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SEPHARDIC COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

How Well Do You Know Israel?!

By Mrs. Esther Tokayer

1. What was the original currency in Israel?
a. Lira b. Dinar
c. Shekel d. Peso

2. Who is on the One Shekel Bill?
a. David Ben Gurion b. Menachem Begin
c. Maimonides d. Nahmanides

3. Who is on the Ten Shekel Bill?
a. Rav Kook b. Thoedore Herzl
c. Herbert Samuel d. Golda Meir

4. What are the coins in Israel called?
a. Perutot b. Agurot
c. Lirot d. Avanim

5. True or False: The temperature in Israel is measured in Celsius.
a. True b. False

6. What is the country code if you want to call Israel from the US?
a. 972 b. 011
c. 052 d. 02

7. True or False: Speed limits are posted in kilometers per hour.
a. True b. False

8. Who said, "it is a story not just of talent but of tenacity, of insatiable questioning of authority, of determined informality, combined with a unique attitude toward failure, teamwork, mission, risk, and cross-disciplinary creativity."
a. Binyamin Netanyahu b. Dan Senor
c. Gil Troy d. Yair Lapid

Food for Thought @ your Shabbat Table: If you moved to Israel what would be the most difficult thing to adjust to and what would be the easiest?

Answers:

1. (a) The Lira was carried over from the Mandate Period and remained the currency in Israel until 1952 when it changed over to the Shekel. The Shekel was the currency until 1985, and then Israel issued a new currency called the New Shekel, NIS.

2. (c) Maimonides is on the one Shekel bill. He moved to Israel from Spain, left for Egypt, where he died. He is buried in Tiberias which is on the reverse of the bill.

3. (d) Golda Meir is on the Ten Shekel Bill. On the reverse side is a depiction of the Jews who came to see her at the Moscow synagogue when she came to visit.

4. (b) Israeli coins are agurot. Israel no longer makes the one agurah, so if you have one hold onto it!

5. (a) The temperature is measured in Celsius. A temperature of 20 degrees in Israel is considered "mezeg avir naim."

6. (a) 972 is the country code for Israel. 011 is the code for the international operator. 02 is the code for Jerusalem. 052 is one code for mobile phones.

7. (a) Kilometers. 1.6 kilometers is 1 mile. The average speed limit in cities in Israel is 50 km/h, which is 31 miles per hour.

8. (b) Dan Senor wrote this in his book, Start Up Nation. The book describes the miracle of Israeli innovation and contributions to the world's technological development and as an incubator for new ideas.