

Name: _____ Date: _____

“Invocation” Quiz

Directions: Read the poem “Mad” in the November/December 2007 issue of *Storyworks*. Then fill in the circle next to the best answer for each question.

1. What does the narrator of this poem want to do?

- a. draw a picture
- b. write a meaningful poem
- c. write a letter to an author
- d. write a song about poetry

2. Where does the narrator look for inspiration for writing?

- a. inside her own mind
- b. at other poets’ work
- c. to the tools and materials of writing
- d. in a poetry book

3. An invocation is a prayer, usually at the beginning of a ceremony, that asks for help. The title “Invocation” fits this poem for all of the following reasons EXCEPT

- a. The narrator seems to be saying it before beginning to write.
- b. It shows that writing poetry is easy if you try hard.
- c. It asks for help writing a poem.
- d. It suggests that writing poetry is a spiritual activity.

4. What does the word “inklings” mean in the line, “O ink, give me inklings”?

- a. stains
- b. small pens
- c. clues
- d. words

5. Which word best describes the rhythm of this poem?

- a. choppy
- b. slow-moving
- c. somber
- d. songlike

6. Which explanation below shows that this poem uses personification?

- a. The poet addresses the pen, paper, ink, and parts of poetry as if they were human.
- b. The poem is about people.
- c. A person pronounces letters, words, and sounds.
- d. Only people have hearts and minds.

“The Spider Woman” Quiz

Directions: Read the article “The Spider Woman” in the November/December 2007 issue of *Storyworks*. Then fill in the circle next to the best answer for each question.

1. How do you think the manager of Goodwill probably felt when Greta Binford said she wanted to hunt spiders in the basement?

- a. angry
- b. surprised
- c. scared
- d. excited

2. What does the word “potent” mean in the sentence “*Loxosceles laeta* is a cousin of the brown recluse, only larger and with more potent venom.”

- a. harmless
- b. painful
- c. weak
- d. powerful

3. What is one reason that Greta Binford studies spider venom?

- a. to find better treatments for bites
- b. to make artificial venom in the laboratory
- c. to compare it with snake venom
- d. to discover which spider is the most poisonous

4. How did the spiders first arrive in Los Angeles?

- a. They crawled up from Mexico.
- b. A criminal released them there on purpose.
- c. They arrived in costume crates from Brazil.
- d. They evolved there from prehistoric times.

5. What does the author suggest about how people reacted to the spiders in 1969?

- a. They didn’t take the threat seriously.
- b. They overreacted.
- c. They took risks handling the spiders.
- d. They used too much pesticide.

6. Which line could make you conclude that perhaps people were not in immediate danger?

- a. “50 Deadly spiders found!”
- b. “The great spider hunt of 1969 ended as such scares usually do.”
- c. “No bites had been reported.”
- d. “Yet the spiders remained.”

7. How did Binford’s expectations differ from what she actually found in the basement of the Goodwill?

- a. She found fewer spiders than she expected.
- b. She found more spiders than she expected.
- c. She discovered that the spiders had spread all over Los Angeles.
- d. She found only female spiders.

8. How many species of spiders have been found around the world?

- a. 40,000
- b. 20,000
- c. 24,000
- d. 400,000

9. Why did the author write this article?

- a. to encourage people to get pet spiders
- b. to show how scary spiders are
- c. to tell about the dangers spiders actually pose
- d. to present a profile of Greta Binford’s life

10. Even though many spiders are harmless, it is still smart to be _____ around them.

- a. reckless
- b. tempting
- c. cautious
- d. friendly

“Yesterday & Today” Quiz

Directions: Read the article “Yesterday & Today” in the November/December 2007 issue of *Storyworks*. Then fill in the circle next to the best answer for each question.

1. Why did it seem unlikely to Johnny Unitas that he would grow up to be a football star?

- a. He lacked natural talent.
- b. His family didn’t like the idea.
- c. He didn’t like to practice.
- d. He came from a less fortunate background.

2. How did Unitas’s mother set a good example for him?

- a. She worked very hard.
- b. She quit her job to raise her family.
- c. She kept the house very clean.
- d. She encouraged him to practice whenever he wanted.

3. Unitas faced all of the following challenges at the beginning of his career EXCEPT

- a. He played for a weak college team.
- b. He was scrawny for a quarterback.
- c. His new wife didn’t want him to play football.
- d. He had to balance work, family, and football.

4. On which team did Unitas rise to fame?

- a. the Pittsburgh Steelers
- b. the New Orleans Saints
- c. the Baltimore Colts
- d. the New York Giants

5. Even though Peyton Manning’s father was a football star, he knew

- a. he didn’t inherit his father’s talent.
- b. he would have to work hard to succeed.
- c. he wasn’t as good at football as his brothers.
- d. the game had changed a lot in a generation.

6. How was Manning different from other kids when he was growing up?

- a. He played with Legos.
- b. He read comic books.
- c. He spent his time studying football plays.
- d. He was always prepared for school.

7. What does “perseverance” mean in the sentence, “Over time, his perseverance paid off”?

- a. sticking to goals
- b. intelligence
- c. appetite
- d. taking advantage of others

8. Which best describes Manning’s first season in the NFL?

- a. a moderate success
- b. a challenge to keep up
- c. an embarrassing failure
- d. an instant sensation

9. Which of the following do Unitas and Manning have in common?

- a. a poor background
- b. a struggle to get into pro football
- c. a strong work ethic
- d. a successful first season

10. What was one difference between Unitas and Manning?

- a. They had a family that cared about them.
- b. They married their longtime sweethearts.
- c. They became football legends.
- d. They started off with record-breaking salaries.

“Car Trouble” Quiz

Directions: Read the story “Car Trouble” in the November/December 2007 issue of *Storyworks*. Then fill in the circle next to the best answer for each question.

1. In the beginning of the story, what do Joe and Erin expect their trip to be like?

- a. educational
- b. sad
- c. boring
- d. exciting

2. What are their parents’ goals for the vacation?

- a. to meet new people
- b. to see how quickly they can make it across the country
- c. to eat interesting food
- d. to see historical and natural landmarks

3. In what way is the car trouble a turning point for the family?

- a. They have to save money for a new car.
- b. They have to change their vacation plans.
- c. They start fighting with one another.
- d. They fly home to Philadelphia.

4. What does Joe want for breakfast?

- a. enchiladas
- b. chiles rellenos
- c. huevos rancheros
- d. a waffle

5. Which word best describes Consuelo?

- a. detached
- b. helpful
- c. nosy
- d. quiet

6. Which event happened FIRST in the story?

- a. The family went to Rosa’s Cocinita for Sunday dinner.

- b. José invited Joe to go to school with him.
- c. The family saw Miguel working on his car in his front yard.
- d. Mum met Jessica Martínez.

7. What does the word “abuelo” mean?

- a. grandfather
- b. grandmother
- c. cousin
- d. cookie

8. On Monday, the experiences of Dad, Mum, Joe, and Erin have all of the following in common EXCEPT

- a. They learned something about Hispanic culture.
- b. They made a new friend.
- c. They did something unexpected.
- d. They felt uncomfortable with their activities.

9. What can you conclude from Joe and Erin’s decision to stay at La Hacienda rather than going to a motel with a pool?

- a. They didn’t feel like packing up and moving.
- b. They realized they would have more fun with their new friends.
- c. It was too cold for swimming.
- d. They didn’t want to hurt their new friends’ feelings.

10. What main idea do you think the author wanted you to learn from this story?

- a. Car trouble can be fun.
- b. Meeting new people can be the best part of traveling.
- c. It is convenient to know Spanish phrases.
- d. New foods seem strange but can be tasty.

“Pictures of Hollis Woods” Quiz

Directions: Read the play *Pictures of Hollis Woods* in the November/December 2007 issue of *Storyworks*. Then fill in the circle next to the best answer for each question.

1. What is the FIRST thing that happens in the play?

- a. Hollis runs away from Edna.
- b. Edna bring Hollis to Josie.
- c. Josie sees Hollis’s artwork
- d. Hollis goes to school.

2. What do Hollis and Josie have in common?

- a. their backgrounds
- b. their interest in gardening
- c. their artwork
- d. their loneliness

3. Josie faces all of the following challenges of being a foster parent EXCEPT

- a. She is forgetful.
- b. She doesn’t know when Hollis should be in school.
- c. She becomes ill.
- d. She doesn’t really care about Hollis.

4. How would you describe Izzy?

- a. quiet and serious
- b. warm and upbeat
- c. cranky and sour
- d. raucous and silly

5. What makes Hollis happy about living with the Regans?

- a. They spoil her with presents.
- b. John and Steven’s fights show her that everyone has problems.
- c. She feels welcomed and loved.
- d. She knows she will get to leave at the end of the summer.

6. Why does Hollis run away with Josie?

- a. so she won’t have to live in a shelter
- b. to take care of Josie
- c. to escape to a place where she feels at home
- d. all of the above

7. What is the literary term for the scenes that go back in time?

- a. remembrances
- b. flashbacks
- c. pre-events
- d. pastimes

8. Why does Hollis feel responsible for the truck accident?

- a. because she was driving
- b. because Steven asked her to drive, but she didn’t
- c. because she was late, and Steven was trying to help her
- d. because Izzy blamed it on her

9. Why does Steven leave a chocolate bar for Hollis?

- a. He knows she likes chocolate.
- b. He thinks Josie and Hollis need food.
- c. He wants to let her know that he is there for her.
- d. He doesn’t want it himself.

10. This play features all of the following themes (big ideas) EXCEPT

- a. friendship
- b. family
- c. belonging
- d. betrayal

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“Mad” Quiz

Directions: Read the poem “Mad” in the November/December 2007 issue of *Storyworks*. Then fill in the circle next to the best answer for each question.

1. The first line of the poem describes an angry child flying to the moon. Why does she most likely do this?

- a. to learn about space
- b. to have fun
- c. to escape
- d. to play a trick on her mom

2. How does the narrator feel when she sees her house and notices her mother looking for her?

- a. defiant
- b. guilty
- c. happy
- d. homesick

3. What literary device is found in the line, “My mother stood in the front yard/like a pin dot/searching for me.”

- a. metaphor
- b. simile
- c. allusion
- d. personification

4. Why does the narrator whistle?

- a. to get her mother’s attention
- b. to tease her mother
- c. to hear what it will sound like on the moon
- d. to calm herself

5. What does the silver thread represent?

- a. a pathway
- b. some money
- c. a scolding
- d. the mother’s love

6. What is the tone of this poem?

- a. loving
- b. sad
- c. humorous
- d. removed