

## **The Times competition : for young & old, for men & women.**

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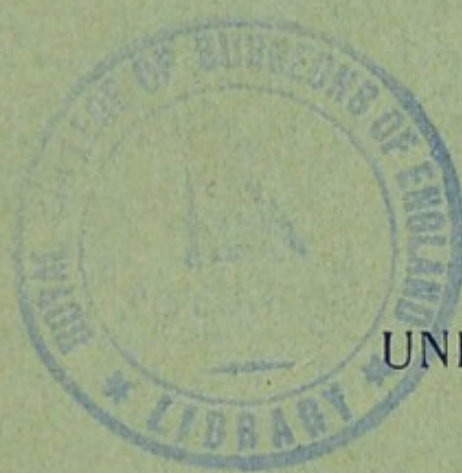
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The  Times.

## COMPETITION

YOUNG & OLD:  
MEN & WOMEN.



FIRST AWARD:

FOUR YEARS'  
UNIVERSITY COURSE,  
OR

**£1,000**

IN MONEY.

ETY-THREE AWARDS.  
THE AGGREGATE:

**£3,585.**

NO AWARD CAN BE DIVIDED; EACH WILL GO TO  
ONE COMPETITOR ONLY.

10.



## THE AWARDS

The First Competitor in order of merit will be granted A Scholarship of **£1,200**, being £300 per annum for four years, at either Oxford or Cambridge (if the first be a woman, at Girton), with the alternative of commuting the Scholarship for

**£1,000 in money.**

The Second will be granted A Scholarship of **£270**, being £90 per annum for three years at any University, or a commutation of

**£225 in money.**

The Third will be granted A Scholarship of **£150**, being £50 per annum for three years, tenable at any educational institution, or a commutation of

**£125 in money.**

The Fourth and Fifth will each be granted A Scholarship of **£90**, being £30 per annum for three years, tenable at any educational institution or a commutation of

**£75 in money.**

The Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth will each be granted A Scholarship of **£75**, being £25 per annum for three years, tenable at any educational institution, or a commutation of

**£60 in money.**

The Ninth, Tenth, Eleventh, Twelfth, and Thirteenth will each be granted A Scholarship of **£60**, being £30 per annum for two years, tenable at any educational institution, or a commutation of

**£50 in money.**

The Ten next in order of merit will each be granted A Scholarship of **£30** for one year, tenable at any educational institution, or a commutation of

**£25 in money.**

The Twenty next in order of merit will each be granted A Scholarship of **£18** for one year, tenable at any educational institution, or a commutation of

**£15 in money.**

The Fifty next in order of merit will each be granted A Scholarship of **£12** for one year, tenable at any educational institution, or a commutation of

**£10 in money.**

**IN ALL, 93 SCHOLARSHIPS, AMOUNTING TO £3,585.**



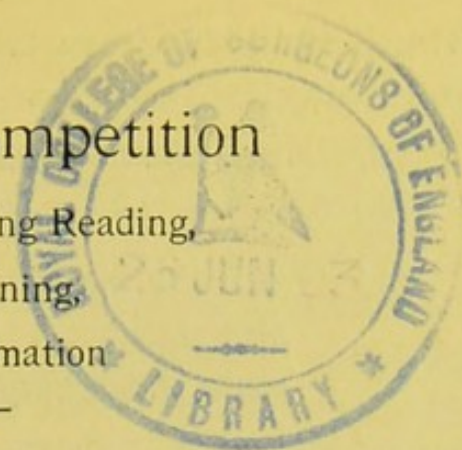
# The Times Competition

Providing Interesting Reading,

Mental Training,

General Information

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**T**HE Competition organized by **The Times** is of an altogether novel sort. There will be no entrance fee, there will be no opportunity for guessing, no element of chance. Each of the awards offered by The Times will be paid in its entirety to one single competitor, the questions being so arranged that no two sets of answers can be of precisely equal merit.

The most successful competitor (whatever degree of merit his answers may possess—there is no minimum qualification) will receive, at his or her option, either :

- (1) A Scholarship amounting to £1,200 (£300 a year), covering all the expenses of a four years' course at Oxford or Cambridge (—Girton, if a woman), or
- (2) £1,000 in money, payable in one sum as soon as the answers have been examined and the awards made.

Ninety-two other awards, amounting in the aggregate to £3,585, will go to other competitors in order of merit.



The Scholarships are transferable, so that successful competitors may

- (a) Avail themselves of the scholarships,*
- (b) Appoint beneficiaries in their places, or*
- (c) Take the money payments offered by The Times, as alternatives. A complete list of these faces the page preceding this.*

Three question papers have been prepared (to be sent gratis and post free to all who enter the competition), each containing twenty questions to be answered in writing by the competitors at their own homes, and, practically, at their leisure, since a month's time will be allowed for completing each set of answers. Only a few hours in each week need be devoted to the competition.

The questions, as may be seen from the specimens printed below, deal with subjects of general interest. Every intelligent reader when he turns from his newspaper, his book, or from a discussion, to consult a work of reference in order that he may understand more clearly some statement or allusion, does precisely what the competitor is invited to do. The competition is not designed to test knowledge already acquired, but to gauge the competitor's capacity to acquire, from reading, general information which he had not before possessed. Almost every question is so constructed that the competitor, when he has found the answer, will know that it is in substance correct, and thus be enabled to judge for himself what he has accomplished.

The competition is, in short, designed for the intelligent classes who read and think. It involves nothing more arduous than a brief course of interesting and instructive reading, with the added inducement that those who are moved by emulation



to read to the best purpose will receive substantial souvenirs of the success they attain. The necessary reading will occupy more or less time, according to the competitor's clearness of mind and intelligence to find his way to the information called for by the questions.

No advanced education, no specialized experience is needed in order that a competitor may enjoy the competition and succeed in it. The fairest description of the questions is perhaps to say that they will not prove difficult to a competitor who is not too confident. Those to whom the answers seem very easy to find, and who therefore assume that they need give very little thought to them, will not be likely to succeed. A bright lad or girl,\* sixteen years old, possessing the degree of education usual at that age, may be considered from one point of view to be as well qualified as a man of mature age and ripe scholarship, since the best counsel that can be given to a competitor is not to rely upon knowledge previously acquired, not to jump at conclusions, not to trust to memory; but to look up every fact suggested by a question, bearing in mind that many of the questions point the way to facts that are of interest for the very reason that they are not generally known, or to facts on which recent investigation has shed new light. There is, on the other hand, nothing puerile or trivial in the sort of reading to which the questions will lead the competitor; and the awards are not offered for the perfunctory execution of a task. The successful competitors may not have spent a great many hours over their answers, but they will have been thoroughly in earnest during those hours, and have considered with care the direction which their inquiries should take.

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\* It is of interest to note that *The Times* scholarships, founded in 1841, for exhibitioners of Christ's Hospital and the City of London School, are tenable at Oxford or Cambridge by men only. There were at that time no facilities for the higher education of women, as Bedford College, the first foundation for that purpose, was not established until 1848.



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# SPECIMEN QUESTIONS

*The following questions, which, of course, will not be employed in the competition, have been prepared for the purpose of indicating the general form and scope of those which will be used. The reader to whom they seem very simple may be reminded that the difficulty of a question often lies in some small point which a careless reader might overlook. And, on the other hand, any one to whom they do not seem explicit is assured that every question presents some one specific name, word, or fact, which will, when taken as a starting point, indicate the direction which his inquiry should take.*

**SPECIMEN QUESTION, 1.**—In the eighteenth century, a young commander in the British Navy broke from the line of battle, without orders, to engage one of the enemy's ships. The enemy's vessel struck her colours, but notwithstanding his success the commander was dismissed the service for his breach of discipline. Another commander, defending Jamaica, did the same thing and was so highly praised for his enterprise that a controversy arose as to whether he was really entitled to the credit of having 'originated this manœuvre.' Yet an interval of less than forty years separated the two incidents, and one of these officers had actually served under the other. Name the two officers. **ANSWER.**—Hawke and Rodney.

**SPECIMEN QUESTION, 2.**—Born in Italy, taught in Germany, heroic under terrible conditions in Turkey, following the example of Fabiola, the subject of a poem by Longfellow, so honoured by England as to be tendered the use of a man-of-war for a journey.—Who was this? **ANSWER.**—Miss Florence Nightingale.

**SPECIMEN QUESTION, 3.**—If two eggs, one raw and the other hard-boiled, were each set spinning on a table, how could you distinguish the raw egg from the other by its motion? Give your reasons. **ANSWER.**—The raw egg will spin unsteadily because the liquid contents have a separate rotation of their own. If the raw egg be brought to rest and immediately set free again, it will begin to rotate once more, because this independent motion of the contents will be sufficient to impart a new motion to the shell. The hard-boiled egg, on the other hand, will spin as steadily as if it were a rigid solid.



**SPECIMEN QUESTION, 4.**—In the course of a war, famous in contemporary history, it was believed that one of the Great Powers might attempt to restrain the victorious belligerent from reaping the full fruits of success. An important journal quoted in its columns a menacing article published by a less important newspaper. Some days later a third journal disavowed the menace, and stated that the journal which originated the article had never possessed a semi-official character. Name the country threatened and the three journals. **ANSWER.**—*United States*; *Cologne Gazette* (*Kölnische Zeitung*); *Marine Politische Korrespondenz*; *North German Gazette* (*Nord-deutsche Zeitung*).

**SPECIMEN QUESTION, 5.**—(a) If you were installing electric light and the fitter's estimate suggested, for an ordinary room 20 ft. by 15 ft., six ordinary 16-candle-power lights, should that number provide dull or good light? (b) By what percentage would the total candle power be decreased if the lights were hung from the ceiling head downwards? **ANSWER.**—(a) Good. (b) 40 per cent.\*

As the reader glances at these specimen questions, it will occur to him that (since in the course of only half a dozen questions, he finds himself led to a number of diverse subjects) he will need to refer to the writings of many different authors in order to inform himself regarding all the matters touched upon in a paper containing twenty questions. Again he will desire not only to be guided by the most eminent authorities, but also to consult their most recent writings.

There are probably not in the whole kingdom a dozen private houses which possess miscellaneous collections of books so comprehensive that one would be sure to find in them any of the writings—far less the most recent writings—of the men who are recognized as the highest authorities on half

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\* The questions and answers are more fully discussed on a later page.



the subjects which a newspaper touches upon every day. And even if the competitor possessed one of these exceptional libraries, or were so situated that he had convenient access to the best of public collections, he would need phenomenal knowledge in order to pick his way through such a maze of books and choose among the army of authors.

The conditions of the competition are, however, so framed that no such difficulty arises. The questions can all be answered without the use of any book other than the Encyclopædia Britannica—and it *is not even necessary to own a copy* of that work in order to take part in the competition, as will be seen below. The stipulation that this one work is to be the only source to which the competitor shall resort, greatly simplifies his task. And he is left in no doubt as to the finality of the answers he finds, for the Encyclopædia Britannica is not only recognized and accepted by the public at large as the most reliable authority that can be cited, but is in this case definitely specified as the standard by which the competitor is to be guided and by which the accuracy of his answers will be measured.

Competitors who live at a distance from any large library will not be hampered by their inability to consult a number of books, as the Encyclopædia Britannica is absolutely the only book required, and any one who does not possess it can either obtain the use of the volumes from a friend who has them and is not using them for the purposes of the competition (a library or other corporate body may appoint such a



proxy), or avail himself of the arrangement by which The Times supplies loan copies of the Encyclopædia Britannica just as other books may be borrowed from a circulating library.\*

It is probable also, as the competition is announced at the moment when the Tenth Edition of the Encyclopædia Britannica has just been completed, and when the perfected work can for the first time be delivered to subscribers, that a number of new subscriptions will be booked within the next few days, for many persons who desire to procure the work have waited until the volumes but just finished were ready for delivery.

It may be expected, on the other hand, that the demand for the Encyclopædia Britannica, and the facility with which it may be consulted, will be greatly increased as a result of the attention which will have been directed to the work by this competition.

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It will now be of interest to trace the process by which these specimen questions may be answered with the assistance of the Encyclopædia Britannica.

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\* It should be remarked in this connexion that the charge made by The Times for the use of loan copies has not been increased in view of the competition, and remains, as it originally was, only sufficient to cover the actual expenditure entailed by the lending, as shown by estimates based upon the operations of circulating libraries.



## FINDING THE ANSWERS

The first of the specimen questions reads as follows.

In the eighteenth century, a young commander in the British Navy broke from the line of battle, without orders, to engage one of the enemy's ships. The enemy's vessel struck her colours, but notwithstanding his success the commander was dismissed the service for his breach of discipline. Another commander, defending Jamaica, did the same thing and was so highly praised for his enterprise that a controversy arose as to whether he was really entitled to the credit of having 'originated this manœuvre.' Yet an interval of less than forty years separated the two incidents, and one of these officers had actually served under the other. Name the two officers.

The clue—the specific fact—here is the defence of Jamaica, probably in the 18th century.

Turning to the index entry 'Jamaica,' we are referred to Vol. 13, p. 548d,\* where we find the article 'Jamaica,' in the historical section of which, on p. 551a, are these words :

'The other principal event in the general history of Jamaica was the threatened invasion in 1782 by the combined fleets of France and Spain under De Grasse. It was saved by the victory of Rodney and Hood off Dominica.'

Following up this, we look at the index entry 'Rodney,' and are referred to Vol. 20, p. 617c. Here we have an article in which we breathe the air of sea-fights, adventure, and heroism, and which will appeal to the schoolboy as well as to his elders, who will find an additional interest in the question of individual responsibility raised. On p. 618b we find a description of Rodney's victory off Dominica and the statement :

'A long and wearisome controversy exists as to the originator of the manœuvre of 'breaking the line' in this battle, but the merits of the victory have never seriously been affected by any difference of opinion on the question. . . . Rodney arrived home in August to receive unbounded honour from his country.'

The same article, on p. 617c, gives the names of Haddock, Hawke, and Boscawen as officers under whom Rodney served.

Pursuing these clues, which lead to more interesting reading of a similar kind, we find in the article 'Hawke,' in Vol. 11, on p. 534d, this story, which forms the final link in the chain :

'In the engagement off Toulon in 1744, he broke from the line of battle in order to engage the 'Poder,' and although he succeeded in causing her to strike her colours, his breach of discipline was punished by dismissal from the service.'

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\* After the page number will always be found the letter a, b, c, or d. These letters indicate respectively the first, second, third, and fourth quarter of the page. Thus to find the particular passage for which he is searching the reader need look at only one fourth of the *Encyclopædia Britannica* page.



### The second question :

Born in Italy, taught in Germany, heroic under terrible conditions in Turkey, following the example of Fabiola, the subject of a poem by Longfellow, so honoured by England as to be tendered the use of a man-of-war for a journey.—Who was this?

It is evident that the name 'Fabiola' supplies the clue. Obviously there would not be found under the heading 'Italy' a list of all the people who were ever born in Italy, or under 'Germany' a list of all the people who were ever taught in Germany. Turning to the index\* of the Encyclopædia Britannica (Vol. 35) we find under 'Fabiola,' a reference to Vol. 31, p. 295a. Turning to this page we find in the article 'Nursing' :

'The earliest forerunner of the great sisterhood of nurses of whom we have any record was Fabiola, a patrician Roman lady . . . .'

The person whose identity we are seeking is, then, a nurse. With this indication the reader continues the examination of the interesting article 'Nursing,' and on the page already mentioned finds Miss Florence Nightingale's name and the statement that she was taught at Kaiserswerth. Turning to the heading 'Kaiserswerth' in the index we find a reference to Vol. 13, p. 825b, where the competitor would learn, if he did not know it already, that Kaiserswerth is in Germany. Turning up in the index the heading 'Nightingale, Florence,' we are referred to the article under that title which begins on p. 239 of Vol. 31. Here we learn that Miss Nightingale was born in Florence, and farther on we read of her heroic labours in Turkey as superintendent of all the military hospitals on the Bosphorus. The writer goes on to say :

'The enthusiasm aroused in England by Miss Nightingale's labours was indescribable. A man-of-war was ordered to bring her home.' . . . .

And a little farther on :

'She is the subject of a beautiful poem by Longfellow, "Santa Filomena."'

These extracts show that all the conditions of the question are fulfilled.

### The third question :

If two eggs, one raw and the other hard-boiled, were each set spinning on a table, how could you distinguish the raw egg from the other by its motion? Give your reasons.

We are not looking for information about an egg. What we are trying to find out about is spinning or rotation. If we look in the index under the

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\* The Encyclopædia Britannica, with its new index of 600,000 entries, answers so readily the questions that present themselves in daily life, that, in order to give interest and educational value to the competition, it has been necessary to construct each question so that it presents no one indexible thought to which the competitor would at once turn, and in this respect the competitor will be called upon to exercise his ingenuity.



heading 'Spinning' we shall find a cross reference 'Spinning: see Rotation.' Either with this assistance, or by going direct to the heading 'Rotation' in the index, as a competitor might well do, we find a reference to Vol. 15, p. 732a. Here we find the beginning of one of the divisions of the article 'Mechanics.' After reading an interesting discussion of the laws that govern rotation, we find in the second column of p. 734, the following words:

'Thus, in practice, we can tell a raw egg from a hard-boiled egg. The first is with difficulty made to rotate, and sets itself in motion again if it be stopped and at once let go. The second behaves, practically, like a rigid solid.'

### The fourth question:

In the course of a war, famous in contemporary history, it was believed that one of the great powers might attempt to restrain the victorious belligerent from reaping the full fruits of success. An important journal quoted in its columns a menacing article published by a less important newspaper. Some days later a third journal disavowed the menace, and stated that the journal which originated the article had never possessed a semi-official character. Name the country threatened and the three journals.

Any reader who concentrates his mind upon this question will see that it turns upon a newspaper controversy. Referring to the index, under the heading 'Newspapers,' the reader is directed to Vol. 31, p. 171 b, where he finds the full and interesting article on 'Newspapers,' containing a discussion of newspapers in general and of all matters pertaining to newspapers, in the course of which occurs the following paragraph, giving the information required:

'... during the blockade of Manila the Cologne Gazette gave all the prominence of its first column and of leaded type to an article taken from the *Marine Politische Korrespondenz*, which practically warned the United States of the intention of Germany to have a share in the Pacific possessions of Spain, if those should eventually change hands. Some ten days later the authority of this menace was explicitly disavowed by the North German Gazette, which announced that the *Marine Politische Korrespondenz* had never possessed a semi-official character.'

This is only one of the many interesting sidelights which this article, upon which the most competent authorities have collaborated, throws on politics.

### The fifth question:

(a) If you were installing electric light and the fitter's estimate suggested, for an ordinary room 20 ft. by 15 ft., six ordinary 16-candle-power lights, should that number provide dull or good light? (b) By what percentage would the total candle power be decreased if the lights were hung from the ceiling head downwards?

Under the heading 'Electric Lighting' in the index the enquirer is referred to Vol. 28, p. 78 c, a part of the article Electricity Supply. Here he



finds a discussion of the use of incandescent lamps for interior and private lighting, in the course of which the following paragraph occurs :

'Lamps, however, hung in this manner, head downwards, are disadvantageously used because their *end-on candle power* is not generally more than 60 per cent. of their maximum candle power.'

And later :

'As a rough guide, it may be stated that for every 100 square feet of floor surface one 16 candle-power lamp placed about 8 feet above the floor will give a dull illumination, two will give a good illumination, and four will give a brilliant illumination.'

From these passages the reader will readily gather that for a room of 300 square feet, six sixteen-candle-power lamps would give a good illumination ; also that hanging the lamps head downwards would decrease the illumination by 40 per cent. It is unnecessary to point out the practical use of the information here gained. It furnishes but one example of the many fascinating problems of the application of electricity to the use of every-day life dealt with in this article.

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In the restricted space of this pamphlet it has not been possible to include as great a number of specimen questions as might have been wished, nor yet to discuss as fully as might have been wished the manner in which the answers are traced by the use of the index to the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, and by the examination of the articles to which the reader is referred by entries in this index. It will, however, from even these few and brief illustrations, be apparent that the questions to be used in the competition have been constructed so that they will create no confusion in the mind of a competitor who really concentrates his attention upon the point to be solved. And it may be suggested to the reader that a competitor should not be discouraged because certain questions seem to him difficult. Answers which he finds with ease may not be so readily found by others, and the awards are not restricted to those who write complete or absolutely faultless answers. It is almost certain that even the winner of the first award



will not have answered all the questions, and that the answers he has submitted will not all have been correct.

It should be remembered, too, that the awards are not the greatest advantages which the competition offers. Even the most successful competitor will find the scholarship, or the sum of money he gains, to be only one of the benefits he has received.

The Times competition is utterly unlike the competitive examinations which form so familiar a feature of modern life. In competing in examinations such as those for the Navy, Army, or Civil Service, the candidate is not building anything, he is merely offering for survey what has already been built. Such examinations measure the fidelity with which he has complied with the routine of his education. They do not profess to show what he could accomplish in practical life, what productive work he could do, but only how fully he has complied with the regulations which prescribe the equipment he should have received. A critic once said of these examinations that they were like looking over a horse, before the race, to see whether it was properly saddled: a useful precaution but not a test of speed. The present competition, on the other hand, will both test and develop the competitor's practical effectiveness, for he will be invited to use his individual judgment, to conduct an inquiry upon his own responsibility, to do what every man has to do, whatever his occupation or position may be, after his preliminary schooling has been completed.

The degree of success which a competitor attains will depend—as in every business undertaking or game of skill—



upon his earnestness, thoroughness, and clearness of mind. To be very much in earnest about anything is an achievement in itself. A young man will sometimes excuse a failure by saying that if he had been tremendously keen he could have done better, and that when the great opportunity of his life comes he will rouse himself, and make a strenuous effort. But earnestness and depth of purpose need to be trained, just as do the muscles of the body. A man cannot afford to be listless and indifferent until the great moment presents itself, just as an athlete cannot afford to be fat and lazy until the day comes for him to undertake a feat of strength. Even if a competitor did not acquire information of intrinsic utility in the course of reading the articles in the Encyclopædia Britannica to which the competition directs his attention, the mere training of the mind which the competition entails would be beneficial in itself.

There are, indeed, four distinct considerations which make it worth while to enter the competition, even if one cares nothing for the awards.

*The mental training, the increased power of concentration, which every competitor will inevitably gain.*

*The wholesome pleasure the competition will afford.*

*The general information the competitor will acquire in reading the articles to which the questions point the way.*

*The ease with which the competitor will learn how and where to find knowledge.*



These four advantages are in themselves inducements so much more than sufficient that the competition might well have been instituted without the offer of any awards at all, were it not that a game of skill is always played more earnestly when some tangible token of success awaits the victor.

## **AN INTERESTING PASTIME**

As a pastime for intelligent people, one of the best recommendations of the competition is that it will be a true recreation, a real relief and rest from the duties of every-day life, because it will be impossible to engage in it without putting aside other thoughts. That is the claim that is justly made for amusements that entail a degree of peril, such as hunting or driving a fast motor-car. But though one does not risk life or limb over the answering of questions, one must be as much in earnest as if one were playing a dangerous game. A young man or young woman tired of studying dry text-books, a man whose business or profession is always intruding upon his hours of pleasure, a landed proprietor who finds it difficult to put aside his responsibilities and anxieties, and even the man of leisure who grows tired of doing nothing, each and all of these will find sound recreation in this competition.

## **THE VALUE OF GENERAL INFORMATION**

Each question has been so constructed that, whether the facts constituting the actual answer are important or not, the competitor is led to important, interesting, and instructive



articles in the *Encyclopædia Britannica*. That work is so much respected as a resource in time of immediate need, a compendium to be consulted for a moment only, however often one may go to it, that many people fail to think of it as a book—or rather library of books—offering the most entertaining reading. Yet it contains so vast a body of information, and the two thousand contributors who wrote its articles are men of such commanding ability, that it is, in fact, the best of all books for stray half-hours of reading. A competitor may find that the preparation of his answers will occupy him for only an hour or two on two or three evenings in the course of each week, but (even if at the moment he resists the temptation to read any more than is needful for his immediate purpose, and closes a volume as soon as he has found the particular answer he was looking for) he will acquire a taste for useful reading that will enrich his life long after the competition has been forgotten. This good habit is as easily acquired as a bad one. An article in the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, written by one of the great men of our day, has the same interest when one is searching for information, as a novel or a play possesses when one is curious as to the climax of the plot, and the love of information, the passion for knowing instead of guessing, is a characteristic which leads to effectiveness in every walk of life. The mere sense of knowledge is a source of satisfaction, and the social relations of life are vastly pleasanter when a man's fund of information commands respect and attention, not only because others are glad to learn from him what he has learned, but also because the fullness of his knowledge gives weight to



his opinions. Nor is it only in the mass that knowledge is effective. Isolated facts, single items of information, find unexpected opportunities of usefulness. Every sort of knowledge adds to a man's sense of power. The barrister who knows nothing but law, the merchant who knows only the course of his own trade, is never so sure and sound of judgement as is a more widely informed rival. In this respect the competition will render practical service to any one who undertakes it, for when he has begun by searching for the answers to these questions, he will never again leave unsettled the questions which present themselves in the course of his ordinary reading.

## MENTAL TRAINING

The competition will afford an admirable exercise for the mind because it will develop a most useful faculty, the power of concentration.

Concentration of mind is probably at once the rarest and the most valuable of all qualities. If a man could for one hour keep his mind fixed on one train of thought, as unswervingly as a telescope follows one star, he would accomplish more than most men achieve in a day. You cannot think straight while the mind wanders, any more than you can shoot straight from an unsteady rifle. No one possesses this power in perfection; every one can increase it by training.

You can close the eyes and not see, you can stop the ears and not hear, but there is only one curtain which can seclude



the mind and protect it from intruding thoughts so that it is free to bend its energies upon one single aim, and that curtain is a resolutely trained will.

Babbage, the eminent mathematician and philosopher who invented the calculating machine, literally worried himself to death because he was forced to live in London, and had not learned so to concentrate his mind that street noises outside the house should not distract him from his work. Watch a man seated writing a letter in a country house, when through the window he sees a pheasant running across the turf. His attention is relaxed, his train of thought broken. Even in a business office, where the day's routine is so arranged that interruptions shall be as rare as possible, most men yield very easily to any trivial temptation which invites them to turn their thoughts from work. A boy cries a newspaper in the street, and a man cannot help wondering how the score stands at cricket. This lack of concentration involves more than the mere loss of time. Efficiency often depends upon energy at high pressure. A furnace at maximum heat will melt, in a moment, metals that hours of less intense heat will leave unchanged. The man who really thinks with his whole mind is as rare as the man who can lift a ton's weight. Anybody can lift a ton, a stone at a time; it is the swift and tense effort that is extraordinary, and that comes only after continued exercise. Even the least progress towards a greater power of concentration is well worth striving for, and the competition cannot but do real good from this point of view.



## HOW AND WHERE TO FIND FACTS

Another quality of mind which will be brought into play and developed in the course of the competition is the 'instinct' (as it is often called for want of a better word) which enables some men to look in the right place, instead of in the wrong place, for what they want. The most practical sort of knowledge is to know where knowledge is to be obtained. A distinguished jurist said to the students of a law school, not long ago, 'I cannot teach you the law; I can only teach you where the law is to be found.' It is true not only of the law, but of all other branches of knowledge, that the increase in the number of specialists has so elaborated the arts of life, and that closer contact between the nations has so broken down the barriers which formerly limited the field of observation, as to make it impossible for any one man to know all there is to know about even his own subject. He must at all times resort to books, find his way to facts, answer specific questions that present themselves to him. And this is a manner of using books which is not taught at school. A boy must begin by being taught, as are the Chinese, to respect all the printed words. He must read every line and footnote of his primer. But later in life there comes the need for selection, exclusion, the recognition that it is not possible to master everything; and from that moment practice in consulting books, in finding one's way to facts, becomes indispensable.

These are, briefly, a few of the reasons which support the statement that even the substantial awards offered by The Times are not the greatest inducements to enter the com-



petition. These reasons do not appeal to one class only. The man whose responsibilities are heaviest and whose time is most fully occupied may be the one to whom such a means of relaxation will prove most valuable. On the other hand, no one, merely because he does not belong to the hierarchy of learning, need consider his equipment too modest to justify his making an attempt.

A Cabinet Minister or the youngest Civil Servant, a Judge of the High Court, a King's Counsel, or an Articled Clerk, a Bishop or a Curate, the Surgeon, the Banker, the Merchant—any one who needs recreation and desires to take that recreation in a form that will be beneficial, will find what he wants in the competition.

The competitors will, as explained in the Rules, be identified by numbers, not by names, for the purposes of examining their answers, and names of those competitors only who gain awards will be made public.

The regulations under which the competition will be conducted are very simple, but it may be well to state them here in order that the reader may be fully informed before applying for the first question paper.

## RULES

1. —All communications respecting the competition must be addressed to 'The Times, Publication Dept., 125, High Holborn, London, W.C.' Letters not so addressed will be delayed and may not receive attention.



- 2.—The entry form printed at the end of this pamphlet must be detached, filled in, and posted to the address above named, in the envelope enclosed with the pamphlet.
- 3.—The answers must be legibly written or typed upon one side only of foolscap paper, single sheets. A margin of two inches must remain blank at the left hand side of each sheet.
- 4.—The sheets of answers must be consecutively numbered, and fastened together with paper-fasteners or tape.
- 5.—Each sheet must also bear the competitor's identification number which will be marked on his copy of the questions.
- 6.—The competitor's name is not to appear on the answers nor on the envelope in which they are sent to The Times. His—or her—card may be enclosed, but must not be fastened to the sheets of answers in any manner that will prevent its being detached before the answers are submitted to the examiners. Any competitor who desires to be assured that his answers have not been lost in the post may also enclose a stamped postcard addressed to himself with the words 'envelope received' written on it.
- 7.—No communication of any other sort is to be enclosed with the answers, which must be forwarded to The Times in the envelope sent for that purpose to the competitor with his copy of the questions.



- 8.—Each answer must begin with the number of the corresponding question, and end with a list of the volume numbers, page numbers and page letters of every passage in the *Encyclopædia Britannica* in which the competitor found information embodied in the answer. For instance, imagine that an answer is:

*No. 9. Yes. Vol. 33, p. 241a; Vol. 18, p. 802b.*

'9' is the number of the question, 'yes' is the answer, and the two passages in the *Encyclopædia Britannica* indicated by the references give all the information which the competitor used, and justify his answer. Each page is divided for the purposes of the index into four sections. 'a' stands for the upper half of the first of the two columns on the page, and 'b' for the lower half, while 'c' and 'd' refer to the second column. Thus a reference to 'Vol. 18, p. 802b,' means that the information required is in the lower half of the left-hand column of page 802, Volume 18. Passages which the competitor has read, but which do not contain any information needed in preparing the answers, should not be cited.

- 9.—No correspondence respecting the questions will be undertaken by *The Times*, nor will any information regarding the scoring of answers be supplied



except in the announcement of the results of the competition.

10.—All the members of any household may collaborate in the preparation of a set of answers, but the answers must be sent in by one person only, to whom any award will be granted.

11.—No one who is or has been officially employed in the production or distribution of *The Times* or of the *Encyclopædia Britannica* may enter this competition.

12.—No competitor may accept assistance from any person who is debarred from competing by Rule 11.

13.—The decision of *The Times* with respect to the allotment of the awards is to be final.

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**FORM OF  
ENTRY.**

This form should be detached, filled in, and sent to

'THE TIMES,

PUBLICATION DEPT.,

125, HIGH HOLBORN,

LONDON, W.C.'

in the envelope supplied for that purpose with this pamphlet.

THE MANAGER,

THE TIMES.

I desire to take part in THE TIMES Competition under the conditions set forth in the pamphlet from which this form is taken. Please send me the first set of questions. The copy of the ENCYCLOPÆDIA BRITANNICA which I shall use for the competition was obtained by me as stated below :

Name .....  
(Please write clearly.)

Address .....

1. I purchased the 35 volumes in the year....., from.....  
.....
2. I am sending to-day my order for the 35 volumes, and I desire that my copy of the first set of questions shall not be sent to me until I have received the volumes.
3. I purchased the 9th Edition in the year....., from.....  
....., and am sending to-day my order for the 11 new volumes. Please do not send my copy of the first set of questions until I have acknowledged receipt of the volumes.
4. I have a loan copy of the 35 volumes in my possession, obtained from  
THE TIMES on .....
5. I have sent to THE TIMES an application for a loan copy, and I desire that the first set of questions shall not be sent to me until I have acknowledged the receipt of that copy.
6. I desire to compete in virtue of the proxy attached.

Strike out  
all but one of  
these  
Paragraphs.

**PROXY.**

THE TIMES,

Please note that I have appointed the above-named.....

.....as my proxy for the purpose of the Competition, and

that I shall neither compete myself nor appoint any other proxy. My copy of the 35 volumes was purchased in the year....., from.....

Name .....  
(Please write clearly.)

Address .....







# The Times

Publication Dept.,

London, W.O.

125, High Holborn.







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The  Times  
Printing House Square, E.C.

Dear Sir,

Everyone to whom this letter is sent is offered by The Times an opportunity of obtaining without expense, a thousand pounds, or any one of ninety other substantial sums of money. And the steps to be taken towards that end are of such a sort that, in the process of competing for these prizes, advantages far more important than the sums of money offered will be gained by every competitor. The offer we make is we believe, altogether unparalleled in the history of journalism either in this or in any other country.

We have organised a competition of which the particulars will be more fully set forth in another form, but even within this restricted space the importance of the undertaking will, I think, be apparent to you. The idea upon which the competition is based is that it should accomplish four distinct results.

1. That it should enlist the interest of those whose responsibilities and duties create a need for a new form of recreation.
2. That the power of concentrating the mind should be increased by the mental training which the competition will afford.
3. That it should ensure the acquiring by the competitor of general information which will prove both agreeable and profitable.



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£250 MONEY

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£5 MONEY

9th A BOND OF £2 OR  
£2 MONEY

10th A BOND OF £1 OR  
£1 MONEY

11th A BOND OF £0.50 OR  
£0.50 MONEY

12th A BOND OF £0.25 OR  
£0.25 MONEY

13th A BOND OF £0.10 OR  
£0.10 MONEY



4. That it should lead the competitor to learn, without effort, how and where knowledge of various sorts is to be found.

Printed questions will be sent gratis and post free (there is no entrance fee) to competitors who will be invited to prepare written answers in their own homes and at their leisure. These questions have been so constructed that they will indicate to the competitor a brief and interesting course of reading from which he may gather the information to be used in framing his answers.

The competitor is, in short, offered the opportunity to do just what an intelligent newspaper reader does when his attention is directed, any morning, to a subject with which he is not familiar. The questions are not designed to test the knowledge previously acquired by the person who answers them, but to gauge the alacrity and clearness of mind which he can display in acquiring fresh information, by devoting one or two hours in the course of two or three evenings a week to the competition. We believe that every competitor will thus form a habit of settling doubts and gaining exact information which will not only increase his efficiency, but also add largely to the pleasure which he derives from his ordinary reading. The word 'query' in its original form, the imperative 'Look this up,' or 'Inquire further into this,' suggests precisely the influence which the competition is designed to exercise.

Full particulars of the competition will be found in the descriptive pamphlet which goes to you by this post under another cover. You will see that you can easily arrange to avail yourself of the opportunity if you desire to do so.

Yours faithfully,

The Manager.







*It is requested that this order form should be destroyed if it is not used at once. The prices it names are temporary, and if the order form should be employed after these prices cease to be in force, useless correspondence and misunderstandings would arise.*

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The illustration on this page shows how the volumes are disposed in the pattern case. It is made of warrant-seasoned quartered oak, fumed and French

polished; every joint is mortised, and the legs stand on solid brass castors with vitrified bowls. It has been tested under strain greatly in excess of that to which even more than ordinary carelessness in use could expose it, and has shown itself to be thoroughly solid.

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**AN ORDER FORM WILL BE FOUND ON THE OTHER SIDE OF  
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I enclose One Guinea. Please send me as soon as possible the completed ENCYCLOPÆDIA BRITANNICA in 35 volumes:

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It is understood that if, before my second payment becomes due, I notify you that I desire to purchase the volumes, then the one guinea herewith enclosed is to be credited to me as part of the purchase price. I am not less than twenty-one years of age.

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