

READING

Two mysteries ___61___ the spiral staircase in the Loretto Chapel: the identity of its builder and the ___62___ of its construction.

When the Loretto Chapel was completed in 1878, there was no way to access the choir ___63___ twenty-two feet above. ___64___ were called in to address the problem, but they all concluded access to the loft would have to be ___65___ ladder as a staircase would interfere with the interior space of the small Chapel.

Legend ___66___ that to find a solution to the seating problem, the Sisters of the Chapel made a novena to St. Joseph, the ___67___ saint of carpenters. On the ninth and final day of prayer, a man appeared at the Chapel with a donkey and a toolbox looking for work. Months later, the elegant ___68___ staircase was completed, and the carpenter disappeared without pay or thanks. After searching for the man (an ad even ran in the local newspaper) and finding no ___69___ of him, some concluded that he was St. Joseph himself, ___70___ in answer to the sisters' prayers.

The stairway's carpenter, whoever he was, built a magnificent structure. The design was innovative for the time and some of the design considerations still ___71___ experts today.

The staircase has two 360 degree turns and no ___72___ means of support. Also, it is said that the staircase was built without nails—only wooden ___73___ were used. Questions also surround the number of stair risers relative to the height of the choir loft and about the types of wood and other materials used in the stairway's construction.

Over the years many have ___74___ to the Loretto Chapel to see the Miraculous Staircase. The staircase has been the ___75___ of many articles, TV specials, and movies including "Unsolved Mysteries" and the television movie titled "The Staircase."

(Source: <http://www.lorettochapel.com/staircase.html>)

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|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 61. A. conquer | B. surround | C. subsidise |
| 62. A. physician | B. physicist | C. physics |
| 63. A. loft | B. lift | C. left |
| 64. A. Plumbers | B. Electricians | C. Carpenters |
| 65. A. beneath | B. underneath | C. via |
| 66. A. tells | B. says | C. utters |
| 67. A. patron | B. painter | C. patent |
| 68. A. circus | B. circuitry | C. circular |
| 69. A. trance | B. trunk | C. track |
| 70. A. came | B. having come | C. had come |
| 71. A. pursue | B. peruse | C. perplex |
| 72. A. visionary | B. viable | C. vivacious |
| 73. A. pins | B. pegs | C. pens |
| 74. A. flocked | B. fled | C. flung |
| 75. A. subtitle | B. submerge | C. subject |

Sentences from TWO different conversations have been mixed. Will you put the parts of the two conversations into the correct order.

Conversation 1

A: Dad.

76., 77., 78., 79., 80., 81., 82., 83., 84.

Conversation 2

A: That's five. You and me that's seven. We really need another man. Who else could we ask?

85., 86., 87., 88., 89., 90., 91., 92.

A A: Arthur? No. He's so boring.

B A: Could I borrow the car on Friday evening please?

C A: Exactly. He never stops talking.

D A: I was hoping of going to the coast.

E A: Look, darling. He just irritates me. I'm sorry, but he's really not my cup of tea.

F A: Oh, go on Dad. Please. I'll bring it back on Saturday if you like.

G A: To him, maybe. Not to anybody else. But he's too conceited to realise.

H A: Well, no. I was thinking of staying away till Sunday actually.

I B: Conceited? Arthur conceited? I'm really surprised at you, Anna.

J B: Friday? Well...Where are you thinking of going?

K B: Just for the evening?

L B: Oh I don't agree. He's always got lots to talk about.

M B: Over my dead body. You're not staying away even one night with my car.

N B: So in fact you want the car for Friday evening, all day Saturday, and all day Sunday. Well you can forget it. The answer's NO.

O B: Well, his stories are very interesting:

P B: What about Arthur?

Q B: Yes.

Will you fill in the gaps with the best options.

The Island – a film review

Russian director Pavel Lounguine has got religion, and he lays it out here like a beautifully woven hair shirt. *The Island* is visually stunning in its bleak, blue-hued austerity, but its storytelling is simplistic. Then again, conviction in such matters is probably a matter of conviction. True believers may be disinclined to demand a great deal in the way of sophistication or answerability from a story of Christian fervor and miraculous redemption. ___93___

Cold is the operative element in *The Island*. ___94___. There are two men on board: the heroic, laconic captain, Tikhon, who faces the villainous Germans by lighting a cigarette and awaiting execution with a contemptuous shrug; and the young stoker Anatoly, who falls apart, grovels, and pleads for his life. The Nazis being Nazis, they force Anatoly to do something that will steep the rest of his life in irredeemable guilt. To be fair, they don't expect that to be very long. ___95___.

But Anatoly survives the explosion, survives a night floating in the icy waters of the White Sea, and is discovered in the morning washed up on the frozen shore by monks of a tiny island monastery.

___96___. Anatoly (now played by former Russian rock star Pyotr Mamonov) is still at the monastery. He is gaunt, balding, rotten-toothed and grimy. He has acquired something of a reputation as a holy man and a mystic. He spends his days muttering prayers, prostrating himself on the cold rocky ground in self-mortification, and gathering coal. ___97___. These furnaces invoke the image of hell fire, an element Anatoly surely expects to encounter when he finally goes to his reward.

People come out by boat from the mainland to seek his blessing, his counsel, his curative powers. ___98___. Anatoly is also a bit of a prankster, though his pranks are message-driven. He smears coal grease on his door handle to soil the palm and tweak the ego of Brother Job, a proud young monk who doesn't much care for the maverick Anatoly.

___99___. But for those for whom this parable of crime, punishment, and forgiveness is spiritually profound, the twist of plot will be merely a necessary handmaiden to the arc of redemption.

___100___. As photographed by Andrey Zhegalov, in hues of blue and grey that barely break the color barrier, this bleak and barren outpost of civilization off the Barents Sea, with its glassy waters and rocky promontories, is ravishingly spare and imbued with a meditative peace.

A He heals the sick, gives stern advice to the troubled, reveals long-hidden secrets, predicts the future, and exorcises demons.

B He lives apart from the monks, in the boiler room, where he stokes the furnace, the same job he performed in the opening scene on the boat.

C Leap ahead three and a half decades.

D Mamonov, the former rock star and cult figure, has put that life behind him and embraced the church.

- E On a cold night in 1942, a Russian boat in the remote White Sea is intercepted by a Nazi patrol.
- F Others will find that this story leaves them cold.
- G Resolution for Anatoly's tortured conscience is at hand, in a heavy-handed plot twist that ushers in the end game.
- H The deeper pleasure of this movie is its visual magnificence.
- I The Island has an aspect of preaching to the choir.
- J The Island is a labor of personal religious devotion on the part of its makers.
- K They rig his boat with explosives and blow it up, with him on it.

PRONUNCIATION

Which vowel (magánhangzó) is different for the "ow"?

101. A. allow B. owl C. crow
102. A. tow B. mow C. how

Which frontal consonant (mássalhangzó) has a different sound?

103. A. key B. cry C. kite

Which is the word where "t" is pronounced differently?

104. A. stroll B. string C. tinsel

Which is the word that can be pronounced in at least two different ways, and it also has two different meanings?

105. A. raw B. row C. brew
106. A. sow B. saw C. sew

Which is the word where you can hear the "w" vowel sound?

107. A. queue B. choir C. quay

At the underlined parts, where can you hear an extra "r" sound?

108. A. Africau and Asia B. miceu and cats C. vaseu and flowers

Which bold "b" underlined is silent?

109. A. mobb B. tabble C. debbt

Which word has its stress on the first syllable (szótag)?

110. A. interesting B. enjoyable C. flamboyant

CULTURE

111. The BBC is the _____.

- A. British Breadwinners' Company
- B. British Broadcasting Corporation
- C. British Brides' Celebration

112. The first stones of Stonehenge were raised around _____ years ago.

- A. 3000
- B. 1000
- C. 500

113. Horatio Nelson was a British _____.

- A. writer in the 19th century
- B. navy officer
- C. ship-builder

114. Tartan is a _____.

- A. pattern consisting of criss-crossed horizontal and vertical bands in multiple colours
- B. nomadic tribe which attacked the Vikings in 567 AD
- C. typical English sauce with mayonnaise and eggs

115. The famous rock band "The Beatles" were from _____.

- A. New York
- B. Los Angeles
- C. Liverpool

116. British humour was shaped by _____.

- A. the frontier experience of the first settlers, and carries a strong element of the characteristics of tall tales
- B. the relative stability of British society, and carries a strong element of satire aimed at the absurdity of everyday life
- C. the radical political changes in the forms of regimes, and carries a strong element of latent social criticism

117. Which word originates from the Hungarian word "kocsi"?

- A. catch
- B. coach
- C. couch

118. Cockney is a person who is from _____ and speaks a cockney accent.

- A. east London
- B. west San Diego
- C. north San Francisco

119. Which country has the largest total area?

- A. United Kingdom
- B. USA
- C. Canada

120. Ernest Hemingway mainly wrote _____.

- A. novels and short stories
- B. plays
- C. poems