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INTRODUCTION

When we say something is **relevant**, we are saying it is appropriate or of some importance. It has some significance. If it is **irrelevant**, then it is the opposite. It is inappropriate, unimportant, or insignificant. When writing, especially school assignments, only include material relevant to the topic.

It is also important to understand the relevance of information when involved in research at school. It is important to know what is relevant and what is irrelevant when we make plans to undertake certain tasks. When writing fiction (creative writing), it is important to recognize if the information is relevant to your story. Irrelevant information will make your story less appealing to the reader.

Read these instructions for playing the game *Snakes and Ladders*.

TO START THE GAME

- Put one counter for each player on **START**.
- Sometimes the counters are called “men.”
- To begin playing, each player must first roll a six on the die.
- Once the player gets a six, he or she rolls the die again and then moves his or her counter the number of places shown on the die.

TO CONTINUE THE GAME

- Players take turns in a clockwise direction.
- If a counter lands on the bottom of a ladder, the player moves the counter to the top of the ladder.
- If a counter lands on a snake’s head, the player moves the counter to the bottom of snake’s tail.
- The winner is the first person to reach **FINISH**.

1. Highlight the point which has the least to do with playing *Snakes and Ladders*.

Read part of the article “Warbirds Over Wanaka” by Shiri Gounder.

Wanaka is a scenic little town about 80 km north-west of Queenstown in New Zealand. It stays fairly dry and sunny, and despite the snow-capped peaks in the distance, temperatures remain mild. Wanaka is popular with tourists and seems to have a disproportionate number of hotels and motels. Every two years, though, over the long Easter weekend, Wanaka’s normal influx of visitors positively explodes; 75,000 people drawn by a three-day air show billed as “Warbirds over Wanaka.”

Aviation buffs make up most of the crowd, but the display of ex-military vehicles, vintage motorcycles, farm machinery, and antique fire engines has a certain appeal as well.

On the ground the vintage aircraft look spectacular. In the air, they’re even more awesome, with aerial flying and stunt displays performed by the RNZAF Red Checkers and the Roaring Forties Harvard aerobatic teams.

2. If you wanted to see the air show, which one of the following facts would be least relevant?

- (A) The air show is on the Easter weekend, every two years.
- (B) From Wanaka, snow-capped mountains can be seen.
- (C) Stunt flying is part of the Wanaka air show.
- (D) Most visitors are interested in the vintage aircraft.

3. Select the most relevant information to illustrate the popularity of the air show.

The Wanaka air show’s success can best be judged by (the size of the crowd the weather in Wanaka the number of hotels). (Circle one answer.)

4. The number of hotels in Wanaka is a direct result of the air show. True False
5. When writing a review on the air show, the size of Wanaka is vital. True False

Name: _____

Date: _____

TAKING BETTER PHOTOS

Important Tips for Better Flash Photos

1. Don't stand too far back from your subject. The flash on most cameras will not effectively cover any subject over three meters away. Even in non-flash photos, many photographers stand too far away from their subjects. This results in small subjects surrounded by great areas of unimportant background.
2. Watch the background to ensure there are no mirrors or shiny surfaces to bounce the flash back to the camera lens.
3. When taking pictures of people, ask them not to look into the lens but at a point over your shoulder. Otherwise there is a good chance that the flash will reflect from the backs of their pupils and they will end up with red eyes in the photo. Models 3X00 and 3X01 have a setting to reduce the red-eye effect.
4. Try to give the subjects an interesting background. If there is nothing for two meters behind the subject, the background will come out black or very dark. Of course, you don't want a cluttered background that distracts from your subject.

5. If taking a picture of a baby, make sure the room is as light as possible so that the flash does not hurt his or her eyes.

Advice for Action Photographers

Action coming straight at the camera does not require a very fast shutter speed, whereas a subject passing quickly across the front of the lens requires a much faster shutter speed.

When your subject is moving fast, there is no time to focus your camera correctly. It is best to anticipate where the action will be and pre-focus on something in that area. You may have to use manual override if you have chosen the autofocus feature in our camera range.

When shooting subjects racing across the lens, a very fast shutter speed could freeze the action and lose the idea of speed. For a better action shot, use a pan action. Swing the camera in a smooth sweep to keep the subject in the center of the viewfinder, and click. The subject will be in sharp focus but the background will be blurred to give a convincing feeling of speed.

1. In Point 1, "Important Tips for Better Flash Photos," highlight (or underline) any tip that is irrelevant to a photographer using a flash.

2. A blurred background can add to the impact of a photo if

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> the person being photographed is looking at the camera. | <input type="checkbox"/> it is a shot of a newborn baby. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> the subject is well over three meters away. | <input type="checkbox"/> it is an action shot. |

3. Which of these conditions is most relevant when taking flash photos of new babies?

- (A) Ensuring there are no mirrors or shiny surfaces in the background.
- (B) Anticipating where the action will be and pre-focusing on that area.
- (C) Ensuring the subject is looking over the photographer's shoulder.
- (D) Making sure the room is as light as possible.

4. If the background is unimportant, how far should it be behind the subject? _____

5. What do you consider the most relevant factor when taking good action shots?

6. What point is most relevant to you if you wanted to improve your flash photos? _____

7. When taking action photos, it is best to focus on the subject. True False