1. **List three or four reasons why you would want to prune your plants.**
   - To maintain plant health *(pp. 81, 83-84)*
   - To improve the quality of flowers, fruit, foliage, and stems *(pp. 81, 84)*
   - To restrict growth *(pp. 81, 84)*
   - To train a plant *(pp. 81, 83)*

2. **Unsanitary pruning tools can spread disease organisms from diseased plants to healthy plants. How can you prevent this problem?**
   - By sterilizing your pruning tools with alcohol or a mild bleach solution after each cut *(pp. 83-84)*

3. **Briefly describe the two types of pruning cuts and the purpose of each.**
   - *Heading cuts* involve cutting off part of a shoot or limb. They increase the number of new shoots, stimulate new growth, and stiffen branches *(pp. 85-86).*
   - *Thinning cuts* remove undesired wood, resulting in a more open plant *(p. 86).*

4. **Mr. Smith is anxious to remove a diseased 2.5"-diameter branch from his oak tree. He plans to use a chain saw and make one cut on the branch, flush with the trunk. What are the potential problems with his plan?**
   - A chain saw is not a proper tool for pruning *(p. 85).*
   - When pruning a branch greater than 1.5" in diameter, he needs to make three cuts *(p. 87).*
   - The final cut should be flush with the branch collar, not the trunk *(p. 87).*

5. **What is one of the most important factors to consider when pruning a flowering tree or shrub?**
   - The time of year to prune, based on whether the plant flowers on old wood or new wood *(p. 97)*

6. **Should all fruit trees be pruned the same, regardless of the kind of tree (e.g., apple vs. peach)?**
   - No, different kinds of fruit trees require different pruning techniques *(pp. 89-96).*