Nuggets of Fun and Nostalgia for Treasure Valley Golden-Agers

The Christmas Coat

A man was fumblin' around one day In a women's clothing store. He'd found his wife a Christmas coat And was headed for the door.

When he bumped into a little boy That looked like he was lost, And he said "Mister, can you help me Find out how much something costs?"

"Here it is almost Christmas And the nights are getting' cold. Wintertime is on us And my mom don't have a coat."

"I've been workin' for the neighbors And saving for a time." And in his tiny, outstretched hand Was a dollar and a dime.

His gaze went from that big-eyed boy To that pretty Christmas coat, And he finally cleared away the lump That had gathered in his throat.

He said "Son, that's just what this coat costs We're lucky that we found 'er." And he turned around and gave a wink To the lady at the counter.



She put it in a pretty box
And wrapped it up just so,
And went off in the back
And found a big red Christmas bow.

He said "I thank you for your help, sir, And I kindly thank you ma'am. I hope y'all are gonna have a big Christmas Cause now I know I am."

Well the man walked home busted Except for the dollar and the dime, Thinkin' he'd just have to buy The coat another time.

(Continued on Page 2)





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(The Christmas Coat—Continued from Page 1)

He told his wife that Christmas this year Wouldn't be much fun, And he gently took her in his arms And told her what he'd done.

She said "Why you old softie, I wouldn't trade you for a farm. I've got two or three old coats And your love to keep me warm."

She put that money in a matchbox And placed it beneath their tree, And said "That is the grandest gift You've ever given me."



The years went by like years will do When people are in love. Their marriage was a golden bond That was forged by God above. Then one day came some bitter news That filled his heart with fright: The doctor told the old man's wife That she was going to lose her sight.

He said "There's an operation we can do, But it puts me on the spot, Cause it's a quite complex procedure And it's going to cost a lot."

The old man said "Doctor, I'm a failure, I've made no preparation.
We don't have the money
For that kind of an operation."

The doctor got the strangest look And he sat there for a while. And then he slowly nodded And he broke out in a smile.

He said "Why sir you can't fool me You're a very wealthy man. You long ago invested In the world's best savings plan."

"I'll see she gets the best of care She's going to be just fine. And the total cost to you, old friend, Is a dollar and a dime."

(Continued on Page 7)



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If thieves wear sneakers. and artists wear skechers. then speech therapists must wear converse!

Politicians wear flip flops.

Bakers wear loafers.

Pilots wear wingtips.

Beach bums wear sandals.

Everglades hunters wear crocs.

Dog trainers wear heels.

Pirates wear booties.

Physicians wear Doc Martens.

Unemployed wear loafers.

Superman wears P.F. Fliers

Plumbers wear clogs.

lvy League student wear oxfords.

Bartenders wear tap shoes.

Train conductors wear track shoes.

Snake charmers wear moccasins.





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I met some chess enthusiasts in a hotel lobby during a Christmas tournament recently. They just kept bragging about how good they are at this game.

There's nothing worse than chess nuts boasting in an open foyer.



Righting Rules

Prepositions are not words to end sentences with.

And sentences should not begin with a conjunction.

Shy away from clichés like the plague.

Absolutely always avoid annoying alliteration.

Be more or less specific.

Parenthetical remarks (however useful) are (usually) unnecessary.

Contractions aren't helpful and shouldn't be used.

One should never generalise.

Comparisons are as bad as clichés.

Abandon ampersands & abbreviations, etc.

Cut out commas, that are, not necessary.

Parenthetical words however should be enclosed in commas.

Never use a big word when a diminutive one would be sufficient.

Don't overuse exclamation marks!!!!

Take care to use you're words appropriately.

Its important to use the apostrophe in it's proper place.

Who needs rhetorical questions?

Exaggeration is a billion times worse than understatement.

Proofread carefully to see if you any words out.

The spell cheque is knot always write.

Punctuation & creative writing challenges www.monsterpunctuation.com

This is Hard!

This is an unusual post. I'm curious as to just how quickly you can find out what is so unusual about it.

It looks so ordinary and plain that you would think nothing was wrong with it.

In fact nothing IS wrong with it!

It is highly unusual though. If you study it and think about it, you may find out, but I am not going to assist you in any way. You must do it without coaching.

No doubt, if you study it, it will dawn on you. Who knows?

Go to work and try your skill. Most can work this out in about half an hour. Go for it!



(Go to page 6 for the answer)

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I accidentally drank a bottle of disappearing ink. Now I'm at the doctor's waiting to be seen.



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The New Organist



The minister was preoccupied with thoughts of how he was going to, at the end of the worship service, ask the congregation to come up with more money than they were expecting for repairs to the church building.

Therefore, he was annoyed to find that the regular organist was out and a substitute had been brought in at the last minute.

The substitute wanted to know what to play. "Here's a copy of the service," he said impatiently. "But you'll have to think of something to play after I make the announcement about the finances."

During the service, the minister paused and said, "Brothers and sisters, we are in great difficulty. The roof repairs cost twice as much as we expected, and we need \$5,000 more. Any of you who can pledge \$100 or more, please stand up."

At that moment, the substitute organist played "The Star-Spangled Banner."

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Whatever Happened to Christmas

Song written by Jimmy Webb As Sung by Frank Sinatra

Whatever happened to Christmas? It's gone and left no traces Whatever happened to the faces or the glow?

Whatever happened to Christmas? To Christmas way of living Whatever happened to the giving The magic in the snow?

Remember the sights and the smells and the sounds And remember the cheering call. Remember how love was all around Whatever happened to it all?

Whatever happened to Christmas? Bells in the streets are ringing Whatever happened to the singing The songs we used to know?

Whatever happened to Christmas And when did it disappear from view? Where was I and whatever happened to you? Whatever happened



When you ask a cardiac nurse to hang the Christmas garland



I was on a train and the woman across from me looked at me and said, "Every time you smile I think about inviting you to my place." "Are you single," I asked? "No, I'm a dentist."

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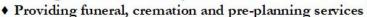
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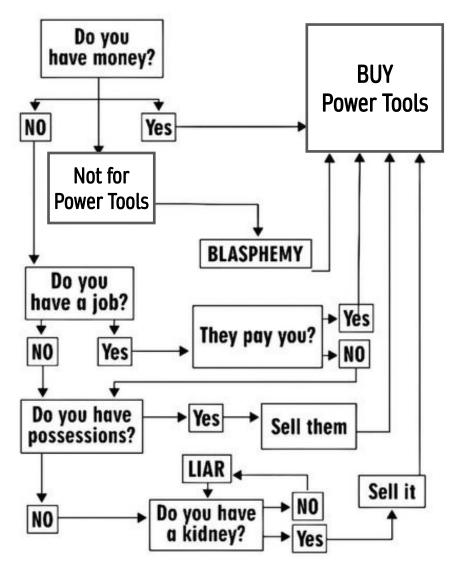
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Christmas Ouiz

- 1. How many ghosts show up in Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*?
- 2. How many gifts were given in total in 'The Twelve Days of Christmas' song?
- 3. Which country started the tradition of putting up a Christmas tree?
- 4. How many of Rudolph's fellow reindeers' names start with 'D'?
- 5. In the movie *Home Alone 2* (1992), who does Kevin run into in the hotel lobby?
- 6. When do the 12 days of Christmas start?
- 7. What plant is sometimes known as the 'Christmas flower'?
- 8. Which ornament is typically placed on the top of the tree?
- 9. 'Jingle Bells' was originally a song for what other holiday?
- 10. What kind of Christmas is Elvis going to have?

(Go to Page 6 for the answer)



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MOMS NOW VS. MOMS THEN: By I Might Be Funny

"That word is inappropriate."

"Say that again and I'll wash your mouth out with soap."

"Good job trying one bite of the dinner I made. Now you can have Mac & Cheese." "You'll eat what I make, whether you like it or not. There are starving children in the world."

"I can see you're upset. Take a deep breath and use your words." "You better stop crying or I'll REALLY give you something to cry about."

"You can't walk around the block by yourself. I'll drive you. Text me when you need a ride back."

"You want to go out? Take your bike. Be home before dark."

"I packed your bento box with almond butter on whole grain, kale chips, and an organic smoothie." "Take a brown bag with a bologna sandwich on Wonder Bread. Grab a Twinkie and a Hawaiian Punch too." © I Might Be Funny I grew up in the Bible Belt.
And the things that helped me grow
up right were the Bible
and the belt.



Answers to Christmas Quiz:

- Four: former business partner Jacob Marley, and the spirits of Christmas Past, Present and Future.
- 2. Britain
- 3. 364
- 4. Three Dancer, Dasher, Donner.
- 5. Donald Trump
- 6. Christmas Day
- 7. Poinsettia
- 8. A star or angel
- 9. Thanksgiving
- 10. A 'Blue Christmas'

ANSWER TO UNUSUAL PARAGRAPH TEST:
There is no letter "E"



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Grandpa's Face



A little girl was sitting next to her grandfather as he read her a bedtime story.

From time to time, she would take her eyes off the book and reach up and touch his wrinkled cheek. She touched her own cheek after she touched his.

After a little while of thinking she asked, "Grandpa, did God make you?"

He looked at her and said, "Yes, sweetheart, God made me a long time ago."

She paused for a few seconds and then asked, "Grandpa, did God make me, too?"

He replied, "Yes, indeed, pumpkin. God made you just a little while ago."

Feeling their respective faces again, she whispered to him, "God's getting better at it, isn't he?"

(The Christmas Coat—Continued from Page 2)

The old man stared in disbelief, Then he recognized that smile. The one he'd seen those years ago On a loving thoughtful child.

He said "What you gave to me that day Was more than just a coat. You gave me the gift of giving And you gave my mother hope."

"My mother'd been mistreated, Neglected and abused. But she gave life just one more chance And it was all because of you."

"Now every year she takes that coat And lays it beneath our tree. It represents to us the things That Christmas ought to be."

"She says that when we leave this world For a better home someday, The only things that we'll take with us Are the things we gave away."



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- ◆ Edgewood Castle Hills ◆ 5955 Castle Drive ◆ Boise ◆ 83703 ◆ 208.331.1300

I just learned that many people don't like to hold hands in public --especially if they don't know you!



I hate it when I wake up in the middle of the night to get a drink of water and end up eating half a pizza and a slice of pecan pie!

WHO PARKED YOUR CAR LOOKS LIKE BECAUSE WE DO NOT HAVE



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Milestones



Vlieta Brand Nov 20, 1926—98 years Meridian Senior Center



Annie Prince Dec 9, 1934-90 years **Boise Senior Center**



Rosemary Wilcox Dec 12, 1934—90 years Kuna Senior Center



Orville & Thelma Tarter Oct 23, 1949-75 years Meridian



Dave Walter Dec 17, 1934-90 years Meridian Senior Center



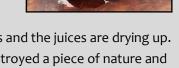
Joy Goetz-Malone Dec 5, 1939-85 years **Boise Senior Center**

How do you like your steak?

RARE means rare: A very red center that is still raw. Only the outside is cooked.

MEDIUM RARE means juicy: A pinkish red center that has begun to cook.

MEDIUM is still pink: The center is cooking.



MEDIUM WELL: The center has lost its pinkness and the juices are drying up. WELL DONE: It's a burnt offering! You have destroyed a piece of nature and the chef hates you!



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