

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

## HIGH-STAKES CAREERS: CRISIS NEGOTIATORS

1. Write a paragraph that explains the main ideas in Chapter 3.
2. Would you want to work as a crisis negotiator? Why or why not?
3. When did police create crisis negotiation teams?
  - A. 1970s
  - B. 1980s
  - C. 1990s
4. Why would negotiators try to get the people they speak with to slow down?
  - A. so people have more time to think before acting
  - B. because acting quickly is never a good idea
  - C. because slowing down puts hostages at risk



5. What does **violent** mean in the *Crisis Negotiators* book?

*If a negotiation goes badly, people can become **violent**. They might hurt themselves. Or they might harm hostages.*

- A. staying calm
- B. acting friendly
- C. lashing out

6. What does **experience** mean in the *Crisis Negotiators* book?

*After training, police officers build **experience**. They work for a few years. They get practice dealing with crises.*

- A. facts learned by reading a book
- B. skills gained by doing something
- C. skills used only in class



## **ANSWER KEY FOR HIGH-STAKES CAREERS: CRISIS NEGOTIATORS**

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. A
4. A
5. C
6. B



## HIGH-STAKES CAREERS: ER DOCTORS

1. Write a few sentences explaining some of the challenges that ER doctors face.
2. Would you want to be an ER doctor? Why or why not?
3. What is one event that could cause a surge in an ER?
  - A. a person falling off a ladder
  - B. a large fire burning an area
  - C. one car crashing
4. How could rushing lead to more mistakes in the ER?
  - A. Doctors might gather too much information.
  - B. Doctors might miss important information.
  - C. Doctors might spend too long with each patient.



5. What does **urgent** mean in the *ER Doctors* book?

*People go there for **urgent** treatment. Patients may be very sick or badly hurt. Doctors work quickly to provide care.*

- A. not very important
- B. needing help right away
- C. taking a long time to plan

6. What does **stress** mean in the *ER Doctors* book?

*Patients in the ER are under a lot of **stress**. Many are very upset.*

- A. feelings of love
- B. feelings of worry
- C. peace and calm



## **ANSWER KEY FOR HIGH-STAKES CAREERS: ER DOCTORS**

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. B
4. B
5. B
6. B



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

## HIGH-STAKES CAREERS: EXPLOSIVES TECHNICIANS

1. Write a few sentences explaining the main idea of Chapter 4.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Would you want to work as an explosives technician? Why or why not?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What does a disruptor do?
  - A. shoots at a bomb
  - B. helps people find bombs
  - C. blows up part of a building
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. How could using robots help bomb techs stay safer?
  - A. The techs could get closer to the bombs.
  - B. The techs could stay farther from the bombs.
  - C. The robots could carry the techs to the bombs.



5. What does **unstable** mean in the *Explosives Technicians* book?

*When thick snow piles up, it can become **unstable**. It may break apart and crash down.*

- A. likely to fall
- B. likely to stay together
- C. likely to cost a lot

6. What does **support** mean in the *Explosives Technicians* book?

*Blasters plan how to knock each building down. They study the building's **support** structures. Those parts hold the building up.*

- A. used to make something weak
- B. used to keep something strong
- C. used to break something apart





## **ANSWER KEY FOR HIGH-STAKES CAREERS: EXPLOSIVES TECHNICIANS**

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. A
4. B
5. A
6. B



## HIGH-STAKES CAREERS: FIGHTER PILOTS

- Copyright © 2026 by Apex Editions. This document may be printed and reproduced for local use only.



5. What does **formations** mean in the *Fighter Pilots* book?

*Other battles involve large groups of airplanes. The planes may fly in patterns called **formations**.*

- A. times when planes cannot fly
- B. groups of planes that fly together
- C. places where only one plane can land

6. What does **launch** mean in the *Fighter Pilots* book?

*Navy pilots often **launch** from aircraft carriers. These huge ships have runways where planes can take off or land.*

- A. crash into the ground
- B. fly up into the air
- C. get hit by weapons



## **ANSWER KEY FOR HIGH-STAKES CAREERS: FIGHTER PILOTS**

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. A
4. A
5. B
6. B





5. What does **unstable** mean in the *Firefighters* book?

*Fires can make buildings **unstable**. Walls and ceilings may collapse.*

- A. likely to fall down
- B. likely to stay up
- C. likely to get bigger

6. What does **physical** mean in the *Firefighters* book?

*People must pass **physical** tests. They must be fast and strong.*

- A. using ideas from the past
- B. relating to the mind
- C. relating to the body



## **ANSWER KEY FOR HIGH-STAKES CAREERS: FIREFIGHTERS**

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. B
4. B
5. A
6. C



## HIGH-STAKES CAREERS: POLICE OFFICERS

1. Write a few sentences describing the training that police officers go through.
2. Which type of police work do you think is the most dangerous? Why?
3. What is one way that officers collect evidence?
  - A. taking pictures of crime scenes
  - B. writing speeding tickets
  - C. making arrests
4. In which situation might an officer work undercover?
  - A. when a person is caught robbing a bank
  - B. when a person is suspected of selling stolen items
  - C. when a person is arrested for stealing a car





5. What does **flee** mean in the *Police Officers* book?

*Sometimes, thieves try to **flee**. They drive away quickly.*

- A. escape
- B. stay still
- C. get caught

6. What does **experienced** mean in the *Police Officers* book?

*Field training is the next step. That's when new officers learn on the job. They pair up with **experienced** officers.*

- A. having no skill or practice
- B. having less skill or practice
- C. having more skill or practice



## **ANSWER KEY FOR HIGH-STAKES CAREERS: POLICE OFFICERS**

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. A
4. B
5. A
6. C



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

## HIGH-STAKES CAREERS: STUNT PERFORMERS

1. Write a paragraph that explains the main ideas in Chapter 3.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Would you want to be a stunt performer? Why or why not?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What does an acrobat do?
  - A. tricks that copy an actor
  - B. tricks that involve balance
  - C. tricks that involve car chases
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. What could happen if stunt performers didn't work out?
  - A. They could get better at acting.
  - B. They could stop being strong enough to do stunts.
  - C. They could do all their stunts perfectly.



5. What does **plunge** mean in the *Stunt Performers* book?

*Others **plunge** down toward the ground. Some use parachutes to slow their falls. Others land in nets or on airbags.*

- A. climb slowly
- B. drop quickly
- C. take classes

6. What does **tough** mean in the *Stunt Performers* book?

*The dogs jump at the performers and bite them. The performers wear **tough** pads that the dogs can't bite through.*

- A. thick and strong
- B. thin and weak
- C. just pretend



## **ANSWER KEY FOR HIGH-STAKES CAREERS: STUNT PERFORMERS**

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. B
4. B
5. B
6. A



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

## HIGH-STAKES CAREERS: SWAT TEAMS

1. Write a paragraph that explains the main ideas in Chapter 4.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. If you were part of a SWAT team, which role would you want to have? Why?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. When did police departments first create SWAT teams?
  - A. the late 1960s
  - B. the early 2000s
  - C. the 2020s
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. What might happen if SWAT teams didn't have snipers?
  - A. SWAT teams could work faster.
  - B. SWAT teams could find suspects more easily.
  - C. SWAT teams could have a harder time seeing suspects.



5. What does **vary** mean in the *SWAT Teams* book?

*The size of a SWAT team can **vary**. Some teams have fewer than 10 people. Others have dozens of members.*

- A. be different
- B. be the exact same
- C. be hard to see

6. What does **information** mean in the *SWAT Teams* book?

*They gather **information** about suspects. They try to learn what people have done and what they plan to do.*

- A. facts about people or things
- B. facts that are not true
- C. ways of moving around



## **ANSWER KEY FOR HIGH-STAKES CAREERS: SWAT TEAMS**

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. A
4. C
5. A
6. A