John X

16:1/19

Writing: The Numbers' Game, KEY

Instructions: Match each number or statistic on the left with the most appropriate explanation regarding writing on the right.

1.	_C_ 30% of writers	A. from prescription errors in 2007; 1.5 mil. injured; bad handwriting
2.	_G_\$170,000	B. Finnegans Wake; therefore, it should take reader 40 yrs to understand, JJ
3.	_E_1 ounce of example	C. show recognized dysfunctional traits; 13% for pop. as whole; '96
4.	_A_ 7000 died annually	D. amount John Milton sold his rights to Paradise Lost, millions sold later
5.	_J_\$129	E. is worth a ton of generalities. Para. Henry James; concrete beats the general
6.	_H_ 1 ton of newsprint	F. length of Jack Kerouac's On the Road, 1951, \$2.4 mil. in 2001, 20 days to write
7.	_B_ 40 years to write	G. cost of "Mont Blanc Solitaire Mountain Massif Skeleton" 2006, \$250,000 in '24
8.	_F_ 119' long MS scroll	H. requires 37.5 lbs. of sulfur to make.
9.	_D_ £5 or c. \$10	I. average production of a good journalist
10.	_I_ 1000 words/hour	J. cost of a Livescribe pen, which blends written notes w/800 hrs. of audio, 2010

1.	_B_ 220 of 250 words	A. of Moby Dick were sold in Melville's life
2.	_F_ 70 hours	B. Theodore Geisel (Dr. Seuss) used to write The Cat in the Hat
3.	_H_ \$73,690	C. Look Homeward, Angel by Asheville's Thomas Wolfe
4.	_J_ 250 words/15 min.	D. portion of any novel visible to the reader; Hem's theory of omission
5.	$_{\rm I}$ pi = 3.2 in 1897	E. is good for 45,000 words, or a line 45 miles long; treadmill? CU/G'ville+15
6.	_D_ 1/8 of an iceberg	F. time it takes to speak all of Shakespeare's 884,647 words. 3 days; 38 plays 154 sonnets
7.	_A_ 50 copies	G. rate at which Lewis Carroll corresponded for 37 years: c. 100,000 total; email/text?
8.	_G_ 7.3 letters / day	H. median annual wage for writers and authors in US, 2023
9.	_C_ rejected 17 times	I. in Indiana, b/c 3.14159 was too hard for kids. Passed In. house, not senate; Bible=3.0
10.	_E_ 1 #2 pencil	J. goal Anthony Trollope set for himself, very clerkish. 49 novels in 35 yrs. Cartland

MORE:

Don Quixote, some say the first "true" novel, has sold over 500 million copies since 1605; Japanese Tale of the Genji, 1010 AD; Petronius's Satyricon, Roman satire, c. 90 AD; etc.

Hemingway wrote 47 endings to Farewell to Arms. His writing goal was 500 words per day.

Jane Smiley became a writer b/c at 6' 2" she was too tall to be a jockey, her dream job.

Jennifer Egan read c. 150 books about NYC before writing Manhattan Beach in 2017. Research!

Thoreau took back 706 of the 1000 copies of A Week on the Concord and Merrimac and then bragged about the size of his library. He took it well. [poor sales]

Before 1850, England imported 27 million goose and swan quills from Russia. In 1850, they switched to steel nibs. Isaac Asimov wrote or edited 500+ books.

UK's Barbara Cartland is considered the most prolific romance novelist, with 723 titles, sold over a billion copies. D. 1901-2000

12/2