

PR 7

Staple all pages together

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Name

Malcolm in the Middle

"Malcolm in the Middle" doesn't really look, sound, or feel like any family sitcom you've seen before. The show centers on Malcolm (Frankie Muniz), a very active, but well-meaning teen with a high IQ and a low tolerance for his weird family. It can feel like a kid's show at times, with its gross-out humor, but "Malcolm" has drawn some of its biggest audiences among men 18 to 49. That may be because of the dead-on way it shows boys picking on boys at school, at home and anywhere adults aren't watching. The show sometimes is too silly, especially in the scenes in Malcolm's school. Its clever wit make it one of the few shows that are actually funnier the more times you see it.

As funny as the kids are, the parents are hilarious. Hal (Bryan Cranston) mostly hides behind his newspaper, though in a some episode he reveals a secret past as a roller-skating champion, complete with sequined outfit. Lois (Jane Kaczmarek) yells like a truck driver and sometimes shaves her legs in the car when her busy life doesn't allow enough time in the bathroom. Few shows so cleverly combine the line between kid-friendly comedy and sly adult satire.

- 1 The tone of this passage is
 - A amusing and helps convey the author's appreciation for this show
 - B cynical and shows how the author is biased against it
 - C satirical because the author is making fun of this show's content
 - D critical to illustrate its negative qualities

- 2 The author's purpose in this passage is to
 - A survey the current TV scene in America
 - B persuade the reader to watch more TV
 - C describe the unique style of this TV show in an entertaining way
 - D provide a history of family comedy on TV

- 3 The main idea of this passage is that "Malcolm in the Middle"
 - A is a silly kid show
 - B is about boys picking on boys
 - C includes funny kids and serious parents
 - D is an unusual and entertaining show

- 4 The father of the family
 - A once was a roller skating champion
 - B is not caring
 - C wants to be aware of all that goes on in the house
 - D is afraid of the mother, so he hides behind his newspaper

- 5 What makes this show unique and smartly done is that it is
 - A childishly silly and also portray adult satire both in a clever way
 - B hilarious but very serious
 - C well acted and produced
 - D focuses on adult humor

Diamonds

The rough stone emerges from the African soil at mines in the war zones of Angola or straight from the dammed-up river in the Congo. After going across continents and oceans, after being graded, cut, polished and set in gold along the way, a diamond lands in a display window in Manhattan, transformed into expensive jewelry.

The journey can take months or even years. To enforce the myth that diamonds are rare and valuable, most of the world's rough stones are stock-piled in London and then carefully fed back into the world market. De Beers, the South African huge company that controls two-thirds of the world's rough diamonds, decides how many will be sold, when, to whom and at what price.

Where they are mined responsibly, as in Botswana or South Africa, diamonds can contribute to development and stability. But where governments are corrupt, rebels are vicious, as in Angola and the Congo, where the glittering stones have become agents of slave labor, murder, mass homelessness, and wholesale economic collapse.

- 6 The tone of this passage can best be described as
 - A critical
 - B entertaining
 - C light-hearted
 - D objective

- 7 The author is biased
 - A against all diamond miners
 - B against De Beers
 - C in favor of De Beers
 - D in favor of all diamond miners

- 8 After reading this passage, you can conclude that diamonds
 - A are found only in one small area of Africa
 - B are not found in rivers or streams
 - C are not really as rare as people think
 - D are more valuable than people think

- 9 Diamonds
 - A can contribute to development and stability
 - B could become agents of slave labor
 - C are hoarded in London than distributed to the world by De Beers
 - D all of the above

Rescuing a Dog

Most people, when they acquire a puppy, purchase a purebred animal from a kennel or pet shop. It's true that there are many advantages to purebred dogs. Such as you know what your pup will look like when it grows up (in particular, you know how big it will be), and you have some idea of its temperament. But non-purebred dogs, commonly known as mutts, have many advantages as well.

The most important of these is health. Most people do not know that almost all breeds of dogs have genetic health problems. These range from epilepsy to tumors to malformed bones and joints. These problems arise from inbreeding, or breeding of closely related animals. Although purebred dogs mostly suffer from these ailments, mutts tend to be free from these abnormalities, so your pet is likely to stay healthy for many years.

A second advantage is the good feeling that comes from rescuing a dog. Because of severe overcrowding, animal shelters are often forced to destroy dogs that are not adopted within a short period of time, so by adopting from a shelter, you might just be saving a life.

Finally, adopting a pet is likely to be much cheaper than buying one. Shelters typically charge only a nominal adoption fee, while purchasing a purebred can amount to hundreds of dollars. Sure, with a mutt you give up the status that comes with being able to boast about your pet's pedigree, but you also gain a healthy pet, plus the satisfaction that comes with saving a life

- 10 This passage is mostly about the
 - A problems of purebred dogs
 - B cost of purebred dogs
 - C advantages of mutts
 - D cost of owning a dog

- 11 The author's purpose in writing this passage is to
 - A condemn those who own purebred dogs
 - B entertain the reader with some interesting and little known facts
 - C show the advantages of a mutt
 - D criticize the way dogs are chosen

- 12 Animal shelters must destroy dogs because
 - A of genetic health issues
 - B shelters are overcrowded
 - C mutts have less worth than purebreds
 - D mutts are inferior, and do not make good pets

- 13 Mutts have the advantage(s) of
 - A being usually healthier than pure bred dogs
 - B being inexpensive
 - C giving an owner the satisfaction of rescuing an animal
 - D all of the above

Ants

Ants are almost always on the move, engaged in some activity. Doing tiring labor and constant body movement are two of their hallmarks.

Leaf-cutters are a type of ant that live in huge underground nests in tropical rain forests. A colony of these insects, often well over a million individuals, can strip a large tree of its **foliage** in a single night. These ants make a "leaf parade" of workers. Workers are all females. They go out looking for food high in the trees at night. Up on a high branch, a worker ant uses her razor-sharp mouthparts to slice up a leaf. She then picks up a piece and joins the parade headed back to the nest. Two other smaller ants ride on the leaf fragment. They are workers that guard the leaf-carriers. They too are active, gnashing their mouthparts at flies to protect their sisters.

- 14 Ants are noted for
 - A working hard
 - B constantly on the move
 - C being engaged in activity
 - D all of the above

- 15 The bold word **foliage** means:
 - A insects
 - B leaves
 - C color
 - D animals

- 16 The ants in this passage seem very
 - A independent
 - B unorganized
 - C organized
 - D vicious

- 17 All of the following are discussed in this article EXCEPT
 - A when the ants go looking for food
 - B where they live
 - C how many ants live in a colony
 - D why the ants are all females

- 18 A "Leaf Parade" seems to be
 - A an ant's display of power
 - B a line of ants bringing food back to their nest
 - C how ants entertain themselves
 - D none of the above