

If you're patriotic, why not test your knowledge with this 'O Canada' weather quiz?

1. If it is 6 p.m. EST (eastern standard time) in Toronto, Ontario, what time is it in the North Pole?
- a) no time
 - b) any time
 - c) same time
 - d) five hours later

(Answers at end)

WEATHER QUIZ

2. On Feb. 3, 1947, the temperature at Snag in the Yukon dropped to -63 degrees C. When it is that cold, your breath
- a) solidifies to ice

- b) remains as a fog in the air for three to four minutes
 - c) it's -63 degrees - what are you doing outside?
 - d) is invisible
3. On which day of the week does the most snow fall in Winnipeg?
- a) Tuesday

- b) Thursday
- c) Friday
- d) Monday
- e) Sunday

4. In a recent survey about the environment and climate change, the residents of which Canadian city favored limiting the use of automobiles?

- a) Halifax
- b) Toronto
- c) Montreal
- d) Vancouver
- e) Winnipeg

5. About five per cent of the precipitation which falls in the world falls as snow. What percentage of the precipitation in Canada falls as snow?

- a) 36 per cent
- b) 5 per cent
- c) In February, it seems like 100 per cent
- d) 15 per cent

6. In a climate which is changing, you are most likely to see
- a) more people sunbathing at the beach in the Northwest Territories
 - b) less of Prince Edward Island
 - c) more incidents of severe weather such as tornadoes, droughts, floods, heat waves and cold spells
 - d) palm trees in the boreal forest

7. Which of the following is the safest place to be in a lightning storm?
- a) baseball field
 - b) swimming pool
 - c) telephone booth
 - d) forest
 - e) golf course

8. Which of these provincial capitals receives more snow on average each year?
- a) Winnipeg
 - b) St. John's
 - c) Victoria
 - d) Quebec City
 - e) Charlottetown

ANSWERS:

1. The answer is five hours later. The international convention is that the North and South Poles are the same time as Universal time at 0 degrees meridian through Greenwich in England.

2. The answers are a) and b). When the temperature is -63 degrees C, your breath remains as a fog in the air and solidifies to ice. Gordon Toole was the weather observer at the Snag airport who checked the thermometer that day. He said his breath hissed as he was breathing and formed a vapor trail behind him.

3. The answer is Monday -- wouldn't you know it. Mondays have twice the number of snowfalls of more than 10 cms. than any other day of the week.

4. The answer is Vancouver.

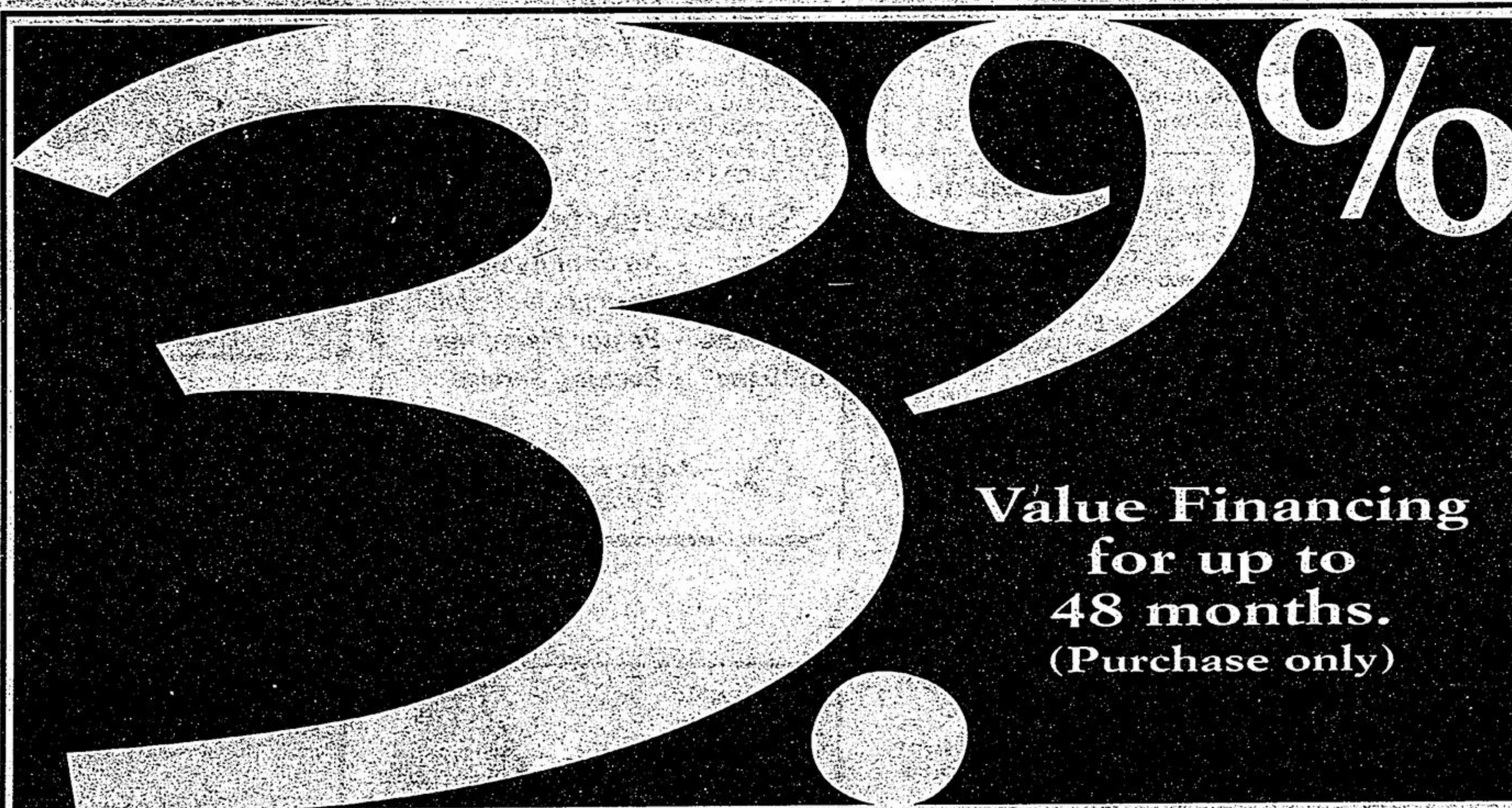
5. The answer is actually a) 36 per cent. But there is a ring of truth to c).

6. The answers are b) and c). Climate models suggest that in a climate which is changing there may be more severe weather. But there may also be more floods on the coast as sea levels begin to rise. At Prince Edward Island's capital, Charlottetown, a one-meter rise in the sea level would flood the city's harbor front development at high tide. A major storm would be enough to flood large parts of the city's downtown commercial and residential areas.

7. The answer is a forest. Although it is not a good idea to stand under a tree in a lightning storm, there are so many trees in a forest that the chances of lightning hitting the one you are standing under are slight. You don't want to be on a golf course, though, as more people get hit by lightning there than anywhere else.

8. The answer is Charlottetown, the capital of P.E.I. On average, Charlottetown receives about 339 centimeters a year. Quebec City is next with 337 centimeters, followed by St. John's, Newfoundland, getting 322. Winnipeg receives 115 centimeters a year and Victoria usually gets 47 centimeters a year, except over Dec. 28 and 29, 1996. Victoria received two years worth of snow.

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