

Read the passage below. Then answer the questions. **Catch Me If You Can**

By the age of 19, Frank Abagnale, Jr. had spent time working as a pilot, a doctor, a teacher, and a lawyer. He had lived the life of a millionaire and traveled to countries all over the world. How did he do it? Is Abagnale an emblem of the things we can all accomplish by working hard? The answer is yes—if what you'd like to accomplish is to be a wanted criminal!

Abagnale was born in New York City in 1948. When he was 16, his parents divorced and he began living with his father. Shortly afterward, Abagnale's father got a preview of his son's future life. Abagnale, Sr. gave his son a truck and a credit card to use for buying gas. In no time, Abagnale, Jr. learned that he could impress girls if he seemed to have a lot of money. He soon began patronizing local gas stations and using his credit card to scam them out of money. When his father learned about what was happening, he was disheartened by his son's behavior. Abagnale, Jr. was apologetic, but said he couldn't help himself. "It's the girls, Dad," he said. "They do funny things to me. I can't explain it."

Not long after that, Abagnale, Jr. got a checkbook. He started writing checks for more money than he had in his bank account. Unfortunately for him, it did not take long for the bank to catch on. But Abagnale, Jr.'s interest was piqued. He pondered how he could use the banks to make money without doing any work. Finally, he decided to start creating counterfeit checks using fake names.

Abagnale's checks looked very real. Even trained bankers couldn't tell that they were fake. There was only one problem: Abagnale still looked like a 16-year-old boy. He decided he needed a new identity, so he got an airline uniform from Pan American World Airways and began to pretend he was a pilot. He found that when he was in uniform, everyone presumed he really was a pilot.

The police finally caught Abagnale in France in 1969. By that time, he had flown to 26 countries around the world by pretending to be a pilot. He had also pretended to be a doctor, working at a Georgia hospital for nearly a year. He had even faked a law degree to work for the attorney general of Louisiana.

Abagnale spent almost five years in prison for his crimes. When he was released, he started working for the U.S. government as an expert in banking crimes. He then created a company that taught banks how to catch thieves like himself. Today, he's a millionaire again—only this time, it's for real!

1. Which of the following jobs did Abagnale, Jr. NOT have?

- (A) Company owner
- (B) Bank worker
- (C) Teacher
- (D) Doctor

2. Abagnale, Jr.'s first illegal activity involved

- (A) A credit card
- (B) A pilot's uniform
- (C) Checks
- (D) A fake name

3. Why did Abagnale, Jr. originally want to have money?

- (A) So he could buy gas for his truck
- (B) So he could travel around the world
- (C) So people would think he was an adult
- (D) So he could impress girls

4. Frank Abagnale, Jr. could best be described as

- (A) Humble
- (B) Ignorant
- (C) Crafty
- (D) Charitable

5. This passage would most likely be found in

- (A) A book of mystery stories
- (B) A book about famous criminals
- (C) A magazine article about famous airline pilots
- (D) A magazine article about creative travel ideas



Circle the word that best fits into the sentence. Then write a sentence below that uses the word you didn't pick in a meaningful way.

1. I refuse to **(patronize OR counterfeit)** the movie theater after they kicked us out for talking.
2. _____
3. The pickpocket could **(lurk OR pluck)** the wallet out of someone's pocket and put it back empty without drawing anyone's attention.
4. _____
5. Yuri was **(disheartened OR devoured)** when he realized how far he would have to climb to get to the top of the mountain.
6. _____
7. The town threw an **(emblematic OR exuberant)** celebration for the knight who killed the mighty dragon.
8. _____
9. Kristina hasn't responded to my party invitation yet, but I **(ponder OR presume)** she'll be there since she's my best friend.
10. _____

8F Draw the Relationships

In each grouping of eight words below, draw straight lines between the synonyms (words that mean similar things) and squiggly lines between any antonyms (words that mean nearly opposite things). Every word should have at least one line connected to it. Some may have more.

1

browse

recede

presume

look through

disbelief

extremely enthusiastic

increase

exuberant

2

preview

harsh

mellow

devour

sneak peek

snoop

consume

lurk

3

dishearten

pluck

to pick

encourage

genuine

counterfeit

condescend

patronize

4

forget about

ponder

pique

symbol

relaxed

emblem

mellow

provoke