

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 **„B1041A040004 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.

Choose the best answer:

- 1) The question about pregnancy became famous because:
 - A) It shows the talents of early internet users.
 - B) It contains misspellings.
 - C) It was filed in the wrong category for ten years.
- 2) What do we know about the person who asked the question?
 - A) He was 16 years old.
 - B) He meant it as a joke.
 - C) Nothing.
- 3) What will happen to Yahoo Answers on the 4th of May?
 - A) Volunteers will start deleting them.
 - B) Users will be able to ask more questions only during the night.
 - C) The content will be deleted by Yahoo.
- 4) How could users contact Yahoo's co-founder in 1994?
 - A) By googling his email address.
 - B) Through his email at the bottom of the page.
 - C) They could not, his identity was secret.
- 5) What was Yahoo's function in 1994?
 - A) It specialized in providing students with information about Biology and Science.
 - B) It provided links to other websites organized by their topics.
 - C) It sold simple HTML codes.
- 6) How did Yahoo evolve in the late 1990s?
 - A) It started offering webmail services.
 - B) It started lending money and capital.
 - C) It grew faster than the internet.
- 7) Why did Google become more successful as a search engine than Yahoo?

- A) Its staff made fewer mistakes when searching through the internet.
 - B) It had more than just two members of staff.
 - C) It used very good algorithms to do the searching.
- 8) Why is the philosophy of Yahoo Answers flawed?
- A) Because the people answering the questions are random and non-professionals.
 - B) Because it is online.
 - C) Because you need to have an audio invitation.
- 9) How come Quora relies on the same model and is successful?
- A) Because the questions are only about culture, not facts.
 - B) Because the people answering the questions are employers.
 - C) Because the questions are about the working environment at particular companies.
- 10) What is the main difference between the forums on Quora and Yahoo?
- A) The frequent use of subsections.
 - B) The debate is moderated on Quora.
 - C) There is no difference, they are on the same level.

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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