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“Phoenix” Quiz

Directions: Read the poem “Phoenix” on page 3 of the October 2008 issue of *Storyworks*. Then fill in the circle next to the best answer for each question.

1. What is this poem based on?

- (A) an extinct animal
- (B) a myth
- (C) a constellation
- (D) a Harry Potter book

2. What does the phoenix do after she burns up?

- (A) She is reborn.
- (B) She disappears forever.
- (C) She brushes her ashes out of her nest.
- (D) She causes other birds to catch on fire.

3. What is a drake, in the line, “Now a crane, now a drake”?

- (A) a small reptile
- (B) a kind of lizard
- (C) a bird similar to a sparrow
- (D) a male duck

4. You can infer that the author _____ the phoenix.

- (A) despises
- (B) admires
- (C) ignores
- (D) envies

Critical Thinking

Directions: On a separate piece of paper, write your answers in well-organized paragraphs. Make sure you support each answer with information and details from the poem!

5. Besides being reborn, what is one of the phoenix’s special qualities?

6. What is one reason the poet might have written this poem?

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“What Happened to Dolly?” Quiz

Directions: Read the nonfiction article “What Happened to Dolly?” in the October 2008 issue of *Storyworks*. Then fill in the circle next to the best answer for each question.

1. The author finds her grandmother’s wedding photo

- (A) enchanting
- (B) boring
- (C) old-fashioned
- (D) confusing

2. This article is mostly about what time period?

- (A) the 19th century
- (B) the first half of the 20th century
- (C) the second half of the 20th century
- (D) today

3. Where did the first major polio epidemic hit in the United States?

- (A) Chester, Pennsylvania
- (B) Washington, D.C.
- (C) Cleveland, Ohio
- (D) New York City

4. Scientists discovered that polio was caused by

- (A) bacteria in animal waste.
- (B) germs spread through coughing and sneezing.
- (C) a virus spread through human waste.
- (D) dirty, dusty environments.

5. Polio impacted the lives of ordinary people in all of the following ways EXCEPT:

- (A) They lived with the constant fear of the disease.
- (B) They tried to avoid crowds and pools.
- (C) They stopped cleaning their houses.
- (D) They worried about their young children.

6. How old was Dolly when she got polio?

- (A) 1
- (B) 2
- (C) 8
- (D) 12

7. Which of the following was NOT a treatment for polio and its aftermath?

- (A) pain medication
- (B) leg braces
- (C) the iron lung
- (D) operations

8. What happened that forever changed the impact of polio?

- (A) The epidemics died out.
- (B) Jonas Salk invented a safe and effective vaccine.
- (C) People learned they should wash their hands frequently.
- (D) The virus became weaker.

Critical Thinking

Directions: On a separate piece of paper, write your answers in well-organized paragraphs. Make sure you support your answer with information and details from the article!

9. In what ways did President Roosevelt help people stricken by polio?

10. What was one way people tried to stop the spread of polio before the vaccine was invented? Was it effective?

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“Yesterday & Today” Quiz

Directions: Read the “Yesterday & Today” article in the October 2008 issue of *Storyworks*. Then fill in the circle next to the best answer for each question.

1. What does the word “throng” mean in the first sentence of the article?

- (A) sports team
- (B) long line
- (C) small group
- (D) crowd

2. How fast did the Switchback Railway go?

- (A) 50 mph
- (B) 100 mph
- (C) 6 mph
- (D) 12 mph

3. Which of the following influenced LaMarcus Thompson in creating his Switchback Railway?

- (A) Russian ice slides
- (B) frontier railroads
- (C) P.T. Barnum’s circus
- (D) modern elevators

4. Which of the following is NOT a feature of the X2?

- (A) flashing lights
- (B) fog
- (C) 360-degree turns
- (D) rickety wooden tracks

5. How high does the Kingda Ka go?

- (A) 121 feet
- (B) 456 feet
- (C) 360 feet
- (D) 1,600 feet

6. How many people are injured per year on roller coasters?

- (A) 1.8 billion
- (B) 1,800
- (C) 9,000
- (D) 600

7. After reading this article, what can you conclude about many people’s feelings toward roller coasters?

- (A) They want greater and greater thrills.
- (B) They have lost interest in roller coasters.
- (C) Roller coasters are only for kids.
- (D) They think roller coaster are too dangerous to ride.

8. How did the Switchback Railway start its course that was different from roller coasters today?

- (A) It started below ground and shot up.
- (B) It started at the top and went down.
- (C) It went straight before going up.
- (D) It started with corkscrew turns.

Critical Thinking

Directions: On a separate piece of paper, write your answers in well-organized paragraphs. Make sure you support each answer with information and details from the article!

9. Why was LaMarcus Thompson known as “the Father of Gravity”?

10. What has been the attraction of roller coasters from their invention until now?

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“Science Fair Creatures Attack” Quiz

Directions: Read the story “Science Fair Creatures Attack” in the October 2008 issue of *Storyworks*. Then fill in the circle next to the best answer for each question.

1. At the beginning of the story, how do Peggy and Milo feel about each other?

- (A) distrustful (C) shy
(B) competitive (D) both a and b

2. What does Milo want to be when he is an adult?

- (A) a scientist (C) a reporter
(B) an English teacher (D) a veterinarian

3. In science class, a series of events causes Milo to slide across the floor and bang into the wall. What started the events?

- (A) He tried to pet Peggy’s Chihuahua.
(B) He reached for a pencil in Peggy’s backpack.
(C) He didn’t follow directions for the day’s experiment.
(D) He was playing with pink bubble solution.

4. What do Peggy and Milo disagree about in Mrs. Galindo’s office?

- (A) whether Peggy’s dog bit Milo
(B) whether dogs should be aloud in school
(C) whether Milo ruined Peggy’s science fair project
(D) whether Milo should be on the school newspaper staff

5. Who is El Santo named after?

- (A) a cartoon character
(B) a Mexican wrestler
(C) a saint
(D) Peggy’s favorite uncle

6. What is Peggy’s main reason for doing a science fair project with her dog and rat?

- (A) to win first prize
(B) to be allowed to bring animals to school
(C) to scare her classmates
(D) to explore people’s feelings about animals

7. What does “fastidious” mean in the sentence, “Pet rats are faithful, fastidious, and friendly”?

- (A) vicious
(B) very careful
(C) relaxed
(D) huggable

8. What is the tone of this story?

- (A) sad
(B) angry
(C) humorous
(D) nostalgic

Critical Thinking

Directions: On a separate piece of paper, write your answers in well-organized paragraphs. Make sure you support each answer with information and details from the story!

9. In what ways were Peggy and Milo both right in their disagreement in the principal’s office?

10. What do Peggy and Milo finally realize they have in common?

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“The Tell-Tale Heart” Quiz

Directions: Read the play *The Tell-Tale Heart* in the October 2008 issue of *Storyworks*. Then fill in the circle next to the best answer for each question.

1. What does the Villainous Narrator strongly want readers to believe?

- (A) He is innocent.
- (B) The old man was cruel to him.
- (C) He is not insane.
- (D) The police picked on him unfairly.

2. What does the Villainous Narrator despise about the old man?

- (A) his teeth
- (B) his bad breath
- (C) his eye
- (D) his attitude

3. What does “the task” refer to when the Narrator says, “So I set about the task”?

- (A) bringing the Old Man tea
- (B) covering up the Old Man’s eye
- (C) scaring the Old Man with a bright light
- (D) killing the Old Man

4. Which of the following does the Narrator do LAST?

- (A) He sneaks into the Old Man’s bedroom.
- (B) He hears the Old Man’s heart.
- (C) He sees the Old Man’s eye.
- (D) He shines his lantern.

5. How did the police know to come to the Old Man’s house?

- (A) They were passing by and heard a scream.
- (B) Neighbors heard a scream and called.
- (C) They had a feeling something was wrong in the house.
- (D) The Villainous Narrator called them.

6. When the police first arrive, how does the Narrator feel?

- (A) surprised
- (B) worried
- (C) confident
- (D) annoyed

7. At the end of the play, the sound the Villainous Narrator hears could be any of the following EXCEPT:

- (A) the Old Man’s heart continuing to beat.
- (B) his own heartbeat.
- (C) his imagination.
- (D) his guilty conscience.

8. One of the things Edgar Allan Poe is famous for is

- (A) stories with happy endings.
- (B) pet stories.
- (C) science-fiction stories.
- (D) horror stories.

Critical Thinking

Directions: Write your answers, in a well-organized paragraph, on a separate piece of paper. Make sure you support your answer with examples from the play!

9. Throughout the story, the Villainous Narrator claims he is not crazy. What are some clues that he actually is insane?

10. Why does the Villainous Narrator confess to his crime at the end of the story?

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“Untidy Ursula” Quiz

Directions: Read the poem “Untidy Ursula” on page 32 of the October 2008 issue of *Storyworks*. Then fill in the circle next to the best answer for each question.

1. Where does this poem take place?

- (A) Ursula’s basement
 - (B) Ursula’s bedroom
 - (C) Ursula’s attic
 - (D) Ursula’s desk at school
- (A) AABBCDD
 - (B) ABAB
 - (C) ABAC
 - (D) ABCB

2. This poem uses many synonyms for messy. Which of the following words from the poem is not one of them?

- (A) chaotic
- (B) unkempt
- (C) untidy
- (D) encrusted

4. Why doesn’t Ursula clean her room when her father asks her?

- (A) She is disobedient.
- (B) She doesn’t know how.
- (C) She is buried under a pile of junk.
- (D) She dislikes when people tell her what to do.

3. What is the rhyme pattern of this poem?

Critical Thinking

Directions: On a separate piece of paper, write your answers in well-organized paragraphs. Make sure you support each answer with information and details from the poem!

5. The poet lists many of the items in Ursula’s room. What effect does this list create for the reader?

6. Why might a poet write a poem for young people about a messy room?