

CHAPTER-7 | The Interview

QUIZ-01

1. What did Rudyard Kipling call the act of interviewing?
A. A form of entertainment B. An art form
C. An immoral crime
D. A creative discussion (C)

Explanation: Kipling considered interviews to be immoral, describing them as an offence equivalent to physical assault.

2. Which famous author had a strong aversion to being interviewed and avoided publicity?
A. V.S. Naipaul B. Saul Bellow
C. Lewis Carroll D. H.G. Wells (C)

Explanation: Lewis Carroll had a "horror of the interviewer" and avoided being lionized, preferring his privacy.

3. What did Saul Bellow compare interviews to?
A. A long walk in the rain
B. A performance on stage
C. Thumbprints on his windpipe
D. Notes on a blank page (C)

Explanation: Saul Bellow likened interviews to "thumbprints on his windpipe," suggesting discomfort and pressure.

4. According to Denis Brian, what gives interviewers unprecedented power?
A. Their fame
B. Their association with media houses
C. Their ability to extract secrets
D. Their control over how people are perceived (D)

Explanation: Denis Brian wrote that interviewers shape vivid impressions of people, giving them immense influence.

5. What is Umberto Eco's "secret" to being so productive?
A. Delegating work B. Eliminating sleep
C. Using interstices or empty spaces in life
D. Writing only during holidays (C)

Explanation: Eco revealed that he works during interstices—small, empty moments in daily life—to get things done.

6. How did Eco describe his identity despite his fame as a novelist?
A. A storyteller B. A literary icon
C. A professor who writes novels on Sundays
D. A critic of medieval history (C)

Explanation: Eco emphasized that he considered himself primarily a professor who wrote novels occasionally.

7. Why does Eco include a narrative element in his scholarly writing?
A. To appeal to children
B. To meet publishing trends
C. To tell the story of research, including errors
D. To imitate fiction writers (C)

Explanation: Eco chose to present his research as a story, including trials and errors, to make academic writing engaging.

8. What surprised Eco's American publisher about "The Name of the Rose"?
A. It had no illustrations B. It failed to sell
C. It sold millions despite low expectations
D. It was published in multiple languages (C)

Explanation: Despite predicting only 3,000 copies would sell, the novel sold millions in the U.S., which shocked the publisher.

9. What theme does "The Name of the Rose" incorporate besides being a detective story?
A. Modern architecture
B. Fashion and cinema
C. Metaphysics, theology, and medieval history
D. Futuristic science (C)

Explanation: The novel blends detective fiction with deep themes such as metaphysics, theology, and medieval culture.

10. How does Eco view the popularity of "The Name of the Rose"?
A. As a planned success
B. As an accidental phenomenon
C. As a result of marketing
D. As irrelevant to his academic work (B)

Explanation: Eco described the book's success as a mystery and felt that timing played a key, unpredictable role.