

LESSON 5

(1)

I had always assumed that innocent people stay calm under questioning.

They don't, or at least I didn't.

I felt myself blushing, as much with anger at the insult

as with fear that I would miss my flight.

I did miss my flight. When the officer finally let me go after 25 minutes of tough questioning, my flight had already left.

(2)

People have known for a long time that aspirin can take away aches,

but it is only recently that it has been proved

that aspirin can help to prevent heart attacks.

Ironically it was once thought that aspirin was bad for the heart,

and manufacturers had to print special labels for aspirin bottles

to the effect that "it does not harm the heart."

(3)

No one can watch a professional baseball game without marveling at great skill of the players, once one stops taking it all for granted.

Watch the outfielder take one look at the soaring ball,
turn his back and run,
and then, without ever breaking stride,
catch that ball over his shoulder.

How did he know where it was going?

LESSON 6

(1)

Some people feel that there is a high risk of international nuclear war

and that if we should have such a war, few would survive.

No matter how optimistic some may be about our chances of survival in a nuclear war, we must realize that just a dozen atomic bombs on a country would wipe out the entire population.