

## U.K. Student Answers

*Straight from the Internet: A compilation of actual GCSE nationwide test answers for the high school degree in England.*

1. Ancient Egypt was inhabited by mummies and they all wrote in hydraulics. They lived in the Sarah Dessert and traveled by Camelot. The climate of the Sarah is such that the inhabitants have to live elsewhere.

2. The Bible is full of interesting creatures. In the first book of the Bible, Genesis, Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree. One of their children, Cain, asked, "Am I my brother's son?"

3. Moses led the Hebrew slaves to the Red Sea where they made unleavened bread which is bread made without any ingredients. Moses went up on Mount Cyanide to get the ten commandments. He died before he ever reached Canada.

4. Solomon had three hundred wives and seven hundred porcupines.

5. The Greeks were highly sculptured people, and without them we wouldn't have history. The Greeks also had myths. A myth is a female moth.

6. Actually Homer was not written by Homer but by another man by that name.

7. Socrates was a famous Greek teacher who went around giving people advice. They killed him. Socrates died from an overdose of wedlock. After his death, his career suffered a dramatic decline.

8. In the Olympic games, Greeks ran races, jumped, hurled the biscuits, and threw the java.

9. Eventually the Romans conquered the Greeks. History calls people Romans because they never stayed in

one place for very long.

10. Julius Caesar extinguished himself on the battlefields of Gaul. The Ides of March murdered him because they thought he was about to be made king. Dying, he gasped out, "Tee hee, Brutus."

11. Nero was a cruel tyranny who would torture his subjects by playing the fiddle to them.

12. Joan of arc was burned to a steak and was cannonized by Bernard Shaw. Finally Magna Carta provided that no man should be hanged twice for the same offense.

13. In midevil times most people were aliterate. The greatest writer of the futile ages was Chaucer, who wrote many poems and verses and also wrote literature.

14. Another story was William Tell, who shot an arrow through an apple while standing on his son's head.

15. Queen Elizabeth was the "Virgin Queen." As a queen she was a success. When she exposed herself before the troops they all shouted "hurrah."

16. It was an age of great inventions and discoveries. Gutenberg invented removable type and the Bible. Another important invention was the circulation of blood. Sir Walter Raleigh is a historical figure because he invented cigarettes and started smoking. And Sir Francis Drake circumcised the globe with a 100 foot clipper.

17. The greatest writer of the Renaissance was William Shakespeare. He was born in the year 1564, supposedly on his birthday. He never made much money and is famous only because of his plays. He wrote tragedies,

*Continued on page 2*

### THE PROPOSAL

1. Private landownership and assessments to remain untouched.

2. Levy a lower rate on building assessments, higher on land, instead of the same rate on both.

3. How to do it? Call us! We have experience (no obligation).

410-740-1177

## Glossary of Unfamiliar Terms

*David Diefendorf is a champion glossarist and he has just appeared with a new collection of somewhat unusual daffynitions, among which are:*

**AWKWARD:** In the direction of an awk.

**LATENCY:** A tendency not to be on time.

**APLOMB:** A kind of fruit.

**DYSPEPSIA:** The uncola.

**GARISH:** Like Gary.

**INVENTORY:** Where an inventor works.

**TARTAR:** Stuff used to seal the roofroof.

**PORRIDGE:** A game bird.

**DEFILE:** To remove from alphabetical order.

**SKIRMISH:** Of or pertaining to a skirm.

**SMOTHER:** An overprotective mother.

**GOBLET:** A small glob.

**EXCOMMUNICATE:** To hang up the phone on someone.

**OPPORTUNE:** An aria.

comedies, and hysterectomies, all in Islamic pentameter. Romeo and Juliet are an example of a heroic couplet. Romeo's last wish was to be laid by Juliet.

18. Writing at the same time as Shakespeare was Miguel Cervantes. He wrote "Donkey Hote." The next great author was John Milton. Milton wrote Paradise Lost. Then his wife died and he wrote Paradise Regained.

19. During the Renaissance America began. Christopher Columbus was a great navigator who discovered America while cursing about the Atlantic. His ships were called the Nina, the Pinta, and the Santa Fe.

20. Later, the Pilgrims crossed the ocean, and this was called Pilgrim's Progress. The winter of 1620 was a hard one for the settlers. Many people died and many babies were born. Captain John Smith was responsible for all this.

21. One of the causes of the Revolutionary War was the English put tacks in their tea. Also, the colonists would send their parcels through the post without stamps. Finally the colonists won the War and no longer had to pay for taxis. Delegates from the original 13 states formed the Contented Congress. Thomas Jefferson, a Virgin, and Benjamin Franklin were two singers of the Declaration of Independence. Franklin discovered electricity by rubbing two cats backwards and declared. "A horse divided against itself cannot stand." Franklin died in 1790 and is still dead.

22. Soon the Constitution of the United States was adopted to secure domestic hostility. Under the constitution the people enjoyed the right to keep bare arms.

23. Abraham Lincoln became America's greatest president. Lincoln's mother died in infancy, and he was born in a log cabin which he built with his own hands. Abraham Lincoln freed the slaves by signing the Emasculation Proclamation. On the night of April 14, 1865, Lincoln went to the theater and

got shot in his seat by one of the actors in a moving picture show. The believed assassin was John Wilkes Booth, a supposedly insane actor. This ruined Booth's career.

24. Meanwhile in Europe, the enlightenment was a reasonable time. Voltaire invented electricity and also wrote a book called Candy.

25. Gravity was invented by a man called Isaac Walton. It is chiefly noticeable in the autumn when the apples are falling off the trees.

26. Johann Bach wrote a great many musical compositions and had a large number of children. In between he practiced on an old spinster which he kept up in the attic. Bach died from 1750 to the present. Bach was the most famous composer in the world and so was Handel. Handel was half German half Italian and half English. He was very large.

27. Beethoven wrote music even though he was deaf. He was so deaf he wrote loud music. He took long walks in the forest even when everyone was calling for him. Bach expired in 1827 and later died for this.

28. The French Revolution was accomplished before it happened and catapulted into Napoleon. Napoleon wanted an heir to inherit his power, but since Josephine was a baroness, she couldn't have any children.

29. The sun never sets on the British Empire because the British Empire is in the East and the sun sets in the West.

30. Queen Victoria was the longest queen. She sat on a throne for 63

years. She was a moral woman who practiced virtue. Her death was the final event which ended her reign.

31. The nineteenth century was a time of a great many thoughts and inventions. People stopped reproducing by hand and started reproducing by machine. The invention of the steamboat caused a network of rivers to spring up.


32. Louis Pasteur discovered a cure for rabies. Charles Darwin was a naturalist who wrote the Organ of the Species. Madman Curie discovered radio. And Karl Marx became one of the Marx brothers.

33. The First World War, caused by the assignation of the Arch-Duck by an anahist, ushered in a new error in the anals of human history.

## Burma-Shave Jingles

*In 1925, Clinton Odell, a Minneapolis lawyer and insurance salesman, developed a brushless shaving cream and the next year, at his son Allan's urging, he prepared a series of five or six road signs, all ending with the name of his product. Eventually, 35,000 Burma-Shave signs sprinkled America's highways annually until 1963, when Philip Morris Co. purchased the brand and ended this form of advertising (highways and high speeds outmoded them). Here are some samples of those signs:*

Every shaver Now can snore Six more minutes than before by using <i>Burma-Shave</i>	Shaving Brush All wet And hairy I've passed you up For sanitary <i>Burma-Shave</i>
Early to bed Early to rise Was meant for those Old-fashioned guys Who don't use <i>Burma-Shave</i>	Your shaving brush Has had its day So why not Shave the modern way with <i>Burma-Shave</i>



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◆ *It turns out we're not perfect: the article about Harrisburg, Pa. in the last issue should have been headlined: "New Construction Surges After 2-Rate Expansion"*

◆ What did the billy goat say after he ate the film? (The book was better.)

◆ Time flies like an arrow; fruit flies like a banana..(Groucho Marx)

◆ Do you know why Cleopatra said, "No!" (Because she was the queen of denial.)

◆ *"America was born upon the shoulders of men and women who gave their lives for freedom, pioneers who were not afraid of failure, thinkers who were not afraid of progress, and dreamers who had the courage to live their dreams." (Successories plaque)*

◆ Did you hear about the man who decided to walk a mile a day but found a short cut that would let him



◆ Did you hear about the man who went to the doctor to complain that he felt like a deck of cards? The doctor said, "Sit down and I'll deal with you later."

◆ What two letters are your teeth afraid of? (D, K)

◆ *We like Pa. HB728. It would require the state to seriously consider locating new state office buildings in urban downtown areas in an effort to combat urban sprawl. Support it (2-rate LVT would also do the same).*

◆ Why is baseball like pancakes?

They both depend on the batter.

◆ What famous noon meal was invented by a composer? (Bach's lunch.)

◆ *A strong economy is reducing welfare caseloads by 21% (Robert Samuelson in Newsweek, 5/5/97, p. 49).*

◆ Why was the man staring fixedly at the orange juice? The sign on the can said, "concentrate."

◆ Why do policemen have such nice looking yards? (Because they keep law'n order.)

◆ Old auctioneers never die. They just look forbidding.

◆ *Taxes count: When New York City slashed its destructive 21% hotel tax that made visitors gasp in disbelief, tourism boomed* (Wall Street Journal, 11/19/98, A22).

◆ What did the adding machine say to the cashier? ("You can count on me.")

## "You'll Tax Away the Tax Base!"

It hurts. But we'll persist.

The editor of a reform magazine I subscribe to - just the kind of publication that could help promote land value taxation - recently rejected an article he asked me to write for him. His reason: if we tax land values, we'll reduce them; land assessments will then fall, and the tax will be taking more and more of less and less; in other words, the tax will cause the tax base to disappear and would eventually produce no revenue at all. Evidently, he thought this up all by himself (or possibly he had some bad advice), quite unaware that this "problem" had already been exhaustively researched and answered.

He's got nothing to worry about: Experience shows that as long as we

transfer the property tax off buildings onto land values, the taxable price of land doesn't decline but rather increases, because the lesser tax on buildings makes landownership more profitable, thereby enhancing land values. Far from the land tax base disappearing, it grows. If the land value tax replaces other taxes, then land assessments would be enhanced for the same reason.

If, at some distant time, the land value tax replaces all other taxes, any further LVT increases could be returned to the people on an equal per capita basis as a National Dividend; land prices might then start to decline and we could assess and tax land not at its declining selling price but at its annual potential rental value.

For the most-difficult-to-assess land - commercial and industrial - the annual rental price is more readily knowable than the selling price.

Where there's a will, there's a way. Unfortunately, our esteemed editor didn't ask us how this technical problem might be addressed.

Reformers will have to proceed without his help.

He played  
a sax  
had no B.O.  
but his whiskers scratched  
so she let him go  
*Burma-Shave*

Shaving brushes	Mirror on
You'll soon see 'em	The bathroom wall
On the shelf	What's the
In some museum	Smoothest shave
<i>Burma-Shave</i>	of all?
	<i>Burma-Shave</i>

## Endorsements 479-480

George Bernard Shaw: "I went one night quite casually, into a hall in London, and I heard a man deliver a speech which changed the whole current of my life. That man was an American, Henry George. America's greatest contribution to the world was

Henry George."

William Blackstone (1723-1780): "The earth, therefore, and all things therein, are the general property of all mankind, from the immediate gift of the Creator" [well, the rent is anyway].

## A Docketful of Wry

(or The Freshman Expresses Himself)

This is the title of a book edited by William Betts, Jr., Professor of English at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Some excerpts are printed below. He encountered these gems while reading years of student compositions.

◆ I realized my map was misleading when I began going out with men.

◆ Things went along rather smooth the rest of the year. It was like any normal day.

◆ After waiting all spring, July 4 finally arrived.

◆ Least but not last, Mrs. Elmer Galley spoke to the group.

◆ In my childhood I always thought about going to college, but I kept putting it off and putting it off.

◆ I reported my findings on a mental record and blissfully left the South

knowing that the people of this land are happy to be alive both yesterday and today.

◆ Some of my relatives told me how mean my grandmother was after her death.

◆ Lucetta's victory [in The Mayor of Casterbridge] did not affect Henchard very much; when he heard she was coming he merely became excited.

◆ My uncle, to me, is an outstanding man. His features are fairly common and his dress is ordinary.

◆ One cool morning, as I was running up the hill I felt a freshness inside me which had lain dormant for several months.

◆ I accepted a job in a Y.M.C.A. camp. Naturally I wanted to be liked by the girls in my cabin.

## A Pupil's Point of View

The following quotations are taken from the science exams of 11-year-olds (accumulated by Jack Koenig and reprinted in the 9/10/98 issue of the Heartland Institute's "Intellectual Ammunition"):

◆ Blood flows down one leg and up the other.

◆ Dew is formed on leaves when the sun shines down on them and makes them perspire.

◆ Mushrooms always grow in damp places, and so they look like umbrellas.

◆ Vacuum: a large empty space where the pope lives.

◆ The body consists of three parts - the brainium, the borax, and the abomi-

nable cavity. The brainium contains the brain, the borax contains the heart and lungs, and the abominable cavity contains the bowels, of which there are five: a, e, i, o and u.

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## Newspaper Headliners Have Foot-In-Mouth Disease - II

Here are more actual headlines from the Houston Chronicle (2/19/97), sent to us by Jess Feinman, raconteur:

◆ Plane Too Close to Ground, Crash Probe Told

◆ Miners Refuse to Work after Death

◆ Juvenile Court to Try Shooting Defendant

◆ Two Sisters Reunited after 18 Years in Checkout Counter

◆ Killer Sentenced to Die for Second Time in 10 Years

◆ Never Withhold Herpes Infection from Loved One

◆ f Strike Isn't Settled Quickly, It May Last a While

◆ Cold Wave Linked to Temperatures

◆ Couple Slain; Police Suspect Homicide

◆ Red Tape Holds up Bridge

◆ Deer Kills 17,000

◆ Typhoon Rips Through Cemetery, Hundreds Dead

◆ Astronaut Takes Blame for Gas in Spacecraft

◆ Chef Throws His Heart into Helping Feed Needy

Every day  
we do  
our part  
to make your face  
a work of art  
Burma-Shave

To get  
away from  
hairy apes  
ladies jump  
from fire escapes  
Burma-Shave