

## Lateral Thinking Quiz

1	My friend Sarah told me that her grandmother was younger than her mother. Could this be true?	Yes, if the grandmother was her father's mother
2	On the table is a carton containing six eggs. If six people each take one egg, how can it be that there is still one egg left in the carton?	The last person to take an egg took it in the carton
3	What occurs once in June and once in July, but twice in August?	The letter 'u'
4	Two Scrabble champions played five games of Scrabble. Each won and lost the same number of games and there were no draws. How is this possible?	They were not playing each other
5	Two fathers and two sons enter a shop and spend £2 each. The shopkeeper takes £6. Why is this?	The people entering the shop were three generations of one family, so 2 fathers and 2 sons, but only 3 people
6	A snail crawls slowly up a garden wall that is 48 cm high, starting in the morning of day 1. If it crawls forward 8 cm during the day and slips back 3 cm each night, when will it reach the top of the wall?	At the end of the 9 <sup>th</sup> day. The snail makes 5 cm progress in each 24 hours, making 40 cm by day 8, but then gets to the top of the wall by crawling 8 cm on day 9
7	Tom and Ella emerged from playing in the cellar. Tom had a clean face, but Ella had a dirty smear on her forehead. So why was it Tom who went to have a wash?	They both looked at each other and assumed their own face was in a similar state
8	You can use three identical digits in a simple addition sum to make 12. If the digit is not 4, what is it?	One. $11 + 1 = 12$ (or $1 + 11 = 12$ )
9	Two parachutists drift off course. When they land, one walks east and the other west, yet within a few minutes they meet up. Can you explain this?	They did not drift to the same place, but landed apart, east-west of each other
10	A father and son were involved in a car accident and were rushed to hospital. On seeing the unconscious young boy, the surgeon exclaimed, "Oh no, that's my son!" Could this be true?	Yes, if the surgeon is the boy's mother
11	The maker does not need it, the buyer does not use it and the user uses it without knowing. What is it?	A coffin
12	'This sentence contains two mistakes.' How many mistakes are there in the preceding sentence?	Four – three spelling mistakes, and the incorrect count of errors
13	How many grooves are there on a vinyl LP record, 30 cm in diameter, with a 10 cm label in the middle and a 1 cm margin at the outside?	Two, one on each side of the disc

14	One Friday morning, two trains speed along the same rail track heading through an empty railway station. One is heading north, the other south. Neither train brakes, nor diverts to another track, yet they do not collide. How could this be?	They pass the station at different times in the morning
15	What is the next letter in this sequence: O T T F F S... ?	'E'. These are the first letters of the first whole numbers when written out: one, two, three, four.... The next in sequence is 'eight'