

Staple all pages together

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Name

A Close Brush with Death

Some individuals who have survived a close brush with death have reported autoscopia (watching, from several feet in the air, resuscitation attempts on their own bodies) or transcendence (the sense of passing into a foreign region or dimension). Some see light, often at the end of a tunnel. Their vision seems clearer; their hearing, sharper. Some recall scenes from their lives or feel the presence of loved ones who have died. Many report feelings of joy, calm, and peace.

In recent years, the number of reports of near-death experiences has grown thanks largely to advances in medical care. Most such experiences are remarkably similar, whether they occur in children or adults, whether they're the results of accidents or illnesses, even whether the individuals actually are near death or only think they are. Fewer than 1% of those who've reported near-death experiences described them as frightening or distressing.

- 1 Why are there more recent reports about near death experiences?
 - A people are living longer today
 - B emergency medical care is better today
 - C more dying people are completing reports on this
 - D because of Autoscopy and transcendent education
- 2 The majority of reports from persons near death:
 - A were generally not similar
 - B differed greatly among various age groups
 - C showed most were very frightened
 - D were similar whether the person was near death or not
- 3 One very important question not answered here is:
 - A is there a rational explanation for this?
 - B what do these people experience?
 - C when does this phenomenon happen?
 - D is this experience frightening or distressing ?
- 4 An appropriate way to describe these experiences is:
 - A frightening
 - B unpleasant
 - C unremarkable
 - D mystical

Love

Love, noun. A temporary insanity cured by marriage or removal of the patient from the influences under which he incurred this disorder. This disease, like caries and many other ailments, is prevalent only among civilized races living under artificial conditions; barbarous nations breathing pure air and eating simple food enjoy immunity from its ravages. It is sometimes fatal, but more frequently to the physician than the patient

- 5 1. According to the author, what effect does marriage have on love?
 - A it encourages a more perfect union.
 - B it grows as the couple gets to know each other.
 - C it destroys it.
 - D it causes insanity.
- 6 2. What does the author compare love to?
 - A simple food
 - B civilized races
 - C pure air
 - D disease
- 7 3. What is the author's purpose in writing this definition?
 - A to encourage people to fall in love.
 - B to ridicule romantic notions about love.
 - C to compare barbarous and civilized peoples' notions of love.
 - D to reveal a cure for love.
- 8 4. The author's tone is
 - A sincere
 - B hateful
 - C sarcastic
 - D informatively serious

Shakira

A child **prodigy** at the tender age of eight, Shakira Isabel Mebarak Ripoll wrote her first song then. At age eleven, she won shows by playing guitar and singing songs she wrote. And in 1990, at only thirteen years old, she was signed by Sony records.

With an impressive youth, the best was yet to be. Shakira wanted to sing rock and roll songs, Sony disagreed. They wanted to write songs for her and mold her image. Persistent and intelligent, Shakira didn't back down. She continued her own writing and created *Pies Descalzos* (Bare Feet) which quickly became a hit Latin album. Important industry insiders took notice. Television producers noticed her too, for her beauty. That is how she came to star on the Colombian soap opera, "El Oasis," for three years.

Shakira has had a relatively straight path to stardom, thanks to her beauty, creativity, and strong voice, but there are some things about Shakira that may surprise fans.

For one, she is a natural born American. Her father is of Lebanese descent and met her mother in Colombia, South America. That is why Shakira grew up in Colombia, speaking Spanish. Another surprise is that Shakira was rumored to have been kicked out of her school's choir. Why? Because her voice was so strong, it overpowered those of the other students. Furthermore, she is considered the best female lyricist in South America today. Pretty amazing, but not surprising.

Shakira has admitted in past interviews she might come across as an obsessive perfectionist to fans, but this drive for perfection and the determination to retain creative control over her work is probably why she is so successful. In the world of standardized pop princesses, her heart-felt, personal songs and unique dance moves are what sets her apart.

- 9 The bold word **prodigy** means
 - A underachiever
 - B having average skills and abilities
 - C one who pokes around and snoops
 - D wonder, sensation
- 10 The conflict Shakira had with Sony was
 - A due to her persistence and intelligence
 - B that important industry insiders took notice, and she turned her attention to TV
 - C over creative control of her career
 - D because she as an obsessive perfectionist
- 11 The surprising part of Shakira
 - A is added to keep the reader interested
 - B has little to do with her career
 - C has some ironic information about her youth
 - D all of the above
- 12 Shakira success was due mostly to
 - A her voice, beauty, and intelligence
 - B Sony's early influence on her career and the fact that she was a child prodigy
 - C her starring on the Colombian soap opera, "El Oasis," for three years
 - D being in the right county at the right time

The Strike in Paterson

The strike that erupted in Paterson, New Jersey, in February 1913 brought the city to a near standstill for six months and resulted in arrests of more than two thousand strikers. A landmark in history of American labor, the “war in Paterson” has been the subject of careful study by a number of historians. The silk-mill owners were losing out to competition from areas with cheaper labor. The workers were fiercely resistant to the attempts of their bosses to “speed up,” cut wages, or dilute the quality of the products. The absence of an established trade-union and of recognized traditions of collective bargaining in Paterson’s silk industry prevented both employer and employees from talking together about their problems. Instead, **grievances** were not out in the open and served as fuel, awaiting the spark that would set off a battle.

- 13 The main idea of this passage is that
 - A the strike in Paterson stopped the development of trade unions
 - B the silk industry experienced serious economic and labor difficulties
 - C labor and management never agree
 - D the strike in Paterson paved the way for trade-unions in that city
- 14 The “war in Paterson” is best described as
 - A a violent riot
 - B an example of the troubled history of the silk industry
 - C New Jersey's hidden and not researched history
 - D an important event in the development of the American unions (labor movement)
- 15 The strike was a result of
 - A silk mill owners were not able to compete with cheap labor
 - B pressure from bosses on employees to produce more
 - C no trade union to help workers bargain
 - D all of the above
- 16 Because there was no trade unions at this time
 - A workers were well represented when negotiating working conditions
 - B employers could not force workers to work better
 - C workers and employers had no official way to come to agreements
 - D Paterson's silk industry died
- 17 In the last sentence the bold word, **grievances**, means:
 - A complaints
 - B promotions
 - C communications
 - D agreements