

Name: _____ Date: _____

“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?