

Read the extracts below then answer the questions.

EXTRACT A: from *The Harpy Librarian* by Malik White

Sylise was one of Grand Isle Library's most beloved and committed librarians. Born of harpy descent, her scaled hands and taloned feet made her stand out from her peers. The brown feathered wings that sprouted from her back made traversal around the grand library easy, especially when she needed to grab a book on the top shelf. Be it human or elf, thief or hero, she gave everyone a chance to take out her books, on the one condition that they return them on time.

Sylise's golden eyes carefully watched the three hourglasses that sat in front of her. The sand was nearly gone from each of them, and they all had a name engraved on the bottom. As the last grain of sand fell, a point appeared on her magical compass, one to the north, one to the west, and one to the east.

Zar'mhul the Berserker, Ormund Karlsson, and Kurzol Backbreaker. Your time is up, you were warned.

Sylise reached behind the front desk and grabbed a satchel and her shortsword. She pulled one of her fairy assistants that fluttered around the library aside as she left for the exit.

"Yes, milady? What is it?" asked the fairy.

"I will be leaving for the day. I need you to take over my duties," said Sylise.

The fairy glanced at Sylise's shortsword and nodded her head.

"I see. Don't worry milady, you can count on me!"

The fairy darted away, yelling commands to the others as she passed them.

Zar'mhul the Berserker was the first target. He was the closest, and despite the moniker, he was the least likely to cause trouble.

Sylise followed her compass to the center of town and stopped in front of Zar'mhul's residence. Zar'mhul was a middle-aged man of orc lineage. Muscularly built and lined with scars, he adopted an intimidating presence. Zar'mhul stood outside, overseeing two young orc men undergoing a sword training exercise.

"Stay grounded Thrak! If your opponent breaks your stance, you are as good as dead!" yelled Zar'mhul.

Sylise placed her hand on Zar'mhul's shoulder. "Do you have a moment?" asked Sylise.

"Can't you see that I'm in the middle of something?" asked Zar'mhul as he turned around. His expression softened as he recognized Sylise. "Oh, It's you. Is it time already?"

"I'm afraid so. Could you fetch it for me?"

Zar'mhul nodded and entered his house. He came back out with a book clutched in his hands.

"Would it be possible to let me hold onto it for just a little longer?"

"Normally, I would've. But I can tell just by looking at the binding that you've read that book through multiple times already, probably memorized half of it. You don't need it any more."

EXTRACT B: from *The Head Librarian* by Laura Jarosz

"Where are your parents, sweetie?" Mrs. Lambert asked in as gentle a voice as she could muster.

The little girl stared at Mrs. Lambert for a moment, and then giggled and bolted toward the children's section.

Frowning, Mrs. Lambert scanned the library for an adult who might be attached to the little girl. She found her target a few moments later when a woman sauntered past the aisle, fully engrossed in something on her phone, but glancing up in the direction in which the little girl had run. "Coco, slow down, you have to stay with Mommy," the woman called disinterestedly after the child.

"Was that your little girl, hon?" Mrs. Lambert asked politely.

The woman stopped walking and looked slightly annoyed. "Mhm," she replied.

"There's no food allowed in the library," Mrs. Lambert continued.

"It's just a piece of candy," the mother replied irritably. "It's not really food."

"Well, I don't think the head librarian will like it," Mrs. Lambert said mildly. "She's reading for Family Storytime today, you know."

The woman glanced over her shoulder. "Coco, I said come back here!" She called across the library, walking away from Mrs. Lambert without even a backward glance.

Mrs. Lambert shrugged and went back to reshelving.

She could tell when Mrs. Fiamma, the head librarian, arrived in the children's section for story time. Mrs. Fiamma's arrivals were not subtle. More telling than that, though, was the sudden outcry of shocked noises from the parents that quickly settled into uneasy silence.

Mrs. Lambert tensed.

She felt the slow buildup of reverberations as a booming roar, deafening for anyone in close range, shook the very foundations of the building. A couple of piercing screams joined it, creating strange harmonies.

The echoes had not yet ceased when Coco's mother, her sobbing toddler bundled in her arms, hurried out of the children's section and found Mrs. Lambert, haunted eyes pleading at the assistant librarian from a face drained of all color as she held out a half-eaten lollipop, her lips trying to form words that her brain wasn't quite supplying.

For questions 1 – 6, choose the option (A, B, C or D) which you think best answers the question

1. In Extract A, what was Sylise's condition to everyone who wanted to borrow a book?

- A. That they read the book in its entirety
- B. That they must have a library card
- C. That they must recite the library's password
- D. That they return it in time

2. In Extract A, why does Zar'mhul have an intimidating presence?

- A. He has a reputation for violence
- B. He is a skilled duellist
- C. He is muscularly built and lined with scars
- D. He owns most of the city

3. In Extract A, what was the purpose of the magical compass?

- A. It allowed Sylise to track down those who overextending their borrowing time
- B. It allowed Sylise to tell where magical books are located
- C. The compass was the symbol of the library
- D. The compass helped in reshelling lost books

4. In Extract B, what can we conclude about the character of the little girl's mother?

- A. She does not respect Mrs. Lambert's authority

- B. She hates conflict
- C. She is deeply ashamed of her daughter
- D. She is an avid reader of books

5. In Extract B, what can we conclude about Mrs. Fiamma based on the reactions of others?

- A. She is friendly
- B. She is terrifying
- C. She is introverted
- D. She is a lover of knowledge

6. What is the commonality between both extracts?

- A. They both discuss the importance of books
- B. They both care about important social issues
- C. They both have characters that are librarians
- D. They both involve jealousy

Read the poem below and then answer the questions

***Midnight on the Great Western* by Thomas Hardy**

In the third-class seat sat the journeying boy,
And the roof-lamp's oily flame
Played down on his listless form and face,
Bewrapt past knowing to what he was going,
Or whence he came. 5

In the band of his hat the journeying boy
Had a ticket stuck; and a string
Around his neck bore the key of his box,
That twinkled gleams of the lamp's sad beams
Like a living thing. 10

What past can be yours, O journeying boy
Towards a world unknown,
Who calmly, as if incurious quite
On all at stake, can undertake
This plunge alone? 15

Knows your soul a sphere, O journeying boy,

Our rude realms far above,
Whence with spacious vision you mark and mete
This region of sin that you find you in,
But are not of?

20

For questions 7 – 12, choose the option (A, B, C or D) which you think best answers the question

7. What can we conclude about the boy's action in line 1?

- A. He is from a city
- B. He is travelling somewhere
- C. He loves to watch trains
- D. His father works as a train conductor

8. The use of the word "listless" in line 2 implies that the boy

- A. Lacks paper lists
- B. Has a cheerful disposition
- C. Lacks enthusiasm about what he's doing
- D. Wants to travel the world

9. In line 15, what does the 'plunge' refer to?

- A. The train's uneven motion
- B. Toilet plunger
- C. The acting skills of the boy
- D. The boy's decision to travel

10. What is located around the boy's neck?

- A. A necklace
- B. A string holding a key to a box
- C. A scar
- D. A birthmark

11. What is located in the band of the boy's hat?

- A. His ticket
- B. His ID
- C. A picture of the boy's home
- D. The train's destination details

12. What is the central theme in the poem?

- A. Living circumstances
- B. Overcoming struggles
- C. Wealth
- D. Life journey

You are going to read an article about four descriptions of actors. For Questions 13 - 19, choose from the descriptions of actors (A-D).

The descriptions of actors may be chosen more than once.

<p>A. Adam Sandler is a well-known American actor and comedian who has appeared in numerous films. He is a scriptwriter, film producer, and musician. In addition to his feature films, which have done extraordinarily well at the box office, he has published six comedy CDs, two of which have been rated double-platinum. He was drawn to jokes at an early age and kept his classmates delighted with his pranks and comedic acts. His brother saw his ability and urged him to pursue a career in comedy. After high school, he pursued acting studies and graduated from the 'Tisch School of the Arts' at 'New York University.' Early in his career, he dabbled with television, becoming a regular on an 'MTV' game program. Soon after, he was cast as a member of 'Saturday Night Live' (SNL), and he rose to prominence as a comic. He dabbled in movies and had tremendous success as a comic. He later founded his own film and television production firm, 'Happy Madison Productions,' which has produced a number of films. He is also well-known for his charity contributions.</p>	<p>C. Paul Walker was an American actor best known for his part in the 'Fast and Furious' trilogy. He'd also starred in films including 'Varsity Blues,' 'Eight Below,' 'Timeline,' 'Into the Blue,' 'Joy Ride,' and 'Running Scared.' He inherited his mother's beautiful looks, confidence, and elegance as the son of a fashion model. It's hardly unexpected that he had an early interest in performing after being exposed to the world of show business as a youngster. He began modelling at the age of two and, after a few years, began starring in television programs as a guest star. He skilfully left his television days behind and quickly established himself as a popular young star. His appearances in coming-of-age films such as 'She's All That' and 'Varsity Blues' established him as a familiar face, and he was able to readily shift to more mature parts. He was given the chance of a lifetime when he was cast as Brian O'Conner in the street racing action picture 'The Fast and the Furious,' which catapulted him to stardom in Hollywood. This great actor's life was cut short in a car accident in 2013.</p>
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<p>B.</p>	<p>Neve Campbell, born Neve Adrianne Campbell, is a well-known Canadian actress. She is most known for her role as Sidney Prescott in the horror film series 'Scream.' She has also appeared in a number of other films, including 'Wild Things,' 'The Company,' 'Panic,' and 'The Craft.' She is the daughter of a psychologist and a high school teacher, and she has done extensive television work. She has been on television in the Canadian series 'Catwalk,' and the Netflix thriller 'House of Cards,' to mention a few. Campbell, who has made significant contributions to both the Canadian and American entertainment industries, has received several accolades and distinctions during her career. For 'Scream,' she received the 'Saturn Award' for Best Actress. For 'Scream 2,' she received the 'Blockbuster Entertainment Award' for Favourite Actress - Horror and the MTV Movie Award for Best Female Performance. Aside from this, her performance in the television film 'Last Call' earned her a 'Prism Award.' In terms of the star's personal life, she is an animal lover in real life. She also has a really offensive sense of humour.</p>	<p>D.</p>	<p>Shah Rukh Khan is a renowned celebrity in the Indian film industry who has ruled the Indian cinematic world for decades. Shah Rukh Khan is often referred to as the romantic icon of Indian cinema, and he has several nicknames, including 'Badshah of Bollywood,' 'King Khan,' and 'King of Bollywood.' He was an excellent student who excelled in extracurricular activities. He pursued his ambition of becoming an actor, and his dedication to his craft established him as one of the world's most known performers. He has worked tirelessly throughout his career and has never given up. Every time he encountered a stumbling block, the great actor began again. He has a positive outlook on life and approaches everything with a deep belief in God. As an actor, he has had both huge triumphs and heartbreaking disappointments. His accomplishments, on the other hand, make his failures look insignificant. He also works as a producer and owns a cricket team that competes in the 'Indian Premier League,' a cricket league. He is a family man who, despite his hectic schedule, makes time for his family.</p>
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Which descriptions of actors mentions:

13.	Skyrocketing after his/her action in the leading action film
14.	A boss of a sports team
15.	Throughout the school day, participating in extra activities
16.	Having a generous personality
17.	Having starred in a horror film series

18.	Being encouraged by his/her relative to take up the world of acting
19.	Starring in a number of humorous films

Read the sentences below and match it to the correct summary sentence

A There are now over 700 million motor vehicles in the world - and the number is rising by more than 40 million each year. The average distance driven by car users is growing too - from 8 km a day per person in Western Europe in 1965 to 25 km a day in 1995. This dependence on motor vehicles has given rise to major problems, including environmental pollution, depletion of oil resources, traffic congestion and safety.

B While emissions from new cars are far less harmful than they used to be, city streets and motorways are becoming more crowded than ever, often with older trucks, buses and taxis which emit excessive levels of smoke and fumes. This concentration of vehicles makes air quality in urban areas unpleasant and sometimes dangerous to breathe. Even Moscow has joined the list of capitals afflicted by congestion and traffic fumes. In Mexico City, vehicle pollution is a major health hazard.

C Until a hundred years ago, most journeys were in the 20 km range, the distance conveniently accessible by horse. Heavy freight could only be carried by water or rail. The invention of the motor vehicle brought personal mobility to the masses and made rapid freight delivery possible over a much wider area. In the United Kingdom, about 90 per cent of inland freight is carried by road. The world cannot revert to the horse-drawn wagon. Can it avoid being locked into congested and polluting ways of transporting people and goods?

D In Europe, most cities are still designed for the old modes of transport. Adaptation to the motor car has involved adding ring roads, one-way systems and parking lots. In the United States, more land is assigned to car use than to housing. Urban sprawl means that life without a car is next to impossible. Mass use of motor vehicles has also killed or injured millions of people. Other social effects have been blamed on the car, such as alienation and aggressive human behaviour.

E A 1993 study by the European Federation for Transport and Environment found that car transport is seven times as costly as rail travel in terms of the external social costs it entails - congestion, accidents, pollution, loss of cropland and natural habitats, depletion of oil resources, and so on. Yet, cars easily surpass trains or buses as a flexible and convenient mode of personal transport. It is unrealistic to expect people to give up private cars in favour of mass transit.

F Technical solutions can reduce the pollution problem and increase the fuelled efficiency of engines. But fuel consumption and exhaust emissions depend on which cars are preferred by

customers and how they are driven. Many people buy larger cars than they need for daily purposes, or waste fuel by driving aggressively. Besides, global car use is increasing at a faster rate than the improvement in emissions and fuel efficiency which technology is now making possible.

G Some argue that the only long-term solution is to design cities and neighbourhoods so that car journeys are not necessary - all essential services being located within walking distance or easily accessible by public transport. Not only would this save energy and cut carbon dioxide emissions, it would also enhance the quality of community life, putting the emphasis on people instead of cars. Good local governments are already bringing this about in some places. But few democratic communities are blessed with the vision – and the capital – to make such profound changes in modern lifestyles.

H A more likely scenario seems to be a combination of mass transit systems for travel into and around cities, with small 'low emission' cars for urban use and larger hybrid or lean burn cars for use elsewhere. Electronically tolled highways might be used to ensure that drivers pay charges geared to actual road use. Better integration of transport systems is also highly desirable - and made more feasible by modern computers. But these are solutions for countries which can afford them. In most developing countries, old cars and old technologies continue to predominate

For questions 20-25, choose from the paragraphs above (A-H).

Which paragraph contains the following information?

- _____ **20** a comparison of past and present transportation methods
- _____ **21** how driving habits contribute to road problems
- _____ **22** the relative merits of cars and public transport
- _____ **23** the writer's prediction on future solutions
- _____ **24** the increasing use of motor vehicles
- _____ **25** the impact of the car on city development