

Of Schoolmen and a Flat Earth

1 In paragraph 1 the writer recalls a lesson in Primary School. He remembers:

- A – the teacher lying to him about Christopher Columbus.
- B – the teacher using a book that had wrong information.
- C – the teacher telling a funny story.
- D – the teacher talking in Spanish.

2 What part of the teacher's story was true?

- A – Columbus thought the earth was flat.
- B – Columbus took unwilling crews with him.
- C – Columbus raised money for the journey.
- D – Columbus used defective maps when planning his journey

3 The writer uses 'sadly' in paragraph 2. The word as used here indicates that:

- A – He remembers being unhappy at the time.
- B – He would be happy if the Spanish had been stupid.
- C – He regrets his being naive at the time.
- D – He is sorry he is not still young.

4 The time over which the earth has been known to be spherical is closest to:

- A – 3 years.
- B – 300 years.
- C – 1000 years.
- D – 3000 years.

5 The schoolmen in modern terms were most like:

- A – politicians.
- B – lawyers.
- C – monks.
- D – farmers.

6 The “natural place of rest for water”, was, in Aristotle’s mind:

- A – at the bottom of a well.
- B – at the bottom of the oceans.
- C – at the centre of the earth.
- D – on any spherical surface about the centre of the earth.

7 Four propositions are attributed to Albert of Saxony. The writer repeats the ideas because:

- A – they were correct.
- B – they were clever.
- C – they were original.
- D – they were, in practical terms, a waste of time.

8 The writer remembers his conversation with a young boy mainly because:

- A – the child was very clever.
- B – the child knew text-books can be wrong.
- C – the child was polite and respectful.
- D – the child was thinking like a *schoolman*.

9 What contribution does the writer highlight in the work of Galileo?

- A – He had a fight with the Church.
- B – He was a clever man.
- C – He understood how to make approximations.
- D – He did his own experiments.

10 In your opinion the writer’s attitude to the schoolmen is closest to:

- A – anger.
- B – sadness.
- C – curiosity.
- D – admiration.