stellar-one.com Copyright Copysense: How good is your copyright savy?

- 1. Which of the following is true? (Use the drop down menu to select your answer)
 - A. An infringer can be held to be liable even if he doesn't know he is doing something illegal.
 - B. A plaintiff with a formally registered copyright need only prove copyrighted works were used without authorization.
 - C. Damages awards can be as high as \$20,000, as much as \$100,000 if a court finds "willful infringement."
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. None of the above.
- 2. What is the primary purpose of the copyright laws of the United States?
 - A. To encourage the creative efforts of authors by granting a monopoly over their works.
 - B. To ensure that the hard work of authors and compilers is rewarded.
 - C. To promote the progress of science and the useful arts.
 - D. To ensure that all copyrightable works are submitted to the library of congress.
- 3. At what point does the copyright for a written work begin?
 - A. As soon as it is registered at the copyright office.
 - B. When copies of the work are deposited with the copyright office.
 - C. As soon as it is fixed into some tangible form.
 - D. As soon as the work is published.
 - E. When a copy of the work is received by the Library of Congress.
- 4. Which of the following rights are among the exclusive rights for a work protected under copyright?
 - A. the right to make copies of a protected work.
 - B. the right to sell or distribute copies.
 - C. the right to create works based on this work.
 - D. the right to perform or display the work in public
 - E. All of the above
 - F. None of the above
- 5. True or False

All published works, including those on the internet, must contain a copyright notice.

6. True or False?

As long as I properly cite the source, I can use a paragraph or two from someone else's work without infringing upon their copyright.

7. Which ONE of the following photos is copyrighted?









8. True or false

Graphics offered on websites as "free" or "public-domain" may be copyrighted works taken from other sites.

- 9. Which of the following is most correct?
 - a. The copyright of a work published in 1963 expires on January 1, 2004, the first day of the 51st year after it was published.
 - b. E-mail is not protected by copyright law.
 - c. A work published by a French author in Great Britain is protected in the United States under U.S. copyright law.
 - A. All of the above.
 - B. None of the above.
 - C. a. and b.
 - D. a. and c.
 - E. b. and c

- 10. Three college coaches renowned for the success of their teams are asked to provide motivational speeches to a gathering of industry managers. The organization hosting the gathering has the address videotaped for later viewing by individuals of the management group who were not able to attend. The video is subsequently copied and used in presentations at some of the managers' home plants.
 Assuming that the coaches' permission for the video taping only applied to the viewing by individuals who missed the presentation, which of the coaches described below has had their copyright infringed?
 - A. One coach has a best-selling motivational book and most of the material in his speech is also in his book.
 - B. Another coach's speech is given from prepared notes.
 - C. The third coach arrives totally unprepared and gives the speech totally off the cuff.
 - D. All of the above
 - E. None of the above
 - F. A and B
 - G. B and C
 - H. A and C

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Answers:

- 1. D. All of the above Those who may be held personally liable range from corporate officers down to employees actively involved in infringement whether they know it or not. Copyright infringement is generally tried in civil courts where the burden of proof is on the defendant. Civil court awards for copyright infringement may be for statutory damages as provided in copyright law or actual damages and infringer's profits.
- 2. C. Promote science and the useful arts. In the United States, copyright is exclusively federal law through which "authors" obtain specific exclusive rights to their "works." Copyright law derives from the United States Constitution (article 1, section 8, clause 8) which gives Congress the power "to promote science and the useful arts, by securing for limited times to authors... the exclusive right to their... writings."
- 3. C. As soon as it is fixed in some tangible form..., written, typed, dictated or, in the case of works developed on computers, printed or saved to an electronic storage device.
- 4. E. All of the above. Making and selling or distributing copies are pretty easy to identify as "copy rights." Less obvious is the right to create works based on another work. This is the right to make a derivative work (sequel). The right to perform or display a work in public is easy to see for movies and music, but it also applies to any other copyrighted material that might be "presented" in public, for instance in a presentation or a web page.
- 5. The statement is false. As a result of international treaties and agreements, there is no longer any requirement for a copyright notice to appear on a copyrighted work.
- 6. The statement is false. There is no requirement under copyright laws for source citation. Failure to cite sources is plagiarism, intellectual theft of the words of others by claiming or inferring, by failure to properly cite, that they are yours. While plagiarism is considered to be unethical, it is not illegal in the United States except in very narrow circumstances involving research funded by the government. Limited use of material from the works of others is allowed under the "fair use" principle of U. S. copyright law.
- 7. Unless you know the pedigree of a photo or other image, it's almost impossible to determine whether or not it is copyrighted. In this instance, the correct answer is B. This particular photo is one of ours. All of the others are from U. S. government web sites.
- 8. The statement is true. When using graphics found on the internet, be sure of the pedigree. Many pages that offer free graphics are by "collectors" who may be infringing upon the copyrights of others. If you use infringed graphics, then you will be an infringer, too. Ignorance is no defense.
- 9. "C" is the correct answer. The United States has ratified treaties that require copyright protection for works created in other countries that have signed the treaties. The duration of copyright for most works that are currently protected is not just based on a fixed number of years. Instead, in the United States, it is the life of the author, plus a fixed duration of at least 70 years. However, a work published in 1963, with a timely renewal of copyright, is protected until 2058 (95 years from first publication). If the same work was not renewed, then its copyright has elapsed and it is in the public domain. Any original expression in e-mail is protected by copyright the moment it is "fixed in tangible form."
- 10. F is the correct answer.

The third coach in giving his speech totally off the cuff does not have anything "fixed" in a tangible medium of expression... no notes, no book, nothing. Unless, of course, you count the video tape, but then in that case, there could be a question as to who owned the copyright, the coach or the organization that had the video made. The first two coaches used material that resided in a tangible, and therefore copyrighted form. Videotaping of a public performance of copyrighted material for one approved purpose and then copying it for another purpose infringed upon their copyright.