

"The Poisonous Duck" Quiz

Directions: Read the story "The Poisonous Duck" in the January 2008 issue of *Storyworks*. Then fill in the circle next to the best answer for each question.

1. The opening lines of the story tell you that Thaddeus is (*understanding character*)

- (A) not very bright.
- (B) careless.
- (C) eccentric.
- (D) mean-spirited.

2. What kind of words does Thaddeus like to use? (*word choice*)

- (A) simple, straightforward ones
- (B) exact vocabulary and scientific terms
- (C) slang
- (D) words he makes up

3. How does Linus feel while he's rock climbing? (*making inferences*)

- (A) distracted
- (B) exhilarated
- (C) angry
- (D) scared

4. According to Thaddeus, why is an animal's diet important to humans? (*reading comprehension*)

- (A) People don't want animals to gain too much weight.
- (B) Humans are afraid animals will starve.
- (C) Animals might be hard to care for if they eat the wrong food.
- (D) Animals can become part of the food chain, so their diet eventually gets incorporated into ours.

5. What does the word "extinction" mean in the sentence, "It might mean the extinction of the human race"? (*vocabulary*)

- (A) enhancement
- (B) suffering
- (C) dying out
- (D) craziness

6. Why does Linus want to go to the lake with Thaddeus? (*character motivation*)

- (A) to prove there is no poisonous duck
- (B) to trap the poisonous duck
- (C) to see if there are foxes eating the ducks
- (D) to go ice-skating

7. Which event happens LAST in the story? (*sequencing*)

- (A) Linus and Thaddeus spot a flock of ducks on the lake.
- (B) Linus finds a dead fox on the ground.
- (C) Linus sees some crows fly from the bushes.
- (D) Thaddeus warns Linus that the end is near.

8. What does Linus finally conclude about the poisonous duck? (*drawing conclusions*)

- (A) Poisonous ducks are, in fact, going to poison the human race.
- (B) A poisonous duck killed the fox.
- (C) Poisonous ducks quack instead of moo.
- (D) Thaddeus created the story to fool him.

9. You can tell that Linus finds his brother _____ yet _____. (*making inferences*)

- (A) smart, shy
- (B) strange, unbearable
- (C) annoying, admirable
- (D) dull, talkative

10. Which word BEST describes this story? (*identifying tone*)

- (A) serious
- (B) sarcastic
- (C) unpredictable
- (D) sad