42. Imagine a baby about five months old. It can cry and smile, it can eat and sleep, and it can dirty its diaper. Did you know that it can also count? That's not all—small babies are also able to add and subtract small numbers of things. This may be surprising news, but a psychologist has proven that it is true. Many people think that these abilities are learned at school. But this psychologist believes that they are

a. not present until adulthood.
b. learned only by five-month old babies.
c. already present in small babies.
d. very difficult for children to learn.

43. Until recently scientists thought that the first humans developed from our ape ancestors in Africa. According to this theory, these early humans then gradually moved to other parts of the world. Now there is new evidence for a different theory about the beginnings of humans. In 1990 scientists in China found the bones of two human heads from about one million years ago. These heads may mean that humans

a. all developed in Africa
b. didn't all develop in Africa.
c. developed from apes.
d. all looked alike.

44. Children who are left-handed tend to have more accidents than right-handed children. Doctors have two theories to explain this fact. One theory says that left-handed children may simply fall and bump into things more. Another theory, however, explains the accidents very differently. According to this theory, the problem is not with the children, but with the world around them. Most things, such as doors, cars, and toys are

a. designed and used best by right-handed people.
b. designed for left-handed people.
c. not designed for right-handed people.
d. made by people without children.

45. One of the most important principles in biology is that all living things must come from other living things. This principle was not discovered until the 18th century. Before that, people believed that life could come from other kinds of matter. For example, they thought that worms could come from meat. Then a scientist tried covering the meat so that flies could not land on it. No worms grew on the meat, since of course they really came from the

a. scientist.
b. cloth.
c. flies' eggs.
d. 18th century.

LIVEWORKSHEETS



46. Sixty-five million years ago, the age of the dinosaurs suddenly came to an end. The dinosaurs all disappeared from the earth. Scientists have always wondered why this happened. A new discovery in Mexico may give them the answer. The discovery is a huge circle 180 kilometers wide. This circle was probably caused by some very large object that hit the earth. When it hit, it may have caused changes in the earth's climate and sea levels. These changes may have

a. helped the dinosaurs to live longer.
b. been necessary for the dinosaurs.
c. killed the dinosaurs in Mexico.
d. been disastrous for dinosaurs.

47. Frogs are not generally known for being good parents. The female frog usually lays her eggs and then goes away and the baby frogs grow up on their own. However, one kind of frog is different. This frog, either male or female, will stay with the eggs until the baby frogs are born. Then the parent will carry the babies on its back to a special kind of plant. It puts one baby frog in each of these watery flowers. And that's not all. Every day

a. the baby frogs grow larger.
b. the parents go swimming.
c. the father sleeps most of the day.
d. the parent brings food to the babies.

48. Scientists wondered for a long time just how whales are related to land mammals. They believed that there must have been some kind of in-between mammal. It would have lived partly in the sea and partly on land. However, they had no evidence of such an animal. The discovery of "Pakicetus" seems finally to be proof of this theory. The bones of Pakicetus show that this large mammal lived 50 million years ago. It

a. was a kind of large fish.
b. found its food in the water but spent much time on land.
c. looked a lot like a whale.
d. lived far up in the mountains and ate mostly leaves.

49. "Every time you eat a sweet, drink green tea." This is what some Japanese mothers used to tell their children. Modern dentists never took this advice very seriously, until just recently. But research shows that green tea really does help your teeth. It contains something that naturally kills the bacteria that damage teeth. This discovery was made by a Japanese-American chemist. He says he is planning to invent and sell

a. green tea toothpaste.
b. a new kind of sweet.
c. green toothbrushes.
d. a sweet toothpaste.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

50. An albino is an animal (or a person) that is born without any color. Albinos have pale, whitish fur or feathers, pink skin and pink eyes. Albinos are very rare in nature because they usually do not live very long. One reason for this is that they often become blind and cannot take care of themselves. Another reason is simply the color. A white animal

a. is not noticed by other animals, and so it is not disturbed.
b. can hide well in the snow all winter.
c. can easily find other animals and kill them.
d. usually cannot hide well, and so it can be easily caught by larger animals.

51. In May 1990, 80,000 pairs of Nike athletic shoes fell off a ship in the Pacific Ocean. Ocean scientists were very interested when they heard about this. They tried to find out information about any of these shoes that got to land. In all, 1,300 pairs of shoes were reported along the coasts of the United States and Canada. From these reports they learned something about

a. certain rare sea birds.
b. the movement of ocean currents.
c. how to get free shoes.
d. the Nike shoe company.

52. Most doctors now agree that mother's milk is better for babies than artificial milk. However, artificial milk has one advantage. It always tastes the same for the baby. Mother's milk, on the other hand, can change flavor. Certain foods may give the milk a strange taste. For example, if the mother eats cabbage or garlic, many babies will refuse her milk. Doctors have also discovered that babies may also refuse their mothers' milk after she has exercised a lot. After exercise, in fact,

a. the milk may have an especially sweet taste.
b. the mother may have extra milk.
c. the milk may have an unpleasant, sour taste.
d. there may be very little milk.

53. Everyone knows that too much wine can have many bad effects on the body. Doctors discovered recently that a small amount of red wine may have at least one good effect. It may lower the level of cholesterol in the blood. However, new research now proves that this is not the result of the alcohol in the wine. Instead, scientists have learned that there is a special chemical that lowers cholesterol. This chemical is present in purple grape juice and perhaps in other grape products. So people with high cholesterol

a. should drink lots of wine.
b. should go to the doctor.
c. can get the same benefit without drinking wine.
d. should drink white wine.

LIVEWORKSHEETS



54. For centuries, men who work as coal miners have had many health problems. The worst of these problems is a disease called "Black Lung." It is caused by the coal dust in the mines. In the United States, until very recently, about one in every five miners got this disease. For these men, it meant poor health and a shorter life. Then in 1969, a new law forced the coal companies to improve the working conditions for miners. Since then,

a. many more miners have gotten "Black Lung."
b. the conditions in the mines have worsened.
c. there have been many fewer miners in the mines.
d. fewer miners have gotten "Black Lung."

55. The connection between sunlight and cancer has been known for a long time. In 1894, German scientists claimed that too much sun could cause skin cancer. Then in 1928, an English scientist proved that this theory was true. Today, there are many kinds of skin cream to protect against the danger of skin cancer. Doctors advise everyone, especially young people, to use these creams when they stay in the sun. A recent study shows, however, that this advice is not being followed. In fact, most young people

a. stay out of the sun.
b. do not use these creams.
c. use these creams.
d. do not want to get cancer.

56. Doctors usually say that people who are at risk for heart disease should be careful about their diet. They should not eat foods that have a lot of fat. That means they should not eat nuts, since nuts contain 70-90% fat. Recent research, however, has shown that this advice may be wrong. In fact, people who eat lots of nuts (peanuts, almonds, or walnuts) seem to have fewer heart problems. The scientists are not yet sure why this is true, but doctors may soon advise their patients

a. to eat nuts in moderate amounts.
b. to eat fat.
c. never to eat nuts.
d. to have fewer heart problems.

57. The game of croquet was probably invented in France. In the 13th century, French villagers played something they called "paille-maille." From there, the game traveled to Ireland, where they called it "crooky." In the mid-19th century, some people in England began playing "croaky." It quickly became popular all around the world. Now it is played

a. everywhere, from the United States to India and Australia.
b. from the south coast of England to the north of Scotland.
c. from one village to another.
d. from the Middle Ages to our modern age.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

58. Checkers is a game that requires a lot of mathematical thinking. It's a very good game for computers to play. Some computer scientists in Canada made a computer program for checkers. Then they invited the world championship checkers player, Marion Tinsley, to play against their program. They wanted to see who was better at the game—computers or people. The computer managed to win two games, but Tinsley won four. The scientists concluded that

a. people are still better at some kinds of thinking.
b. computers are best at everything they do.
c. computers will never be able to beat Tinsley.
d. people will always win games like checkers.

59. Theoretical physicists are known for their bad luck with equipment. Other scientists like to say that something breaks whenever a theoretical physicist walks into the room. One famous physicist, Wolfgang Pauli, was especially unlucky. There were many stories about him. A scientist in Gottingen, Germany was once surprised when some equipment in his laboratory suddenly broke. He couldn't understand why this had happened. Later, he heard that Pauli had been traveling by train that day through Germany. The train had stopped at the station in Gottingen

a. long after the equipment had broken.
b. long before the equipment broke.
c. at the very same moment that the equipment broke.
d. long enough for Pauli to drink some coffee.

60. The Chinese were the first people to make books. They discovered how to make paper and how to print books in about 1300. At that time, there was almost no contact between Europe and China. One of the few Europeans to travel to China was Marco Polo. He visited China in the 13th century and may have seen some books. But neither he or any other European learned about books from the Chinese. The Europeans

a. quickly learned how to make books from Marco Polo.
b. never learned how to make books.
c. invented paper and printing on their own later on.
d. learned about books even before the Chinese.

61. A bird feeder can provide you with an interesting new hobby — bird watching. Winter time is the best time for this hobby. Then the birds have trouble finding other food, so they will come to your feeder. If you put the feeder near a window, you can even watch them from inside your home. But once you have started feeding the birds, you should continue until spring. If you stop in the middle of the winter, the birds

a. will have more to eat.
b. may stay near the house.
c. may get cold.
d. may die of hunger.

LIVEWORKSHEETS