Work It Out

The manager of an important bank had just arrived at work one morning when one of his employees came into his office. The man told the manager that while he was asleep that night, he had dreamed that there was a bomb in the bank vaults. The manager agreed to look in the vaults and, in fact, a bomb was found. The manager thanked the man and then told him he had lost his job. Why?

Clue: What was the man's job?

Answer: The man was a night guard. He had fallen asleep, and this proved that he was not doing his job.

2. A woman in a restaurant complained to the waiter because there was a fly in her cup of coffee. The waiter took the cup away and promised to bring a fresh cup of coffee. He returned a few moments later. The woman tasted the coffee and complained that this was her original cup of coffee. Was she right and how did she know?

Clue: What did the coffee taste like?

Answer: She had put sugar in the coffee before she complained to the waiter.

3. A man looked through a window on the sixth floor of an office building. Suddenly, he opened the window and jumped through it. He did not use a parachute or land in water or on anything soft. However, he wasn't hurt. How could that be?

Clue: Where had he been before he jumped?

Answer: He had been on a ladder outside the sixth floor office, cleaning the windows. He had jumped through the window, into the office.

4. A woman sat at her kitchen table with her two sons. She spoke to each of them in turn and they replied to her, but the sons never spoke to one another. The boys had not had an argument, and they did not dislike one another. Although they spoke freely with their mother, they didn't say one word to one another. Why?

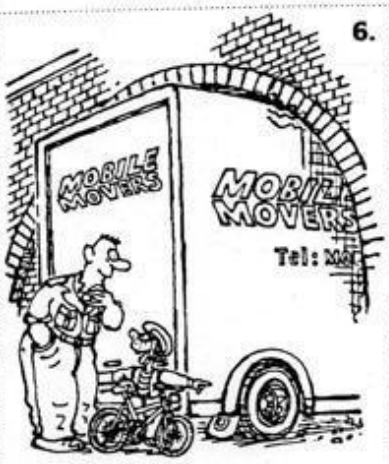
Clue: Had the boys grown up together?

Answer: The mother was Russian. She had run away to France but her first son had stayed with relatives in Russia. In France, she had married a Frenchman and had a second son. When her first son visited her and met his half brother, the two boys could only talk to one another through their mother because they hadn't learned the same language.

5. One day, two sisters decided to clean out the old shed in the garden. When they had finished, one of them had a dirty face, and the other had a clean face. The sister with the clean face, went and washed her face but the girl with the dirty face did not wash. Why?

Clue: Did the girls look in a mirror?

Answer: After they had done the cleaning, they had no mirror to look at, so each girl looked at her sister. The girl with a clean face saw that her sister was dirty, so she thought she was dirty too, and washed her face. The other girl thought the opposite.



6. A big truck got stuck under a low bridge. The driver could not move it forwards or backwards. There was a little girl on a bicycle near the bridge. She suggested an easy solution and the driver was able to continue his journey. What had they done?

Clue: How had they made the truck smaller?

Answer: They had let some air out of the tires.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS