

**Dear friends,**

Isn't it funny how so many of the most insignificant, even silly, incidents in our lives clutter up our memory banks? While we're desperately trying to remember the day of our high school graduation or our wedding or some other truly important happening, our minds are cantankerously indifferent to our wishes.

In my case, for instance, instead of being able to remember details about being on the White House grounds for one of Ronald Reagan's inaugural balls, my mind seems determined to bring up other junk...like a memory of me throwing aerosol cans into the backyard incinerator when a silly lad OR falling off the Jet Ski and thinking I was going to sink to the bottom of Lake Okoboji OR trying to persuade that truant officer that I was swimming in the quarry was part of a high school study project. You know what I mean. Sometimes, your memory is a downright unreliable pal.

But, then again; that's alright by me for I have learned to be content and even to thank God for having any memories at all. In so doing, I find all of them (well, most of them) genuine gifts that I truly cherish. Examples? Well, I've been told that as we age, we are better with long term memory than short term. I certainly find this true in my own experience.

So I tend to especially remember things from my youth – things like spending Saturday mornings scouring the ditches along south Denver streets looking for pop bottles – bottles that were worth 2 cents each. A good morning's haul could net you candy and pop money for a few days and maybe even a comic book. There's also the bike rides, baseball games, skating at Roller City, Christmas excitements, dogs, sledding down Rattlesnake Hill, football, shooting hoops all alone for hours, and playing kick the can until the streetlights came on (which meant you had to go home). And of course, there are plenty of wonderful memories of Mom and Dad and Grandma Ellsworth and, if I'm brutally honest, even some sweet memories of my 4 siblings! In fact, there's one special one I think I'll tell you about another time.



But for now, have fun with “Anti-Boredom Packet” #15. I sure hope it triggers some marvelous memories of your own!

*Denny Hartford (for Claire too)*

## Multiple Choice Questions

- 1) The great crooners like Crosby, Como, Sinatra, etc. first developed their singing talents by:
  - A) Taking university music classes
  - B) Appearing in motion pictures
  - C) Singing with the big bands
  - D) Hitting the vaudeville circuit
- 2) What did Peter Piper pick a peck of?
  - A) Pink posies
  - B) Pickled peppers
  - C) Proper Periwinkles
  - D) Popcorn
- 3) "Plop, Plop. Fizz, Fizz. Oh, what a relief it is!" was an ad slogan for?
  - A) State Farm Insurance
  - B) Cherry Seven-Up
  - C) Pepto-Bismol
  - D) Alka-Seltzer



- 4) Who is the fellow pictured above?
  - A) Colonel Sanders
  - B) Lee Iacocca
  - C) Captain Kangaroo
  - D) E.F. Hutton

- 5) What does a frogman (scuba diver) usually wear on his feet?
  - A) Sandals
  - B) Flippers
  - C) Nylon socks
  - D) Nothing at all
- 6) From what country do women traditionally wear a *sari*?
  - A) India
  - B) Japan
  - C) Argentina
  - D) Holland
- 7) The theme song of "Skinny" Ennis was "Got a Date with..."
  - A) ...Destiny"
  - B) ...Uncle Sam"
  - C) ...an Angel"
  - D) ...Yet Another Heartbreak"

- 8) At his death Glenn Miller was a member of which branch of the U.S. military?
  - A) Marines
  - B) Navy
  - C) Coast Guard Intelligence Services
  - D) Army Air Corps

- 9) What early TV show featured a bus driver named Ralph Kramden?
  - A) *The Honeymooners*
  - B) *The Steve Allen Show*
  - C) *The Jack Benny Show*
  - D) *Car 54, Where Are You?*

- 10) Who had a hit song in 1950 entitled "Mona Lisa"?
  - A) Patti Page
  - B) Nat "King" Cole
  - C) Julie London
  - D) Bing Crosby

11) "Silly rabbit, Trix are for kids."  
That was an ad slogan used for what  
kind of product?

- A) Children's aspirin
- B) Shoes
- C) Breakfast cereal
- D) Candy

12) Which of these cities is  
nearest (in driving distance) to  
Niagara Falls?

- A) Toronto, Canada
- B) Detroit, Michigan
- C) Montreal, Canada
- D) Buffalo, New York

13) Which of these contributed most to  
the demise of the big band era?

- A) World War II
- B) Union trouble
- C) Television
- D) Payola scandals

14) The "Dipsy Doodle" was  
the name of both a:

- A) Children's game & a grocery chain
- B) Larry Clinton song & a dance
- C) Candy bar & a brand of soda
- D) Brand of pasta & a hair style

15) In the nursery rhyme, "Hey diddle  
diddle," who jumped over the moon?

- A) The cow
- B) The cat
- C) The dog who was stung by a bee
- D) Old McDonald, the farmer

16) According to Tennessee Ernie Ford,  
what do you get when "you load  
sixteen tons?"

- A) A pocketful of nothin'
- B) Heartaches and headaches
- C) The chance to beat John Henry
- D) Another day older  
and deeper in debt

17) Bing Crosby's brother (a  
bandleader and singer) was named:

- A) Richard
- B) Billy
- C) Gus
- D) Bob

18) King Edward VIII abdicated the  
British throne in 1936 so he could marry  
a divorced woman named...

- A) Diana Trent
- B) Wallis Simpson
- C) Lady Tressela Boyer
- D) Barbara Cortland

19) Walt Disney's 2nd animated movie  
was about a marionette whose nose  
grew every time he lied. He was:

- A) Pinocchio
- B) Tom Thumb
- C) Rumpelstiltskin
- D) Braggadacio

20) Which of these was **NOT** a highly  
successful college football coach?

- A) Paul "Bear" Bryant
- B) Knute Rockne
- C) John Wooden
- D) "Woody" Hayes

21) What big band invited you to “swing and sway” with them?

- A) Freddy Slack
- B) Sammy Kaye
- C) Woody Herman
- D) The Suwannee Sixteen

22) The “Who’s On First?” comedy routine was made famous by:

- A) Abbot & Costello
- B) Burns & Allen
- C) The Smothers Brothers
- D) Jack Benny & Eddie Anderson

23) Hitler’s myth of a “master Aryan Race” was humiliated in the 1936 Olympics held in Berlin when this African-American won 4 gold medals:

- A) Joe Louis
- B) Jackie Robinson
- C) Jesse Owens
- D) Larry Doby

24) What performer closed his TV show with, “Goodnight, Mrs. Calabash, wherever you are.”

- A) Milton Berle
- B) Sid Caesar
- C) Al Jolson
- D) Jimmy Durante

25) Glenn Miller had a popular saxophone player and vocalist named Gordon Beneke. But Gordon was better known by this nickname...

- A) Benny
- B) Slim
- C) Tex
- D) Satchmo

26) A favorite from the days of early television was “Roller Derby.” What did that involve?

- A) Roller skates
- B) Bowling balls
- C) Marbles
- D) Go-karts

27) In 1920 Paul Whiteman recorded a song that would become a big band standard. The title was “The \_\_\_\_\_ Sandman.”

- A) Sentimental
- B) Japanese
- C) Whispering
- D) Scandinavian

28) What comedian was nominated for an Academy Award for playing pool shark Minnesota Fats in *The Hustler*?

- A) Dick van Dyke
- B) Godfrey Cambridge
- C) Danny Thomas
- D) Jackie Gleason

29) Alcatraz, the federal penitentiary in San Francisco Bay, was known as:

- A) The Hole
- B) The Rock
- C) The Caboose
- D) Hell Island

30) What country singer was known as “The Man in Black?”

- A) Clint Black
- B) Merle Haggard
- C) Johnny Cash
- D) Bobby Bare

## Can You Identify These Famous Comedians?



1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

4) \_\_\_\_\_

5) \_\_\_\_\_

6) \_\_\_\_\_

7) \_\_\_\_\_

8) \_\_\_\_\_

9) \_\_\_\_\_

10) #3 above was also famous for what he did every Labor Day.  
What was that?

\_\_\_\_\_

## Can You Identify These Items?



1) \_\_\_\_\_

6) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

7) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

8) \_\_\_\_\_

4) \_\_\_\_\_

9) \_\_\_\_\_

5) \_\_\_\_\_

10) In #7, what is that thing on the left end of the object?

\_\_\_\_\_

## **Points to Ponder**

“A little consideration, a little thought for others,  
makes all the difference.” (A. A. Milne)

“Don't worry about locating your purpose. If you are seeking after God,  
your purpose will locate you.” (Tony Evans)

“Most folks are as happy as they make up their minds to be.”  
(Abraham Lincoln)

“‘For I know the plans I have for you,’ declares the Lord, ‘plans to  
prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.’”  
(Jeremiah 29:11)

“Time scoots along pretty fast when you grow up.” (Alan Ladd)

“It's hard to lead a cavalry charge if you think you look funny  
on a horse.” (Adlai E. Stevenson)

“Old age may have its limitations and challenges,  
but in spite of them, our latter years can be some of  
the most rewarding and fulfilling of our lives.” (Billy Graham)

“You can't teach people anything. You can only draw out.”  
(George Washington Carver)

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified  
because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you;  
He will never leave you nor forsake you.” (Deuteronomy 31:6)

“A comfortable old age is the reward of a well-spent youth. Instead of its  
bringing sad and melancholy prospects of decay, it would give us hopes  
of eternal youth in a better world.” (Maurice Chevalier)

“Gratitude is the sign of noble souls.” (Aesop)

## **What Comes Next in This Song Lyric?**

- 1) “If you're fond of sand dunes and salty air, quaint little villages here and there. You're sure to fall in love with...
- 2) “Oh, when the saints go marching in, when the saints go marching in...
- 3) “Come on and hear! Come on and hear! Alexander's Ragtime Band...
- 4) “I've flown around the world in a plane. I've settled revolutions in Spain. The North Pole I have charted...
- 5) “There's gonna' be a certain party at the station; satin and lace, I used to call funny face. She's gonna' cry...
- 6) “The stars at night are big and bright (clap, clap, clap, clap)...
- 7) “So, put another nickel in, in the nickelodeon...
- 8) “I'm a travelin' man and I've made a lot of stops all over the world...
- 9) “I am a lineman for the county and I drive the main road...
- 10) “When you walk through a storm, hold your head up high and don't be afraid of the dark...

## **The Answers!**

### **Multiple Choice Questions**

- 1) C
- 2) B
- 3) D
- 4) A
- 5) B

- 6) A
- 7) C
- 8) D
- 9) A
- 10) B

- 11) C
- 12) D
- 13) C
- 14) B
- 15) A

- 16) D
- 17) D
- 18) B
- 19) A
- 20) C

- 21) B
- 22) A
- 23) C
- 24) D
- 25) C

- 26) A
- 27) B
- 28) D
- 29) B
- 30) C

### **Can You Identify These Famous Comedians?**

- 1) Bob Newhart
- 2) W.C. Fields
- 3) Jerry Lewis
- 4) Charlie Chaplin
- 5) Phyllis Diller
- 6) Groucho Marx
- 7) Flip Wilson
- 8) Steve Allen
- 9) Danny Thomas
- 10) An Annual Telethon to help the Muscular Dystrophy Association

### **Can You Identify These Once Common Items?**

- 1) 16 mm movie projector
- 2) Backyard clothesline
- 3) Hand-held hair dryer
- 4) Milking machine
- 5) Spats
- 6) Household reel to reel tape recorder and player
- 7) Pencil case
- 8) A manual typewriter (before electric, and way before computers!)
- 9) Pancake batter dispenser
- 10) Pencil sharpener

### **What Comes Next in This Song Lyric?**

- 1) "...old Cape Cod."
- 2) "...Oh Lord, I want to be in that number, when the saints go marching in."

3) "...Come on and hear! come on and hear! It's the best band in the land."

4) "...but I can't get started with you."

5) "...until I tell her that I'll never roam. So Chattanooga Choo Choo, won't you choo-choo me home?"

6) "...deep in the heart of Texas."

7) "...All I want is loving you, and music, music, music."

8) "And in every port I own the heart of at least one lovely girl."

9) "...searchin' in the sun for another overload."

10) "...At the end of the storm, there's a golden sky and the sweet silver song of a lark."