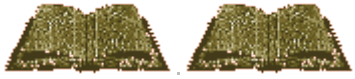
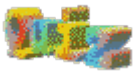
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Book Reviews: Technical Books Section



(Page 2 - Quiz section)



QUIZ BASED ON "*THE ELEMENTS OF MURDER - A HISTORY OF POISON*"

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The Elements of Murder - A History of Poison *by* John Emsley. Hardcover, 6" x 9". Oxford University Press, , 198 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016 U.S.A., . Publication Date 2005. xiv + 421 pages, ISBN 0-19-280599-1. Price $30.00, £18.99

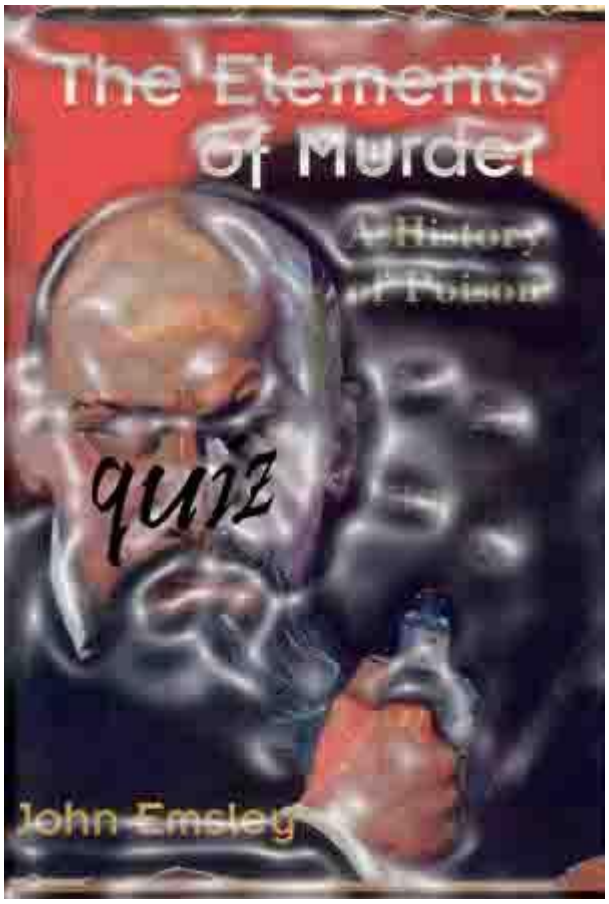
Official site of this book: http://www.oup.com/us/catalog/general/subject/Chemistry/?view=usa&ci=0192805991

Personal website of John Emsley: http://www.ch.cam.ac.uk/staff/je.html

Listen to an interview with John Emsley: http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=4769877

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Here goes!

Name:

Questions based on "The Elements of Murder"

Multiple Choice

Identify the letter of the choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.

1. Qu. In 1996, a team at the University of Georgia in Athens, USA, led by Richard Meagher found an ingenious method to

detoxify land polluted with mercury compounds. What was it?

a.	They introduced snails in the toxic land and they ate up all mercury as mercury is an essential element for snails	d.	They discovered chemicals which when sprayed on contaminated land precipitated excess mercury
b.	They introduced genetically engineered plants	e.	They made artificial lakes in the center of the toxic land, so all mercury leached away in the water
c.	They set up local mercury plants, which thrived on earth contaminated with mercury as their raw material		

2. Qu. Until very recently a Mexican beauty cream, Crema de Belleza Manning used a poisonous chemical as one of its components. Can you name it?

a.	**Thallium acetate**	**d.**	**Arsenious oxide**
b.	Cobalt chloride	e.	Lead Carbonate
c.	Mercurous chloride		

3. Qu. If you rinse your hand in dilute ammonia solution and pour molten lead over them, which is the most likely thing to happen?

a.	The fingers would be anesthetized completely so	d.	Lead and ammonia would react together

	that nothing would cause pain for a few hours		forming a leather like glove over the hand
b.	The fingers would be thoroughly scalded accompanied by intense pain	e.	The fingers would not be scalded and there would be no pain
c.	The fingers would be badly scalded but there would be no pain, because lead is a fine anesthetic agent		

4. Qu. Which of the following poisons became the preferred weapon for Saddam Hussein's regime for disponsing of people who opposed him?

a.	**Arsenious oxide**	**d.**	**Nickel carbonyl**
b.	Mercuric chloride	e.	Thallium sulfate
c.	Potassium cyanide		

5. Qu. In 1955, the science writer Isaac Asimov wrote a prophetic SF story called "Sucker Bait", in which settlers of a distant planet "Troas " suffer from a mysterious disease. This disease made breathing progressively difficult, and ultimately everyone suffering from this disease died. This disease was due to a slow poisoning due to

a.	**Beryllium**	**d.**	**Tellurium**
b.	Mercury	e.	Cadmium
c.	Selenium		

Check Quiz Reset

Your rating:

100% - Perfect! You probably don't need this book.
90-95% - Your knowledge on "Toxicology of elements" is admirable. You probably might do without this book.
70-85% - Your knowledge on this subject is sound, but this book could be useful to you to fill up your knowledge gaps.
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