. Morphine can be taken as needed for certain types of acute (severe) pain, such as that caused by a bad injury. And it can also be administered continuously for relief of chronic pain, such as that experienced by cancer patients.

Friedrich Wilhelm Adam Sertürner was a German pharmacist who first produced morphine in 1805. Sertürner isolated morphine from opium, which is the dried latex sap present in poppy flower seed pods. It was the first isolated active ingredient of a plant. He called it "morphium" after Morpheus, the Greek god of dreams. Although it is not a hallucinogen, as the name might imply, it is more than just a pain reliever. Morphine also produces a euphoric mental state and relieves anxiety. This euphoric

feeling made it a popular recreational drug. Historically, morphine was available over the counter. But widespread abuse led to its classification as a controlled (legally regulated) substance. Heroin is a more potent and faster-acting derivative of morphine, and it soon took over on the street as the opiate of choice. But even today, when heroin addicts have trouble finding their drug, they often use morphine as a substitute. Interestingly, morphine was used early on to treat opium addiction, and even alcoholism, until doctors realized that it was more addictive than both of those drugs.

Because it is so addictive, doctors must exercise caution when prescribing morphine. When it is used to alleviate pain in people who are dying, addiction is not a concern, and the drug can be used to make the patient more comfortable during his or her final days. However, when it is used as an analgesic (pain reliever) in patients who are in severe pain but not dying, precautions should be taken. Dosage should be closely monitored, along with the appearance of withdrawal symptoms. Withdrawal is an indicator of addiction. **It** manifests itself as physical signs of the body's need for the drug. In the case of morphine, these include nausea, diarrhea, fever and chills, watery eyes, a runny nose, headaches, body aches, tremors, and irritability. Tolerance is the other main sign of addiction. Tolerance refers to a patient's needing more and more of a drug to achieve the same effects.

1. Morphine exists in both natural and synthetic forms. **T** **F**

2. Which is true about morphine?

- a. It sometimes produces a feeling of anxiety.
- b. It has not always been a controlled substance.**
- c. It is currently used for treating heroin addiction.
- d. It works faster than heroin.

3. The word **it** in the last paragraph refers to ____.

- a. addiction
- b. withdrawal**
- c. indicator
- d. symptom

E. Read the excerpt from "Are Eyewitnesses Reliable?". Then answer the questions.

At 5:30 one morning in 2007, a Scottish father of two named William Morris woke up to a nightmare: the police were storming his apartment. With their black uniforms, ski masks, and weapons, they were a vision straight out of an action movie. Morris was arrested and convicted of a bank robbery, largely based on the testimony of four eyewitnesses. Yet Morris hadn't committed any crime—he was innocent, a fact that did not come to light until DNA evidence identified the real robber, a career criminal. Morris's case was among the 3.5 percent of convictions

overturned yearly in the UK, and this problem occurs worldwide.

Wrongful convictions that are predominantly based on eyewitness accounts raise the question of how reliable such witnesses are. How much importance should juries place on their testimony? In recent decades, scientific research has revealed that eyewitness accounts are often inaccurate. Neuroscientists and psychologists now know that the human mind does not act like a video camera, recording and replaying everything faithfully. Rather, human memory is a complex process vulnerable to distortion at every stage. The process of memory can be divided into three basic steps.

The first step is perception and processing. This is when an event is perceived, and then “bits” of information are stored in the neural networks responsible for memory. Since the human mind can’t possibly process and retain every piece of information it receives, it filters out most of the information in accordance with the viewer’s attention and focus. In the second step, the brain sorts and retains the memories so that they can be retrieved later. The third step involves a search of our memory “files” to locate information.

The type of event observed is significant in determining the accuracy of details the eyewitness is able to recall. Important factors include the length of the observation and the complexity of the event. The shorter and simpler the event, the more accurate the memory of it will be. So, for instance, it’s easier to correctly remember the details of an accident involving one car than those of an accident involving several cars. Experiments have also shown that fear and stress can disrupt our perceptions, thereby distorting memory. When under stress, people are most conscious of details that contribute to that stress. A good example is “weapon focus”: someone faced with a gun can more readily remember details about the gun than about the person holding it.

1. Which of the following is stated in the passage?
 - a. A Scottish father of two was the victim of a robbery.
 - b. DNA evidence helped convict William Morris of a crime.
 - ☒ c. William Morris was found guilty of a crime he did not commit.
 - d. In the UK 3.5 of convictions are based mainly on eyewitness testimony.

2. Recent research in psychology shows that the human memory is not as simple as once thought. ☒ T F

3. All of the following are mentioned as affecting a viewer’s memory of an event EXCEPT _____.
 - a. stress
 - b. the event’s complexity
 - c. the viewer’s attention
 - ☒ d. the viewer’s honesty