



Daily Article (Bharath's Reading list) - Answers and Explanations 08.04.2024

Article link : [Link](#) (The ancient Roman alternative to daylight saving time)

1. None of the following statements about Roman sundials is correct, except:

- A. Flat and circular, Roman sundials had with lines radiating out from the centre to the edge that divide it into 12 portions for the hours
- B. Unlike the modern versions, not all Roman sundials required a gnomon to indicate the time
- C. The vast majority of these sundials adopted the seasonal system of timekeeping which was invented by ancient Romans
- D. The Roman sundials which tended to be made from a single, large block of stone and placed high on pillars or columns

Explanation : D

Only option D is true. Option A is incorrect: '...isn't quite like modern sundials. Instead of being flat and circular, it's shaped like half a bowl..'. Option B is not true; both modern and ancient versions require a gnomon to read the time. Option C is incorrect, too, as the article says the seasonal system of timekeeping was invented by the ancient Egyptians

2. Very few water-clocks have survived from the Roman era, due to all the following reasons except:

- A. They were only used by doctors and astronomers
- B. They were expensive
- C. They had a lot of moving parts
- D. They were high-status items, not as common as sundials



Explanation: A

All reasons except A are stated in the article.

3. According to the article, ancient Romans did not probably keep track of the exact length of the seasonal hour as:

- A. They had a relaxed attitude to time and did not require great precision or refinement in terms of appointments
- B. Sundials were not ubiquitous and so it was not possible to find the exact seasonal hour length anyway
- C. Most sundials did not have instructions on how to read them and later ones only had lines without numbers, making them difficult to read
- D. All the above

Explanation: A

Option A is clearly stated in the article. Options B and C are not true, based on the article.