FABERGE EGGS

Read the text and do the true/false.

Most of us enjoy finding a painted boiled egg in our baskets on Easter morning. But how would you like to receive a priceless jeweled egg designed by a world-famous craftsman instead? That's how the czars of Russia celebrated Easter in the late 1800s.

The tradition started when Czar Alexander III asked a goldsmith named Carl Faberge to make a special Easter egg to give to his wife Maria. This first egg was made of gold and white glass. It opened up and inside was a golden yolk. Inside that there was a little carved hen and inside the hen was a tiny ruby egg.

After that Czar Alexander asked for a new Easter egg for his wife every year. When he died, his son Nicolas gave eggs to both his mother and wife every year. A total of fifty eggs were made by Faberge for the Romanovs (the czarist family) over the years.

The eggs were not only included expensive elements such as gold, silver and gems. They also included clever toylike features. The Peacock Egg has a tiny peacock that walks and opens its tail. One egg has a miniature replica of the Trans-Siberian Railway. The Coronation Egg has a tiny coach with a folding stair. In addition, many eggs had portraits of the royal family members.

During the Russian Revolution, the czars were assassinated. Their fortunes were taken and many of the eggs were lost. There are stories of some eggs appearing in garage sales or flea markets. Most of them ended up with wealthy buyers or in museums.

But you never know. Keep your eyes open when you go shopping! And have a Happy Easter.

1. Czar Alexander III was a jewelry craftsman.	YES	NO
2. The making of Faberge eggs began in the late 19th century.	YES	NO
3. Czarina Maria gave Alexander an egg.	YES	NO
4. Faberge eggs were part of an Easter celebration.	YES	NO
5. Some of the eggs has representations of transport items.	YES	NO
6. Some eggs had pictures of the Alexander's relatives.	YES	NO
7. The fifty Faberge eggs are now in museums.	YES	NO