QUIZ

**An ACCOMPLICE is:**

1. A partner in crime.
2. A necklace of accomplishment.

*Zany example: “Do you like my* ***accomplice****?” asked one of the jewellery thieves.*

The answer is A.

**ADEPT means:**

1. Half a deputy.
2. Being good at something.

*Zany example: Ever since the tragic accident, only one side of Frank’s body was* ***adept*** *at working in law enforcement.*

The answer is B. If you are correct, you are adept at answering this question.

If you are incorrect, you have a fantastic sense of humour.

**ADEQUATE means:**

1. A small animal made out of mice.
2. A satisfactory amount.

*Zany example: Sarah was hungry, and she hoped the meal her mum was preparing would be* ***adequate****.*

The answer is not A, it is definitely B. There is no such thing as a small animal made out of mice. But please feel free to invent one.

**ADULT-NAPPING is:**

1. When your parents fall asleep at the cinema.
2. A made-up word to describe children who kidnap adults.

*Zany example: Kim started out as a kidnapper. Eventually, she grew up to become the world’s most notorious* ***adult-napper****.*

The answer to this is…whatever you picked. Both A and B are technically correct, depending on the context. Do you know any adult-nappers?

**AERIAL SILKS are:**

1. Hair conditioning treatments for mermaids, and other fairy tale characters.
2. Long sheets of stretchy fabric, hung from a high rigging point, on which aerial artists can climb, spin, drop, twist, and so more.

*Zany example: The handsome prince decided to get Rapunzel some* ***Aerial Silks****. It would make his climb to the top of the tower so much easier.*

If you have read the story, you probably know that the answer is B, not A. The prince probably doesn’t know how to climb aerial silks anyway.

**ANALOGY means:**

1. The study of people named Ana.
2. Comparing one thing to another thing to clarify a point.

*Zany example: Ana is more than one person. This is not an* ***analogy****. It’s the literal truth. There are thousands of people named Ana in the world. I don’t know any of them, but I’m fairly sure they exist.*

The answer is B, but if you do know one of these elusive people known as Ana, please write a book about her, and call it ‘Analogy’. Make sure you use lots of analogies. Is Ana’s voice is as screechy as chalk on a blackboard? Maybe Ana is as quiet as a mouse? As steady as a rock? Or as cliché as these analogies?

**APEX means:**

1. Less than two pexes.
2. The highest point of something, like the uppermost tip of a triangle.

*Zany example:*

*Bob: “Knock, knock.”*

*Bill: “Who’s there?”*

*Bob: “Ape.”*

*Bill: “Ape who?”*

*Bob: “****Apex****.”*

*Bill: “****Apex****? Was that supposed to be the high point of your joke?”*

*Bob: “No. But an* ***apex*** *is the high point of a triangle.”*

*Bill: “If you tell me any more obtuse jokes, I might have to jump from the* ***apex*** *of my house.”*

*Bob: “I thought the triangle joke was acute one. Maybe I’m just not looking at this from the right angle.”*

The answer is B. Just pick B.

**What does it mean to be BEWILDERED?**

1. It means you feel confused or perplexed.
2. It means Wild Bees are about to capture you, and force you to make honey for their beloved Queen.

*Zany example:*

*Belle walked away from the campsite, and wandered into the forest. At first it was fun, exploring a strange place, all alone. But after a while, Belle realised she had no idea where she was. No matter which way she looked, all she could see were trees, trees, and more trees. Where had the tents gone?*

*Belle’s mind swam with questions. Would she ever find her way back to camp? Why was the forest so scary? Why were so many wild bees following her?*

*Belle was* ***bewildered.***

The answer is A. Although, if Belle had been captured by Wild Bees, she might still have felt bewildered.

**What does CHITON mean?**

I can’t tell you, it’s too rude.

You’ll just have to read the story.

It’s not actually rude.

Or is it?

**Does CONCEALED mean:**

1. Hidden
2. Penguins who pretend to be seals.

*Zany example: The hungry polar bear was getting closer. Luckily, the penguins were* ***concealed****.*

The answer is A. Plus, polar bears also eat seals, so I don’t think the disguise would have helped the penguins, even if the real answer was B.

**CONVENE rhymes with green, but what does it mean?**

1. When a magical island eats tourists.
2. To gather in a group.

*Zany example: Sebastian decided to walk further down the beach, to find a nice, quiet spot in the shade. He didn’t want to be around when the noisy tourists* ***convene****d in the sunshine.*

Unless there is a mysterious island-related behaviour scientists haven’t discovered yet, the first answer would be impossible. Unless falling into a volcano counts as being eaten. But even still, that’s not what it means to convene.

The answer is B.

The tourists gathered together in the sunshine. They did not get eaten by a magical island.

**What is a COUNTERPART?**

1. A person (or thing) which serves the same purpose, or functions in the same way, as another person (or thing).
2. The unwashed section of a kitchen bench, usually found underneath a toaster, or behind a broken microwave.

*Zany example: The Blue Superhero stood in the kitchen, chatting with the Red Superhero.*

*“It’s a dirty job, but somebody has to do it,” Red said to his bright blue* ***counterpart****. Then, with fearless might, both Superheroes bolted towards the counter at break-neck speed, brandishing damp sponges.*

*“You’re my heroes!” Mum said, when she came in, and saw that her children had cleaned the kitchen.*

The answer is A, but thinking about B is a good way to remember what A means. At least, that’s the advice I got from the Queen, and her male **counterpart**, the King.

**If someone is DELIRIOUS, they are:**

1. Suffering from serious diarrhoea.
2. Experiencing delusions or hallucinations.

*Zany example:*

*Greg was an unhygienic chef, who lived in a rat-infested cave. After eating nothing but milk-soup for an entire week, Greg developed stomach problems, and stayed awake for three days straight. Greg’s imaginary friend said that Greg was* ***delirious****, but Greg disagreed. Poor Greg.*

*Eventually, Greg realised that he wasn’t even a chef, and his cave was merely a bedroom filled with teddy bears and cups of milk.*

*When Greg was no longer* ***delirious****, his mum sent him back to school.*

The answer is B.

If you are really sick, or really unlucky, you might experience A and B simultaneously. Always wash your hands before eating, and never try the Milk Soup Diet.

If you stay up way too late, you might start acting delirious. Late nights don’t cause diarrhoea, although it might give your parents the spits.

**What does EERIE mean?**

1. Someone with unnaturally large earlobes.
2. Something creepy and mysterious.

*Zany example: Luke was about to fall asleep, when he noticed a face peering into his bedroom window. It was a goblin, whose pale green skin was illuminated strangely by the light of the full moon…*

*Luke rubbed his eyes, astonished. He had never seen any sight as* ***eerie*** *as the goblin…*

*…except for that one time, when Luke had woken up in a haunted forest, surrounded by ghost-wolves. Those wolves had been pretty* ***eerie****, come to think of it.*

*Luke said goodnight to the goblin, and went to sleep.*

The answer is B.

Eerie is a word used to describe something that is creepy, strange and mysterious. Like Stalker Goblins, and ghost-wolves, and me.

**GRANNY SMITH is:**

1. Robert’s sweet old grandmother.
2. A bright green apple.

*Zany example: Robert knew he should do what he was told, but he couldn’t force himself to eat a single bite. Mum put another slice of* ***Granny Smith*** *onto his plate.*

*Robert groaned. “Can’t I eat a Pink Lady instead?”*

The answer is B.

Robert’s sweet old grandmother is safe and sound in Mexico.

Granny Smith apples were originally cultivated in Australia in 1868. They were named after a lady called Maria Ann Smith.

Granny Smith, Red delicious, Pink Lady, Fuji and Gala, are all Australian apples.

Which apples do you like best?

**NONPLUSSED:**

1. Describes someone who enjoys subtracting numbers, but doesn’t like addition.
2. Is a word that once meant bewildered, surprised, or perplexed. In recent years, ‘nonplussed’ has come to mean unimpressed, unexcited, or unbothered.

*Zany example: The maths teacher danced crazily around the classroom, shouting out random subtraction facts. The students were* ***nonplussed****.*

The answer is B. The children were clearly unimpressed by the courageous efforts of their wonderful teacher. What a shame.

**NOSTRIL SCARF**

A nostril scarf is not a real object. But if it was, it would probably look like a long, colourful, snot-soaked handkerchief. Good times, good times.

**RELUCTANT is:**

1. When an ant has good luck, followed by bad luck, followed by more good luck.
2. A word used to describe someone who is unwilling to do something.

Zany example: *I am* ***reluctant*** *to tell you the answer, because I want you to figure it out for yourself.*

Fine then, the answer is B. I was reluctant to say, but the re-lucked-ant made me do it.

**SCEPTICAL** (Not to be confused with spectacles) **means:**

1. A fancy pair of glasses.
2. An attitude of doubt or mistrust.

*Zany example: The optometrist said that a spectacular new pair of glasses would cure Freddy’s blindness. But Freddy was* ***sceptical****, on account of his unfortunate lack of eyeballs.*

The answer is A, but please don’t judge Freddy. If I had no eyeballs, I would be sceptical about the spectacular spectacles too.

**A TSUNAMI is:**

1. Sweet, delicious meat, commonly used as a pizza topping.
2. A gigantic wave, capable of engulfing an entire town.

*Zany example: The Italian Restaurant on the hill was the building least affected by the freak wave. The townspeople convened there, and ate soggy pizza, covered in cheese, pepperoni, and leftover* ***tsunami****. I don’t know why the people were covered in cheese.*

The answer is B.

Tsunamis can be caused by earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, underwater explosions, and meteorite impacts, unlike normal waves, which are caused by wind and tides.

Tsunamis can be dangerous, so please try not to create any underwater explosions.

Farting at the beach is okay. Detonating nuclear devices is not okay.

**What does VERBAL mean?**

1. In the form of words.
2. Something small and gross, which has been coughed up by a cat, and left on your pillow.

*Zany example: Lucy couldn’t keep quiet any longer. She needed to* ***verbal****ise her frustration. She was tired of sitting in silence, allowing her non****-verbal*** *rage to eat her alive from the inside. It was time to cough it all up.*

*After Lucy had* ***verbal****ised the stuff that was on her chest, she felt so much better!*

The answer is A. Unless you thought I said, ‘furball’, in which case it’s B.