

QUIZ # 2

1. Complete the sentences with must, can't, or might.

- 1 He have gotten a new job. I saw him at work this afternoon!
- 2 I have seen Elisa at the gym, but I'm not sure. She was pretty far away.
- 3 How did he know it was going to rain? He have checked the weather.
- 4 The volume was really low. She have been able to hear anything.
- 5 Malala Yousafzai is so inspiring. It have been amazing to meet her.

2. Choose the correct option to complete each sentence.

Jeremy bought a new ... for the floor.

- a. rug b. nightstand c. mirror

I have a lamp and a couple of books on my ... , but that's all.

- a. comforter b. closet c. nightstand

I had a great new ... for my bed, but it was so warm, my cat took it over!

- a. rug b. blanket c. nightstand

Doesn't Li need a new ... for her desk? It's really dark in that corner.

- a. pillow b. dresser c. lamp

She's thinking about buying new ... for the bed.

- a. pillows b. rugs c. lamps

3. Read the text. Select True or False.

The history of illusion

Illusionists are entertainers who perform tricks which seem strange or difficult to believe. They became popular in the nineteenth century and the best have become some of the most famous celebrities in the world of entertainment.

One of the early illusionists was a French clockmaker named Jean Eugène Robert-Houdin who opened a magic theater in Paris in the 1840s. He amazed his audiences with mechanical animals and people that moved as if they were alive. In 1873, two British performers, J N Maskelyne and his partner Cooke, started a theater in London called the “Egyptian Hall”. They were stage magicians and used hidden assistants and mechanical devices in their shows. They were the first illusionists to perform levitation—making people appear to float in the air with nothing underneath them.

Probably the most famous and greatest magician of the nineteenth century was Harry Houdini. Houdini developed a variety of stage magic tricks, many of them based on escapology, although that was not the word used by Houdini himself. His acts were the beginning of the modern relationship between the performer and the audience.

Nowadays there is an unspoken agreement between the performer and the audience about what is going on. The audience understands that everything they see is an illusion and that the performers have no special supernatural powers. They know that everything they see in the performance are tricks or sleights of hand, misdirection, deception by the illusionist. They also know that the performer may use a person in the audience to help with the trick or they may use mirrors or special, secret equipment.

The secret to a successful illusionist is in their ability to create such incredible illusions that the audience cannot believe their eyes, despite knowing that they are being tricked. The audience can rarely work out how a trick is done, but that is not important, the sense of confusion and surprise is part of the entertainment.

Many of the basic principles of magic have not changed, but many illusionists today perform on TV rather than in the theater. For those TV magicians, a widely-accepted code exists—they can use any traditional form of deception but camera tricks or other TV special effects are not allowed.

The first well-known illusionist used clocks to trick the audience.

True False

Houdini did not describe himself as an escapologist.

True False

Maskelyne and Cooke made people fly around their theater.

True False

People watching the show enjoy not being able to understand the illusion.

True False

Magicians follow an unofficial rule when performing on TV.

True False