

## Practice Exercise 18

Whenever I get a little depressed with the way the world's going, I like to read the prediction by some scientist describing what the world will be like in the future. The latest of these predictions, made by Dr. Wilton Krogman, has been a real comfort to me. I think Dr. Krogman deserves a great vote of thanks. According to him, the people of the future will transmit "thought waves" from a superpowered brain, eat predigested food, and have roughly the shape of a parking meter. Dr. Krogman is looking ahead to what people will be like five million years from now. This alone is enough to comfort me. Sometimes I wonder if anyone will be able to identify human beings after next Friday. Yet here is Dr. Krogman looking ahead five million years and seeing us still running around, on flat feet, he says, and living for an average of 140 years. Now that's what I call comforting.

1. The paragraph is written in a tone of
  - a. shock and fear.
  - b. humor and curiosity.
  - c. praise and gratitude.
  - d. despair and resignation.
2. The author's repeated use of the word "comfort" is an example of
  - a. an exaggeration.
  - b. a factual comment.
  - c. a poetic term.
  - d. a sarcastic remark.
3. The author creates a mood that probably appeals to people who are
  - a. mildly dissatisfied with the present condition of the world.
  - b. seriously interested in planning for people's future needs.
  - c. completely happy with the world as it is today.
  - d. interested in scientific progress.
4. Underline the sentence describing Dr. Krogman's work that begins with a serious tone and ends with a note of humor.