HAZING AWARENESS QUIZ

TRUE OR FALSE

__T__ F  1. It’s next to impossible to develop a meaningful Greek pledge ritual without at least some minor form of hazing.

__T__ F  2. Actual hazing is more in the “eyes of the pledge” since almost any action can be considered “hazing.”

__T__ F  3. Hazing is a behavior that is exclusive to fraternities and sororities.

__T__ F  4. There’s no “real” hazing in women’s Greek organizations; members just play harmless pranks on pledges.

__T__ F  5. Requiring pledges to refer to members with titles while they are identified with demeaning names is not technically hazing.

__T__ F  6. Hazing behavior is not actually “hazing” if the pledge agrees to the treatment.

__T__ F  7. A few colleges and universities now have anti-hazing policies, and a few states have also passed laws that prohibit hazing.

__T__ F  8. It’s understandable that forcing pledges to drink volumes of alcohol is seen as hazing, but being forced to drink large amounts of water or milk is okay.

__T__ F  9. Since alumni and current members were hazed, it’s only fair that the new members go through it too.

__T__ F  10. Hazing practices preserve the uniqueness and the exclusivity of the organization.
Hazing Awareness True or False Answers

__T__ 1. It’s next to impossible to develop a meaningful Greek pledge ritual without at least some minor form of hazing.

There are a variety of activities that can be and are used to build unity and loyalty, with pledges to their fraternities and sororities that DO NOT involve subtle harassment or violent hazing. Community service, athletic challenges, history and values activities, retreats—have all been successfully used to develop a sense of achievement and bonding among new and existing members.

__T__ 2. Actual hazing is more in the “eyes of the pledge” since almost any action can be considered “hazing.”

It’s not difficult to decide if an activity is hazing if you use common sense and ask yourself the following questions. Make the following inquiries of each activity to determine whether or not it is hazing.

1) Is alcohol involved?
2) Will current members of the group refuse to participate with the new members and do exactly what they’re being asked to do?
3) Does the activity risk emotional or physical abuse?
4) Is there risk of injury or a question of safety?
5) Do you have any reservation describing the activity to your parents, to a professor or university official?
6) Would you object to the activity being photographed for the school newspaper or filmed by a local TV news crew?

If the answer to any of these questions is ‘yes,’ the activity is probably hazing.

__T__ 3. Hazing is a behavior that is exclusive to fraternities and sororities.

Hazing is a societal problem. Hazing incidents have been frequently documented in the military, athletic teams, marching bands, professional schools and other types of clubs and/or organizations. Reports of hazing activities in high schools are on the rise.

__T__ 4. There’s no “real” hazing in women’s Greek organizations; members just play harmless pranks on pledges.

Hazing knows no gender

__T__ 5. Requiring pledges to refer to members with titles while they are identified with demeaning names is not technically hazing.

This is, in fact, a form of subtle hazing.
6. Hazing behavior is not actually “hazing” if the pledge agrees to the treatment.

Hazing is an act of power and control over others --- it is victimization. Hazing is pre-meditated and NOT accidental. Hazing is abusive, degrading and often life-threatening. In states that have laws against hazing, consent of the victim cannot be used as a defense in a civil suit. This is because even if someone agrees to participate in a potentially hazardous action it may not be true consent when considering the peer pressure and desire to belong to the group.

7. A few colleges and universities now have anti-hazing policies, and a few states have also passed laws that prohibit hazing.

Almost ALL colleges and universities have anti-hazing policies and 44 states have passed anti-hazing laws.

8. It’s understandable that forcing pledges to drink volumes of alcohol is seen as hazing, but being forced to drink large amounts of water or milk is okay.

Court cases exist where people have died as a result of water and even milk intoxication. As a result, organizations and individuals were found guilty of hazing.

9. Since alumni and current members were hazed, it’s only fair that the new members go through it too.

Tradition does not justify subjecting new members to abuse. Traditions are created by groups and groups hold the power to change or eliminate them. It only takes one year to break a hazing tradition. Remember that the founding members of organizations were not hazed.

10. Hazing practices preserve the uniqueness and the exclusivity of the organization.

Since hazing practices are secret, group members often don’t realize that their "unique" practices are typically variations on common themes: extensive memorization with verbal abuse for incorrect answers, sleep deprivation, servitude, kidnappings, drinking rituals, calisthenics, lineups, cleaning up messes, isolation of members, theft, impossible games, sexual embarrassment, inappropriate clothing, absurd scavenger hunts, unpalatable food, and physical violence.

Sources: hazing.cornell.edu and U.S. Department of Education Office of Higher Education