

TASK 1  
HOUDINI

ANSWER BOX

QUESTIONS	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
ANSWERS	A	A	C	B	B	A	C	B	B

TEXT

**Harry Houdini was born on March 24, 1874 in Budapest, Hungary (0).** When he was four years old his family moved to the United States. They lived in Wisconsin for a while and then moved to New York City.

Harry Houdini's real name was Ehrich Weiss. He started using the name "Harry Houdini" as a stage name in 1894. The name "Harry" came from his childhood nickname "Ehrie." **The name "Houdini" came from one of his favorite musicians, a Frenchman with the last name Houdin (1).** He added the "i" to "Houdin" and he had the name Harry Houdini.

Harry worked various odd jobs to help out the family while growing up. He worked as a locksmith for a time where he became an expert at picking locks (this skill would come in handy later). **Young Harry always had an interest in magic and performing (2).** Around the age of seventeen he began doing a magic show with his brother "Dash" called "The Brothers Houdini." Harry would spend hours working on magic tricks and practicing quick hand movements.

While Harry and his brother were working at Coney Island, Harry met a dancer named Bess. They fell in love and married a year later. **Bess and Harry started their own magic act called "The Houdinis" (3).** For the rest of his career, Bess would act as Harry's assistant.

He traveled to England to perform. At first, he had little success. **Then he challenged the English police at Scotland Yard to an escape. The police searched Harry thoroughly and handcuffed him inside a cell (4).** They were sure they had him secure. However, Houdini escaped in a matter of a few minutes. They couldn't believe it! **Now Harry was famous and everyone wanted to see his amazing escapes (5).**

Harry traveled around Europe and then returned to the United States performing all sorts of dangerous escapes and amazing illusions. These escapes made him the most famous magician in the world.

Houdini performed a variety of escapes. He often invited the local police to try and handcuff him or hold him in a cell. He always escaped. **He also performed an escape where he was buried alive six feet underground and another where he was put in a casket under water for over an hour (6).**

In his later life, Houdini took on many other activities such as **making movies, learning to fly an airplane, and debunking psychics (proving they were fake) (7).**

One night before a show in Montreal, Canada, two young men visited Houdini backstage. Rumor had it that Houdini was invincible to blows to the body. One of the students decided to test out this rumor and punched Houdini in the stomach. **A few days later, on October 31, 1926 (Halloween), Houdini died from a ruptured appendix (8).**

*(Adapted from: [ducksters.com/biography/entertainers/harry\\_houdini.php](https://ducksters.com/biography/entertainers/harry_houdini.php), 458 words)*

TASK 2  
GABY MELIAN

ANSWER BOX

SPACE	0	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
SENTENCE	A	D	I	K	L	J	C	H	E	G

DISTRACTORS: B, F

TEXT

When she was a little girl, **Gaby Melian spent lots of free time helping in the kitchen (10)**, where, she says, she fell in love with food.

Melian was born and raised in Argentina's capital of Buenos Aires, where **she learned the food of her grandmother Porota (9)**, who was inventive in the kitchen and often used leftovers to turn them into something different and delicious. Melian recently wrote a cookbook, "Gaby's Latin American Kitchen," about dishes she learned in childhood and ones she learned after coming to the United States.

She says she hopes that her book and **the many recipes in it inspire kids (10)** to learn more about Latin America and find ways to explore its food and get to know its people. She also wants to encourage them to get their hands busy in the kitchen.

The book is your guide for an exploration of Latino foods. "Many of these foods — and their ingredients — are easily found in the United States", said Melian, "because of the strong influence of Hispanic Americans in our culture." There are more than 60 million Hispanics in the United States, according to the Census, so **you can find restaurants (11)** that specialize in arepas, empanadas, pupusas and tacos.

Melian said as you expand your skills, **you can pick an ingredient that is used across Latino countries (12)** such as the plátano and make it in different ways. For example, try the Puerto Rican tostones (fried green plantains) or the Dominican maduros (fried sweet plantains). People eat plantains for breakfast, lunch and dinner in Latin America, and **they can be cooked (13)** when they are firm and green or soft and black. You can fry, bake or mash them.

In Buenos Aires, **Melian would often come home from school (14)** and eat a leftover empanada. You can make her chicken empanada with leftover rotisserie chicken.

"Growing up we didn't have snacks. It wasn't like I got home from school, and I said, 'abuela tengo hambre' and my grandma would hand me a bag of chips," Melian recalls. "No, **she'd go to the kitchen (15)** open the fridge, and scramble something ... and that was the snack."

Some days she made dulce de leche crepes or panqueques. They are still Melian's favorite postre, and these days **she makes them with store-bought dulce the leche (16)**, one of her favorite ingredients.

"I usually make them when someone comes over because if I make them for myself, it's dangerous!", because **she would eat too many (17)**, she said. "I love them."

(Adapted from: [washingtonpost.com/kidspost/2022/09/28/chef-gaby-melian-encourages-kids-to-cook/](https://www.washingtonpost.com/kidspost/2022/09/28/chef-gaby-melian-encourages-kids-to-cook/), 28/09/2022, 416 words)

TASK 3  
VACATION DESTINATIONS FOR TEENS

ANSWER BOX

TEENAGER	0	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
DESTINATION	A	F	E	H	J	G	D	B	I

DISTRACTORS: C, K

TEXT

- A. **Los Angeles.** If you're heading to LA with teens there are plenty of **great theme parks including Universal Studios, Disneyland, and Six Flags Magic Mountain (0)**. Paramount Pictures Studios is another great place to visit if you're traveling as a family!
- B. **New York City.** Try ***The Escape Game* escape room before becoming a spy for a day at the Spy Museum (24)**. This incredible, highly interactive museum not only details the history of spy networks all across the world, but it allows you to engage in a series of tasks that will help you and your teen determine what type of spy you should be.
- C. **Glasgow.** It is famous for urban street art murals by local and international artists. Searching for these colorful street murals all around the city is very exciting; you can also join a walking tour. You can hire a bike for the day to explore many beautiful parks and gardens in this city.
- D. **Houston.** You can explore unique attractions like the NASA Space Center, where teenagers can learn about space travel and look at real equipment from space missions. There is also the Houston Museum of Natural Science with its numerous exhibits from ancient Egypt and the **large Burke Baker Planetarium, which hosts astronomy shows (23)**.
- E. **Boston.** Teens might like a Segway tour through the city, or walking the Freedom Trail, **which tells the story of the American Revolution**. Boston's **shopping districts keep teenage fashionistas busy for days (19)**.
- F. **Lake Tahoe.** It is situated in the Sierra Nevada Mountains and in between California and Nevada. You can spend your time exploring nature by biking along Tahoe East Shore Trail, one of **the best bike paths in the country (18)**. The best tip when visiting Lake Tahoe is to make sure you're packing layers. **The weather can get unpredictable (18)**.
- G. **Maui.** Convince your teen to wake up early for the adventure of a lifetime: **a road trip along the Road to Hana (22)**. Along the drive, **you will pass by so many roadside waterfalls, tasty food trucks and stands, black sand beaches (22)**, and even get to hike through a bamboo forest (to a massive waterfall!).
- H. **Utah National Parks.** Each of the parks has a unique landscape and a variety of activities. **Bryce Canyon National Park is known for its unique and colorful rock formations (20)**, called hoodoos, formed by millions of years of erosion. Take a hike down below the lip of the canyon.
- I. **Melbourne, Australia** is **known for its street art which can be seen throughout the city (25)**. Melbourne's laneways are the perfect backdrop for photographs. Queen Victoria Market is a popular spot for both fresh and prepared foods. **A 2-hour market foodie tour makes for a fun lunch (25)**.
- J. **Essaouira, Morocco.** Active teens will **enjoy taking surf lessons or even kite surfing lessons (21)**. Indeed Essaouira, coined as 'Morocco's Windy City' is one of the best places in

Africa for kite surfing due to the strong winds blowing off the Atlantic. There is also quad biking along the beach.

- K. Tokyo.** The Harajuku district of Tokyo is known as “Teen’s Holy Land” in Japan. With cutting-edge fashion at reasonable prices that teenagers can afford, this district is a must-visit for trendsetting teenagers. For the teenagers addicted to their video games and smartphone apps, the tech district of Akihabara in Tokyo is a stimulation of the senses. The district is like stepping into a real-life video game.

*(Adapted from: [juliearoundtheglobe.com/best-family-vacations-teenagers-usa-international-destinations](http://juliearoundtheglobe.com/best-family-vacations-teenagers-usa-international-destinations), 580 words)*