

## **Informace o písemných přijímacích zkouškách**

(úplné zadání zkušebních otázek či příkladů, které jsou součástí přijímací zkoušky nebo její části, a u otázek s výběrem odpovědi správné řešení)

### **Bakalářský studijní program** **„B1041A040003 Profesionální pilot“** **Anglický jazyk**

#### **How is babby formed? RIP Yahoo Answers – your eccentricity will be missed**

On the internet, warped humour and word salads are commonplace, but the material posted to Yahoo Answers regularly achieved new heights of bizarre. The perhaps best-known question posted to the social “knowledge sharing” platform is representative of the particular talents of its user base: “how is babby formed? how girl get pragnent?” Anyone with a Yahoo account was free to answer it. The question, misspelling and all, has been a celebrated meme in the decade since it first appeared under the category Pregnancy & Parenting.

Was the question meant to be a joke or posted in a state of sincere befuddlement? I guess we’ll never know. After a 16-year run, Yahoo has announced it will shut down Yahoo Answers on 4 May. And with it the head-scratching charms of “babby” and countless other posts will go dark. Volunteers have already begun archiving Yahoo Answers, but given the short notice from Yahoo, they might not capture all of the posts.

In 1994, if you had a question about Yahoo, you could contact Jerry Yang, its co-founder, who listed his email at the bottom of the webpage. He ran the site out of a trailer on the Stanford University campus along with fellow grad student David Filo. At first they called it “Jerry and Dave’s WWW Interface” and with simple HTML code, they provided a directory of “COOL links” organised by subject. You’d click on a category like “Science”, then “Biology”, and arrive at a list of relevant websites to visit. It was useful, especially for a newbie user. There were fewer than 3,000 websites in 1994 and many people would log on to the internet without any idea of where to look or what to do.

In the late 90s, venture-capital backed and incorporated, Yahoo launched new services such as webmail and Yahoo Finance, but the Yahoo Directory remained its keystone. The internet, meanwhile, began to outgrow what the directory offered. By 2004, there were more than 50m websites. It wasn’t humanly possible for two guys to find and recommend all the “cool” ones. Yahoo staff continued to update the directory, but it all seemed quaint in comparison with Google’s swiftly efficient PageRank algorithms.

It's tempting to dismiss the very premise of Yahoo Answers. An online forum for random users to ask questions and random users to answer them sounds like an invitation for misinformation and harassment. Many times it is, but on some platforms this format works – at least, sometimes. People turn to Quora to ask questions about things such as what the workplace culture is like at certain employers. On Reddit, users ask for help navigating unemployment benefits. Neither is perfect, but the systems of moderation on Quora and certain Reddit “subreddits” have been superior to the Yahoo Answers free-for-all approach, which in recent years has led to a rise of partisan conspiracy theorising on the website in addition to the regular “babby” weirdness.

**Find these words:**

- 1) *n* a slang term for a novice or newcomer, or somebody inexperienced in a profession or activity. Contemporary use can particularly refer to a beginner or new user of computers, often concerning Internet activity, such as online gaming or Linux use.
- 2) *n* a state of mental uncertainty.
- 3) *adj* bent or twisted out of shape.
- 4) *adj* difficult to understand, causing puzzlement or confusion.
- 5) *adj* strongly supporting a person, principle, or political party, often without considering or judging the matter very carefully.
- 6) *adj* attractively unusual or old-fashioned.
- 7) *n* an unpowered vehicle towed by another.
- 8) *n* an image, video, piece of text, etc., typically humorous in nature, that is copied and spread rapidly by internet users, often with slight variations.
- 9) *adj* very strange or unusual.
- 10) *n* the central principle or part of a policy, system, etc., on which all else depends.

**True or false?**

- 1) Questions in the category Pregnancy & Parenting are answered only by qualified doctors and medical students.
- 2) The misspelled question about pregnancy may be deleted from the internet after 16 years.
- 3) Volunteers were given the task of archiving all the material by Yahoo.
- 4) Jerry Yang and david Filo founded Yahoo in 1994.
- 5) They used Stanford University offices to run the website.
- 6) They were students there at the time.
- 7) Between 1994 and 2004 the number of websites on the internet increased 10,000 times.
- 8) Google relied on algorithms to direct users, Yahoo used people.

9) People go to Quora and Reddit to ask questions, and these are answered by other users.

10) Yahoo Answers, by its lack of control, encouraged conspiracy theories.

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- 2) *n* a state of mental uncertainty. **BEFUDDLEMENT**
- 3) *adj* bent or twisted out of shape. **WARPED**
- 4) *adj* difficult to understand, causing puzzlement or confusion. **HEAD-SCRATCHING**
- 5) *adj* strongly supporting a person, principle, or political party, often without considering or judging the matter very carefully. **PARTISAN**
- 6) *adj* attractively unusual or old-fashioned. **QUAINT**
- 7) *n* an unpowered vehicle towed by another. **TRAILER**
- 8) *n* an image, video, piece of text, etc., typically humorous in nature, that is copied and spread rapidly by internet users, often with slight variations. **MEME**
- 9) *adj* very strange or unusual. **BIZARRE**
- 10) *n* the central principle or part of a policy, system, etc., on which all else depends. **KEYSTONE**

### **True or false?**

- 1) Questions in the category Pregnancy & Parenting are answered only by qualified doctors and medical students. **F**
- 2) The misspelled question about pregnancy may be deleted from the internet after 16 years. **T**
- 3) Volunteers were given the task of archiving all the material by Yahoo. **F**
- 4) Jerry Yang and David Filo founded Yahoo in 1994. **T**
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**Can Covid death rates be reduced to a clash of values? It's not so simple** *Kenan Malik*

The pandemic has exploded the myths of lazy stereotypes of east v west Sun 8 Aug 2021

Last year, “Asian values” became the one-stop explanation for the success of countries such as China, South Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Singapore and Vietnam in controlling the virus. The west, many insisted, had paid for its individualist ethos by having populations refuse to obey the authorities, fail to wear masks or observe lockdowns.

Except that it has not quite turned out like that. The Olympics in Tokyo have been superb, full of spectacle and drama. But there have been no spectators in the stadiums to watch that drama. Tokyo is in its fourth lockdown and Covid cases are still rising sharply. Most Japanese did not want the Games and in no country has there been more scorn for the way the authorities have handled the pandemic. Less than a third of the population has been vaccinated and only a minority trust Covid vaccines. The only other nation so sceptical of vaccines is another east Asian country, South Korea. Those two countries also have the lowest levels of trust in health authorities' ability to deliver an effective vaccination programme. There are reasons for such scepticism, such as Japan's history of botched vaccination programmes. Yet all this puts a dent in the claim that Asian countries are particularly trusting of authority and exhibit a herd-like obedience.

Meanwhile, in Britain, 96% trust Covid vaccines. The supposedly highly individualist population has throughout the pandemic desired more restrictions than the government imposed. The latest polls suggest almost half of Britons think restrictions have been lifted too soon (as compared with one in eight who think they should have been eased sooner); the vast majority want masks to be mandatory in shops and on public transport and social distancing rules maintained; half want nightclubs closed; and almost one in five want to maintain the toughest forms of restrictions – banning people from leaving their homes except for essential shopping, exercise and work.

Such attitudes are not peculiar to Britain. At the beginning of the pandemic, most European nations were highly supportive of lockdowns and other restrictions on personal freedoms, much to the surprise of the authorities. Trust in vaccines has increased in most European nations, including in France where, for historical reasons, there has been greater hesitancy. Australia has seen low numbers of Covid cases and deaths, but also a glacial rate of vaccination. Individual states have imposed a series of severe lockdowns but, despite a number of anti-lockdown protests, most people view the authorities as having handled the pandemic very well. Australians seem as, if not more, willing to conform to government demands as people in most “Confucian” countries.

**Choose the best answer:**

- 1) East Asian countries allegedly dealt better with Covid because:
  - A) they have better values than the west
  - B) western governments told their citizens not to wear masks
  - C) people in the west just watched the lockdowns
- 2) The Olympics were a success:
  - A) because they were too dramatic
  - B) thanks to no fans and spectators being allowed in the stadiums
  - C) despite the population being against them
- 3) When it comes to Covid vaccines
  - A) population outside the cities is sceptical
  - B) most of the general population in Japan do not trust them
  - C) South Koreans get vaccinated in large numbers
- 4) The general opinion is that Asians
  - A) believe their governments blindly
  - B) cannot organize a successful vaccination campaign
  - C) despise authority
- 5) The British:
  - A) have desired fewer government restrictions, because they are individualistic people
  - B) less than a half of them think the restrictions are being lifted too soon
  - C) eight out of ten think they should have been eased sooner
- 6) The British:
  - A) largely support wearing masks
  - B) avoid nightclubs
  - C) distance themselves socially
- 7) Almost 20 % of the British



- A) are very tough
  - B) want to maintain themselves formally
  - C) would stop people from congregating outside if they could
- 8) European populations at the beginning of the pandemic
- A) surprised their governments
  - B) opposed lockdowns
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- 9) Trust in vaccines
- A) is now greater across Europe
  - B) is really low in France for historical reasons
  - C) does not matter in most European nations
- 10) Australia
- A) vaccinates only with vaccines stored at really low temperatures
  - B) has low numbers of cases but high numbers of deaths
  - C) is not fast in its vaccination programme

### **True or false?**

- 1) The East and the West approached the pandemic differently and consequently achieved different results.
- 2) Japan had to introduce a fourth lockdown and has seen an increase in Covid cases as a result of hosting the Olympics.
- 3) The Japanese are unhappy with the way their government has handled the Covid crisis.
- 4) South Koreans and Japanese are sceptical of Covid vaccines because they are neighbours.
- 5) Japan has not been particularly successful with their vaccination programmes historically.
- 6) The majority of the British want to limit their mobility outside of their homes.
- 7) Every second British person thinks going to a nightclub is dangerous.
- 8) The British attitudes towards lockdowns are reflected in the general European population.
- 9) There have been a series of anti-lockdown protests in Australia that forced the government to change their policy.
- 10) Australians obey the government restrictions at least as much as people in East Asian countries.

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