

Quiz



LET'S PLAY POST OFFICE

by Alfred Balk

The U.S. Post Office is a big factor in your life from birth to death. Yet many postal pointers and mailbox myths aren't widely known. How do you rate? Take this test and see.

	True	False
1. If you're mailing a book, the cheapest way is by parcel post.	☐	☐
2. If you buy a stamp on which something is printed out of place, better take it back.	☐	☐
3. Even if you're not a collector, stamps can be as good an investment as stocks.	☐	☐
4. The Post Office still has "pony express" routes.	☐	☐
5. The new 4-cent stamp for first-class letters should eliminate the \$2-million-a-day postal deficit.	☐	☐
6. The Post Office is the nation's largest enterprise.	☐	☐
7. Only Congress passes on subjects for commemorative stamps.	☐	☐
8. To be appointed a postmaster, you must have had some experience as a mail carrier.	☐	☐
9. For a record of the mailing and delivery of items such as bank books or insurance policies, you must send them "registered."	☐	☐
10. If you visit Europe or write friends there, always allow for slower mail delivery than here.	☐	☐

Answers:

1. **False.** There's a special book rate—about one-fourth that for parcel post.
2. **False.** Because the Post Office makes few such mistakes, it may be a collector's item. One, a 24-cent air-mail stamp (1918), showed a biplane upside down on 100 copies—now they're worth \$6,000 each.
3. **True.** You must hold them up to 20 years and know what you're buying, of course. But it's common to earn 5 to 10 percent a year on sheets of commemorative stamps—of which some 400 types have been issued since 1893. A \$100 bloc of Louisiana Purchase 10-centers of 1905 today is worth \$10,000!
4. **True.** Rural Free Delivery has more than 100 horseback routes and nearly that many boating routes. But most of the 18,000 RFD carriers use autos to the tune of 1,500,000 miles a day.
5. **False.** Officials admit it's only a stopgap—though a necessary one. Modernization and selected rate increases also would be needed, plus some adjustment in bookkeeping for "side" services offered.
6. **False.** The Telephone Company and General Motors each have more employees than the Post Office's half-million. Eleven firms top its \$3-billion-a-year volume. But it is the world's largest Post Office.
7. **False.** In 1948 it did, voting 29 commemorative issues. Now, the Post Office handles it, with a seven-member citizens' advisory committee. And more than 3,500 suggested subjects are now on file!
8. **False.** It isn't necessary, but you must pass a civil-service exam for the job and be picked from a list of qualifiers.
9. **False.** "Certified mail"—25 cents cheaper per letter—provides essentially the same type registration. (One other little-known saving: an "air-letter sheet" sold for a dime can be air-mailed anywhere in the world).
10. **False.** It may be faster. London and Paris have three deliveries a day. Special delivery within Munich arrives in an hour. In Japan, Hong Kong, and other places, mail may not be that fast but it often equals ours.

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BEST-SELLING
NOVEL
OF TODAY'S
TORMENTED
GENERATION!



UNIVERSAL INTERNATIONAL
PRESENTS

LANA TURNER
JOHN GAVIN

*Imitation
of Life*
in Eastman COLOR

also starring

SANDRA DEE
DAN O'HERLIHY
SUSAN KOHNER
ROBERT ALDA
JUANITA MOORE
MAHALIA JACKSON

EARL GRANT



"You've given me
everything a mother
could, but the
thing I wanted
most...your love!"



"The color line
won't stop me, Ma!
I look, feel,
think white...
and I'm going
to marry white!"

"I'll get the things
I want out of life...
one way ...
or another!"



DOUGLAS SIRS
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