THE CIA JOB

match the meanings:

1. opening a) the opposite of wide
2. narrow (verb) b) without doubt, absolutely, certainly, unquestionably
3. narrow (adjective) c) not real bullets, so they can't do you any harm
4. definitely d) an open position (job) that you can apply for
5. blanks e) tighten, get smaller, the opposite of widen

A few months ago, there was an opening with the CIA for an assassin. These highly classified positions are hard to fill, and there's a lot of testing and background checks involved before you can even be considered for the position. After sending some applicants through the background checks, training and testing, they narrowed the possible choices down to two men and a woman, but only one position was available.

The day came for the final test to see which person would get the extremely secretive job. The CIA men administering the test took one of the men to a large metal door and handed him a gun. "We must know that you will follow our instructions whatever the circumstances," they explained. "Inside this room, you will find your wife sitting in a chair. Take this gun and kill her." The man looked horrified and said, "You can't be serious! I could never shoot my wife!" "Well," said the CIA man, "you're definitely not the right man for this job then."

So they brought the second man to the same door and handed him a gun. "We must know that you will follow instructions no matter what the circumstances," they explained to the second man. "Inside you will find your wife sitting in a chair. Take this gun and kill her." The second man looked a bit shocked, but nevertheless took the gun and went in the room. All was quiet for about 5 minutes; then the door opened. The man came out of the room with tears in his eyes. "I tried to shoot her; I just couldn't pull the trigger and shoot my wife. I guess I'm not the right man for the job."

"No," the CIA man replied, "You don't have what it takes. Take your wife and go home."

Now they only had the woman left to test. They led her to the same room and handed her the same gun. "We must be sure that you will follow instructions no matter what the circumstances; this is your final test. Inside you will find your husband sitting in a chair. Take this gun and kill him." The woman took the gun and opened the door. Before the door even closed all the way, the CIA men heard the gun start firing, one shot after another for 13 shots. Then all hell broke loose in the room. They heard screaming and banging on the walls. This went on for several minutes; then all went quiet.

The door opened slowly, and there stood the woman. She wiped the sweat from her brow and said, "You guys didn't tell me the gun was loaded with blanks. I had to beat the son of a … to death with the chair!"

Find the words in the text that mean:

a) someone who kills politicians i) situation
b) continued j) keep to, stick to, abide by
k) hitting something with your fist

c) when you fire a gun you… l) job
m) clean, remove

Repeat

f) managing, controlling n) opened

Repeat

g) extremely, very o) however

Repeat

h) no matter what p) gave

Repeat

i) situation q) secret, confidential

TRUE OR FALSE:

1. The CIA had a list of at least three people who were qualified for the job.
2. Only two candidates could be hired.
3. The second man spent 6 minutes in the room.
4. The first man couldn’t pull the trigger.
5. The woman shot her husband and he died.
6. Thirteen shots could be heard after the woman entered the room.
7. The job, this joke is talking about involves the work of spies.