



Brain teasers

1. Portmanteau Part II - A **portmanteau** is a word that is composed of two words combined with some missing letters. For example: Smog = smoke + fog. Can you name the two words that make up these portmanteaus?

Internet
Hassle
Humongous
Insinuendo
Intercom
Modem
Motel
Muppet
Pixel
Zorse
Tangelo

2. There are only four words that end with “-dous”. Can you name them?
3. What is the last word found in Webster’s Dictionary?
4. Can you name the words for five body parts that contain only three letters?
5. What is the only word in the English language that contains three consecutive double letters?
6. During a visit to a mental asylum, a visitor asked the Director what the criteria is that defines if a patient should be institutionalized.

"Well," said the Director, "we fill up a bathtub. Then we offer a teaspoon, a teacup, and a bucket to the patient and ask the patient to empty the bathtub."

The test goes like this...

1. Would you use the spoon?
2. Would you use the teacup?
3. Would you use the bucket?

"Oh, I understand," said the visitor. "A normal person would choose the bucket, as it is larger than the spoon and teacup."

What was the director's response?

7. A woman was found dead in her den.
She was slumped over on her desk, holding a gun was in her hand.
A cassette tape recorder was on her desk.
When the police entered the room, they pressed the play button on the tape recorder.
This is the message they heard: "I can't go on. I have nothing to live for."
Then the sound of a gunshot was heard.

Question :

How did the police immediately determine that the woman had been murdered and had not committed suicide?

8. What 4-letter word can be written forward, backward or upside down, and can still be read from left to right?

Answers

1. A portmanteau is a word that is composed of two words combined with some missing letters. For example: Smog = smoke + fog. Can you name the two words that make up these portmanteaus?

Internet = International + Network
Hassle = Hagggle + Tussle
Humongous = Huge + Monstrous
Insinuating = Insinuation + Innuendo
Intercom – Internal + Communication
Modem = Modulator + Demodulator
Motel = Motor + Hotel
Muppet = Marionette + Puppet
Pixel = Picture + Element
Zorse = Zebra + Horse
Tangelo = Tangerine + Pomelo

2. There are only four words that end with “-dous”. Can you name them? Tremendous, Horrendous, Stupendous, and Hazardous.

3. What is the last word found in Webster’s Dictionary? ZZZ, meaning “used to represent the sound of a person snoring.”

4. Can you name the words for five body parts that contain only three letters?

There are ten: eye, ear, leg, arm, jaw, gum, toe, lip, hip, and rib.

5. What is the only word in the English language that contains three consecutive double letters?

Bookkeeper

6. “Not really,” the Director said, “the normal person would just pull the plug.”

7. The cassette started with the beginning of the woman's utterance.

Someone else had to be in the den to rewind the tape.

8. NOON