

8th ELA

Answer Key

3/26/2020

Packet

Explanations

1. The narrator states that he or she is "baffled" or puzzled by Arianna's behavior. Her cryptic behavior is hard to understand and therefore puzzling.
2. The word texture refers to the physical structure or "surface" of an object, especially how the surface feels to the touch. The passage explains how an octopus can change the texture of its skin. The description of how the octopus can make its body look bumpy or smooth helps the reader understand the meaning of the word "texture."
3. The word "monitor" has several meanings. All of the answer choices are definitions of the word. However, in the given sentence, it is used as a verb which means "to watch or keep track of something."
4. Soot is the only answer choice that fits here. Haze and smog do not cause haze and smog. Particular is an adjective that has nothing to do with haze and smog.
5. The word "custom" has multiple meanings. The meaning of "custom" that fits the context of the sentence is "made to a person's requirements." These days, baking is all about cakes that are made to a person's requirements and are created and designed after many discussions with the customers.
6. The context presents an analogy. The life of a prince and princess is a very public life. It is like being on display in a glass house.
7. An example of the grass carp's appetite is provided in the phrase "eating up to three times their body weight in water plants in one day." This shows it has a large, or voracious, appetite.
8. Passengers on a ship must go ashore to see things on the shore. The keyword is onshore. To get a good look at something onshore, the passengers would have to leave the ship.
9. You know that one meaning for the word cycle is "to repeat." The prefix "re-" means to do something again.
10. The correct answer uses the word "stem" to mean "to derive from or originate from" as it is used in the boxed sentence.

Context Clues

Question 1 .

Arianna's behavior was cryptic to say the least. The momentary bursts of laughter between her tears completely baffled us. Arianna, the peer advocate, had never been so out of touch with herself. As her best friend, I tried hard to lift her spirit. However, the grimace in her face at my every attempt to do so discouraged me. Arianna did not want to watch a movie, enjoy ice cream, or go for a walk. I could not watch Arianna sit frozen on her couch anymore, and I needed help rolling her out from the inertia. So I convinced the school counselor to pay Arianna a visit.

Based on its context in the paragraph above, what is the meaning of cryptic?

- ☐ A. hesitant
- ☐ B. conforming
- ☒ C. puzzling
- ☐ D. acidic

Question 2 .

Directions: Select the correct text in the passage.

Read the sentence from the first paragraph.

"Cephalopods can change the color, pattern, and texture of their skin to camouflage, or hide, themselves."

Which sentence best helps readers determine the meaning of texture?

Cephalopods

The octopus, squid, and cuttlefish are members of a class of animals called cephalopods. These animals have a very special ability. Cephalopods can change the color, pattern, and texture of their skin to camouflage, or hide, themselves. For example, an octopus can blend in with coral, plants, or the sea floor. In less than a second, an octopus can change the color of its skin to match another object. The octopus can also change its shape. It can make its skin look bumpy or smooth to imitate the surface of another object. This ability helps these animals hide from predators.

Scientists have studied cephalopods in order to learn how they change their appearance. The secret to their color-changing talent comes from their chromatophores. An octopus has thousands of these specialized skin cells all over its body. Chromatophores can make many different colors and patterns. However, scientists still do not know how cephalopods control the cells. Scientists will continue to study these animals to find out more about their special ability.

Question 3 .

Phillip and Frank decided to take turns to monitor the health of the stray pups they had adopted from the park in their neighborhood.

What does the word monitor mean as it is used in the passage?

- ☒ A. to watch or keep track of something
- ☐ B. a student who assists a teacher
- ☐ C. to test the intensity of radiation
- ☐ D. a video screen used for display

Question 4 .

Snowmobiles are causing problems in some of our national parks. Particulate matter, emitted by engines of vehicles, is a cause of haze and smog.

In the passage above, what is the meaning of the words particulate matter?

- ☐ A. smog
- ☒ B. soot
- ☐ C. haze
- ☐ D. particular

Question 5 .

Baking has become a popular activity and a career for many people. More and more home bakers are choosing to invest their time and money on mastering the art of baking and learning new and advanced techniques. Gone are the days when people would buy cakes that were readily available at bakeries. These days, baking is all about making custom cakes that are created and designed after many discussions with the customers. These cakes are exclusive to each client and have a unique appearance and taste.

As used in the passage, what does the word custom mean?

- ☐ A. to be common to a group
- ☐ B. habitual customers
- ☒ C. made to a person's requirements
- ☐ D. fee for imports and exports

Question 6 .

In a ceremony witnessed by a gallery of kings, queens, dukes, and counts, Crown Prince Willem-Alexander of the Netherlands married Argentine economist, Maxima Zorreguieta. Amsterdam's Mayor Cohen warned the new Princess of the Netherlands that she will be "living in a glass house." He encouraged the couple to find a way to protect their private lives.

What is the meaning of the phrase "living in a glass house?"

- ☐ A. living a very private life
- ☒ B. living a very public life
- ☐ C. cleaning lots of windows
- ☐ D. having many accidents

Question 7 .

Asian grass carp, strong swimming fish with an urge to travel, grow up to 3 1/2 feet long and 70 pounds in Texas lakes and rivers. They are known for a voracious vegetarian appetite, eating up to three times their body weight in water plants in one day.

What is the meaning of the word voracious?

- ☐ A. small
- ☒ B. large
- ☐ C. fatty
- ☐ D. diet

Question 8 .

The riverboat Columbia Queen takes passengers on an almost-1,000-mile journey along the route taken by explorers Meriwether Lewis and William Clark in the early 1800s. Along the way, the boat makes stops where passengers can disembark and see wildlife and artifacts onshore.

What is the meaning of disembark as it is used in this paragraph?

- ☐ A. to meet new people
- ☐ B. to buy a ticket
- ☒ C. to go ashore from a ship
- ☐ D. to take photographs

Question 9 .

Nature uses air, water and land again and again. This is called recycling. Energy in the form of sunlight provides the power for nature to recycle.

What does recycling mean in the passage above?

- ☒ A. using again
- ☐ B. naturally occurring
- ☐ C. returning
- ☐ D. energetic

Question 10 .

The problem might stem from his lack of studying.

Which sentence uses the word stem as it is used in the box above?

- ☐ A. The goblet's stem featured a row of inlaid crystals.
- ☐ B. The stem of the flower was much too long for the vase.
- ☒ C. His joy must stem from the fact that Leska arrives today.
- ☐ D. The instructor told Ricardo to stem his skis slightly.

Explanations

1. Dramatic irony is used to show that the audience knows more than the character on stage. A character does or says something of greater importance than he or she knows. The audience, however, understands the meaning and importance of the act or speech. In this play, only the audience knows that Sai has won first place in the race.
2. In dramatic irony, a character does or says something of greater importance than he or she knows. The audience, however, understands the meaning and importance of the act or speech. In this play, Leya says that Josh wrote to her. In fact, the audience knows that it was Sunny who wrote to her. Can you tell what the effect created by dramatic irony in this play is?
3. Dramatic irony is used to show that the audience knows more than the character on stage. A character does or says something of greater importance than he or she knows. The audience, however, understands the meaning and importance of the act or speech. Only the audience knows that all along, Peter is creating the mess on the carpet. Dramatic irony in this play creates humor.
4. The narrator is referring to Gordy's gloves. He or she is describing how hard the man hits without saying it. The reference has to be Gordy since Jens isn't known for his punching power, just his ability to take a punch, and since the only other fighter mentioned has the flu.
5. Based upon the president and the secretary's actions, it's easy for the audience to see that neither wanted to talk to the couple because of how the couple was dressed. In fact the secretary thinks to herself, "that such backwoods, country hicks had no business at Harvard and probably didn't even deserve to be in Cambridge."
6. There are only a few characters in the story, so it's important to keep track of who is speaking. In this case, the boy from the third floor is speaking. He is addressing Dewy Scruggs about Mr. Soltz and telling him that he doesn't buy from solicitors.
7. Dramatic irony is used to show that the audience knows more than the character on stage. A character does or says something of greater importance than he or she knows. The audience, however, understands the meaning and importance of the act or speech. When Ashie speaks of the lost necklace, she does not know that it is not lost at all. Authors often use dramatic irony to create suspense or humor.
8. Dramatic irony is used to show that the audience knows more than the character on stage. A character does or says something of greater importance than he or she knows. The audience, however, understands the meaning and importance of the act or speech. When Matilda says that her husband doesn't even remember her birthday, she is unaware of the trip to Venice that Sean has planned.
9. The narrator of this story stands outside the action of the story (third person) and knows the thoughts and actions of all the characters (omniscient). Therefore, the story is told from the third person omniscient point of view.
10. Dramatic irony is used to show that the audience knows more than the character on stage. A character does or says something of greater importance than he or she knows. The audience, however, understands the meaning and importance of the act or speech. In this play, only the audience sees that Van attends the ceremony but arrives at the wrong place.

Point of View and Dramatic Irony

Question 1 .

CHARACTERS:

Sai, a star athlete at Windsor High

MIRANDA, Sai's best friend and a chess champion

Stage Set: The locker room. Miranda is consoling Sai. Sai does not know that the review committee watched the tape and noticed he was tripped by the athlete who won first place. Sai is going to get the first-place medal.

MIRANDA: Don't worry. You did great.

Sai: But I fell.

MIRANDA: So? Everyone falls at some point.

Sai: I could really use the award money.

MIRANDA: Hey, there is always next year.

Sai: Yeah. At least I only sprained my foot.

MIRANDA: Exactly. And, you got second place.

Sai: That was pretty good, right? Even after falling?

MIRANDA: Of course.

Which of these is an example of dramatic irony in this play?

- ☐ A. Miranda is trying to help Sai who is better than her.
- ☐ B. The athlete who won first place is being punished.
- ☒ C. Sai does not know she has won the first-place medal.
- ☐ D. The review committee is unaware of Miranda's talent.

Question 2 .**CHARACTERS:**

LEYA

JOSH

AMELIE, *Leya's best friend*SUNNY, *Josh's brother*

Stage Set: Leya's bedroom. Leya and Amelie are hanging out. Leya does not know that Sunny wrote to her using Josh's email address.

LEYA: Oh snap! He wrote back!

AMELIE: He did!

LEYA: Yeah. He said he thinks I am pretty cool and would like to grow old with me.

AMELIE: What kind of a guy says that? "Grow old with you"?

LEYA: A sweet, romantic one. What do you know?

AMELIE: It just does not seem like his kind of language.

LEYA: Like you know him that well. You don't even know his last name.

AMELIE: I do. It's Wang. He uses more complex words-like SAT words. He would never use "cool" in writing. He would say—"get sophisticated" or "mature."

LEYA: How do you know? And, why do you care? He wrote to me.

AMELIE: He was in my spelling bee study group last year. Boy, does he love to use those big words.

LEYA: You are just jealous that a guy I like actually likes me back.

AMELIE: You know I love you and don't want you to get your hopes up.

LEYA: I know you do. But, for now, I have an email to respond to.

Dramatic irony is used to show that the audience knows more than the character on stage. Which of this best shows dramatic irony in this play?

- ☐ A. Amelie knows that Josh likes to use big words.
- ☒ B. The audience knows that Sunny wrote to Leya.
- ☐ C. Josh's language sounds too mature for his age.
- ☐ D. Leya is unaware that Amelie likes the spelling bee.

Question 3 .

CHARACTERS:PETER, *the father*DINA, *the mother*FRANKIE, *the older son*JEREMIAH, *the younger son*

Stage Set: The living room. Peter steps on paint spilled near the front door and walks into the living room. He walks about searching for something and looks down on the carpet after he has walked on it for a while.

PETER: Kids! Kids!

JEREMIAH: *(from his room)* Yes, Father.

PETER: Have you seen the new carpet? Have you seen what someone did to the new carpet?

FRANKIE : *(walking in)* Whoa! That looks hilarious. There's like paint everywhere!PETER: It is not *like* hilarious, son! I paid for the new carpet.DINA: *(from the kitchen)* Don't tell me I heard the words "paint" and "carpet" together?JEREMIAH: *(still in his room)* Seriously! Paint on the carpet. Send me a picture from your phone!

PETER: Jay! You are sitting right next to the living room. You can drag your legs here and see the mess for yourself. There's a limit to laziness, son.

JEREMIAH: But, Dad! Today is Sunday—the day of rest!

Which of these is true about this play?

- ☐ A. The characters are unaware of each others' thoughts.
- ☐ B. The author creates suspense through Dina's words.
- ☐ C. The irony lies in the fact that Peter is in the living room.
- ☒ D. The author uses dramatic irony to create humor.

Question 4 .

Jens stepped into the ring to a wall of boos. He had never fought in Portland before, but this is where the money was, so he followed. The promoter for the Northwestern Fighting Association needed someone to fill in for one of their fighters, Leo "the Lionheart" Couture, the promotion's number-one contender. Apparently, the only thing strong enough to take down "The Lionheart" was the flu. The promoter had seen Jens fight in Seattle and knew he could take a punch. It was the only thing he had really been good at, and it wasn't even fighting. It was taking a punch. Jens could get kicked in the head by a mule and still get up and do long division.

As Jens bobbed through the ropes and into the ring, he stood twelve feet away from Man Mountain Gordy, the NFA Heavyweight Champion. The guy had anvils in his gloves. He used to say, "If I hit you with my left hand, I'll send you to the hospital. If I hit you with my right, I'll send you to the cemetery." Jens had seen the hospital plenty of times, but the cemetery was a place he had no intention of going to, whether it was for a visit or to take up permanent residence.

Who is the narrator referring to when he or she states, "The guy had anvils in his gloves"?

- ☐ A. Leo "Lionheart" Couture
- ☐ B. Jens
- ☒ C. Man Mountain Gordy
- ☐ D. the promoter

Question 5.

Appearances

A lady in a faded gingham dress and her husband, dressed in a homespun threadbare suit, stepped off the train in Boston, and walked timidly without an appointment into the president's outer office. The secretary could tell in a moment that such backwoods, country hicks had no business at Harvard and probably didn't even deserve to be in Cambridge. She frowned. "We want to see the president," the man said softly. "He'll be busy all day," the secretary snapped. "We'll wait," the lady replied.

For hours, the secretary ignored them, hoping that the couple would finally become discouraged and go away. They didn't. And the secretary grew frustrated and finally decided to disturb the president, even though it was a chore she always regretted to do. "Maybe if they just see you for a few minutes, they'll leave," she told him. And he sighed in exasperation and nodded. Someone of his importance obviously didn't have the time to spend with them, but he detested gingham dresses and homespun suits cluttering up his outer office. The president, stern-faced with dignity, strutted toward the couple.

The lady told him, "We had a son that attended Harvard for one year. He loved Harvard. He was happy here. But about a year ago, he was accidentally killed. And my husband and I would like to erect a memorial to him, somewhere on campus." The president wasn't touched—he was shocked. "Madam," he said gruffly, "We can't put up a statue for every person who attended Harvard and died. If we did, this place would look like a cemetery."

"Oh, no," the lady explained quickly, "We don't want to erect a statue. We thought we would like to give a building to Harvard."

The president rolled his eyes. He glanced at the gingham dress and homespun suit, then exclaimed, "A building! Do you have any earthly idea how much a building costs? We have over seven and a half million dollars in the physical plant at Harvard."

For a moment the lady was silent. The president was pleased. He could get rid of them now.

And the lady turned to her husband and said quietly, "Is that all it costs to start a University? Why don't we just start our own?" Her husband nodded. The President's face wilted in confusion and bewilderment. And Mr. and Mrs. Leland Stanford walked away, traveling to Palo Alto, California where they established the University that bears their name, a memorial to a son that Harvard no longer cared about.

adapted from "Appearances" by Kasha Linka

Why did the president of the university look down upon the couple?

- ☐ A. He thought they were going to cause problems because they looked dangerous.
- ☒ B. He didn't think they were important enough to talk to because they looked poor.
- ☐ C. He had punished their son and felt they were to blame for the trouble he caused.
- ☐ D. He knew them from where he grew up and was trying to avoid them.

Question 6 .

from Your Friends and Neighbors
by c. safos

I'm not the most social of people. I don't get invitations to birthday parties. I don't answer my phone. I haven't been to a movie in five years. I do most of my shopping online. I even have a sign outside of my house that specifically states "No Solicitors."

One day in late December, I met a man named Dewy Scruggs. Dewy came to me on a particularly unusual December morning. The sun was out. It was mild. There wasn't a cloud in the sky, and then, there was a knock on the door. Dewy was on the other side of the peephole. He said, "Good day, sir. My name is Dewy Scruggs, and I'm with . . ."

"No solicitors," I responded through the door.

"I can see that sir, but I have information that could change your life," Dewy said.

"No solicitors," I firmly said again.

"Sir, I feel just awful about bothering you, but I think you should know your life is in danger," Dewy said.

I went back to the peephole and looked out.

Dewy had somehow produced a chair and made himself comfortable on the front porch.

"Did you know," he asked, "they don't consider Pluto a planet anymore? I mean how can they do that? Who are *they* anyway? What will become of the rest of the planets?" He scratched at his chin. "You know, Mr. Soltz . . ."

He knew my name!

"With the global warming and everything, many of the biggest cities in this nation will be flooded under water. Even this very city," he said. Dewy took out a mobile phone and tapped away at the keys. "We're all going under at some point," Dewy said.

That last statement sent a cold shiver up my back. Slowly, I latched the chain lock to my door hoping the sound of sliding metal would be as quiet as a whisper.

"I heard that, Mr. Soltz," said Dewy. "If you could just . . ."

"What's going on out here?" cried Mrs. Montgomery, the lonely hermit from next door.

"Hello, Mrs. Montgomery. I'm trying to talk to your neighbor, Mr. Soltz," said Dewy.

He knew my neighbor's name!

"Everything is fine, Edna," I said through the wall we shared, which was as thin as tissue paper.

Suddenly, I heard another voice.

"Hey, mister," said the voice to Dewy. It was that little kid from the third floor. I think his name was Gary, or maybe it was Jerry.

"That's Old-Man Soltz's apartment. He doesn't buy things from anyone. I tried to sell him some candy last year, and he told me to get lost."

"That wasn't very nice, Mr. Soltz," said Dewy.

Outside, Dewy reached into his pocket and gave Gary (or Jerry) some loose change.

"Well, maybe I'll have better luck with Old-Man Soltz," Dewy said to the boy.

Who is speaking in the sentence, "He doesn't buy things from anyone"?

- ☐ A. Dewy Scruggs
- ☐ B. Edna Montgomery
- ☒ C. the boy from the third floor
- ☐ D. the narrator

Question 7 .

CHARACTERS:

RANI
ASHIE

Stage Set: Ashie and Rani are in Ashie's bedroom. Ashie is frantically turning everything in her room upside down. She is wearing a flowing, purple gown and an expensive-looking pearl necklace.

ASHIE: I cannot go out without the necklace. *(wraps a shawl around her shoulders and goes out to the balcony)*

RANI: Are you sure you haven't seen it?

ASHIE: I would tell you if I knew! It was the only request Momma made—take care of it. She won't trust me with anything now. *(sits on the messy bed with her head buried in her hands)*

RANI: She will, too. You probably misplaced it somewhere. It must be in the house. Did you go outside after you changed?

ASHIE: Nah, I don't think so. I am waiting for Daddy to pick me up. He even told me to wait in the garage after he calls. I mean, I don't want to go out in a huge gown!

RANI: And you put on the necklace last?

ASHIE: I think I remember putting it on last. The pearls were shiny.

In this play, dramatic irony is created when

- ☒ A. Ashie speaks of the lost necklace while wearing it.
- ☐ B. Ashie disappoints her mother by losing the necklace.
- ☐ C. Rani fails to locate the necklace for her friend Ashie.
- ☐ D. the father makes Ashie wait in the garage for a while.

Question 8 .

CHARACTERS:

MATILDA, *the wife*
SEAN, *the husband*

Stage Set: Sean places an envelope with two tickets to Venice on the coffee table and settles on the couch with a newspaper. Matilda enters.

MATILDA: *(glares at Sean, muttering)* He doesn't even remember my birthday.

SEAN: Good morning! Here, read this piece of interesting news.

MATILDA: *(reading absent-mindedly)* Yeah, truly interesting! *(puts on a forced smile)*

SEAN: I have a lot of work piled up. There is just no time to relax and unwind.

MATILDA: Oh yes! I can see that. *(frowns and puts down the newspaper on the table, sees the envelope, opens it, and gives an ecstatic cry)*

Which of these **best** explains the irony in Matilda's situation in this play?

- ☐ A. Sean does not know how to give the birthday present to his wife.
- ☐ B. Matilda is unwilling to understand that Sean is going through a lot of stress.
- ☐ C. Sean is insensitive to Matilda's feelings and pretends to have a lot of work.
- ☒ D. Matilda doesn't know that Sean has planned a trip to Venice for her birthday.

Question 9 .

The Sun and the Moon

There was hardly a time when the Sun did not boast of its importance. The Sun was well aware that it shone the brightest and ensured that the others knew this as well. Poor Mercury, closest to the Sun, would constantly feel the Sun's wrath upon it, but meekly tolerated the heat as it knew that it stood no chance against the Sun.

But it was the Moon that the Sun liked tormenting the most. Day after day, it would shoot out rays of sunlight at the tiny, cold Moon and laugh at the Moon's helplessness. "Without me the Earth would not survive. It is because of my power and energy that the Earth thrives so beautifully, and it is because of me that you exist at all," he would tell the Moon in a mocking tone.

Poor Moon was a gentle creature and did not utter a word in return to the Sun. Every day, the Sun gave life to the Earth, and the Moon silently appreciated the Sun's power of nourishing life. The Moon knew of its own power over the Earth, and hoped that one day the mighty Sun would see it as well.

From which point of view is the story written?

- ☐ A. first person
- ☒ B. third person omniscient
- ☐ C. second person
- ☐ D. third person limited

Question 10 .

CHARACTERS:

VAN, *Rafael's father, a busy doctor*

RAFAEL, *a high school student*

MONA, *Rafael's mother, a teacher*

Stage Set: Van's high school. People are standing at the doorways. Van enters through a door that leads to the auditorium holding a graduation ceremony for elementary school children. Van enters the auditorium. He sits with the audience. Rafael and Mona enter the stage. Rafael is about to head in with the crowd.

RAFAEL: He is not going to show up, is he?

MONA: Why, of course he will.

RAFAEL: You are saying that to make me feel better.

MONA: No, darling. Trust me. I know this one. He will come.

RAFAEL: Even if he can't come, I have earned it.

MONA: Yes, you have.

RAFAEL: Even if he won't make it, I have graduated.

MONA: Now, get in the line.

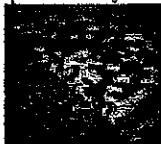
RAFAEL: Mamel Even If all of my friends' fathers come, I know he is thinking of coming.

MONA: Yes, he is. You know he wants to come.

How is dramatic irony used in this play?

- ☐ A. The audience can see the disappointment in Rafael's face.
- ☒ B. Rafael is unaware that his father goes to the wrong auditorium.
- ☐ C. Rafael is about to mingle with the wrong crowd in graduation.
- ☐ D. Van is unaware that Mona still believes he will come soon.

Explanations

1. The statement above is an example of a hyperbole. A hyperbole is a figure of speech in which statements are exaggerated or extravagant. It implies strong feelings or is used to create a strong impression and is not meant to be taken literally.
 2. Puns are jokes that use words or phrases with double meanings. The correct answer completes the pun because the figurative meaning of "lend a hand" is "to help someone" and the literal meaning is "to let someone borrow a hand."
 3. There is a saying that goes, "You can't have your cake and eat it too." Ryan changes the wording a little and uses it to make a joke about how he doesn't want to eat cake. The original saying means that you can't have everything your way.
 4. A simile is figure of speech that compares two things using the words "like" or "as." The correct answer is the second sentence in the passage. "As tired as a marathon runner" is a simile that describes how exhausted Philip feels.
 5. Symbols are items that represent big ideas and concepts. The empty street is a symbol of the relationship between father and son. The street is empty just as the relationship is empty. The reader can tell that the father and son do not have a strong relationship. Damon is upset that his father does not see him much. The father makes up possible excuses for why he may not be able to see his son graduate. If the father and son had a close relationship, they would see each other more often.
 6. When an author gives human qualities to an inanimate object, it is called personification. The author describes the waves as if it were a person bullying a ship back and forth, making it toss and turn on the sea. This helps the reader imagine what the waves are doing to the ship.
 7. A pun is a humorous use of similar words or phrases to suggest different meanings. The correct answer is a pun because it suggests different meanings through the words "all right." It could mean that the pizza is okay or that the only part of it that is left is the right side.
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8. Verbal irony is when someone says one thing but means something different. The author shows how the speaker feels extremely bored throughout the presentation. His remark on the excitement produced by the lecture would be ironic.
 9. When you "hit the nail right on the head", you understand something completely. When you are confused or don't get the meaning, it goes "right over your head." Even though these expressions both contain the word "head," they mean opposite things. The literal words in an idiom don't provide us with the intended meaning of the expression.
 10. Symbols are items that represent big ideas and concepts. Both characters use the dark shadows to hide their true feelings or thoughts. Damon says that his father usually breaks his promises. His father has dark shadows over his mouth and eyes throughout the story to show his deception. Also, Damon is able to hide his hurt feelings from his father because it is dark.

Figurative Meanings

Question 1 .

Yesterday, Derek found an original, mint-condition 1965 corvette in New Mexico. I told him I'd give him my first-born for it.

What does the underlined phrase mean in the passage above?

- ☐ A. that the author likes the 1965 corvette more than he likes his children
- ☒ B. that the author believes that a 1965 corvette is the best thing ever created
- ☐ C. that the author believes that his child and a corvette are of equal value
- ☐ D. that the author really likes the corvette and wants a 1965 mint-condition car

Question 2 .

There once was a man with odd, talking body parts. The man's arms, hands, and head could speak to each other. One day, the man's right arm said to the left arm, "I have an itch. _____"

Which response best completes the joke with a pun?

- ☐ A. Could you please stretch me out?
- ☐ B. Why don't we trade places?
- ☐ C. What are you looking at?
- ☒ D. Will you please lend me a hand?

Question 3 .



Raquel was attending a wedding reception. She went through the line and got a big piece of wedding cake. She went to join a few of her friends at a table. Raquel commented to her friend Ryan, "This cake is really good. You should go get some."

Ryan replied, "No, I don't like cake. I don't want to have to get the cake and eat it, too."

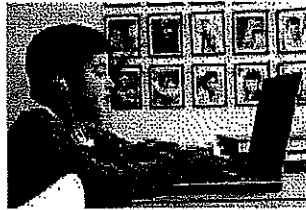
What is humorous about Ryan's statement?

- ☐ A. Ryan wants some cake, but he is too lazy to wait in line for it.
- ☐ B. Ryan doesn't want Raquel to know that he has already had cake.
- ☒ C. Ryan is using a common saying to express his dislike for cake.
- ☐ D. Ryan knows that Raquel is trying to trick him into eating bad cake.

Question 4 .

Directions: Select the correct text in the passage.

Which sentence contains a simile?



Philip's Good Deed
by Tirzah Tyler

Philip finally finished typing his history essay and sighed slowly. He was as tired as a marathon runner and wanted to go to bed.

Suddenly, his grandmother rushed into his room like a rocket. Breathless, she asked, "Are you connected to the Internet?"

Weighted down with an anvil of drowsiness, Philip yawned and removed his earbuds. "Sure," he replied. "What's wrong, Grandma?"

"I forgot to mail my car payment. It's due tomorrow, and I'm out of stamps." She carefully showed him a piece of paper as if it were a museum piece and asked, "Can you help me pay my bill online?"

"Yes, ma'am," Philip replied. "I can introduce you to the twenty-first century."

His grandmother placed her hand over her heart and sighed like a ship's foghorn. "Philip, you are a shining light bulb."

Philip laughed and said, "Thank you, ma'am, but it's just the Internet." He showed her how to enter information into her car company's Web site. A few short moments later, she paid her bill.

"Well, you saved me," she said before she gave Philip a kiss on the cheek. "You're becoming a wonderful young man."

Question 5 .

A Cold Night

In the cold night, Damon and his father walked silently down the empty city street. The hypnotizing clump, clump, clump, clump of their four shoes echoing off the pavement was the only sound they made. Damon tilted his head at a slight angle to look at his father without getting caught staring. As they passed the dim streetlights, shadows on his father's face shifted and rolled but always shaded his eyes and his mouth.

"So, when do you think you'll be coming to see me again?" Damon asked, trying not to sound like a little kid.

His father did not respond right away. Damon felt a catch in his throat, but in the dark, he was able to hide it well.

"Well, I know you are busy, and so am I," his father said. "Maybe I can see you again in May when you graduate. That is, if I can get the time off work, and if I feel well, and if I can afford the ticket at the time."

Damon nodded. When he imagined his graduation day, he imagined his mother and father together, with him in the middle of their bright, smiling faces. However, Damon knew what his graduation photo would probably look like. His dad would not be in it. His dad always promised to show up, but he usually broke his word. Damon turned to look his father in the eye, but he only saw a heavy shadow where a face should be.

The empty street is a symbol of what in the passage?

- ☐ A. the stress of getting ready for Damon's graduation
- ☐ B. the excitement of embarking on a new adventure
- ☐ C. the end of one path in life and the beginning of another
- ☒ D. the lack of a strong relationship between father and son

Question 6 .

Out on the sea, Captain Wilde and his crew were getting ready to brave through a severe storm. The waves bullied the ship making it toss and turn, and the rain pounded down on the crew. The wind whistled loudly as it moved across the sea and the ship. The only thing that the men could do was to hold on to the sides of the ship. The storm seemed to last for hours until at last, bits of sunshine broke through the dark gray clouds.

The phrase "waves bullied the ship making it toss and turn" means that

- ☐ A. the waves feel impatient in the sea.
- ☐ B. the waves are deprived of any rest.
- ☐ C. the waves are clearing out old ships.
- ☒ D. the waves hit the ship with great force.

Question 7 .

Mrs. Avery ordered a large pizza for her family's dinner. Her 12-year-old son, Shawn, answered the door when the delivery person brought the pizza to the house. Shawn paid for the pizza and took it to the kitchen. He was very hungry and started eating it straight out of the box.

Mrs. Avery walked into the kitchen several minutes later and sternly asked, "Well, Son, how is the pizza?"

At that moment, Shawn finished eating the whole left side of the pizza.

Which of the following responses would make Shawn's answer a pun?

- ☐ A. "That was cheesy."
- ☒ B. "It's all right now."
- ☐ C. "Where did it go?"
- ☐ D. "My belly is stuffed."

Question 8 .

Our school had invited an astronaut for a guest appearance. We were expecting to be thrilled by her presentation on her journey to the space. The speech was informative alright, but it was more about the spaceship than the space. Apparently, some astronauts never get out of their spaceship. Then, she talked about the training people have to go through to become astronauts. I was surprised to see our science teacher, Mr. Houser, sitting all wide-eyed and awe-struck by the lecture.

At the end of the presentation, Mr. Houser asked me about it since I was sitting up front. "How about it, son? Wasn't that just marvelous?"

Failing to hide my lack of enthusiasm, I said, " _____ "

What should the speaker say at the end of the story to demonstrate verbal irony?

- ☐ A. What does an astronaut do?
- ☐ B. Actually, I was very bored.
- ☐ C. You can't possibly be serious, sir!
- ☒ D. I couldn't have been more excited!

Question 9 .

Which pair of idioms below has **opposite** meanings?

- ☐ A. "When the cows come home" and "straight from the horse's mouth"
- ☐ B. "Knocks my socks off" and "throw caution to the wind"
- ☒ C. "Hit the nail on the head" and "that went over his head"
- ☐ D. "Pull the wool over his eyes" and "he is in way over his head"

Question 10 .

A Cold Night

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Which of the following is used as a symbol for deception and lies in the story?

- ☐ A. photos
- ☒ B. shadows
- ☐ C. streetlights
- ☐ D. shoes

