

ROBO-LEGS / EUREKA: SCIENTIFIC TWISTS OF FATE

Selection Test**Comprehension**

Read each of the following questions. Then choose the letter of the best answer.

1. The story about Cameron Clapp in “Robo-Legs” shows that artificial limbs, or prosthetics, can help people
 - A. play sports
 - B. plan for the future
 - C. move like robots
 - D. understand computers
2. According to “Robo-Legs,” what do some people who use artificial limbs do that shows pride?
 - A. sign up for military service
 - B. make movies about disabilities
 - C. display their sports medals
 - D. decorate their electronic limbs
3. The story of Isaac Newton in “Eureka: Scientific Twists of Fate” is used to introduce the main idea that
 - A. scientific discoveries are the result of both luck and a gifted mind
 - B. scientific discoveries are the result of pure luck
 - C. scientific discoveries are the result of genius
 - D. scientific discoveries started in the 1600s
4. The stories in “Eureka: Scientific Twists of Fate” show that some scientific discoveries result from
 - A. work that countries do together
 - B. accidents that are ignored
 - C. luck combined with intelligence
 - D. decades of specialized study
5. Both articles discuss progress in the field of
 - A. sports
 - B. medicine
 - C. computers
 - D. human movement

SELECTION TEST A, CONTINUED

Vocabulary

Choose the answer that best explains the meaning of each underlined word.
(6 points each)

6. Mobility is
- A. the ability to move around
 - B. a dependence on technology
 - C. the discovery of a cure
 - D. a study of diseases
7. What does keener mean?
- A. faster
 - B. stronger
 - C. more sensitive
 - D. more comfortable
8. An appendage is a
- A. control button on a robot
 - B. body part, such as an arm or a leg
 - C. mold spore that floats through the air
 - D. painful blister caused by a disease
9. Something that is infectious is
- A. created in a scientific laboratory
 - B. related to the history of medicine
 - C. solved after many years of study
 - D. capable of being spread by infection
10. To contaminate is to
- A. become more machine than human
 - B. make unclean through contact
 - C. show little interest in others
 - D. prepare for the future

ROBO-LEGS / EUREKA: SCIENTIFIC TWISTS OF FATE

Selection Test B/C**Comprehension**

Read each of the following questions. Then choose the letter of the best answer.
(6 points each)

11. The function of the new artificial limbs, or prosthetics, described in “Robo-Legs” is to help people

- A. perform as efficiently as machines
- B. publicize the effects of disabilities
- C. overcome their bodies’ limitations
- D. understand advances in technology

12. What does Nick Springer discuss in “Robo-Legs” to express his hope for the future?

- A. computer programs that control prosthetics
- B. batteries that are used in prosthetics
- C. sports equipment for people with disabilities
- D. prosthetics shown in a *Star Wars* movie

13. The author of “Eureka: Scientific Twists of Fate” most likely calls penicillin “the most important medical discovery” of the twentieth century because it

- A. helped save milkmaids from disease
- B. ended World War II after D-Day
- C. united scientific communities
- D. saved so many people from dying of infections

14. In “Eureka: Scientific Twists of Fate,” the description of how Alexander Fleming discovered penicillin serves

- A. to introduce the main idea
- B. as an example of the main idea
- C. as an exception to the rule that discoveries depend on luck and talent
- D. as a conclusion to the article

15. What have the scientific advancements discussed in both articles done?

- A. improved human lives
- B. prevented disease epidemics
- C. caused people to question progress
- D. made humans more like machines

SELECTION TEST B/C, CONTINUED

Vocabulary

Choose the answer that best explains the meaning of each underlined word.
(6 points each)

16. What does mobility mean?

- A. an action taken to compete in sports
- B. a reason to make medical advancements
- C. the return to health after an illness
- D. the capability of moving around

17. Rehabilitation is

- A. a method of examining patients
- B. the process of returning someone to physical capability
- C. a technique for studying diseases
- D. an effort to restore health to an entire community after an epidemic

18. What does serendipitous mean?

- A. happening in the past
- B. discovered in a laboratory
- C. found by fortunate accident
- D. showing healthy characteristics

19. Something that is pervasive is

- A. present throughout
- B. unhealthful to many
- C. deserving of a prize
- D. extensively researched

20. What does infectious mean?

- A. able to recognize a dangerous infection
- B. capable of being transmitted by infection
- C. knowledgeable about the source of infections
- D. considered the highest authority on infections