Audrey did her best to keep up with the aerobics tape, but her body just wouldn’t move like the instructor’s. Audrey had never felt so clumsy and foolish in her life.

What is Audrey doing?
A. working
B. teaching
C. exercising
D. dancing in a ballet
Coping with Allergies

Anyone who has an allergy knows how difficult living with that allergy can be. Whether your allergies are life threatening or merely annoying, there are ways their impact can be lessened. Here are some preventive steps you can take.

Medication can be highly effective in controlling allergies. If you visit your doctor and identify what allergens affect you, you will be able to begin a medication program. Some of the medications available to you are pills, injections, oral inhalers, and nasal sprays.

Much of the available allergy medication is geared toward outdoor allergies. Doctors have found that most people suffer from allergies produced inside the home. Fortunately, there are several things you can do to make home life more comfortable.

Dogs, cats, rodents, and cockroaches contribute to the pollutants that collect in buildings. The conditions of indoor allergies may be improved simply by cleaning out these allergens regularly. Pet dogs and cats should be washed weekly. Usually, it is the skin flakes to which people are allergic. Every room the animals have access to must be carefully cleaned.

Cloth fibers, like carpet, collect the flakes and are hard to clean. Vacuums usually expel the flakes back into the house. However, hardwood and linoleum floors do not trap allergens. Many allergy sufferers find it easier to clean in homes that do not have carpeting.

Molds, dust, and dust mites are also irritating to people with allergies. Dust mites are microscopic insects that feed on skin flakes. They are found most often in couch fabrics, mattresses, and bedding. Regular cleaning will also remove these pollutants. There are even allergen-resistant coverings available to discourage dust mites from collecting.

Although these deterrents may not get rid of allergies entirely, they will certainly make life more comfortable for allergy sufferers.

1. Which of the following allergens is mentioned in the article?
   A cut grass
   B flakes of skin
   C flower pollens
   D peanut products

2. When should a person begin the preventive steps listed in the article?
   F before they get a pet
   G during spring cleaning
   H after they begin taking medication
   J once they realize they have allergies
3. According to the article, which of the following would likely be the most effective treatment for allergies?
   A staying outside
   B cleaning every month
   C getting rid of pets
   D taking medication

4. According to this article, what are some things that influence indoor allergies?
   F mice, dogs, cats, and dust
   G rodent and cockroach poison
   H dogs, cats, rodents, and pollen
   J dust, dust mites, and food products

5. Based on the article, what is one problem with allergy medication?
   A Not everyone can take medication.
   B It can make you too sleepy to drive safely.
   C Allergy medication often treats only outdoor allergies.
   D You can develop a resistance to allergy medication.

6. Which of these should people do first when they think they have allergies?
   F visit a doctor
   G buy medication
   H clean the house
   J get rid of the carpet

7. To help keep dust mites at a minimum, the article suggests that you
   A do not own pets
   B tear out your carpeting
   C buy allergen-resistant coverings
   D take as much medication as possible

8. Which of these ideas does this article support?
   F Allergy problems can be fixed.
   G A clean house can ease allergy suffering.
   H Carpets are not good to have in the home.
   J People suffering from allergies should not own cats.

9. According to the article, why might some allergy sufferers remove their carpeting?
   A Allergy medication may not work if the carpet stays in the home.
   B Many people find that their allergies disappear entirely if they get rid of their carpet.
   C They will not have to wash their pets as often.
   D Carpeting is very hard to get clean, and vacuuming often doesn’t help.

10. According to this article, people who have allergies should
    F not have a large house
    G not have any type of pets
    H try to figure out what they are allergic to on their own
    J try to make their environment as pollutant free as possible
Here is an advertisement for a chocolate replacement. Read the ad. Then do Numbers 11 through 13.

**Chocolate Without Guilt**

Millions of people love chocolate but must avoid the fat and calories it contains. Thousands of others love the taste of chocolate but are allergic to it. If you are one of these frustrated chocolate lovers, take heart. Now there is a delicious, fat-free, low-calorie substitute for real chocolate that won’t cause allergic reactions in most people!

CHACO offers you all the taste and flavor of real chocolate without any important drawbacks. It looks, smells, tastes, and even melts like real chocolate but has only half the calories.

CHACO is even good for you. It’s made from nonfat yogurt and contains active yogurt cultures. All of the ingredients in CHACO are organically grown, and CHACO contains no artificial additives. Because it’s additive-free, it is less likely to cause allergic reactions.

Enjoy CHACO! It’s sold in local grocery stores everywhere. Buy some today, and indulge yourself without feeling guilty.

11. Which of the following is **not** a claim made in this advertisement?
   - A Chaco is low in calories.
   - B Chaco melts like chocolate.
   - C Chaco can be used in baking.
   - D Chaco contains no artificial ingredients.

12. The advertisement suggests that the most likely causes of allergic reactions to chocolate substitutes are
   - F fat and calories
   - G chocolate odors
   - H organic cultures
   - J artificial additives

13. According to the advertisement, Chaco is made from
   - A fat-free, low-calorie chocolate
   - B real chocolate and yogurt cultures
   - C nonfat yogurt and organic ingredients
   - D nonfat yogurt and artificial additives
Read these two letters about a plan to build an incinerator in a community. Then do Numbers 14 through 20.

**Diane Slotter’s Letter to the Editor**

Last week, I went to a public hearing on the plan for installing an incinerator to get rid of hazardous waste. Today I read your article on that hearing. I couldn’t believe that your reporter was at the same meeting I attended.

The article stated, “The audience overwhelmingly opposed the plan.” A number of people did object to it. However, several speakers supported the plan. Thomas Martin pointed out that fees collected from this project would wipe out the county debt. William Ho argued that the incinerator would be safer than the dump that takes our wastes now. I spoke about the jobs this plan would create.

Your article ignored our arguments. There’s no excuse for a newspaper to present such a one-sided view. I demand that you give supporters a chance to express their views in print.

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**Editor’s Response**

Thank you for sharing your views on our coverage of the hearing. We stand by our story. More than 200 people were there, and our reporter was able to speak with most of them. It is true that some speakers supported the incinerator plan. However, most people who attended expressed outrage. They believe the city is ignoring the health risks caused by toxic pollution. According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), waste incinerators release dangerous chemicals into the air. In fact, the proposed incinerator would likely be the single largest source of toxins in the area.

We agree that it is necessary to decrease county debt and create jobs for local residents. But we believe that both goals can be met without putting the health of people at risk.
14. According to Diane Slotter, what was wrong with the newspaper’s account of the hearing?
   - F The reporter was at another meeting.
   - G It misquoted many of the speakers.
   - H It suggested that some people opposed the incinerator plan.
   - J It did not mention arguments in favor of the incinerator plan.

15. Based on the two letters, which of the following events happened first?
   - A The incinerator released harmful toxins into the air.
   - B Diane Slotter wrote a letter to the editor of a local newspaper.
   - C Diane Slotter attended a meeting about the proposed incinerator.
   - D The newspaper published an article about people’s reactions to the hearing.

16. Which of the following does Ms. Slotter want the newspaper to do?
   - F support the incinerator plan
   - G make the reporter apologize
   - H publish the views of people who support the incinerator plan
   - J hire a reporter who would strongly support the incinerator plan

17. Based on the editor’s response to Diane Slotter’s letter, what did the editor think of the story the newspaper printed?
   - A It reported the opinion of the majority.
   - B It was definitely one-sided.
   - C It did not say enough about toxins in the air.
   - D It misquoted the speakers who supported the plan.

18. According to the editor, the incinerator would
   - F be dangerous
   - G not make money
   - H benefit the community
   - J eliminate the county debt

19. According to Diane Slotter’s letter, which of the following would be advantages of having the incinerator?
   - 1. more jobs
   - 2. debt reduction
   - 3. safety
   - A 1 only
   - B 2 only
   - C 1, 2, and 3
   - D 1 and 2 only

20. It is clear from her letter that Ms. Slotter believes the newspaper should
   - F be run by citizens
   - G be government-owned
   - H present both sides of an issue
   - J take a clear stand on all controversies