



How Much Do You Know about the FFA and the Media?

Over the years FFA members have been featured in the media. Generally, the publicity has been favorable, but not always. It will take a real trivia expert to answer these questions. If you can answer half of the questions, go to the head of the class.

1. In the Robert Altman movie, Nashville, (released in 1975) a FFA member is depicted as:
 - A. Making it big as a country and western singer in Nashville
 - B. Attempting to assassinate a candidate for the presidency of the United States
 - C. The younger brother of Dolly Parton
 - D. Driving a 18 wheeler in a drunken rampage in downtown Nashville
 2. Four young men (one of whom is often seen on screen wearing a FFA jacket) have just finished high school and are planning to go to California in this 1998 movie. What is the name of the movie?
 - A. Dancer, Texas Pop. 81
 - B. Paris, Texas
 - C. The Last Picture Show
 - D. 8 Seconds
 3. A FFA sign welcoming people to town is clearly seen in:
 - A. Back to the Future (1985)
 - B. The Horse Whisperer (1998)
 - C. The Bridges of Madison County (1995)
 - D. Field of Dreams (1989)
 4. The National Association of Farm Broadcasters (NAFB) and the FFA enjoy a close working relationship. One example of this relationship is:
 - A. The President of the NAFB is one of the consultants to the National FFA Board of Directors.
 - B. The National FFA President sits on the NAFB Board.
 - C. The NAFB holds their annual convention in conjunction with the national FFA convention.
 - D. The NAFB has an office in the National FFA Center reserved for their exclusive use.
 5. While the FFA was not actually featured in the 1933 movie State Fair, the California FFA benefited from the movie. How?
 - A. Ten percent of the movie profits were given to the California FFA.
 - B. The movie was dedicated to the California FFA.
 - C. The prize winning boar in the movie, Blue Boy, was donated to the California FFA after the movie.
 - D. The California FFA provided animals that were used in the film and received recognition for that.
 6. In the mid 1970s the National FFA briefly considered bringing legal action against a magazine for its depiction of a FFA member. The magazine was:
 - A. National Inquirer
 - B. Playboy
 - C. Hustler
 - D. Oui
 7. The Kansas City Star newspaper developed a new name for the FFA after it was announced the FFA was moving the convention from Kansas City. The new name was:
 - A. Faithless Farmers of America
 - B. Future Fleecers of America
 - C. Fickle Farmers of America
 - D. Future Financiers of America
 8. The Star Farmer of America, Joe Moore, was featured on the cover of what magazine on October 24, 1955?
 - A. Saturday Evening Post
 - B. Life
 - C. Readers Digest
 - D. Time
 9. The actions of a FFA member were written about in an Ann Landers column during the mid-1990s. The FFA member:
 - A. Formed a group called Farmers Against Drunk Drivers
 - B. Was growing marijuana in the school greenhouse
 - C. Organized a clothing drive to help needy migrant children
 - D. Mistreated a pig at a livestock show
 10. In the movie "Top Gun" (1986) there is a bar scene with Tom Cruise. In this scene:
 - A. There is a bar room brawl with a FFA member being involved
 - B. A male FFA member and his girlfriend are shown sitting in a booth
 - C. There is a photograph on the wall of a FFA member showing livestock at the fair
 - D. Cruise makes a pass at a female FFA member
- (Answers on page 27)

FFA : Why Do We Have It?

(continued from page 13.)

cannot possibly do it all. They're partly right—FFA does offer a wide array of programs and activities for students' involvement. However, rather than trying to "do it all," teachers should assess local student and community needs to develop a tailored program that meets those specific desires. Don't try to do it all; do what makes sense.

Other teachers point to a lack of support from their school or community for the FFA. But, instead of relying solely on themselves, teachers have an opportunity to partner with other vital entities—community members, local businesses, FFA alumni, other teachers, school boards, and parents. They are ready to assist—teachers must only find an appropriate fit for the partner's

expertise and ask them to share knowledge and skills with students. Support can be gained from a variety of contributors. Additionally, when all three agricultural education components are present, the process of gaining support becomes easier. Through FFA, partners see students achieving in areas such as academics, community service, leadership, and career events. This constant flow of achievement allows people to see the success and value of the program.

Some teachers feel they are not adequately prepared to provide an exceptional FFA element. The Local Program Success (LPS) guide was developed to help instructors become more successful in six key areas—Instruction, SAE, FFA, Partnerships, Marketing, and Professional Growth. LPS was created through work groups of agriculture and education leaders (including 30 teachers from 18 states and representatives from The

Council for Agricultural Education and FFA) which outlined steps to success and researched proven best practices used in the nation's top programs.

Why would a teacher deny impacting a student utilizing the FFA aspect? The answer lies in why agriculture instructors teach. They teach to make a meaningful difference in the lives of students and to prepare these individuals for success in their careers and in their lives. Encourage students, regardless of their economic, academic, geographic, physical, or ethnic background, to make FFA a priority and to understand its value. FFA is an integral part of the development process. By participating in a wide spectrum of events, members are given skills to help prepare for successful careers. Uniquely, FFA is for all students, not just those who are exceptional. The program brings out the best in each member it touches. With the help of an agriculture instructor, a student feels the impact of FFA for a lifetime.



Answers:

1. B. The producers of the movie were able to obtain a FFA jacket by indicating the plot was for a FFA member to disarm a deranged Vietnam vet after he tries to assassinate a presidential candidate. In the actual movie, the roles were reversed.
2. A
3. A
4. C
5. C
6. D
7. B
8. D
9. D
10. C