

Feature Writing Quiz
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- 1. Some writers follow the so-called “40-40-20 rule” when writing features, which outlines how to divide their time. What does each number represent?**
 - a. 40 percent of time on writing, 40 percent on background research and 20 percent on reporting
 - b. 40 percent of time on background research, 40 percent on reporting and 20 percent on writing
 - c. 40 percent of time on reporting, 40 percent on writing and 20 percent on fact checking
 - d. 40 percent of time on writing, 40 percent on sleeping and 20 percent on exercising

- 2. True or False: “Always get the name of the dog” is a reminder to gather all the details while reporting.**
 - a. True
 - b. False

- 3. The best way to conduct interviews for features is:**
 - a. Over the phone or via Skype
 - b. Via e-mail
 - c. In person
 - d. Whatever works best for the subject

- 4. True or False: Of the following sentences, the second one best illustrates the principle of “show not tell.”**

Sentence #1 “Hannah sank into the old office chair, the green vinyl quietly squeaking as she slumped down and dropped her head back, loudly exhaling into the still–dark room.”

Sentence #2 “Hannah was tired after a long night at work.”

 - a. True
 - b. False

- 5. Why is finding the theme important to the feature writing process?**
 - a. It helps the writer decide what details to include in the story.
 - b. It helps the writer pitch the story to editors for publication.
 - c. It helps the writer decide what music to listen to while writing.
 - d. It helps the writer pen a good headline.

- 6. What two reporting skills help a writer create a story setting?**
 - a. Observation and interviewing
 - b. Quick thinking and good judgment
 - c. Photography and recording
 - d. Organization and time management

- 7. What element or elements should be at the heart of a feature story?**
- a. Facts and information
 - b. Descriptive language
 - c. People
 - d. History and background
- 8. Which of the following ISN'T a function of dialogue in feature writing?**
- a. Conveying a character's personality and authenticity
 - b. Creating a change of pace in the writing
 - c. Moving the story along
 - d. Allowing the writer to try out script-writing abilities
- 9. True or False: It is best to avoid verb forms of "to be" such as "she is" or "he was."**
- a. True
 - b. False
- 10. Which of the following sentences contains a metaphor?**
- a. Her smile shone like sunshine.
 - b. A heavy fog lingered over the hill.
 - c. The cat's meow sounded like a squeaky door.
 - d. This test was a breeze.