

SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT MENSA CHRONICLE



TABLE OF CONTENTS

2	Schedule of Mensa Events
4	From the Loc Sec
5	January Dinner
9	Puzzles
11	Word Check
	Synonym Sense
13	Noted and Quoted
14	Treasury Report
	Chapter Notes
15	Member Advertisements
16	List of Officers

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL: If your membership expires in 2014, that expiration is effective as of the end of April. You should have received a renewal notice in the mail or e-mail in January. You can return that form or visit www.us.mensa.org to renew.

If you or someone you know would like to be a speaker at our monthly dinner, please contact Jim Mizera at 203-522-1959 or Jmizera@hotmail.com. The dinner is held the third Saturday of the month.



ARCHIVED COPIES OF THE CHRONICLE

going back to 2000 are available on the Internet at <http://scm66.org>. You can download the latest e-mail version of the Chronicle there, as well as previous issues.

SCM CHAPTER EVENTS - FEBRUARY

Saturday, February 8, 4:00 - 10:00 pm

Games Gathering

Try out some of the chapter's games with your guest(s) or other members and guests in attendance. Contact Deb on locsec@rocketmail.com for details and directions.

Thursday, February 13, 7:30 pm

Film: Anatomy of a Murder

Milford Center for the Arts, 40 Railroad Avenue (inside eastbound railroad station), Milford, CT 06460 Nominated for 16 awards, including score, best actor, Director, Titles, script, and more. Suggested donation: \$8.00. Email Jim Mizera at jmizera@hotmail.com or text or call (203) 522-1959 for info or reservations.

Friday, February 14, 7:00 pm

Danbury Dinner - Southern Connecticut and Connecticut/Western Massachusetts Joint Dinner

at John's Best Pizza, Shop Rite Plaza, Federal Road, Danbury. Interested M's should contact Ward Mazzucco at 203-744-1929, ext 25, wjm@danburylaw.com or Rev. Bill Loring at 203-794-1389, fr.bill@comcast.net for info on location and/or reservations.

Saturday, February 15, 6:30

Monthly Dinner

The PUTNAM HOUSE Restaurant, 12 Depot Place, Bethel, CT 06801 (downtown - across from old railroad station). Elizabeth DiSalvo, Principal of Trillium Architects LLC, Ridgefield, CT, will speak on "Green Architecture." Members who have not attended a monthly dinner before will get dinner for free. Dress is casual. Before

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the presentation, we will enjoy dinner. There is parking in the rear of the restaurant and in the nearby Old Railroad Station lot. Contact Jim Mizera at jmizera@hotmail.com or text or call (203) 522-1959 for reservations or info.

Reservations strongly encouraged but not required. You can bring a donation of money or food to benefit the Connecticut Food Bank.

CONNECTICUT AND WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER EVENTS

This is not a complete listing WE - Weekly Event, ME - Monthly Event, YE - Yearly Event

FEBRUARY

6, 13, 20, 27 Thursdays 6:30 pm

Scrabble

The word-loving Mensans (are there any other kind?) and non-Mensans gather to play Scrabble at Panera Bread Restaurant at Bishop's Corner, 2542 Albany Ave., West Hartford. For more info contact Lois Cappellano 413-567-4702

7 Friday 5:30 pm

Happy Hour in Wallingford

(ME, 1st Fridays) Ann Polanski (contact her at 203-269-4565 or cell 860-817-9910 or ann.polanski@comcast.net) at The Old Dublin, 171 Quinipiac Street, Wallingford, CT 06492, 203-949-8022, www.theolddublin.com

From Route 15: Take exit 64 toward Wallingford/ Downtown, Sharp right at Quinipiac Street, At 0.3 miles turn left to stay on Quinipiac Street. The Old Dublin will be on the left about 0.3 miles from where you turned left.

From I-91: Take I-91 to exit 13 Turn right at end of exit onto South Colony Road. At about 0.2 miles, turn left onto Quinipiac Street (Wallingford center, just before the gazebo). The Old Dublin will be on your right within about two blocks.

12 Wednesday 5:30 pm

Shoreline Happy Hour

(ME, 2nd Wednesday) at Donovan's Reef 1212 Main Street, Branford Conn. 06405. The Donovan's Reef www.donovans-reef.com web

site has a small map, and here are some directions with distances - from I-95 take exit 54/ Cedar Street. Go south on Cedar Street crossing Rt. 1/Boston Post Road for about 0.5 mi. to Rose Street. Take a left on Rose and go 0.25 mi. to a driveway on the right where you will enter the parking lot for a number of businesses in a complex known as Lockworks Square. Drive part way through the lot and look for Donovan's Reef on the left. Locals can also enter Lockworks Square from the Ivy Street side just off of Main Street. The lounge is on the left inside. I usually have a table reservation and will likely have an "M" sign visible. We start around 5:30. There are free daily bar goodies along with any items that you may want to order from the comprehensive menu. Donovan's phone number is 203-488-5573. We have a great time talking about anything and everything. Hope to see you there! Questions? Contact Mike Wilson at 203-481-2858 or MahoutMike@aol.com

20 Thursday 6:30 pm

Pioneer Valley Dinner, West Springfield, MA (ME, 3rd Thursday) Email Ian Fraser (ianfraser@usa.net) for more information, directions, or to RSVP. As always, new members and guests are encouraged to attend this always friendly and interesting event. We hope to see you there!

28 Friday 5:00 pm

Fourth Friday Happy Hour

Happy Hour (ME, 4th Friday) at The Playwright in Hamden, <http://www.playwrightirishpub.com>
Come on down and join us this month, we'd love to see ya. Contact Gail Trowbridge 203-877-4472 or gail_trowbridge@yahoo.com

REGIONAL GATHERINGS

May 16-18, 2014

Metropolitan Washington Mensa Regional Gathering (RG)

Herndon, VA near Dulles International Airport. Come to Villainous Virginia May 16-18 for a great time at the Metropolitan Washington Mensa Regional Gathering! We have viciously good programs and vibrantly tasty Hospitality offerings! Visit our blog at villainousedition.wordpress.com to register, learn more about our great location, programs, games, youth track, and more! Rates are \$80 January 1 – April 30, 2014; \$85 thereafter and walk-in; \$55 youth (under 18 years old); \$20 Saturday Dinner; Day rates online!

Web: <http://villainousedition.wordpress.com/>
Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/VillainousEdition>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/MWM2014RG>

FROM THE LOCSEC

Mensa Can Be Good For Your Health

More than a few studies support researchers' theories that mental activities support and even improve brain health. Research suggests that brain-related activities (at all ages) stimulate new nerve cell connections, and possibly promote the growth of new cells. Mensa offers an array of enjoying, mentally stimulating activities that can help enhance brain power – and, by the way, having fun is healthy as well!

A Good Year To Be A Member

That's every year – but in particular in 2014, American Mensa's AG – Annual Gathering / aka much

of what Mensa offers all in one place, and lots of it – will be right down the road in Boston. Even closer to home, we have lots of new members, and have been sponsoring more events. If you have an idea for an event, feel free to send it to the newsletter editor.

The national office is making membership renewal easier. Members can renew online at us.mensa.org/renew or by calling 888-294-8035 ext. 199. In addition, payment information can be updated at us.mensa.org/profile.

The Bulletin

This month's issue of the Mensa Bulletin includes thoughts from individuals on which aspects of mem-

FROM THE LOCSEC CONTINUED

bership appeals to them. Every member should be receiving a copy through the post every month – although you can now elect to opt out of the paper copy. You can also access and read the latest issue online at <http://us.mensa.org/digitalbulletin> using your American Mensa member number and password (which can be set up on the national site). Even if you don't have time to peruse the entire issue – there is usually some content for varied interests. For February, one feature is on “How sleeping less costs us our health ... and ability to function (and what you can do about it).” and another feature is an interesting list of concepts that some Mensans struggle to grasp.

Survey Results

We've started posing a monthly question to our members to help us get to know a little but more about other Mensans. It's anonymous and the median response time was about 16 seconds. This month's question is “I once had a job where I was required to ” and is accessible at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Q39369V>

Last month we asked about goals for the year. Responses included (grouped by type rather than order of response):-

- Travel. Visit the national parks in this country. See a game at Lambeau field in Green Bay!
- Adopt a healthier lifestyle! Get in better physical shape. Work out regularly. Reach / Maintain ideal weight. Get outside more often.
- Clean my house and throw stuff out. Simplify. Get organized and prioritize. Get better at planning so I make better use of my time. Do more for other people, including family and friends.
- Go to my first Mensa annual gathering. Get more involved in Mensa. Attend a Mensa Event!
- Take the MCAT. I would really like to go back to school and find a new job! Take more classes. Find a job - end my extended period of unemployment. Retire.
- Reactivate my love life which, right now, stinks! Learn to play the banjo. Get my taxes done before April 15th! Have an angst-free year.

Let's Form a Youth Team for our Chapter

CultureQuest XXV is scheduled Sunday, April 27 this year. Teams from across the US and Canada will compete for cash prizes and cultural literacy bragging rights. There are two divisions: Classic and Next Generation, which is the youth division. We already have one Classic team. We can certainly have more, but it would be great to have a Youth Team this year!

Only the youth division team captain must be a current Mensa member. To register, visit us.mensa.org/culturequest and select 'CultureQuest Registration' from the left menu. [Downloadable rules and registration forms are also available on that page.] Online registration can be made until Monday, March 31. Team changes must be received via email by that date as well. For more information on CultureQuest®, contact VolunteerPrograms@americanmensa.org.

Games

Which games can you play at our monthly games event? Whichever games you like. You do not have to know how to play any of them prior to your arrival. You can come alone or with a guest. You don't even have to play any games; some Mensans just like being around everyone else or watching. Last month games we played included: Settlers of the Stone Age, Fist of Dragonstones, Citadels, Scotland Yard (we did not catch Ms X!), and Ingenious.

Our next Games event is February 8th in Stamford (contact Joan [jcoprio@optonline.net] for further details). The March games event will be March 15th at the Sheraton Stamford Hotel.

Have a Great Month! Deb Jennings

THE JANUARY DINNER

VISITING THE SYRIAN REFUGEE CAMPS IN JORDAN

At Southern Connecticut Mensa's January Dinner, our annual New Members Dinner, we welcomed back local Mensan Gerard Brooker, who spoke about his October visit to Syrian refugee camps in Jordan. Jerry, a retired teacher, a novelist, poet, essayist, and world traveler, spent ten days in the city of Amman, Jordan, with a volunteer group led by Patch Adams, an American doctor, social activist, and humanitarian organizer. Adams' volunteers dress as clowns to visit and cheer up orphans, the sick, and victims of wars and catastrophes. Jerry's mission there was two-fold - to raise the spirits of the people suffering in the camps (especially the children), and to give a talk and lead a discussion for doctors attending the Transgenerational Trauma Conference in Amman, run by the Common Bond Institute. In his January talk, Jerry told us about his missions, showing us over two-dozen photos of the camps and the city and sharing stories about the refugees in the camps, the doctors and nurses helping them, and the people of the city.

Jerry has visited the Middle East before, as well as many other regions around the globe. In fact, he has traveled to every continent and to more than 100 countries. He's written many articles



about his travels and we have been fortunate to hear him give talks at our dinners about many of his trips, including ones to Singapore, Russia, Japan (Iwo Jima), Katrina-stricken Alabama, the Philippines (Bataan, Corregidor, and Luzon), Israel and Egypt, Cuba, earthquake-devastated Haiti, Iran, North Korea, Indonesia and New Guinea, Tibet, Nepal, and Bhutan, and Mongolia.

As the list of Jerry's talks shows, he has ventured to exotic, historic, disaster-stricken, and what some would call unfriendly and unfree countries. But his January talk was the closest look he has given us to an ongoing war. The refugee crisis he witnessed was over two years old, having begun in the spring of 2011 when Syria's Ba'ath-party government, led by President Bashar al-Assad, unleashed the army upon a nationwide protest movement that was conducting peaceful mass demonstrations against his regime. Bashar had inherited the presidency in 2000 from his father, General Hafez al-Assad, who seized power in an internal coup in November, 1970, and ruled until he died. Although some Syrians hoped for reform when Bashar took power, a decade later Syria remained a one-party state. Inspired by the Arab Spring revolutions in Egypt, Libya, and Tunisia, Syrian dissidents and reformers began their own protest. When Assad responded with his military crackdown, the protesters, a loose and fragmented coalition of Sunni Muslims (the majority religious group), Kurds, human rights advocates, and pro-democracy groups, took up arms against the government, and the civil war has been raging ever since.





THE CRISIS IN THE CAMPS

Jerry said that there are more than 500,000 refugees who have fled the Syrian civil war into Jordan, and the situation is "a mess." Many refugees are still entering Jordan, he reported, because the fighting has not let up and continues to force Syrians from their homes. There are many internal refugees within Syria (Syria has about 6.7 million citizens) Jerry's group visited several camps in Jordan, and he said that the refugees live in tents provided by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), the Jordanian government, and various humanitarian organizations. But although they have found a temporary home, they have not escaped the trauma the war has inflicted on them, and Jerry could see the losses. Many of the Syrian men, he said, were suffering, having lost their homes, their work, their role in life, and their status. Many women had lost their husbands, who were imprisoned or killed by Assad's soldiers. Now in the camps, these women were vulnerable to bandits, thugs, and rapists. Most distressing of all, many children had lost both parents, and Jerry saw many youngsters who seemed to be just roving around in bands.

Jerry did meet Jordanian doctors who were doing a tremendous job helping the refugees. He said that many of them were young interns, 23 - 24 years old, both men and women, taking time off from their exams to help in the camps. He said that most of them were Sunni Muslims with a dedication to helping those suffering that he found most heartening. He would later get

another chance to talk with them at the trauma conference where he was lecturing.

In the camps Jerry and his co-workers visited, the doctors, nurses, therapists, and aid workers had restored some order to the refugees' lives, but in another camp, security forces faced more difficult conditions. Although his group had been promised entry into the Zaatari camp, the biggest refugee camp, Jerry reported that government decided not to let them in because the camp was too dangerous. Roughly 200,000 Syrians had flooded into this camp in just over a year. It was too much for the authorities to handle, and gangs were dominating many areas. The Jordanians said they simply could not guarantee safety in Zaatari for Jerry and his colleagues.



The dangers of the fighting were not far away either. "We could see thick, black smoke on the horizon," Jerry said. He quoted a doctor who lived three miles from the border who told him that his windows shook from the bombings on the Syrian side of the border.

Someone asked Jerry, "How does Amman feel about the flood of refugees?" He replied that Jordan, being a small country of only 6 million people, was having a difficult time absorbing the influx, and some Jordanians were growing resentful. The Zaatari refugee camp, he noted, is now the third largest city in the country, and Jordanians dislike the drain of all the camps on the nation's treasury and the competition from refugees for many service jobs in the cities. Citizens also fear that the fighting will spill over

into Jordan. Consequently, Jerry said, "I was told by Jordanians that although the king is normally well-liked and respected, his popularity is fading."

BRINGING HOPE

In the midst of this immense humanitarian crisis, could Jerry and his group offer much comfort to the refugees? As difficult as the task might seem, Jerry's troupe used their experience and their understanding of human nature to bring goodwill to the camp. One picture Jerry showed us and the story he told us about it was particularly interesting because it really told two stories. It showed a lady clown entertaining a Syrian infant, who was visibly delighted by her red clown nose. Jerry told us this was a lady from Bosnia who had been aided by Patch Adams group during her country's bombing in the 1990s. She remembered the hope Patch Adams and his clowns had given her in those dark days and was now carrying it forward.

Jerry got involved in clowning to help people like this youngster. It started a few years ago when he became friends with Joseph Mungus, known in the clowning world as Mungus Fungus. Mungus was touring with a clown group that travels to entertain distressed children and he introduced Jerry to Patch Adams, a noted doctor and leader of a humanitarian clown group. Adams, who shared Jerry's interest in promoting peace, asked Mungus to invite Brooker along on a trip to Vietnam, and there Jerry learned how he could be a clown who could help people.

Jerry said he has learned quite a bit about clowning by watching kids. One thing that he has learned is that clowns frighten some little children. When Jerry senses this fear, he backs off, at least until he can gain the child's confidence. He knows now that many times just being there is enough; he doesn't have to perform. But one way Jerry used to put wary children in the refugee camps at ease was to blow bubbles. As he said, "Little kids everywhere love bubbles." As we saw in some of his photos, for at least one day, Jerry and his bubbles lifted the refugee children's spirits above their anxieties.

Another way he cheered the children up was just



by taking photos of them. For some of the Syrian refugee children, he said, it was the first time they had ever been photographed. He showed us several photos of himself with delighted kids and others with young doctors, who also were also cheered by his friendliness.

Jerry had many scenic photos as well, such as a picture of the Jordan River, a photo of downtown Amman with houses that are built inside cliffs, and a shot of an outdoor cafe. He also had interesting personal photos, such as the picture of himself with a Bedouin, and some photos showing him with the dedicated doctors who were at the conference and working in the camps. It was an interesting variety, a collage of an ancient civilization, a modern city, a diverse people, a contemporary crisis, and people bringing hope to people.

FOLLOWING A DREAM: GOING FROM ORDINARY TO EXTRAORDINARY

Speaking to the young medical professionals at the Transgenerational Trauma Conference seemed like another tall order for Jerry. After all, these were men and women dealing on the front lines of crisis. Many of them were setting up medical care in the refugee camps. Jerry said that he was deeply impressed by their commitment, warmth, and generosity. But he knew that they undoubtedly faced doubts, pressure, and failures in their critical mission. How could he lift their spirits? What could he say to them?

The theme question Jerry chose for his talk to the nurses, doctors, and therapists was, "How

do we go from ordinary to extraordinary?" He told us a little bit about the introduction he gave, in which he reflected on advice that inspired him during his boyhood in New York City. At an event he was kindly invited to, Jerry recounted, an older gentleman urged him to travel, saying that exploring the world was a great way to learn - about man, about culture, and about life. Jerry, who had never left the city before, was captivated by this man's message and traveling became a dream for him. When he got the opportunity later in life, Jerry followed this star. He found the man was right.

Speaking to the doctors at the conference, Jerry drew on this lesson. He told them they should not give up when they failed, for "we have a promise to our calling. "The sadness," he said, "lies not in failing, but in not having dreams." We can only find ourselves when we are lost." The message seemed to hark back to that young boy in New York City - and forward to the young children in the refugee camps of Jordan, children needing hope and dreams and a kind hand.

Jerry said that he has continued to correspond with some of the doctors since he left Jordan. Their courage in the face of suffering inspired him and his talk provoked them to think. He said he hopes to give a similar talk to seniors in Newtown. In the meantime, he continues to write, passing on the lessons he has learned about the human spirit from men, women, and children all across the world.

Jerry Brooker's latest book is "short Stories and Essays: The Musings of a Man Held Captive by His Imagination." (Available in paperback at www.amazon.com and in paperback and e-book format at <https://www.tatepublishing.com/bookstore>.)

PUZZLES & QUESTIONS (Answers may be in next month's Chronicle.)

1. Compare Socrates and Confucius.
2. How many towns (municipalities) are there in New England? (Connecticut has 169).
3. How should you read a novel?
4. About what percentage of U.S. costs for electricity are for lighting?
5. What were Shakespeare's most underrated plays?
6. What are the 12 animals in the Chinese zodiac used to designate years in the 12-year Chinese calendar cycle?
7. Give some examples where history has repeated itself or very nearly done so.
8. Name the writer or composer of each of these classic American songs: "America the Beautiful", "Yellow Rose of Texas", "Oh! Susannah", "Camptown Races "(or "Gwine to Run All Night"), "When Johnny Comes Marching Home Again", "I've Been Working on the Railroad", "Shenandoah", "Little Brown Jug", and "Skip to My Lou".
9. Should English spelling be reformed to make it more consistent phonetically? Give arguments for and against.
10. When and where was the first St. Patrick's Day parade held?
11. What were the best self-help books written in the 20th century? What were the most ridiculous?
12. Estimate these regular season statistics for the just completed 2013 season in the NFL (National Football League): points scored per game per team, passing yards per game per team, and rushing yards per game per team. Estimate the same stats for the 2003 season.

PUZZLES & QUESTIONS ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S PUZZLES:

2. What is the saltiest sea on earth? What is the saltiest ocean?
 A: The Dead Sea, which is between Israel and Jordan, is the saltiest sea on earth, with about 31% salinity (31 parts per thousand). This makes it 8.5 - 9 times saltier than the Mediterranean Sea and the ocean. It stretches about 42 miles (67 km.) long and 11 miles (18 km.) wide and is approximately 1,083 ft. (330 m.) deep. The Jordan River is the main river flowing into it.

 The Atlantic Ocean is the saltiest ocean on earth, with an average surface water salinity in its open areas of 3.3 - 3.7% (33 - 37 parts per thousand). The Arctic Ocean is the least salty ocean.

 Earth's saltiest known body of water is Don Juan Pond, sometimes called Don Juan Lake, in Antarctica. Its salt level is over 40%, which is so salty that the lake almost never freezes, even when the temperature goes below -20 degrees Fahrenheit (-30 degrees Celsius).
4. Name the civil wars currently being fought in the world.
 A: Using the criteria of 1,000 deaths in a struggle for control of government, a standard used by many political scientists, there are about 9 civil wars going on now. The ongoing civil wars in the world with the date they started are: the Colombian armed conflict (1964), the Afghan civil war (1978), the Ugandan Civil War (1987), the Somali Civil War (1991), the Yemeni Civil War (2004), the Civil war in Iraq (about 2007 - the larger War in Iraq began in 2003), the conflict in Burma (originally 949, restarted in 2010), the Civil war in the Republic of Ingushetia (2007), and the Syrian civil war (2011).

6. What was the first university to have an M.B.A. program?
- A: The Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration established the first MBA program in 1908, although the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College established the first graduate school of business in the United States in 1900 and conferred the first advanced degree in business, a Master of Science in Commerce.
8. How many times can Friday the 13th occur in a year?
- A: The most Friday the 13ths that can occur in a year is three and the fewest is one. On average, there are 1.72 Friday the 13ths in a year. The longest period that can occur between two Friday the 13ths is 14 months.
10. According to Census data, about what is the population density of each of these Fairfield County cities - Greenwich, Stamford, Norwalk, Danbury, and Bridgeport?
- A: Greenwich - (2012 pop. 62,256), 930 / sq. mi., 360 / sq. km.; Stamford - (2012 pop. 125,109), 3,180 / sq. mi., 1,225 / sq. km.; Norwalk - (2012 pop. 87,190), 3,700 / sq. mi., 1,430 / sq. km.; Danbury - (2011 pop., 81,671) 1,800 / sq. mi., 710 / sq. km.; Bridgeport - (2012 pop., 146,425) 8,721 / sq. mi., 3,354 / sq. km.).
12. Name the writer or composer of each of these classic American songs: "Yankee Doodle Dandy"; "On Top of Old Smokey"; "Buffalo Gals"; "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot"; "Oh, My Darlin' Clementine"; and "Goodnight Irene".
- A: "Yankee Doodle Dandy" (originally "Yankee Doodle Boy") - George M. Cohan, 1904; "On Top of Old Smokey" - unknown, arose sometime in 1841 in the Blue Ridge Mountains near Asheville, North Carolina; "Buffalo Gals" (first known as "Lubly Fan") - entertainer John Hodges (a.k.a. Cool White), 1844; "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" - Sarah Hannah Shepard, a slave mother who lived in Tennessee and Mississippi, 1847; "Oh, My Darlin' Clementine" (or just "Clementine") - Percy Montrose, 1883; "Goodnight Irene" - Huddie Ledbetter ("Leadbelly"), first written down in 1936 but composed earlier.
14. What percentage of National Football League kickoffs last season (2012 - 2013) resulted in touchbacks (i.e., the receiving team did not attempt to run the kickoff back)? What percentage of kickoffs were touchbacks during the 2004 - 2005 season?
- A: In the 2012 - 2013 NFL season, 44.1% of kickoffs were touchbacks and 53.2% were returned.
- In the 2004 - 2005 season, only 8.5% of kickoffs were touchbacks, while 87.9% were returned. The NFL is changing its rules in 2011 to move kickoffs to the 35-yard line, and the percentage of touchbacks jumped from 16.4% in 2010 - 2011 to 43.5% in 2011 - 2012.

WORD CHECK

See if you can define these Latin words or phrases used in English.

- 1 ceteris paribus -
- 2 in media res -
- 3 infra dig -
- 4 inter alia -
5. mens rea -
6. mutatis mutandis -
7. nolens volens -
8. pro forma -
9. seriatim -
10. sic passim -
11. simpliciter -
12. vade vecum -

SYNONYM SENSE

See if you can come up with at least three synonyms or near synonyms for each word. Then see if you can give some antonyms.

- 1 below -
2. celebrate -
- 3 defy -
4. planned -
5. poise -
6. succinct -
- 7 superficial -
8. survive -

ANSWERS ON NEXT PAGE

WORD CHECK ANSWERS:

1. *ceteris paribus* - other things being equal or unchanged.
2. *in media res* - in the middle of things, in or into the middle of a sequence of events.
3. *infra dig* - unbecoming (slang).
4. *inter alia* - among other things.
5. *mens rea* - guilty mind, intention.
6. *mutatis mutandis* - the necessary changes having being made.
7. *nolens volens* - whether one likes it or not; willing or unwilling.
8. *pro forma* - done in a perfunctory way.
9. *seriatim* - one after another in order.
10. *sic passim* - thus throughout.
11. *simpliciter* - naturally; without qualification.
12. *vade vecum* - a constant companion, a guidebook.

SYNONYM SENSE ANSWERS:

1. below - beneath, under, underneath, lower, subordinate.
Antonyms: above, over, overhead, superior, beyond.
2. celebrate - rejoice, commemorate, laud, honor, praise, jubilate, revere, toast, feast, fete, extol, lionize, glorify.
Antonyms: mourn, sorrow, grieve, bewail, lament, bemoan, wail, condemn, reproach, vilify, denounce.
3. defy - disobey, flout, rebel, revolt, mutiny, ignore, scorn, disregard, spurn, violate, resist.
Antonyms: obey, comply, follow, oblige, accommodate, accede, acquiesce, accept, submit, abide by.
4. planned - intentional, proposed, projected, scheduled, premeditated, organized, designed, ordered.
Antonyms: unplanned, improvised, spontaneous, ad hoc, impromptu, extemporaneous, off-the-cuff, ad lib, off hand, unprompted, unintentional.
5. poise - equilibrium, equanimity, balance, steadiness, assurance, self-assurance, calm, composure, coolness, confidence, nonchalance, aplomb, grace, sangfroid.
Antonyms: shakiness, nervousness, anxiety, anguish, confusion.
6. succinct - concise, terse, pithy, short, compact, crisp, sententious, curt, blunt, brusque, laconic.
Antonyms: wordy, long-winded, windy, verbose, bombastic, prolix, gabby, tedious, repetitive, repetitious.
7. superficial - shallow, cursory, trivial, skin-deep, flimsy, perfunctory, slight, slapdash, empty, hasty, sketchy, desultory, frivolous.
Antonyms: deep, in-depth, profound, penetrating, careful, serious, detailed, thorough, comprehensive, complete.
8. survive - live, endure, persist, remain, continue, last, outlast, abide.
Antonyms: die, perish, succumb, pass away, expire, end, fade.

NOTED & QUOTED

Often we have no time for our friends but all the time in the world for our enemies.

- Leon Uris, (1924 - 2003), U.S. novelist

I may be wrong, but I have never found deserting friends conciliates enemies.

- Margot Asquith, (1864 - 1945), British novelist, Lay Sermons (1927)

Though friendship is not quick to burn, it is explosive stuff.

- May Sarton, (1912 - 1995), U.S. poet, novelist

He who seizes the right moment, Is the right man.

- Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, (1749 - 1832), Faust (1808)

I feel I am free but I know I am not.

- E. M. Cioran, (1911 - 1995), Romanian-born French philosopher, The Trouble with Being Born (1973)

What is acting but lying and what is good acting but convincing lying?

- Laurence Olivier, (1907 - 1989), English actor and director, autobiography (1985)

It is not the task of the University to offer what society asks for, but to give what society needs.

- Edsger Wybe Dijkstra, (1930 - 2002), Dutch computer scientist

Change is the process by which the future invades our lives.

- Alvin Toffler, (1928 -), U.S. futurist, writer

Just because you aren't sick doesn't mean you're healthy.

- Anonymous

A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way and shows the way.

- John C. Maxwell, (1947 -), U.S. clergyman, author on leadership

Bad music disturbs me, but wonderful music disturbs me even more.

- Arturo Benedetti Michelangeli, (1920 - 1995), Italian classical pianist

But reading is not idleness...it is the passive, receptive side of civilization without which the active and creative world would be meaningless.

- Stephen Spender, (1909 - 1995), English poet and critic, journal entry, Jan. 4, 1980

Autobiographies ought to begin with Chapter Two.

- Ellery Sedgwick, (1872 - 1960), U.S. editor

Life is not a problem to be solved but a mystery to be experienced.

- Gabriel Marcel, (1889 - 1973), French philosopher, playwright, music critic, drama critic, philosopher

Mediocrity is self-inflicted. Genius is self-

bestowed.

- Walter Russell, (1871 - 1963), U.S. philosopher, painter, sculptor, author

History does not belong to us; we belong to it.

- Hans-Georg Gadamer, (1900 - 2002), German philosopher

The value of history ... is that it teaches us what man has done and thus what man is.

- R. G. (Robin George) Collingwood, (1889 - 1943), English philosopher and historian

There is history in all men's lives.

- William Shakespeare, Henry IV

Man always travels among precipices, and, whether he will or not, his truest obligation is to keep his balance.

- José Ortega y Gasset, (1883 - 1955), Spanish philosopher and politician, Man and People (1957)

If what you have done is unjust, you have not succeeded.

- Thomas Carlyle, (1795 - 1881), Scottish philosopher, essayist, historian

The worst a human being can do to himself is to do wrong to others.

- Henrik Ibsen, (1828 - 1906), Norwegian playwright

If you are doing what is right, never mind whether you are freezing with cold or beside a good fire; heavy-eyed, or fresh from a sound sleep; reviled or applauded; in the act of dying, or about some other piece of business.

- Marcus Aurelius, (121 - 180), Roman Stoic philosopher, author, Emperor, Meditations, Book 6

The pathos of life is worse than the tragedy.

- Ellen Glasgow, (1874 - 1945), U.S. novelist

Making movies is a little like walking into a dark room. Some people stumble across furniture, others break their legs, but some of us see better in the dark than others.

- Billy Wilder, (1906 - 2002), Austro-Hungarian American filmmaker, screenwriter, producer

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MIND GAMES 2013 WINNERS:

Kulami. A tactical marble placement game for 2, where players take turns placing marbles on a configurable board of tiles. The placement of one player’s marble dictates the row or column into which the next marble may be placed. Winning requires domination of the most tiles. It is another simple but clever and well-made game from Fox Mind.

Suburbia. Suburbia is a Euro-style tile laying game for up to 4 players who try to build up a suburb that is both sustainable and supportive of growth. Building parks encourages population growth, but factories generate income. By how best to acquire and place tiles, players may develop the most successful infrastructure.

Kerflip. There are already so many word games that you might think it could be difficult to come up with a new one. But Damon Tabb did it with Kerflip, and it proved to be a winner. A handful of tiles are tossed onto the board, and the sooner a player uses as many letters as possible, the more they win. More fun than you might think!

Ghoost. This is basically a crazy 8 type game but with a more sophisticated mechanic and well-designed cards.

Forbidden Desert. This game is related to a prior-year winner, Forbidden Island. It is a cooperative game, meaning 2 to 5 players work together and try and beat the game.

MENSA MIND GAMES 2014

Austin is the host with the most! Game on! Mind Games(r) 2014 will be held April 18-20 in the Texas capital

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April 1, 2013 - March 31, 2014

Opening balance at 4/1/13 \$11,753.08

INCOME

American Mensa
 Local Group Support Funds: \$1,521.32
Total Income **\$1,521.32**

EXPENSES

Chronicle Printing Expenses: \$120.17
 Chronicle Postage & Supplies: 64.40
 Testing Expenses: 265.07
 Domain Name: 180.30
 CultureQuest, MeetUp dues: 188.00
TOTAL EXPENSES: **\$817.94**

2nd Quarter Balance 9-30-13 **\$12,456.46**

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Holistic Kidney

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Ben Behind His Voices

One Family's Journey from the Chaos of Schizophrenia to Hope by Randy Kaye The gripping story of one family's experience when its firstborn, a brilliant young man named Ben, is gradually struck down by schizophrenia – and the lessons that help the family participate lovingly in Ben's eventual steps to recovery. Rowman & Littlefield, Publishers. <http://books.randyekaye.com/writing.php> or www.amazon.com.

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