- 1. Start with the W on the top row, and alternate along the rows in a zigzag pattern to read WHAT IS THIRTEEN PLUS FOURTEEN? The answer is 27.
- 2. Reading the sentence backwards, it says WHAT IS THE CAPITAL CITY OF CALIFORNIA? The answer is **Sacramento**.
- 3. Start with the first letter, then the last letter, then the 2nd letter, then the second to last letter, and continue to get WHO IS THE CURRENT PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES? The answer is **George W. Bush**.
- 4. For each letter, go one letter back in the alphabet. So, X becomes W, I becomes H, etc. The sentence reads WHAT FOUR LETTER PALINDROME IS A SYNONYM FOR MIDDAY? The answer is **noon**.
- 5. Start with the H in the first column and wind your way around the grid by moving up, down, left, or right to get to the next letter. You can trace out a path that reads HOW MANY DAYS ARE IN THE MONTH OF JULY? The answer is 31.
- 6. Let A = Z, B = Y, C = X, and so on. The answer is **The real problem is not whether machines think but whether men do** attributed to **B. F. Skinner**.
- 7. The vowels have been removed from the sentence. It says **Welcome to the Two Thousand Eight National Mu Alpha Theta Convention!**
- 8. Use the key below (keyword JEOPARDY):

JEOPARDYBCFGHI KLMNQSTUVWXZ (letter from encrypted message) ABCDEFGHI JKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ (letter from actual message)

The sentence reads The quick brown fox jumped over the lazy dog.

- 9. This is Morse Code for **She got her good looks from her father**; **he's a plastic surgeon** attributed to **Groucho Marx**.
- 10. Each letter is represented by a two-digit number based on the following chart (1st digit is row number, second digit is column number):

	1	2	3	4	5
6	M	L	K	J	Y
7	N	C	В	I	X
8	О	D	A	Н	W
9	P	Е	F	G	V
0	Q	R	S	T	U

So the first word 85-84-92-71 becomes WHEN. The message is **When those waiters ask me if I want some fresh ground pepper**, **I ask if they have any aged pepper** attributed to **Andy Rooney**.

- 11. If you write the second letter of every word, you get **To be or not to be, that is the question**.
- 12. For each word, the first letter is the actual letter, the second is move one back in the alphabet, the third letter move two letters back in the alphabet, and so on. The answer is **An apple a day keeps the doctor away**.
- 13. Start with the B, and then every seven letters (to the L, E, S, etc.) until the end. Then start again with the second letter (the E) and then every seven letters (W, H, O, etc.). The message reads **Blessed is he who expects nothing, for he shall never be disappointed** attributed to **Jonathan Swift**.

- 14. First, each letter corresponds to a number so that A = 1, B = 2, C = 3, etc. If the number is composite, then its corresponding letter is written in the code with the positive integral factors in numerical order, other than 1 or the number itself. If the number is prime or 1, then its corresponding letter is written in the code by just using the number. For example, A would be a 1, G a 7, and W a 23 since these numbers are not composite. The letter T would be represented by 24510 (since factors of 20 are 1, 2, 4, 5, 10, and 20; then take out the 1 and 20 and write the numbers together). The second word in the code is PURPOSE and can be found by separating the numbers 248-37-2369-248-35-19-5. This code can be confusing because some letters have the same code representation (C would be 3, but I would also be 3 since factors of 9 are 1, 3, and 9). The message is **The purpose of life is to live it, to taste experience to the utmost, to reach out eagerly and without fear for newer and richer experience** attributed to **Eleanor Roosevelt**.
- 15. The answer is **I busted a mirror and got seven years bad luck, but my lawyer thinks he can get me five** attributed to **Steven Wright**. The original message, including the name, was separated into groups of five letters as follows:

IBUST EDAMI RRORA NDGOT SEVEN YEARS BADLU CKBUT MYLAW YERTH INKSH ECANG ETMEFIVEST EVENW RIGHT

Then, each 5-letter group was arranged in alphabetical order, like this:

BISTU ADEIM AORRR DGNOT EENSV AERSY ABDLU BCKTU ALMWY EHRTY HIKNS ACEGN EEMFT EISTV EENVW GHIRT

Finally, the letters were shifted to match the original number of letters in each word (this is the message that is on the test).