

## America's Mentally Ill Homeless Answer Key (\* denotes correct answer)

- According to the passage, Americans' attitude toward the homeless has changed from:
  - surprise to familiarity \*
  - horror to regret
  - discomfort to understanding
  - awareness to irritation
- It is reasonable to infer from the passage that homelessness in America is a problem that occurs mostly in:
  - specific neighborhoods of various cities.
  - urban areas. \*
  - communities containing homeless shelters.
  - streets and parks near mental hospitals.
- The author states that homelessness came about:
  - as an aftereffect of an economic downturn.
  - because of changes in the laws related to mental illness.
  - in conditions that took America by surprise. \*
  - as a consequence of crowding in America's cities.
- Which of the following community efforts has made a "tremendous difference" (line 27) in the lives of the homeless?
  - Removing homeless people from the streets and parks
  - Passing anti-vagrancy laws
  - Expanding the powers of social agencies
  - Implementing a variety of different strategies \*
- The claim that "the number of homeless people helped by the government has increased" (lines 31-32) means that:
  - better education has managed to shrink the homeless population.
  - many new homeless shelters have been built.
  - the government has expanded its welfare programs.
  - forward-looking policies to solve the homeless problem have been successfully put into practice. \*
- In lines 48-49, "drug addiction, alcoholism, HIV/AIDS, diabetes, and tuberculosis" are mentioned as examples of:
  - disabilities that strike people who cannot afford to take care of themselves medically.
  - the dangers that many mentally ill people are subject to.
  - the fate of people whose homelessness has been caused by mental illness.
  - disabilities that often grow out of homelessness and mental illness. \*
- The passage suggests that homelessness and mental illness are linked because:
  - most homeless people tend to be mentally ill.
  - homeless mentally ill people are usually rejected by society.
  - many mentally ill people, unable to take care of their basic needs, become homeless. \*
  - homelessness has been known to cause mental illness.
- By asserting that many mentally ill homeless people have "contact with the criminal justice system" (lines 71-72), the author is pointing out that many mentally ill homeless men and women:
  - have been treated like criminals by the police and the courts.
  - tend to report to the police when victimized by criminals.
  - have been driven to commit crimes in order to survive. \*
  - look to the police and courts to save them from abuse by society.
- As it is used in line 85, the word *vortex* most nearly means:
  - inescapable trap. \*
  - ambush.
  - overabundance.
  - struggle.
- Which of the following statements best describes the author's method and purpose?
  - Conveying a series of observations and facts in an attempt to inform readers how mental illness makes solving the problem of homelessness more difficult \*
  - Presenting a series of facts and personal opinions designed to persuade readers to support increase funding for social services for the homeless and mentally ill people
  - Collecting a series of research findings meant to show the positive effects of government programs regarding the homeless
  - Constructing an argument based on emotion meant to move readers to take steps to help the homeless