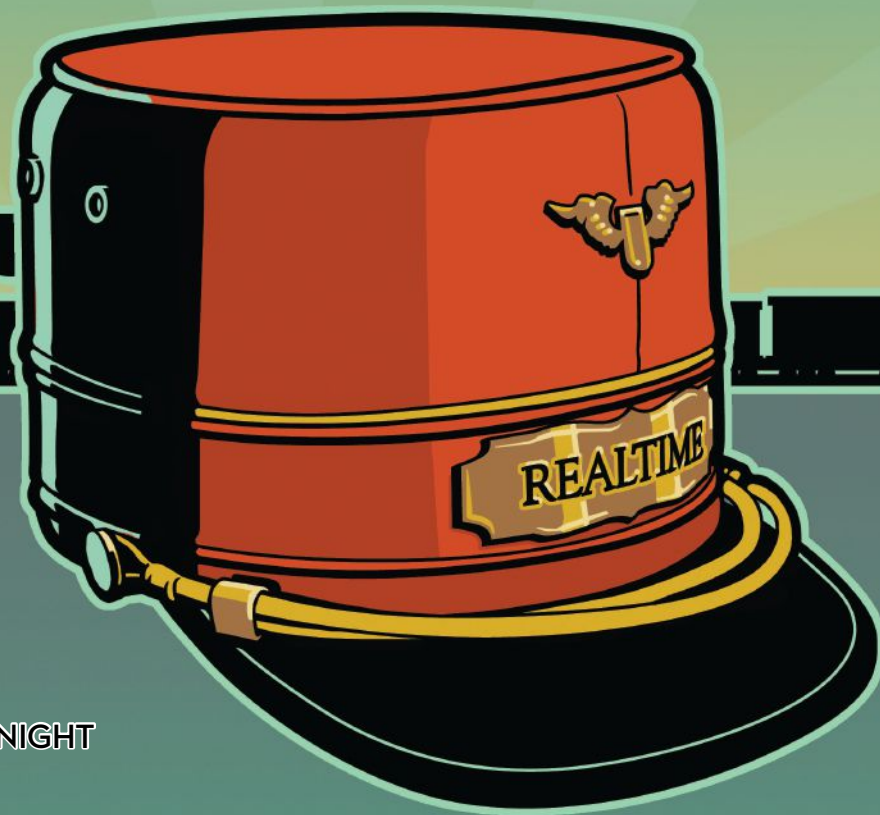


T • R • A • I • L • I • N



BY LISA KNIGHT

What's your realtime quotient?

WHERE DO YOU RATE YOUR REALTIME ABILITY? ARE YOU ALREADY CERTIFIED BUT NOT PROVIDING? ARE YOU STILL BUILDING YOUR DICTIONARY? THIS TRAIN QUIZ WILL GIVE YOU AN IDEA OF WHERE TO PUT YOUR EFFORTS NEXT. AND, IF YOU'RE ALREADY A REALTIME MASTER, WE EVEN HAVE AN IDEA FOR YOU: TAKE THE QUIZ AND SEE HOW YOU STAND UP.

A REALTIME QUIZ

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TALLY POINTS FOR YOUR REALTIME QUOTIENT

1. Do you write realtime to yourself?

- Yes** It helps keep me awake. **2 points**
- No** But I'm thinking about it more and more. **1 point**
- No** I'm getting ready to retire and am saving for a maid and/or butler, so my 10-year-old laptop has to hold on for just a little while longer. **** 0 points**

2. Do you output your realtime feed to others?

- Yes** I'm scared beyond belief but doing it anyway. **3 points**
- Yes** I'm mastering the art of outputting the realtime feed to computers and/or iPads but not distributing them to counsel . . . yet. **2 points**
- No** I'm too busy worrying about keeping my job – I don't have any more energy to do anything else. **0 points**

3. Are you constantly adding entries to your personal dictionary and thinking of ways to write cleaner and/or faster?

- Yes** I read from the books of Ed Varallo and Mark Kislingbury and other realtime theory authors, as well as use *BriefPedia.com* every day. **3 points**
- Yes** It gives me something to do besides shopping online. **2 points**
- No** I'm so tired at the end of the day because I am writing everything out, and all I want to do is sleep. **0 points**

4. Do you know what realtime software works best with your CAT software?

- Yes** I can make them all work with my CAT software. **5 points**
- Yes** I've become a master at my Case CATalyst and iCVNet setup – the Rapid Refresh makes me look like a rock star! **5 points**
- No** I'm easily confused when it comes to my CAT software; it's intimidating to think of realtime software, too! **0 points**

5. When it comes to realtime, do you know the preferred (and easiest) output method (cables/StenoCast/wireless)?

- Yes** I couldn't do realtime if it wasn't this easy! **5 points**
- No** What's a router? **0 points**

6. Do you know how to (quickly) access the device manager on your computer (and other computers)?

- Yes** I have even created a shortcut on my desktop to access it quickly. **2 points**
- No** Could the device manager give me a good referral to a competent butler or maid? **** 0 points**

7. Are you using the most current version of your CAT software?

- Yes** I love all the new features that come out that make my job so much easier – and fun! **2 points**
- No** Still saving my money for my retirement. **** 0 points**

YOUR SCORE

8. Have you read through all the free realtime materials that NCRA offers at *NCRA.org/TRAIN*?

- Yes** I'm also a member of the TRAIN Facebook page! I learn so much – and it's all free! **8 points**
- Yes** Although I haven't had a chance to read it all; there's so much there! **4 points**
- No** But I have been meaning to check it out. **1 point**
- No** NCRA's TRAIN has website material? **0 points**

9. How many realtime seminars/sessions have you attended (online or in person) in the past year?

- 5 or more** I can't get enough of this stuff! **10 points**
- 1 to 2** I enjoy learning how to improve my skills, network with other like-minded reporters, and secure my future as a reporter. **3 points**
- None** I'm too busy worrying about my job and my butler.** **0 points**

10. Do you want to make more money and have more free time?

- Yes** I am empowered to create a future that I want. **2 points**
- No** Stupid question. Who doesn't want more money and more time? **0 points**

YOUR SCORE

YOUR TOTAL SCORE

HOW DID YOU DO?

0-5 points: Time to start reviewing your dictionary and eliminating those boundary issues. See if there's a local TRAIN group (check with your state association to find your TRAIN representative) who can give you a boost to get started! Visit the Taking Realtime Awareness and Innovation Nationwide website (*NCRA.org/TRAIN*) to get tons of free information from the leaders in the industry – and to find your TRAIN rep.

6-10 points: You've got your dictionary revved up and ready to go! Time to hook your computer up to your writer and start watching your untranslate rate go down, down, down!

11-19 points: Offer your friendliest judge or favorite client a realtime feed. You're ready!

20-25 points: Sign up for a realtime certification test, whether local or national. Adding a realtime certification behind your name lets local firms know that you are ready and willing to take on the challenging (and lucrative) realtime jobs that come in the door.

26-30 points: Pay it forward. Become part of a TRAIN group in your area and start teaching others how to make realtime a part of their offerings. (If you scored this high, then you no doubt have read NCRA's TRAIN material and have plenty of ideas and ways to get started!)

31-35 points: Sign up for the RSA program. Not only will you build your skills and impress your clients, but you will be networking with other top realtime reporters who can troubleshoot realtime issues that present themselves in real-life realtime reporting scenarios.

Over 36 points: Congratulations! With all of those seminars you are attending, you are no doubt ready to be a leader in the reporting community (if you are not already). Consider helping your state association form their own realtime committee to address specific local realtime issues in a more organized fashion and to help your fellow local reporters achieve realtime success as well – or start your own TRAIN group, where you can be instrumental in helping others achieve your level of success. You are a realtime hero! NCRA thanks you!



Lisa A. Knight, RMR, CRR, is a freelance reporter in Littleton, Colo. She is also the chair of the Taking Realtime Awareness and Innovation Nationwide Task Force. Taking Realtime Awareness and Innovation Nationwide is better known as TRAIN.

***Note: You'll be able to make lots more money for your retirement if you start writing realtime today! There's no time like the present!*