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*If your membership expires in 2015*, 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 <http://ww.us.mensa.org> to renew.

## Welcome New Members!

Jeremy Greenberg, Stamford

Laura Jean Stuart, Greenwich

## SCM Chapter Events – February 2016

**Saturday, February 6, 8:00 pm**

**"Light Up the Sky" by Moss Hart, at the Westport Community Theatre**

<http://westportcommunitytheatre.com>

*Westport Town Hall, 110 Myrtle Avenue, Westport, CT.*

A farce about the out-of-town opening of a Broadway play. Tickets are \$23, \$21 for seniors. Contact Jim Mizera at [jmizera@hotmail.com](mailto:jmizera@hotmail.com) or text or call (203) 522-1959.

**Tuesday, February 9, 6:00 pm**

**Post Road Dining and Discussion**

*Barnes & Noble Cafe, Post Plaza Shopping Center, 1076 Post Road East, Westport, CT*

Topic: *Right and Left Brain - How Do They Work Together?* Contact **Jim Mizera** at

[jmizera@hotmail.com](mailto:jmizera@hotmail.com) or text or call (203) 522-1959.

**Thursday, February 11, 7:00 pm**

**Southern Connecticut and Connecticut/Western Massachusetts Joint Dinner**

*John's Best Pizza, Shop Rite Plaza, Federal Road, Danbury, CT*

Interested M's should contact **Ward Mazzucco** at 203-744-1929, ext. 25, [wjm@danburylaw.com](mailto:wjm@danburylaw.com) or **Rev. Bill Loring** at 203-794-1389, [fr.bill@comcast.net](mailto:fr.bill@comcast.net) for more info on location and/or reservations.

**Saturday, February 20, 6:30 pm**

**Southern Connecticut Mensa Monthly Dinner**

*The Putnam House Restaurant, 12 Depot Place, Bethel, CT*

Patrick Foster, a Milford Mensan who is one of America's best automotive journalists and historians, will talk about the classic cars of the Nash Corp. and the Hudson Motor Car Company, the two companies that joined to form American Motors in 1954. Mr. Foster has written 13 books, including *American Motors—The Last Independent*, *The Story of Jeep*, *Studebaker—The Complete History*, and *Super '70's—Cars of the Disco Decade* (The Olde Milford Press – [www.oldemilfordpress.com](http://www.oldemilfordpress.com)). He will have autographed copies of his books on hand for purchase.

There is parking in the rear of the restaurant and in the nearby Old Railroad Station lot. Dress is casual. Before the presentation, we will enjoy dinner. Members who have not attended a monthly dinner before will get dinner for free.

Contact **Jim Mizera** at [jmizera@hotmail.com](mailto: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.

**Tuesday, February 23, 6:30 pm**

**County Corner Dining and Discussion**

*Panera Bread, 2320 Black Rock Tpke., Fairfield, CT (Note the New Location!)*

Topic: *Sports Analytics – Using Data to Analyze Baseball, Football, Basketball, Hockey, and Other Sports.* Contact **Jim Mizera** at [jmizera@hotmail.com](mailto:jmizera@hotmail.com) or text or call (203) 522-1959.

## **CT & Western MA Mensa Chapter – Upcoming Events**

This is not a complete listing. Details regarding these and other C&WM events can be found at: <http://www.cwm.us.mensa.org/members/member-page.htm> (Mensa ID and Password required).

### **Friday, February 5, 5:30 pm**

#### **First Friday Happy Hour**

*Brother's Restaurant, 33 North Cherry Street, Wallingford — (203) 641-2408*

Contact **Ann Polanski**: home (203) 269-4565 or cell (860) 817-9910.

### **Sunday, February 6, 12:00 noon**

#### **Indian Lunch**

*Haveli India Restaurant, 1300 South Main Street, Rte 17 in South Middletown*

(<http://www.haveliindia.com/>)

The food is enticing, the staff is friendly, and the company is the best to be had anywhere! Join us at Haveli India Restaurant for an all-you-can-eat \$9.95 buffet. RSVP required. Contact **Barb Holstein** for a reservation: (860) 632-7873 or [BarbCPA@att.net](mailto:BarbCPA@att.net).

### **Thursday, February 18, 6:30 pm**

#### **Shoreline Third Thursday**

*Old Saybrook area*

Come join us for dinner. Spouses and families are always welcome. RSVPs appreciated, so I can give them an accurate count for our reservation. Contact **Mike Milius** at [miliuslondon@netzero.com](mailto:miliuslondon@netzero.com) or (860) 392-9917 for more information or to RSVP.

### **Thursday, February 18, 6:30 pm**

#### **Pioneer Valley Dinner**

Email **Ian Fraser** ([mensanian@ianfraser.net](mailto:mensanian@ianfraser.net)) for more information, directions, or to RSVP (very much appreciated but not required). This is a perfect opportunity to see what a Mensa get-together is like if you've never been to one. New members and guests are encouraged to attend this always friendly and interesting event. We hope to see you there!

### **Sunday, February 21, 12:15 pm**

#### **Indian Lunch & Movie**

*Naatiya Indian Restaurant, 8 Mountain Avenue, Bloomfield* (<http://www.naatiyarestaurant.com>)

Join us for a lunch buffet, followed by an authentic Bollywood movie at the theater next door! Directions on the restaurant website. The event is being arranged by our resident Indian experts, **Jeet & Melissa Chattaraj** ([jeet78@hotmail.com](mailto:jeet78@hotmail.com)), so let us know if you can join us. The movie details will be sent later to those who RSVP.

## Region 1 RVC Roundup

### News from National

The national office is in the final selection phase of the vendor that will implement the office's new AMS (Association Management System). Having an IT background, I've been sitting in on some of the demos and reviewing the RFP (request for proposal) responses. Most of you wouldn't be interested in the details, but there are a few takeaways from this experience that I wish to share:

1. The national office manages an enormous amount of detailed data in many different areas (membership, local groups, testing, awards, marketing, finance, foundation, and more).
2. The level of detail included in the RFP was deep, clearly defined, and well organized. Our national office staff members have an excellent understanding of what is needed to support all of us, the members.
3. Once this system is implemented, the opportunities for improved efficiency and effectiveness will be vast.

### LEAP

Mensa is looking for a few top-notch international representatives. Check out Mensa's LEAP (Leadership Exchange Ambassador Program) program: <http://us.mensa.org/lead/leadership-workshops/leap-program/>. The deadline to apply has been extended until February 15th.

### Volunteer!

As a Mensa volunteer, each of us gives our time toward making the Mensa experience better for those around us. I want to thank each of you who actively participate and volunteer your time and expertise at the local, regional, and national levels. Your efforts are what make Mensa membership so valuable.

Here are a few opportunities for YOU to get involved and volunteer in your local group:

- Area Coordinator – host local event(s).
- Proctor – administer the Mensa admission tests.
- Newsletter or Calendar Editor – keep the local group informed and interested.
- Gifted Youth Coordinator (GYC) – organize activities/events for our younger members.

Why volunteer? Here are just a few reasons:

*"Learn new things. Return a favor. Impress others. Test your leadership skills. Act on a strongly held belief. Gain recognition. Meet neighbors and new friends. Gain visibility in the community. Try something new. Pursue your interests. Get out of the house. Gain self-confidence. Change something you don't agree with. Feel successful. Gain experience. Stay active. Have fun. Why not?"*

Want to learn more? This brief article says it well: <https://us.mensa.org/learn/primer/volunteering/>

### Upcoming Events

This is February, so that means it is time for the NHRG (New Hampshire Regional Gathering). One of our region's premiere gatherings, the New Hampshire group throws one heck of a great party. This year's theme is "Blizzard at the End of the Universe" (the coolest RG ever!). I recently moved into the NH chapter, but I've been attending their regional gathering for years, even driving up from outside of the region. Don't miss it! For more details and to register: <http://www.nh.us.mensa.org/rq2016.shtm>

This month's question for you... What one thing would you do to improve the Mensa Experience?

### Lisa Maxwell

Regional Vice Chair, Region 1 - American Mensa  
(617) 335-1484 - [RVC1@us.mensa.org](mailto:RVC1@us.mensa.org)

## **News from the Chapter President**

Southern CT Mensans,

Happy New Year! My topic this month is “Chapter Business Meetings” (previously referred to as Chapter Board Meetings). Our most recent meeting was at the end of last year. We discussed the recent Region 1 Leadership Development Workshop attended by 4 members of the volunteer leadership team – Rick Clark, Membership Officer; Merrill Loechner, Publications Officer, Erin Davis, Member-at-large; and me. The workshop was also attended by volunteer leaders from other neighboring chapters like Connecticut and Western Massachusetts, Mid-Hudson, Rhode Island, Boston, and others. The sessions included, among other topics, how to welcome new members and develop events. It was very helpful to get to share ideas with others from our region.

The chapter business meetings are open to any member, although only executive committee members can vote per our bylaws. We are now doing many of the meetings by phone, so if you are interested in attending, please contact me at [jcoprio@optonline.net](mailto:jcoprio@optonline.net) for the call-in number or location. The next meeting is scheduled for March 30<sup>th</sup> and will be an in-person meeting. At our November meeting, we discussed a proposal for a joint Regional Gathering next fall with C & WM and possibly Rhode Island. Our chapter would like input into the location to make sure that it's reasonably convenient to our chapter, and that we also have input into the event committee. It would be a way to meet Mensans beyond our chapter, hear speakers, sight see, etc., and therefore is something we would support in concept.

After a long break due to the puppy, I'll be starting up the monthly games again – please check the chapter Facebook page for dates.

Stay warm!

**Joan Coprio**

*President, Southern CT Mensa*



## **2016 Chapter Business Meetings**

- Wednesday, March 30<sup>th</sup> in person
- Thursday, May 26<sup>th</sup> via teleconference
- Sunday, July 31<sup>st</sup> via teleconference

All meetings start at 7:30pm. Contact Joan Coprio at [jcoprio@optonline.net](mailto:jcoprio@optonline.net) for the call-in number or location.

## SCM Treasurer's Report

<b>Southern Connecticut Mensa Treasury</b>				
<b>Fiscal Year 4/1/2015 - 3/31/2016</b>				
	<b>Opening treasury balance at 4/1/2015</b>		<b>\$13,339.18</b>	
<b>INFLOWS</b>				
<b>American Mensa Member support:</b>				
	Current members @ \$0.82 (Mar = 306)	250.92		
	Current members @ \$0.82 (Apr = 265)	217.30		
	Current members @ \$0.82 (May = 271)	222.22		
	Current members @ \$0.82 (June = 280)	229.60		
	Current members @ \$0.82 (July = 288)	236.16		
	Current members @ \$0.82 (Aug = 291)	238.62		
	Current members @ \$0.85* (Sep = 293)	249.05	*note: reimburse rate increase effective 9/1/2015	
	Current members @ \$0.85 (Oct = 296)	251.60		
	Current members @ \$0.85 (Nov = 299)	254.15		
	New members @ \$1/\$5*	69.00		
	* \$1 in Mar 2015, \$5 in Apr-Aug 2015			
	Reinstated members @1 each	11.00		
	Testing Rate @\$15	105.00		
	Testing Stipend @\$25	100.00		
	<b>TOTAL INFLOWS</b>		<b>\$2,434.62</b>	
<b>OUTFLOWS</b>				
	Chronicle postage	800.51		
	Chronicle printing/supplies	772.26		
	Test Expenses	195.00		
	Holiday gathering expenses for 12/2014	12.40		
	Harvest weekend postcards	155.88		
	Harvest Games night food/supplies	209.68		
	Harvest weekend room rental/food/bevs	540.88		
	Leadership weekend attendee hotel room	90.06		
	Speakers	50.00		
	<b>TOTAL OUTFLOWS</b>		<b>\$2,826.67</b>	
	<b>3rd Qtr Treasury Balance at 12/31/2015</b>		<b>\$12,947.13</b>	
		o/s ck#1186	151.82	
		o/s ck#1187	151.82	
	<b>3rd Qtr Bank Balance at 12/31/2015</b>		<b>\$13,250.77</b>	

## ***The January Dinner – A Discussion About Failure***

Southern CT Mensans started off the New Year at the January dinner by focusing on failure – bankruptcies, dropouts, divorces, athletic defeats, artistic flops, and rejections. “Can we learn from failing?” was the question, and several veteran Mensans and three newcomers wrestled with it in a discussion of more than an hour.

Many books have been written about the benefits of failing in the last decade. *The Gift of Failure*, *The Up Side of Down*, *Failing Forward*, and J.K. Rowling’s book *The Fringe Benefits of Failure* are best sellers. Tech entrepreneurs seem to be romanticizing failure, filling the web with their credo: “Fail fast, fail often,” “Fail better,” “Fail forward,” and “There is no failure, only feedback.” There is even FailCon, a conference held in several major cities around the world for technical entrepreneurs, investors, developers, and designers. It celebrates learning from startup failures, and draws hundreds of nerds who boast about going belly up. Bill Gates touts failure (“Success is a lousy teacher. It seduces smart people into thinking they can’t lose”), and the late Steve Job is taken as an icon of the “succeed by failing” movement. Failure has never had it so good.

Are Silicon Valley’s messages about failure pithy philosophy or mindless mantras? Is the tech world pointing the way for us or just spouting techno-psychobabble that rationalizes failure? That’s what Southern Connecticut Mensans debated, with some defending and some disputing failure’s central role in learning.

### **What Is Failure?**

The first Mensan asked about failure defined it as simply “the difference between expectations and result.” Others in the room agreed that failure often depends upon personal feelings. A few people said that “B’s”, silver medals, and breaking even can feel like losing or winning depending on one’s aim, vantage, or mood. The reaction to failure, they added, is also subjective. It motivates some people, stings others, and paralyzes or cripples a few.

Another Mensan used failure to define success, quoting Winston Churchill: “Success consists of going from failure to failure without loss of enthusiasm.” The quote probably evoked “blood, toil, tears, and sweat,” Dunkirk, and Normandy, but also reminded us that few could face failure with Sir Churchill’s unflagging fortitude.

### **Learning From Losing?**

Regardless of our grit, there are problems with the claim that we learn from failing. One Mensan pointed out that most tech entrepreneurs don’t seem to be learning from their peers’ failures. He cited Harvard Business School Professor Shikhar Ghosh’s findings that 75 percent of tech startups failed to return investors’ capital. What’s more, entrepreneurs don’t seem to learn much from their own failures. Another Harvard study found that entrepreneurs who had failed on their first startup usually failed on their second and failed at the same rate as did first-time entrepreneurs (77 percent). Tech entrepreneurs who use their own funding or money from friends have even higher failure rates (90 percent). If we learn from failing, *who* is learning?

Another Mensan pointed out that even if most startups fail, the winners win big and more than pay for the losers. They are, to borrow the great investor Peter Lynch's phrase, "ten-baggers." Startups are also becoming less expensive. But these arguments seemed less than compelling: venture capitalists are not getting good returns since the glory days of the dot-com boom. Angel investors and crowd funding may do better, but the jury is still out on that.

Outside the tech world, the results are also not very encouraging. New businesses on Main Street fail often and quickly. Many new products fail. Most ad campaigns fail. Most novelists fail to finish and when they do publish, their books fail financially and critically. Serial failure also seems to be the rule: most New Year's resolutions failed last year and will fail again this year. People who divorce fail on their second marriages slightly more often than they do on their first marriages. Most dieters fail and fail again. Most criminals released from prison return. However, homeowners whose houses fell drastically in price during the Great Recession did not walk away from their mortgages; credit card holders cut their debt; and people do not go into bankruptcy as often as one might expect.

### **Do We Learn More From Failure Than From Success?**

It's not enough to critique failure, a tech person in our group argued; we must look critically at success. He suggested, as Bill Gates did, that success can limit our vision because it often breeds complacency. For example, many businesses succeeding in the last business cycle didn't foresee the bursting of the housing bubble; they suffered badly and were slow to recover. The Mensan said he had learned more from experiencing failure than from success; it had alerted him to problems normally overlooked and led him to improve procedures and products.

Another Mensan countered that we don't have to fail in order to learn. "Even the most successful businesses, students, and athletes make mistakes and learn from them," he argued. They also learn from competitors. They don't have to experience the agony of defeat to gain some wisdom.

### **Tracking Failure: Fog and Light**

It seemed clear from these examples and arguments that people don't necessarily learn from the lessons failure provides. Someone stressed that "Hindsight isn't 20-20. It isn't anywhere near that." When there are many variables, it's hard to pinpoint or even estimate what caused the failure, especially in organizations. It's not enough to admit failure; you have to track it and experiment. Most people don't track or even notice their failures, so they can scarcely learn from them. Fortunately, smart technology is making tracking easier.

One problem that prevents many students from learning from failure is that they don't see professionals' mistakes. "They usually just see the finished product, they don't see the rough drafts," one person said. He suggested that writing students be shown the many early drafts of professional writers' work, the struggles they went through, and the revising and refining. This could help students learn both grit and craft, and realize that a rough draft is better than a blank page.

What about hard-core cases of failure, such as alcoholics and repeat offenders in the criminal justice system? Someone cited the HOPE program in Hawaii as a promising approach. It requires drug offenders and other high-risk criminals on probation to report regularly and take drug tests. Drunk

drivers have to come in and take sobriety tests twice a day. If they fail the test or don't show up, they are quickly back in jail. If they keep passing, they don't have to report as often. One Mensan agreed that this was a good approach, emphasizing the virtue of its consistency and clearness. Both the rewards and penalties are straightforward, he said, and that's how offenders learn.

### **The Fear of Failure**

As a few people pointed out, the fear of failure can stop some people right in their tracks. What can you say to such a person? One Mensan suggested that you should simply ask them, "What's the worst thing that can happen?" People naturally prefer to avoid risks, but that actually picturing a worst case scenario can overcome this visceral fear. A teacher pointed out that his students, like many Americans, fear public speaking. He leads them through it by showing videos of other people giving speeches, including prominent professionals making mistakes. This desensitizes students, and with practice, he said, they progress. "If I teach them nothing else," he added, "that will be a most valuable lesson."

We also discussed another fear: the fear of loss or of admitting failure that traps people into continuing doomed projects and staying with losing investments or impossible clients far too long. The problem is familiar to economists; they call it the fallacy of sunk costs. People have an emotional commitment to the price they purchased a stock at or the money they have put into a project. Persistence and grit, normally virtues, work against the investor or practitioner in this case. So when should a person throw in the towel? One professional said that he didn't drop extremely difficult clients; he just suggested they to work with another practitioner. Some of us wondered whether investors and managers could find similar ways to disentangle themselves psychologically from investments that are drowning them.

### **Conclusion**

Our dinner group discussed several other aspects of failure – bankruptcy, pass-fail grading, overconfidence, maintaining resilience in the face of failure, the difference between being oriented toward the process and toward the goal, praise for effort rather than achievement, and cognitive biases leading to failure. The discussion was brisk but not hurried. It got the Mensa year off to a good start, and we look forward to hearing from interesting speakers in the months to come.



The next Monthly Dinner will be on Saturday, February 20. Patrick Foster, a Milford Mensan who has written 13 books on classic cars, will talk about the vintage cars of the Nash Corp. and the Hudson Motor Car Company.

## **Upcoming National and Regional Events**

### **The Blizzard at the End of the Universe – New Hampshire Mensa RG**

**February 12–14, 2016**

*Best Western Wynwood, 580 US Hwy 1 Bypass (Portsmouth Traffic Circle), Portsmouth, NH*

<http://www.nh.us.mensa.org/rq2016.shtm>

Yes, on President's Day Weekend in 2016 we shall again meet in the Best Western in Portsmouth, NH. Escape the winter and enjoy the warmth of our company! Come enjoy the coolest RG ever!

### **Snowball – Central New Jersey Mensa RG**

**March 18–20, 2016**

*APA Hotel Woodbridge (formerly the Woodbridge Hilton), 120 Wood Avenue, South Iselin, NJ*

<http://www.cnj.us.mensa.org/snowball.html>

You are invited to the longest-running and best RG: CNJM's Snowball 42! Enjoy the abundant 24-hour hospitality suite, the excellent game room, and the massive speaker track. Dance the night away on Saturday and spend Sunday morning snapping up treasures at the multimedia swap.

### **Mensa Mind Games® 2016**

**April 15–17, 2016**

*Westin Chicago, 601 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Wheeling, IL*

<http://mensamindgames.com/>

American Mensans get together to play and rate the latest board and card games over one spring weekend. Game manufacturers enter their newest products in pursuit of the Mensa Select seal—proof that the most avid game-players in the country have judged their games to be the best. It's the gold standard of gaming. When you see the Mensa Select seal, you've found a high-quality product that you're likely to enjoy

### **A Whale of a Good Time! – Boston Mensa Mini-RG**

**May 6-8, 2016**

*Corsair and Crossrip, 41 Chase Avenue, Dennisport, MA*

<http://cape.bostonmensa.org/home.aspx>

Join us on beautiful Cape Cod for a relaxing, unstructured weekend of socializing and hospitality with old friends and new. Visit Provincetown, enjoy great seafood, go whale watching, antiquing, or bicycling, or just sit back and listen to the ocean. Play games while overlooking the sea. Enjoy drinks on an oceanfront deck. A great RG for first-timers!

## **Puzzles & Questions**

(Answers may be in next month's Chronicle newsletter)

1. Name several economists who predicted the Great Recession of 2008 and the bursting of the housing bubble.
2. When did George Washington deliver his presidential Farewell Address?
3. List a dozen benefits of worrying.
4. What is the formula for the area of a flat, diamond-shaped kite?
5. What are some poor strategies that are common?
6. What are the six states of Australia and their capitals?
7. How quickly do people wake up in the morning?
8. What percentage of Fairfield County's surface area is water?
9. What were the best cars of the 1950s?
10. How often do PGA (Professional Golf Association) golfers make six-foot putts?

### **Two Ways to Reach Out to Your Fellow SC Mensans**

The Southern Connecticut Mensa Blog <https://scm66.wordpress.com/>  
and the Southern Connecticut Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/SCM066/>

If you would like to post any last-minute events or information on the blog, email Merrill at [SCMensa66@gmail.com](mailto:SCMensa66@gmail.com). Anything posted on the blog will be mirrored on the Facebook page unless otherwise requested.

If you hit the Follow button on the blog and add your email address, you will be automatically notified of all new updates.

## Answers to Some of the January Chronicle Questions

### 2. When was the Canadian transcontinental railroad completed?

A: On November 7, 1885, workers drove the last spike in to complete the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) line connecting the eastern port of Montreal with Craigellachie, British Columbia. However, the CPR had to improve the railway's condition, as some of it had to pass through snowy mountains. Hence, the first run of the transcontinental route did not occur until June 28, 1886. It arrived in Port Moody, British Columbia, at noon on July 4, 1886. Later that year, the CPR extended the line to Granville, which was renamed "Vancouver." The first Canadian transcontinental train trip arrived there on May 23, 1887. The CPR extended the route further east by building the International Railway of Maine, which connected Montreal with Saint John, New Brunswick, on the Atlantic Coast in 1889.

### 4. About what percentage of the earth's land area do the 10 largest nations in area occupy?

A: The 10 largest nations occupy about 49.7% of the world's land. The 10 largest countries are: 1) Russia, 2) Canada, 3) China, 4) the U.S., 5) Brazil, 6) Australia, 7) India, 8) Argentina, 9) Kazakhstan, and 10) Algeria. Antarctica is about 9.4% of the world's land area.

### 6. How many novels did the Western writer Zane Grey write?

A: Zane Grey (1872–1939) wrote 62 novels or novelettes, many published after his death. 56 of them were Westerns. He also wrote 33 other books – short-story collections, fishing and hunting books, baseball books, and books for juveniles.

### 8. Who wrote these popular songs of the 1960's?:

- a) Scarborough Fair
- b) Gentle on My Mind
- c) Downtown
- d) Hit the Road Jack

A: a) The author of Scarborough Fair is unknown. It is a traditional English ballad about the town of Scarborough in Yorkshire and probably goes back to at least the 1600s. The earliest recording of it was in 1955 by Americans Gordon Heath and Lee Payant, who ran a nightclub in Paris. Simon & Garfunkel released their hit version in 1968.

b) "Gentle on My Mind" was written by John Hartford, which won four 1968 Grammy Awards. Hartford himself won the award for Best Folk Performance and Best Country & Western Song (Songwriter). The other two awards Best Country & Western Solo Vocal Performance, Male and Best Country & Western Recording, went to American country music singer Glen Campbell for his version of Hartford's song.

c) Tony Hatch wrote "Downtown" in 1964 and it hit #1 for Petula Clark that year.

d) The rhythm and blues musician Curtis Mayfield wrote "Hit the Road Jack" in 1960. In 1961, Ray Charles reached #1 with it on the Billboard charts.

### 10. In the 2014–2015 NFL (National Football League) regular season, what percentage of rushing plays gained 10 or more yards and what percentage of passing plays gained 25 or more yards?

A: 11% of rushing plays gained 10 or more yards and 5.1% of passing plays gained 25 or more yards. Using these standards, about 7.4% of NFL plays from scrimmage were big plays.

## **Word Check**

See if you can define these “dys-“ words.

1. dysaemia -
2. dysaphia -
3. dysbasia -
4. dyskinesia -
5. dyslexia -
6. dysorexia -
7. dyspraxia -
8. dystonia -
9. dystrophy -
10. psychodysleptic -            -

### **Answers:**

1. dysaemia - unhealthy condition of blood.
2. dysaphia - impaired sense of touch.
3. dysbasia - difficulty walking, usually taking steps that are too big or too small; abasia.
4. dyskinesia - difficulty or abnormality in performing voluntary muscular movements.
5. dyslexia - 1. reading disorders experienced by persons with normal vision and normal or above-normal intelligence. 2. a developmental disorder which can cause difficulties in learning in reading, writing, and numeracy; word blindness.
5. dyslogia - difficulty in expressing ideas.
6. dysorexia - failure of appetite.
7. dyspraxia - inability to perform coordinated movements.
8. dystonia - a neurological movement disorder in which sustained muscle contractions cause twisting and repetitive movements, tremors, or abnormal postures.
9. dystrophy - a wasting of body tissues, of genetic origin or due to inadequate or defective nutrition.
10. psychodysleptic - causing a dreamlike mental state; hallucinogenic.

## Noted & Quoted

Work finally begins when the fear of doing nothing exceeds the fear of doing it badly.

- Alain de Botton, (1969– ), Swiss-British writer, philosopher

No man was ever wise by chance.

- Seneca, (4 B.C.E.–65 A.D. ), Roman philosopher, statesman, dramatist

I made over forty Westerns. I used to lie awake nights trying to think up new ways of getting on and off a horse.

- William Wyler, (1902–1981), German-American film director

An actor has no more right to be temperamental than a bank clerk.

- Fredric March, (1897–1975), U.S. stage and film actor

It is the life of the crystal, the architect of the flake, the fire of the frost, the soul of the sunbeam. This crisp winter air is full of it.

- John Burroughs, (1837–1921), U.S. naturalist, essayist

The days are short / The sun a spark / Hung thin between / The dark and dark.

- John Updike, (1932–2009), "January," *A Child's Calendar*, (1965)

Music does not express any idea, but it gives rise to thousands.

- Alessandro Manzoni, (1785–1873), Italian novelist, poet, dramatist, and critic

I want to make people cry even when they don't understand my words.

- Edith Piaf, (1915–1963), French singer, songwriter, actress

I am hitting my head against the walls, but the walls are giving way.

- Gustav Mahler, (1860–1911), Austrian composer

Sometimes big trees grow out of acorns - I think I heard that from a squirrel.

- Jerry Coleman, (1924–2014), U.S. baseball player, broadcaster, manager

Taste may be identity but it is not destiny.

- Bee Wilson, (1974– ), British food writer

The human race afraid of nothing, rushes on through every crime.

- Horace, (65–8 B.C.E.), Roman poet

The only good human being is a dead one.

- George Orwell, (1903–1950), *Animal Farm* (1945)

We should expect the best and the worst of mankind, as from the weather.

- Marquis De Vauvenargues, (1715–1747), French essayist, aphorist

Tolerance becomes a crime when applied to evil.

- Thomas Mann, (1875–1955), German novelist

I am writing with my burnt hand about the nature of fire.

- Ingeborg Bachmann, (1926–1973), Austrian poet, essayist, novelist

Enough of these phrases, conceit and metaphors, I want burning, burning, burning.

- Rumi, (1207–1273), Persian poet, jurist, scholar

A throw of the dice will never abolish chance.

- Stephane Mallarme, (1842–1898), French poet, critic

He that is busy is tempted by but one devil; he that is idle, by a legion.

- Thomas Fuller, (1608–1661), English clergyman, historian

In idleness there is a perpetual despair.

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

Grow antennae, not horns.

- Dr. James R. Angell, (1869–1949), U.S. psychologist, educator

Genius is a promontory jutting out of the infinite.

- Victor Hugo, (1802–1885)

Mind is everything. Muscle - pieces of rubber. All that I am, I am because of my mind.

- Paavo Nurmi, (1897–1973), Finnish Olympic-champion runner

Like all great travelers, I have seen more than I remember, and remember more than I have seen.

- Benjamin Disraeli, (1804–1881), British novelist, prime minister

The hard thing about death is that nothing ever changes. The hard thing about life is that nothing stays the same.

- Sue Grafton, (1940–), U.S. detective novelist, *J is for Judgment* (1993)



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