

President's Message

The advice contained herein is advice I have given before. Like all advice, it can be taken or left, but it is one of the more commented upon pieces of advice I regularly send out. To wit: we are fast approaching two weeks of winter break. And, yes, it is a break. I suggest, as I have suggested before, that you spend this week pretending the break did not exist. Spend this week planning, copying, gathering materials, arranging your room etc., as if Monday, December 25, were the next day of school. Of course it isn't, so on Friday, December 22, with all your prep work done, at day's end, place your bag on your desk, grab your keys and walk out the door, ready for two weeks of regeneration. In recent years I have taken to leaving a note to my future self on my desk explaining what the plan is on that first day back; in this way I really, truly did not have to think about school for two weeks. We work in a highly stressful occupation; for both physical and mental health, we need these breaks to recuperate. I wish you all a restful and/or energizing break. Remember to be well.

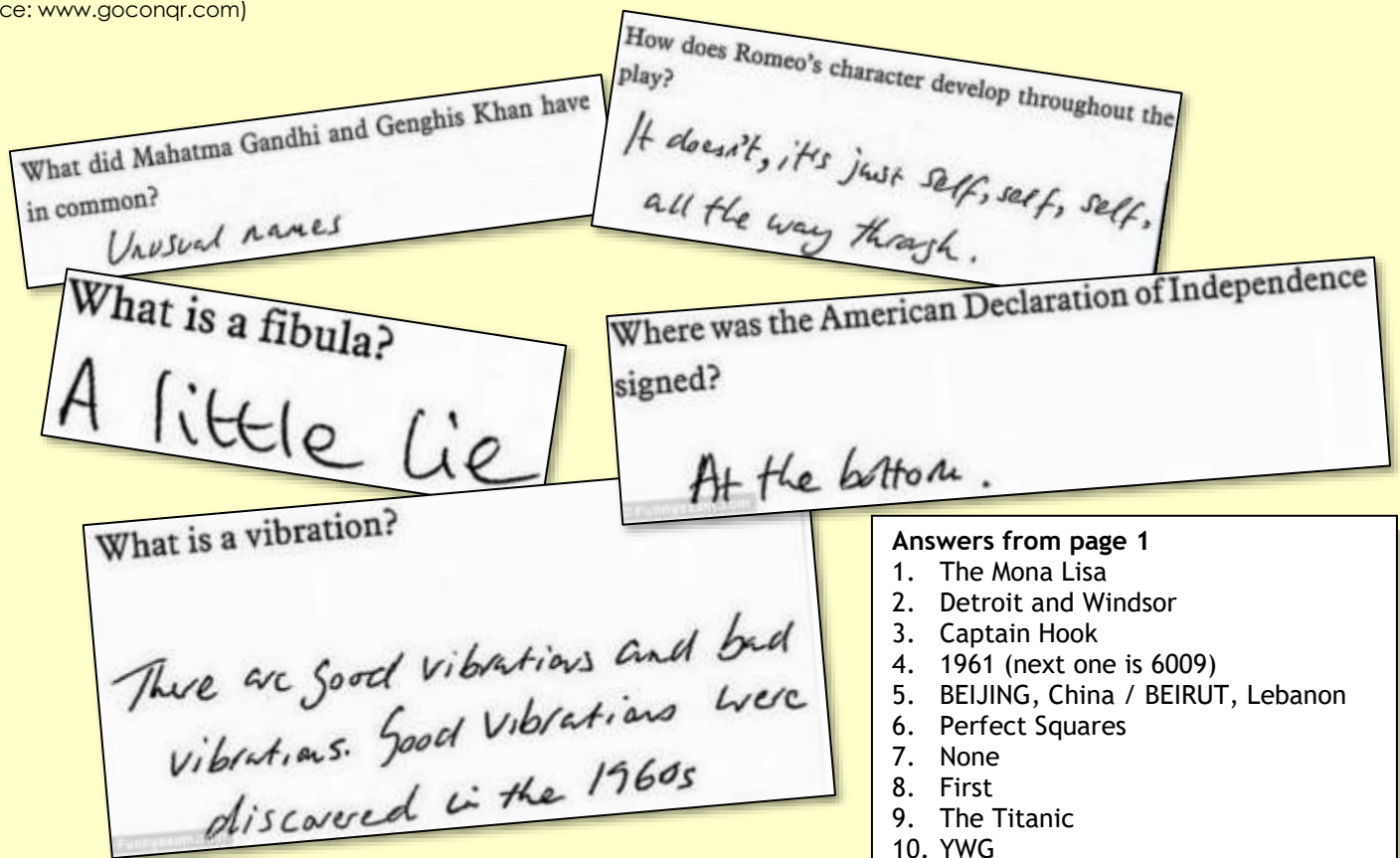
Quiz Night Warm Up

On February 2nd the annual Quiz Night will return. All employees of the division and significant others are welcome. More details will follow; here are a few questions to get you started (answers on page 2).

1. What is the more popular name for the painting "La Gioconda"?
2. Between which two cities is there a tunnel connecting the US and Canada?
3. Whose right-hand man is Mr. Smee?
4. Identify the most recent year which could be read the correctly right-side up and upside down.
5. Which two national capitals begin with the letters "Bei"?
6. Numbers such as 16, 25, and 81 are called...
7. How many Oscars did the holiday movie "It's a Wonderful Life" win?
8. What word links these four words: Hand, Aid, Class, Place
9. Which famous ship was found on the sea floor in 1985, 73 years after it sank?
10. What is the three-letter airport code for Winnipeg, International?

Seems Legit: Student "Answers"

(source: www.goconqr.com)



Answers from page 1

1. The Mona Lisa
2. Detroit and Windsor
3. Captain Hook
4. 1961 (next one is 6009)
5. BEIJING, China / BEIRUT, Lebanon
6. Perfect Squares
7. None
8. First
9. The Titanic
10. YWG

Acknowledgements

I would like to take a moment to thank and acknowledge all the members of the ITA Executive who give up their time and energy to work on behalf of ITA members. This Association could not run without the work of all.

They are...

Cathy Pleskach: Vice President

Larissa Friesen: Treasurer

Rebecca Good: Secretary

Maria Nickel: Collective Bargaining

Dan Gregovski: Education Finance

John Kooning: Benefits

Ashley Kutcher: Professional Development

Equity & Social Justice: Kim Deline

Public Relations: Tracy Procter

Christie Crow: Workplace Safety

Indigenous Voice & Action: Cora-Leigh Mazurat

Leslie Fuerst: Field Services

Ross Ledochowski: Member at Large

Cheryl Kooning: Member at Large

I would also like to thank the school reps for their work in representing the local schools and for distributing and disseminating all the information that flows from the ITA and MTS to you, the members.

Wishing everyone a safe holiday...John Bock