

**Read the stories below then answer the questions that follow.**

### **Extract A: The Boy Who Cried Wolf**

There once was a shepherd boy who was bored as he sat on the hillside watching the village sheep. To amuse himself he took a great breath and sang out, "Wolf! Wolf! The Wolf is chasing the sheep!"

The villagers came running up the hill to help the boy drive the wolf away, but when they arrived at the top of the hill, they found no wolf. The boy laughed at the sight of their angry faces.

"Don't cry 'wolf', shepherd boy," said the villagers, "when there's no wolf!" They went grumbling back down the hill.

Later, the boy sang out again, "Wolf! Wolf! The wolf is chasing the sheep!" To his naughty delight, he watched the villagers run up the hill to help him drive the wolf away.

When the villagers saw no wolf they sternly said, "Save your frightened song for when there is really something wrong! Don't cry 'wolf' when there is NO wolf!" But the boy just grinned and watched them go grumbling down the hill once more.

Later, he saw a REAL wolf prowling about his flock. Alarmed, he leaped to his feet and sang out as loudly as he could, "Wolf! Wolf!"

But the villagers thought he was trying to fool them again, and so they didn't come.

At sunset, everyone wondered why the shepherd boy hadn't returned to the village with their sheep. They went up the hill to find the boy. They found him weeping.

"There really was a wolf here! The flock has scattered! I cried out, "Wolf!" Why didn't you come?" An old man tried to comfort the boy as they walked back to the village.

"We'll help you look for the lost sheep in the morning," he said, putting his arm around the youth, "Nobody believes a liar...even when he is telling the truth!"

### **Extract B: A Very Special Seed**

A successful king was growing old and knew it was time to choose a successor to take over the kingdom. Instead of choosing one of his directors or his children, he decided to do something different. He called all the young lads in his kingdom together.

He said, "It is time for me to step down and choose the next king. I have decided to choose one of you." The young lads were shocked, but the king continued, "I am going to give each one of you a seed today – one very special seed. I want you to plant the seed, water it, and come back here one year from today with what you have grown from the seed I have given you. I will then judge the plants that you bring, and the one I choose will be the next king."

One man, named Jim, was there that day and he, like the others, received a seed. He went home and excitedly told his wife the story. She helped him get a pot, soil and compost and he planted the seed. Everyday, he would water it and watch to see if it had grown. After about three weeks, some of the other lads began to talk about their seeds and the plants that were beginning to grow.

Jim kept checking his seed, but nothing ever grew. Three weeks, four weeks, five weeks went by, still nothing. By now, others were talking about their plants, but Jim didn't have a plant and he felt like a failure.

Six months went by — still nothing in Jim's pot. He just knew he had killed his seed. Everyone else had trees and tall plants, but he had nothing. Jim didn't say anything to his colleagues, however, he just kept watering and fertilising the soil. He wanted the seed to grow.

A year went by and the king asked the young lads to bring their plants to work for inspection. When Jim told his wife that he wasn't going to take an empty pot, she asked him to be honest about what happened. Jim felt sick to his stomach, it was going to be the most embarrassing moment of his life, but he knew his wife was right. He took his empty pot to the board room.

When Jim arrived, he was amazed at the variety of plants grown by the other lads. They were beautiful — in all shapes and sizes. Jim put his empty pot on the floor and many of his colleagues laughed, a few felt sorry for him!

When the king arrived, he surveyed the room and greeted his young lads. Jim just tried to hide in the back. "My, what great plants, trees and flowers you have grown," said the king. "Today one of you will be appointed the next king!"

All of a sudden, the king spotted Jim at the back of the room with his empty pot. He asked Jim to come to the front of the room. Jim was terrified. He thought, "The king knows I'm a failure! Maybe he will have me banished!"

When Jim got to the front, the king asked him what had happened to his seed. Jim told him the story. The king asked everyone to sit down except Jim. He looked at Jim, and then announced to the young lads, "Behold your next king — Jim!"

Jim couldn't believe it. Jim couldn't even grow his seed. "How could he be the new king?" the others said.

Then the king said, "One year ago today, I gave everyone in this room a seed. I told you to take the seed, plant it, water it, and bring it back to me today. But I gave you all boiled seeds; they were dead — it was not possible for them to grow.

"All of you, except Jim, have brought me trees and plants and flowers. When you found that the seed would not grow, you substituted another seed for the one I gave you. Jim was the only one with the courage and honesty to bring me a pot with my seed in it. Therefore, he is the one who will be the new king!"

Answer the following questions by choosing the letter of the best answer.

1 What lesson does the extracts tell us?

- A. Never tell a lie; telling the truth builds trust.
- B. Telling white lies should be okay, regardless of the consequences.
- C. Occasionally, it is acceptable to lie for the greater good.
- D. Always be truthful with a superior.

2 How are the main characters in the story different?

- A. In extract A, the main character is honest, whereas in extract B, he is not.
- B. In extract A, the protagonist is poor, whereas in extract B, the protagonist is wealthy.
- C. In extract A, the main character is lying, whereas in extract B, he is telling the truth.
- D. In extract A, the main character is cruel, whereas in extract B, he is kind.

3 What is the theme of the stories?

- A. Friendship
- B. Integrity
- C. Punctuality
- D. Power

4 What is the main characters' problem in the extracts?

- A. In extract A, the people did not believe him; in extract B, the king grew old.
- B. In extract A, the wolf attacked; in extract B, the seeds didn't grow.
- C. In extract A, he was called out for lying; in extract B, he was called forward by the king.
- D. In extract A, when the sheep died; in extract B, the king chose a successor.

5 After reading both extracts, what can you infer about the value of truth in today's time?

- A. Knowing the truth should be supported with actual experience for more credibility.
- B. Truth relies on the severity of a situation only.
- C. It is only important once it is believed by many.
- D. Sometimes, the truth relies on your character.

Read the poem below then answer the questions that follow.

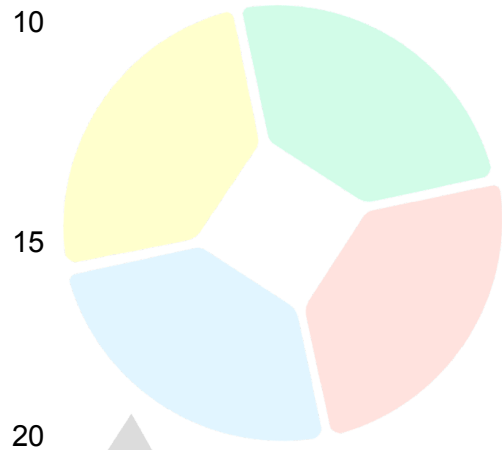
### The School Bus Breaks Down by Phyllis Telfer and Hermea Goodman

As up the hill the school bus goes,  
Just listen how it puffs and blows.  
It coughs and splutters as it tries  
To drag its body up the rise,  
Until at last it wearies out  
And stops. Then with a joyful shout  
The children jump down to the ground

And laugh and skip and run around.

'We'll all be late for school! Hurray!  
It's not our fault!' they chant with glee.  
'Sit down. We'll soon be on our way!  
The driver roars. 'Don't crowd round me!'

He takes a crank, and twirls it round.  
The boys and girls soon hear the sound  
Of engines turning. In they hop.  
And with another start and stop  
The bus moves off. With downcast face  
Each child sits in his normal place.  
'School after all!' they sadly say.  
'I thought we might have missed today!'



**Answer the following questions by choosing the letter of the best answer.**

**6 What imagery is shown in line 3?**

- A. Visual
- B. Tactile
- C. Auditory
- D. Olfactory

**7 What is the rhyme pattern of the first stanza?**

- A. ABCDABCD
- B. ABABCD CD
- C. ABCABCDD
- D. AABBCDD

**8 What does lines 14 and 15 mean?**

- A. the bus was making a lot of weird noises
- B. the driver of the bus managed to fix the bus
- C. the bus was broken beyond repair
- D. the children heard noises on the road and got scare

**9 Why were the children happy even when they were late?**

- A. because they might not be able to join the first period
- B. because they have an exam which they won't be able to take
- C. because they might not be able to go to school that day
- D. because they love staying inside the bus where it is warm

10 What feeling does the driver probably have towards the kids?

- A. annoyance
- B. excitement
- C. guilt
- D. fear

Read the article below then answer the questions.

There are sentences that have been removed from the article. Choose the correct letter below that contains the sentence that best fits in the paragraph. Take note that there is an extra sentence which you do not need to use.

**BRAVERY**

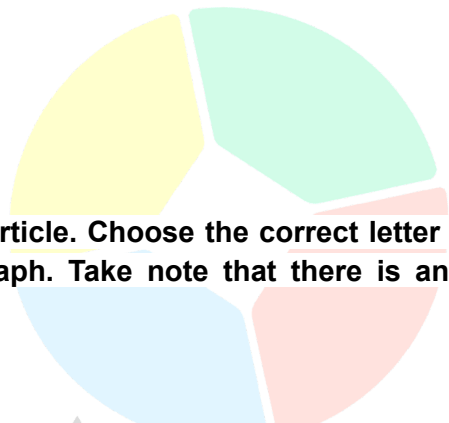
Bravery is a trait that has been admired and valued by humans throughout history. **11**..... Bravery comes in many forms and can be displayed in different situations, whether it is fighting for one's country, standing up to a bully, or taking a risk to pursue one's dreams. In this essay, we will discuss the importance of bravery, the different types of bravery, the characteristics of a brave person, and how to develop bravery.

The importance of bravery cannot be overstated. Without bravery, progress and success would be impossible. The world is full of challenges, and it takes bravery to overcome them. Bravery is what enables us to take risks, to push ourselves beyond our limits, and to achieve our goals. **12**..... Bravery also inspires others and sets an example for them to follow. When we see someone display bravery, it gives us hope and encourages us to be brave in our own lives.

There are different types of bravery, and each type requires a different kind of courage. One type of bravery is physical bravery, which involves facing danger or pain. This kind of bravery is often exhibited by soldiers, firefighters, and police officers, who put their lives on the line to protect others. Another type of bravery is moral bravery, which involves standing up for what is right, even when it is difficult or unpopular. **13**..... Finally, there is emotional bravery, which involves facing our fears and vulnerabilities. This kind of bravery is often exhibited by people who have suffered trauma or loss, and who find the strength to overcome their pain and move forward.

The characteristics of a brave person are not limited to physical strength or fearlessness. In fact, some of the most courageous people are those who appear to be the most vulnerable. A brave person is someone who is willing to take risks and face their fears, even when they feel afraid. **14**..... A brave person is someone who is selfless and willing to put others before themselves, even if it means putting themselves in danger.

Developing bravery is not something that happens overnight. It is a gradual process that requires practice and patience. One way to develop bravery is to start small. **15**..... Another way to develop bravery is to surround yourself with people who are brave and who inspire you to be brave. Seek out mentors and role models who have displayed courage in their lives. Finally, it is important to remember that bravery does not mean being reckless or foolish. It means being willing to take calculated risks and to face your fears with courage and determination.



**Choose the letter of the correct sentence that best fits the missing lines in each paragraph.**

- A. Take on challenges that are just outside your comfort zone, and gradually work your way up to bigger challenges.
- B. It is what separates the ordinary from the extraordinary.
- C. Ultimately, bravery is not the absence of fear, but the courage to face our fears and overcome them.
- D. They are also people who are guided by their values and principles, and who are not afraid to stand up for what they believe in.
- E. This kind of bravery is often exhibited by activists, whistleblowers, and reformers, who challenge the status quo and fight for social justice.
- F. It is the quality of facing danger, difficulty, or pain without being overcome by fear.

**Read the extracts below then answer the questions that follow.**

<p><b>A.</b> Golden retrievers are very versatile. People call them bird dogs, family pets, service dogs for the disabled, and search and rescue dogs.</p> <p>The golden retriever has a wavy or flat, golden to cream-coloured coat that repels water. The fur on the neck, legs, thighs, underside, and tail are one of the best things about this breed.</p> <p>The golden retriever has a good temper, is smart, and loves people. Golden retrievers are playful but kind to kids, and they usually get along well with other pets and people they don't know. These dogs want to please their owners, which is likely why they do so well with obedience training and are so popular as service dogs. They also like to work, whether it's hunting birds or getting their guardian's slippers.</p> <p>Golden retrievers don't usually bark, and they don't have a natural instinct to protect, so you can't count on them to be good watchdogs. But some golden retrievers will bark when they see a stranger coming.</p>	<p><b>C.</b> The American pit bull is strong and stocky, and probably has more muscles per pound of body weight than any other breed.</p> <p>The pit bull is big and strong, he also moves quickly. He may have more muscles per pound of body weight than any other breed.</p> <p>The pit bull's centre of gravity is low, and it looks a little bit longer than it is tall. Especially strong are the muscles in the neck and head. The eyes are small, and the ears can either be cut off or left alone (the latter are rose-shaped).</p> <p>Most pit bulls are friendly, gentle, and patient with everyone in their family (with the very likely exception of other pit bulls). As with every breed, there are some that are different.</p> <p>Pit bulls were raised to be brave and play, to keep doing what they are doing even when things don't go their way. These traits make them stubborn, determined, and not afraid of anything. Pit bulls should not be left alone with children, just like</p>
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			any other large dog.
<b>B.</b>	<p>The Belgian Malinois is a working dog with needs that can only be met by a skilled and experienced.</p> <p>He seems strong and elegant at the same time. He is a tough dog who is used to living outside and has a coat that can handle the wet weather in Belgium. His style and look show that he has a strong personality, which makes him a proud representative of the herding breeds.</p> <p>The main colour is a rich fawn to mahogany, and the hairs have black tips. The Belgian Malinois is a breed with a double coat that usually sheds twice a year.</p> <p>The Belgian Malinois is great at herding, as well as protection and law enforcement, detecting illegal stuff, bombs, and gases, search and rescue, tracking, obedience, sledding, agility, and helping disabled, sick, or elderly people with therapy. This dog is hard to take care of and needs a person with experience. Aggression and temper vary a lot from person to person. They only want to be with their family, so they wouldn't do well as kennel dogs.</p>	<b>D.</b>	<p>Siberian huskies love to dig because they like to make cool places to lie down, especially when it's hot outside.</p> <p>Siberian huskies have thick, soft coats with a lot of underfur. The neck has a small ruff, but the legs and tail do not have long fringes. There are all kinds of colours between black and white. Most dogs do have white spots, usually on their chests or legs.</p> <p>Siberian huskies are the typical dogs of the north. They are smart, but sometimes stubborn and independent. They like to be with people, but they need firm but gentle training from the time they are pups. These dogs were made to run, and sometimes their love for running may be stronger than their love for their owners. Siberian huskies are usually good with people, even kids.</p> <p>Most Siberian huskies get along well with other dogs, especially if they grow up with them. They have a strong need to hunt, so they may go after cats and livestock. Siberian huskies can dig, especially when it's hot outside because they like to make cool places to lay down. They usually don't bark, but they do howl.</p>

Answer the following questions by choosing the correct letter that matches the description. Take note that the letters can be repeated accordingly.

Which extract mentions about...

<b>16</b>	a dog breed that is difficult to maintain and needs a skilled person?
<b>17</b>	a dog breed that is muscular and moves swiftly?
<b>18</b>	a dog breed that you cannot rely on as effective guard dogs?
<b>19</b>	a dog breed that enjoys human companionship but requires tough but soft training from the



	time they are puppies?
20	a dog breed whose hostility and temperament differ greatly from one person to another?

**Read the article below then answer the questions that follow.**

### Importance of Family

It makes no difference what type of family a person belongs to. As long as there is compassion and tolerance, everyone is equal. It makes no difference if you come from a joint family, a partner family, or a nuclear family. Our family's strength is based on the connections we have with our members. We each have unique relationships with each member of the family. Among other things, a person's family is the strongest unit in his or her life.

Several elements contribute to a family's strength. The most essential is, of course, love. When you think of family, unconditional love comes to mind immediately. It is the first love you receive in your lifetime. It teaches you the meaning of love, which you carry in your heart forever. Second, we observe that family is strengthened through loyalty. When one has a family, he or she is devoted to that family. You support them through difficult times and rejoice in their successes. A family is always supportive and dependable. They demonstrate their loyalty by defending one another against a third party who seeks to harm them. Most importantly, learning from one's family strengthens relationships. For instance, we first learn how to navigate the world from our families. They are our first school, and this lesson enhances our relationship with them. As we share the same values, it provides us motivation to support one another. Regardless of the circumstances, your family will never abandon you. They will always be there to help you conquer life's obstacles. Even a brief discussion about one's concerns with one's family will make one's mind lighter and provide them with a sense of hope and inner strength to combat their problems.

Words can not describe how important our families are. They have a significant impact on our lives and make us better people. Those who are fortunate enough to have a family frequently fail to appreciate its importance. However, those without families are aware of their value. A family provides us with strength. It teaches us the meaning of relationships. They facilitate the formation of meaningful relationships in the wider world. We transfer the love we receive from our families to our independent relationships. In addition, families teach us greater communication skills. When we spend time with our family, love one another, and talk openly, we improve our own future. When we maintain connections with our families, we learn to connect with the world more effectively.

Without even noticing, our families teach us patience. Sometimes it is difficult to be patient with our family members. We continue to do so out of love and respect. Consequently, it teaches us patience to better navigate the world. Families strengthen our self-assurance and make us feel appreciated. They are the cornerstones of our strength, whose unwavering support enables us to become better individuals. Through our families, we learn the qualities of love, respect, faith, hope, compassion, cultures, ethics, traditions, and everything else that affects us. A caring home environment provides a solid foundation for anyone. In addition to life lessons, individuals build a value system within the context of their family. They learn and adapt what their family and culture regard to be appropriate and improper behaviour, respectively.



Traditions and practices came from our families. Throughout the years, many families continue traditions by telling stories from the past. This allows you to reconnect with ancestors who have passed away. A youngster raised in a home with a good family relationship has a sense of belonging to something greater than themselves. They will be proud to be a part of a town with a turbulent history. Communities flourish when families are healthy. This contributes to the robustness of society.

**Answer the following questions by choosing the letter of the best answer.**

**21 According to the article, what is the most important element in strengthening a family?**

- A. honesty
- B. time
- C. trust
- D. love

**22 What can we learn from the article?**

- A. All families got through their own struggles.
- B. Family is everything, we should treasure them.
- C. A family controls who you are and who you will be.
- D. Generosity is the most important value in a family.

**23 Which is NOT true based on the extracts?**

- A. Our families make us better individuals and have a big effect on our lives.
- B. People alter behaviour based on what their family thinks is right and wrong.
- C. Your family will never give up on you no matter what.
- D. A person's world should revolve solely on their family.

**24 What is the purpose of the extracts?**

- A. to inform
- B. to persuade
- C. to direct
- D. to entertain

**25 What perspective is the article written in?**

- A. first person
- B. second person
- C. third person
- D. fourth person