

How can scents change the way you feel?

- 1 Has the smell of something ever made you think of a spring day? Do some scents make you happy? Do others relax you?
- 2 Believe it or not, scents can change the way a person feels. Each day scientists learn more about this. They have people sniff different odors. Then they ask what each smell reminds them of or how it makes them feel. Now scientists are trying different scents to make people feel better.
- 3 Scientists now understand what certain odors do. One thing they know is that lemons remind people of things that are fresh and clean. So people who make cleaners and soaps for the home often put lemon scent in them.
- 4 The smell of vanilla helps people relax. Its scent may be piped into the air in hospitals. A peppermint scent keeps people awake. This may be used in office buildings. People need to be sharp when they're working. Cinnamon and apple smells remind many people of their homes. Some stores put these scents in the air to make people comfortable. That way they'll want to buy something.
- 5 And why shouldn't smells make you feel good? When it comes to scents, the nose knows!

Who was the first African American nurse?

1 Mary Eliza Mahoney was born in 1845. She always wanted to be a nurse. It was hard for her to find a nursing school, though. Nurses' training had just gotten started. And there were no African American nurses. Finally, a Boston school let Mary Eliza in.

2 Mary Eliza worked hard in nursing school. She was one of the best in her class. She wanted to be a good nurse. Mary Eliza also wanted to set an example. Then other African Americans would be able to train as nurses. Her idea worked. Soon five more black women got into nursing school.

3 In 1879, Mary Eliza finished school. It should have been easy for her to get a job in a hospital. But it wasn't. In those days, hospitals wouldn't hire African American nurses. Instead, Mary Eliza worked as a nurse in people's homes. She also helped start a special group. They fought for jobs and fair pay for black nurses. Today, thousands of African Americans are hospital nurses. In a way, they have their jobs because of Mary Eliza Mahoney.

Circle the right answer for questions 1–5. Write your answer to question 6 on a blank piece of paper.

1. The article does not tell about _____.
A Mary Eliza's career C doctors
B African American women D nursing school

2. Which word in paragraph 3 means "work to do"?
A job C school
B nurse D hospital

3. What happened last in the life of Mary Eliza Mahoney?
A She finished nursing school.
B Black nurses were hired in hospitals.
C She worked as a nurse in people's homes.
D Five other black women got into nursing school.

4. Mary Eliza worked as a nurse in people's homes because _____.
A the pay was better
B she did not finish school
C hospitals would not hire her
D there were no hospitals near her

5. *Train* can have the following meanings. Mark the meaning used in paragraph 2.
A become something by studying and practicing
B group of railroad cars pulled by an engine
C direct the growth of something
D make prepared for a test



6. Write a list of words that you think tell what kind of person Mary Eliza Mahoney was.

Why do groundhogs dig up fields?

- 1 Early settlers in America grew angry with a small, fat animal. It looked like a squirrel with a short tail. The animal dug up their fields and hurt their plants. Native Americans had named this animal "the digger." The settlers called it the groundhog.
- 2 The groundhog digs up fields to make a home for its winter sleep. It chooses a sandy place where the rainwater dries up quickly. Then it digs a tunnel with several rooms. These rooms are higher than the tunnel. Even if water runs into the tunnel, the rooms stay dry.
- 3 Groundhog holes always have two entrances. Some have more. The front entrance is wide and ringed with earth. A groundhog can jump in quickly if it has to. The back "door" is hidden in grass. It may be as far as 30 feet from the front entrance.
- 4 Other animals like the plan of the groundhog home. One man watched a groundhog's home over the winter. He found that the hole was also used by a rabbit, a skunk, a raccoon, and a family of foxes.

Who are the ama?

- 1 Some women in Japan have unusual jobs. They are pearl divers. They dive to the bottom of the sea for oysters. The pearls are inside the oysters' shells. These women are called *ama*. This means "women of the sea" in Japanese. Their mothers and grandmothers were divers before them. Some ama dive in shallow water. They are *kachido*. That means "walking people." Others go out to sea in boats. They dive in deeper water. These women are *funado*. That means "ship people."
- 2 Ama use just a few tools when they dive. They carry knives to cut the oysters from the rocks. Ama wear goggles over their eyes. They tie stones around themselves to make their bodies heavy. And they have a rope lifeline tied around them. But the ama do not have tanks of air. These women hold their breath under the water. Each time they dive, they stay down for a full minute. Then they tug on their lifelines, and someone pulls them up. Ama may dive 100 times each day.
- 3 The ama have been diving for about 2,000 years. But now city jobs look better than diving jobs to many young girls. They may not follow their mothers into the sea. This ancient job might come to an end.

Circle the right answer for questions 1–5. Write your answer to question 6 on a blank piece of paper.

1. The funado dive _____.
A in deeper water
B in shallow water
C 2,000 times a day
D for buried treasure

2. Which word in paragraph 2 means “pull hard”?
A carry
B dive
C cut
D tug

3. To help them sink to the bottom of the sea, ama _____.
A tie stones around themselves
B take deep breaths
C pull on a rope
D wear goggles

4. The article does not say, but you can decide that _____.
A ama don't allow men to help them
B ama can't swim well
C most ama are heavy
D ama have a hard job

5. *Over* can have the following meanings. Mark the meaning used in paragraph 2.
A ended
B larger than
C on top of
D above



6. What do you think you'd have to do to train to be an ama?

Does music charm snakes?

- 1 The snake charmer from India plays his flute. A cobra rises slowly from its basket. People stand back from the poisonous snake. The snake charmer keeps playing. His body moves back and forth. The snake moves with him. It seems to dance to the music. Does the music have the power to tame this dangerous animal?
- 2 This is all an act. And it's not as dangerous as it looks. For one thing, the snake's poison has been removed. The snake can't hear, either. So it isn't really dancing. The music is just to please the people watching the trick.
- 3 The snake would just as soon nap in its basket. With the flute, the charmer blows air onto the snake's back. This makes the animal rise. The snake thinks the flute might be an enemy. So it watches the flute and moves with it. But the charmer must keep the snake moving. He can't let it lose interest. If it does, it will sink back into its basket. Also, the charmer must not frighten the snake or it will try to get away.
- 4 The snake charmer's power over the snake doesn't come from his music. It comes from what he knows about snakes.

Circle the right answer for questions 1–5. Write your answer to question 6 on a blank piece of paper.

1. The snake moves back and forth because it _____.
A gets scared
B seeks the light
C likes the music
D follows the flute
2. Which word in paragraph 1 means “not wild”?
A flute
B forth
C tame
D power
3. Which paragraph tells why the snake isn’t dangerous?
A 1
B 2
C 3
D 4
4. The snake will sink back into its basket if it _____.
A gets hungry
B loses interest
C sees the flute
D gets frightened
5. *Sink* can have the following meanings. Mark the meaning used in paragraph 3.
A something to hold in water
B slope gradually
C grow weaker
D fall slowly

 6. Which wild animal would you choose to have power over? Why?