Non-English Words, Phrases, and Accent Marks Quiz
by Laura King, MA, ELS

Directions: Chapter 12 of the AMA Manual of Style provides guidelines on whether or not to italicize non-English words and phrases and in which circumstances to retain accent marks. Refer to chapter 12 to indicate which of the boldface terms in the following sentences are correct.

1. Studying cerebral function in antipsychotic-naive or naïve patients with schizophrenia before and after pharmacotherapy can enhance understanding of the therapeutic mechanisms of these clinically effective treatments.

   ANSWER:
   Studying cerebral function in antipsychotic-naïve patients with schizophrenia before and after pharmacotherapy can enhance understanding of the therapeutic mechanisms of these clinically effective treatments.

   Editor’s Note: In general, English words in common usage should be spelled without diacritical marks (§12.2, Accent Marks [Diacritics], p 422 in print).
2. The study evaluated the predictive utility of the number and morphologic appearance of isolated café au lait or café au lait macules in establishing the diagnosis of neurofibromatosis type 1 in a cohort of 110 children.

**ANSWER:**
The study evaluated the predictive utility of the number and morphologic appearance of isolated café au lait macules in establishing the diagnosis of neurofibromatosis type 1 in a cohort of 110 children.

*Editor’s Note:* Although in general English words in common usage should be spelled without diacritical marks, in some non-English words, accent marks are retained in current use (consult dictionaries) ([§12.2](#), Accent Marks [Diacritics], p 422 in print).

3. Some studies have reported the presence of antiphospholipid antibodies in patients with Behçet or Behcet disease.

**ANSWER:**
Some studies have reported the presence of antiphospholipid antibodies in patients with Behçet disease.

*Editor’s Note:* Proper names should retain accent marks ([§12.2](#), Accent Marks [Diacritics], p 422 in print).

4. Similar to feng shui or feng shui, Chinese face reading takes into account the shape of the face, the eyes, and the hair framing it and draws conclusions regarding the energy balance in that face.

**ANSWER:**
Similar to feng shui, Chinese face reading takes into account the shape of the face, the eyes, and the hair framing it and draws conclusions regarding the energy balance in that face.

*Editor’s Note:* Some words and phrases derived from other languages have become part of standard English usage (eg, feng shui). These words are not italicized ([§12.1.1](#), Use of Italics, p 421 in print).
5. Camille Pissarro’s painting *L’Île Lacroix, Rouen or L’Île Lacroix, Rouen* is known by several other names as well, including *The Effect of Fog; River—Early Morning, Rouen*; and *L’Île Lacroix, Rouen, Mist or The Effect of Fog; River—Early Morning, Rouen*; and *L’Île Lacroix, Rouen, Mist*.

**ANSWER:**
Camille Pissarro’s painting *L’Île Lacroix, Rouen* is known by several other names as well, including *The Effect of Fog; River—Early Morning, Rouen*; and *L’Île Lacroix, Rouen, Mist*.

**Editor’s Note:** Both the English translation of the title (if given) and the non-English title should be italicized for books, journals, plays, works of art, television and radio programs, long poems, films, and musical compositions (§12.1.2, Translation of Titles, pp 421-422 in print).

6. Data were analyzed by evaluation criteria defined *a priori or a priori*.

**ANSWER:**
Data were analyzed by evaluation criteria defined *a priori*.

**Editor’s Note:** Some words and phrases derived from other languages have become part of standard English usage. These words are not italicized (§12.1.1, Use of Italics, p 421 in print).

7. The study evaluated acute and delayed laser effects of subdermal lipolysis and collagen deposition using an *in vivo or in vivo* pig model.

**ANSWER:**
The study evaluated acute and delayed laser effects of subdermal lipolysis and collagen deposition using an *in vivo* pig model.

**Editor’s Note:** Some words and phrases derived from other languages have become part of standard English usage. These words are not italicized (§12.1.1, Use of Italics, p 421 in print). In medical writing, the phrases in vivo, in vitro, ex vivo, and ex vivo are not italicized.
8. The study examined the effects of the Chinese herbal medications *pao jiang*, *fan feng*, and *dang shen* or *pao jiang*, *fan feng*, and *dang shen*.

**ANSWER:**
The study examined the effects of the Chinese herbal medications *pao jiang*, *fan feng*, and *dang shen*.

**Editor’s Note:** Some words and phrases derived from other languages have become part of standard English usage; however, those words that have not are italicized (§12.1.1, Use of Italics, p 421 in print).

9. As physicians, we should embrace the old French adage, “Pour guérir quelquefois, soulager souvent, réconforter toujours” (“To cure sometimes, to relieve often, to comfort always”) or “Pour guerir quelquefois, soulager souvent, reconforter toujours” (“To cure sometimes, to relieve often, to comfort always”).

**ANSWER:**
As physicians, we should embrace the old French adage, “Pour guérir quelquefois, soulager souvent, réconforter toujours” (“To cure sometimes, to relieve often, to comfort always”).

**Editor’s Note:** Quotations should retain accent marks (§12.2, Accent Marks [Diacritics], p 422 in print).

10. The study authors were affiliated with the Istituto di Clinica Chirurgica, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, or Istituto di Clinica Chirurgica, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Rome, Italy.

**ANSWER:**
The study authors were affiliated with the Istituto di Clinica Chirurgica, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Rome, Italy.

**Editor’s Note:** Non-English street addresses, names of buildings, and names of organizations should not be italicized (§12.1.1, Use of Italics, p 421 in print).