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“Three Skies” Quiz

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

1. The three skies the narrator talks about in this poem are

- (A) side by side, next to each other.
- (B) in layers, one on top of another.
- (C) in separate parts of the Earth.
- (D) all mixed up together.

2. Which of the following is NOT a color this poem uses to describe the three skies?

- (A) grey
- (B) black
- (C) white
- (D) blue

3. According to this poem, what happens where the sky is blue?

- (A) Birds sing.
- (B) Planes fly.
- (C) Rockets soar.
- (D) Clouds gather.

4. You can conclude that the place where the sky is black is probably

- (A) close to the Earth.
- (B) the nighttime sky.
- (C) covered over with dark clouds.
- (D) outer space.

5. Which word BEST describes the narrator of this poem?

- (A) curious
- (B) smart
- (C) mischievous
- (D) stubborn

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!

6. Use details from the poem to explain what the three skies are.

7. The illustration that accompanies this poem shows someone unfastening a zipper. How does this relate to the poem?

8. What is one way you could rephrase the question that ends the poem?

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“Lost in a Blizzard” Quiz

Directions: Read the nonfiction article “Lost in a Blizzard” in the September 2008 issue of *Storyworks*. Then fill in the circle next to the best answer for each question.

1. This article describes how the Blizzard of 1888 affected which part of the country?

- (A) the Northwest
- (B) the Southeast
- (C) the Northeast
- (D) the Great Plains

2. What was the weather like in the morning before the blizzard hit?

- (A) dangerously cold
- (B) surprisingly warm
- (C) very windy
- (D) snowy and icy

3. What is a prairie?

- (A) a large, flat, grassy area
- (B) a mountainous region
- (C) an area with many lakes and rivers
- (D) a small house

4. When Walter Allen looked out his schoolroom window, he could tell that

- (A) the sky had turned dark.
- (B) three feet of snow had already fallen.
- (C) the wind had blown the shutters off.
- (D) he saw his brother wandering in the snow.

5. Why did Walter jump out of the sled in front of the school?

- (A) He was a disobedient child.
- (B) He wanted to help his teachers get home.
- (C) He was scared of riding in the sled.
- (D) He forgot his treasured perfume bottle.

6. How was this blizzard different from other snowstorms in the region?

- (A) It lasted for days.
- (B) It included snow and wind.
- (C) It arrived suddenly and unexpectedly.
- (D) It covered a widespread region.

7. Who ended up saving Walter?

- (A) his father
- (B) his brother Will
- (C) a search party
- (D) his teacher

8. What does the word “jubilation mean” in the sentence “They arrived home to the jubilation of their parents”?

- (A) worry
- (B) joy
- (C) anger
- (D) disbelief

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. What did Walter realize at the end of the story?

10. What does this article teach you about nature?

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“Yesterday & Today” Quiz

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

- How was *The Monkees* different from other television shows of its time?**
 - It was about young musicians rather than proper families.
 - It lasted an hour rather than a half-hour.
 - Critics raved about it.
 - All of the above.
- According to the article, many young people wanted to _____ the Monkees.**
 - mock
 - imitate
 - study
 - ignore
- Which of the following is NOT evidence of the Monkees’ popularity?**
 - Their albums topped the charts for 31 weeks.
 - They sold 16 million albums.
 - Some teens painted their cars to look like the Monkeemobile.
 - Some people criticized the band for not writing its own music.
- What does the word diehard mean in the phrase, “most diehard fans didn’t mind”?**
 - forgiving
 - committed
 - extreme
 - youthful
- Nat and Alex Wolff first started the group that would become the Naked Brothers Band when they were in _____.**
 - preschool.
 - kindergarten.
 - second grade.
 - fourth grade.
- Which of these events happened first?**
 - Nat and Alex formed their band.
 - Nickelodeon aired *The Naked Brothers Band Movie*.
 - Nickelodeon created a reality show based on the band.
 - The boys’ parents filmed a movie about them.
- What do Ashley Tisdale, Vanessa Anne Hudgens, and Miley Cyrus have in common with Nat and Alex, according to this article?**
 - Their parents are country singers.
 - They are fashion trendsetters.
 - Their music took off after their acting careers.
 - They live in Montana.
- The fifth paragraph on page 17 starts, “Though the brothers are ecstatic about their success . . .” Which of the words below is an antonym for “ecstatic”?**
 - surprised
 - irritated
 - depressed
 - careful

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!

- What was similar about the Monkees’ and the Naked Brothers Band’s rise to fame?**
- What is one important difference between the two music groups?**

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“The Days the Worms Moved In” Quiz

Directions: Read the story “The Day the Worms Moved In” in the September 2008 issue of *Storyworks*. Then fill in the circle next to the best answer for each question.

1. Why does Mom decide to raise worms in the garage?

- (A) She believes they will make good pets.
- (B) She wants to use them for fishing bait.
- (C) They will help create good soil for gardening.
- (D) They will scare away intruders.

2. Which word best describes Maddie’s feelings about having worms in the house in the beginning of the story?

- (A) angry
- (B) timid
- (C) defiant
- (D) terrified

3. Mom doesn’t know about Maddie’s worm phobia because

- (A) Maddie is too embarrassed to tell her.
- (B) Maddie is afraid her brothers will find out.
- (C) Mom never has time to talk to Maddie.
- (D) Mom will be angry if she finds out.

4. Which item did NOT make up part of the worms’ bedding?

- (A) newspaper
- (B) egg cartons
- (C) soil
- (D) manure

5. Which of the following is the best synonym for “writhing” in the phrase, “hundreds of worms writhing around under the composting bin and across the floor”?

- (A) wiggling
- (B) lying
- (C) gathering
- (D) speeding up

6. What does Maddie realize when she sees the worms on the garage floor?

- (A) She’s not really scared of them after all.
- (B) It’s irresponsible to have a composting bin.
- (C) Worms like to be free.
- (D) It’s up to her to do something about them.

7. What caused the worms to crawl out of the bin?

- (A) cold weather
- (B) lack of water
- (C) tempting food on the floor
- (D) need for more space

8. You can predict that when Mom learns what Maddie did, she will be

- (A) disappointed
- (B) grateful
- (C) disbelieving
- (D) hysterical

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. At the end of the story, why is Maddie proud of herself?

10. What is one reason that Maddie saved the worms?

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“The Tale of Despereaux” Quiz

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

1. What opening event causes both soup and rats to be banned in the kingdom of Dor?

- (A) The Queen burns her tongue on hot soup.
- (B) A rat gnaws a hole in the royal soup kettle.
- (C) Roscuro falls into the Queen’s soup.
- (D) The Princess sees a rat while eating her soup.

2. Which of the following words is the best synonym for “grungy” in the sentence, “Ratworld is a dark, grungy place”?

- (A) cluttered
- (B) cold
- (C) dirty
- (D) smelly

3. Roscuro is different from other rats because he likes

- (A) eating trash.
- (B) light, open spaces.
- (C) playing tricks on mice.
- (D) Botticelli, the evil rat.

4. Despereaux discovers that books are wonderful things to

- (A) read.
- (B) chew on.
- (C) use for steps.
- (D) hide inside.

5. Which BEST describes the Princess?

- (A) clever and tricky
- (B) sad and lonely
- (C) mean and sour
- (D) kind but dull

6. Why is Despereaux sent to the dungeon?

- (A) He ate soup.
- (B) He danced with a rat.
- (C) He harmed his brother.
- (D) He spoke to a human.

7. Roscuro wants desperately to see the Princess to _____ her.

- (A) bite
- (B) scare
- (C) kiss
- (D) apologize to

8. This play is most similar to _____.

- (A) fantasy
- (B) historical fiction
- (C) mystery
- (D) autobiography

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. In what ways are Despereaux and Roscuro similar?

10. Why does Roscuro prevent the cat from eating Despereaux?

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“Life Doesn’t Frighten Me” Quiz

Directions: Read the poem “Life Doesn’t Frighten Me” on page 32 of the September 2008 issue of *Storyworks*. Then fill in the circle next to the best answer for each question.

1. This poem describes things that would MOST likely scare

- (A) a college student
- (B) parents
- (C) a small child
- (D) anyone

2. Which of the following BEST describes the rhyme and the beat of the poem?

- (A) irregular
- (B) rhythmic
- (C) slow-moving
- (D) complicated

3. You can figure out that the narrator is probably

- (A) shy
- (B) sad
- (C) nervous
- (D) sassy

4. What does the narrator say he or she will do to the dragons breathing flame?

- (A) invite them inside
- (B) chase them away
- (C) make them smile
- (D) put them on a cloud

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. What image is created by the line “Big ghosts in a cloud”?

6. Mentioning Mother Goose and dragons suggests that the narrator gets some ideas from where?

5. What is the effect of repeating the line “Life doesn’t frighten me at all”?

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