

Hot Topics 3

The Cruelty of Strangers

I. Choose the best answer for each question.

1. If someone says, "*His story didn't add up,*" it means:
 - a. It was clear
 - b. It was confusing
 - c. It sounded suspicious
 - d. It was funny
2. When you *jump in* during a group activity, you:
 - a. join or help
 - b. leave quickly
 - c. watch silently
 - d. refuse to participate
3. An *insult* is:
 - a. a kind word
 - b. a joke
 - c. a disrespectful remark
 - d. a compliment
4. A *reckless* driver is:
 - a. careful
 - b. responsible
 - c. careless
 - d. slow
5. *Cowardice* means:
 - a. bravery
 - b. fearfulness
 - c. kindness
 - d. strength
6. To *endanger* someone is to:
 - a. protect them
 - b. ignore them
 - c. help them
 - d. put them at risk
7. To *put yourself in another's shoes* means:
 - a. imagine their situation
 - b. wear their shoes
 - c. copy their style
 - d. walk with them
8. If someone acts *savagely*, they act:
 - a. kindly
 - b. calmly
 - c. politely
 - d. cruelly
9. Something *moral* teaches:
 - a. right and wrong
 - b. how to cook
 - c. how to play
 - d. how to dance

10. *Shame* is:
- a. a happy feeling
 - b. a painful feeling of guilt
 - c. a proud moment
 - d. a funny situation
11. A *courageous* person is:
- a. brave
 - b. fearful
 - c. weak
 - d. careless
12. A *cowardly* person is:
- a. fearless
 - b. strong
 - c. fearful
 - d. brave
13. A *companion* is:
- a. someone who gives company
 - b. someone who teaches
 - c. someone who fights
 - d. someone who ignores

II. Fill in the blanks

instinct	scam	tendency
charitable organizations	offensive	redeemed
jubilant	blinking	reassure
	confidence	

1. The light kept _____ all night, making it hard for me to sleep.
2. Many _____ provide food and shelter to people in need.
3. She spoke with great _____ during her presentation, which impressed the audience.
4. He has a _____ to forget his homework if he doesn't write it down.
5. When the baby cried, the mother's natural _____ was to comfort her.
6. The teacher tried to _____ the nervous students before the big exam.
7. The email looked suspicious; it was probably a _____ to steal money.
8. The team felt _____ after winning the championship game.
9. He _____ himself by apologizing sincerely and making up for his mistake.

10. In many Asian countries, not removing your shoes before entering someone's home is considered _____ because it shows a lack of respect for their traditions.

III. Read the passage below and fill in the blanks using the following words:

suspicious	narrative	skim
bothered	editorial	ashamed
encyclopedia	distressed	plead
	cruelty	

When Maria read the newspaper, she noticed an emotional (1) _____ written by the editor about animal (2) _____. It made her feel deeply (3) _____, especially because she had once ignored a stray dog in need. She tried to (4) _____ with her parents to let her adopt a puppy from the shelter. They were a bit (5) _____ at first, thinking it might be too much responsibility.

Later, Maria decided to do some research in the (6) _____ to learn more about pet care. She didn't read every page—just tried to (7) _____ through the sections that looked useful. One story she found had a touching (8) _____ about a rescued cat. However, she grew (9) _____ when she remembered how she had once mistreated her pet fish and felt guilty about it.

Maria was truly (10) _____ by the thought that many animals still suffer without anyone to help them.