ANSWERS

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1. False — Most roof leaks are caused by the failure of one of a variety of small components. Check each type of roof leak — the flashing, shingles, piping, valleys, and roof/house leak. The leak should be checked regularly.

2. False — The temperature during the winter should be as close to the air temperature as possible. This ensures that the air is circulating through the attic. By keeping the attic climate as close as possible to the air temperature, you can both save energy and prevent condensation from forming inside the attic. This condition can result in a moisture buildup, forming an ice mold inside the attic. While this may look pretty, it can cause serious damage to your home. The proper way to keep the attic temperature at a consistent level throughout the winter is to use a dehumidifier. This will maintain a consistent temperature and prevent moisture buildup.

3. True — Vertical cracks are usually caused by normal house settlement. Horizontal cracks are usually caused by frost heave or thawing. Cracks in the floor can be No. 20 or 21. They should be left slightly open to allow any remaining water to drain away. Other than this, the plaster should be left alone.

4. False — This has to be properly installed. The attic floor should be insulated and the cold air to circulate between the duct work and any combustible material. This can prevent combustion from starting.

5. Correct — The vapor barrier should always be placed on the cold side of the insulation to prevent condensation from forming on the insulation. This can cause the insulation to lose its effectiveness.

6. Correct — The annual cost of electricity for your home is likely to be lower if you have a solar power system. Solar power is becoming more affordable, and many homeowners are choosing to install solar panels to reduce their energy costs. This is especially true if you live in a region with a high amount of insolation (sunlight).

7. Correct — The expected lifespan of the hot water heater is 7 to 12 years. A 10-year warranty is common, but the actual lifespan will vary depending on the type of heater and how well it is maintained.

8. Correct — The interior water lines should be shut off and drained. This is especially important if you live in an area that experiences freezing temperatures. Failure to drain the interior water lines can result in frozen and burst water pipes.

9. Correct — The exterior water lines need to be shut off and drained. This is important for the same reason as the interior water lines. Failure to drain the exterior water lines can result in frozen and burst water pipes.

10. Correct — The expected lifespan of the hot water heater is 7 to 12 years. A 10-year warranty is common, but the actual lifespan will vary depending on the type of heater and how well it is maintained.

11. False — The expected lifespan of the hot water heater is 7 to 12 years. A 10-year warranty is common, but the actual lifespan will vary depending on the type of heater and how well it is maintained.

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