

**Analyzing the Selection**

*Chose the letter of the one best answer.*

**“The Drummer Boy of Shiloh”**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Which of the following best reflects the theme, or central idea, of “The Drummer Boy of Shiloh”?
- Young men who die in a battle become immortal.
  - Victory in war requires careful planning and strong leadership
  - True courage is overcoming fear, not the absence of fear.**
  - The faster an army moves, the more likely it will succeed.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. The mood of the two armies on the night before the battle might be best described as:
- worried and fearful.
  - tired and depressed.**
  - anxious and excited.
  - happy and cheerful.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Why is Joby unable to sleep at the beginning of the story?
- Peach blossoms keep falling on his drum.**
  - He is worried about the battle.
  - The other soldiers are talking.
  - He is waiting to talk to the general.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Which of the following phrases contains a historical detail?
- “romantic dreams of battles”
  - “many nights from tonight”
  - “thirty-three familiar shadows”
  - “not far from Owl Creek”**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. The general wishes the battle could be postponed because:
- the other army has more troops.
  - his own troops need more enthusiasm.
  - his own troops need more training.**
  - The other army has rifles and bayonets.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Which of the following details suggests that the story takes place many years ago?
- The story is set near a town called Shiloh.
  - The soldiers sit around campfires as they wait through the night.**
  - The general smells of salt sweat, ginger tobacco, and horse and boot leather.
  - The main character's name is Joby.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. The general tells Joby that he is “the heart of the army” because:
- Joby is his most experienced soldier.
  - Joby will march in the center of the army.
  - Joby will give the orders to the troops.
  - Joby will set the pace of the battle.**

8. As portrayed by Bradbury, the general is:

- a. wise.
- b. proud.
- c. cowardly.
- d. impulsive.

9. Which pair of details belongs in the same historical setting of the story?

- a. tanks and rockets.
- b. cavalry and cannon.
- c. lances and crossbows.
- d. Minutemen and Redcoats

10. How does Joby feel after talking to the general?

- a. eager and alert.
- b. grim and forlorn
- c. frightened and concerned.
- d. calm and reassured.

### “Charles”

11. “Charles” is a story about:

- a. a little boy adjusting to kindergarten.
- b. the friendship between two little boys.
- c. a mother's worries about her child.
- d. a family that communicated poorly.

12. Which of the following is true about Laurie's point of view?

- a. He talks about himself as if he were talking about someone else.
- b. He doesn't think he's been naughty.
- c. He doesn't care that he's been naughty.
- d. He describes his adventures in school in the first person.

13. Laurie says he was watching Charles being punished, but actually he was:

- a. dawdling on the way home.
- b. visiting Charles's house.
- c. doing exercises at school.
- d. being punished himself.

14. When Laurie tells his father “Look at your thumb. Gee you're dumb,” and his mother changes the subject, you learn that:

- a. Laurie is afraid of his father.
- b. Laurie's father likes to tell silly jokes.
- c. Laurie's mother is not very strict with him.
- d. Laurie doesn't realize he is being rude.

15. From the point of view of Laurie's parents, Charles is:

- a. disgusting.
- b. pathetic.
- c. understandable.
- d. fascinating.

- \_\_\_ 16. At the PTA meeting, why doesn't the teacher make a point of telling Laurie's mother about Laurie's behavior?
- The teacher thinks that Laurie's behavior is acceptable.
  - Laurie has already adjusted to school.
  - The teacher can't identify Laurie's parents.
  - The teacher thinks Laurie's name is Charles.
- \_\_\_ 17. The reader learns the true identity of the naughty boy at the same time that:"
- Laurie does.
  - The teacher does.
  - Charles does.
  - the narrator does.
- \_\_\_ 18. What statement is true about Laurie?
- He adjusts to new situations easily.
  - He is timid.
  - He is very imaginative.
  - He is mature.
- \_\_\_ 19. If Laurie's teacher narrated the story, it might be different in that:
- Charles would be described as a good boy.
  - Charles would not appear.
  - Laurie would be described as a good boy.
  - Laurie would not appear.
- \_\_\_ 20. What will Laurie's mother most likely do when she gets home?
- tell her husband who the naughty child is.
  - Write a note of apology to Charles's mother.
  - take Laurie out of Kindergarten.
  - write an angry letter to the school.

### **“Christmas Day in the Morning”**

- \_\_\_ 21. “Christmas Day in the Morning” is about the joys of:
- Christmas.
  - marriage.
  - childhood.
  - love.
- \_\_\_ 22. At the beginning of the story, why does Robert feel that Christmas isn't special anymore?
- He and his wife no longer exchange presents.
  - His children celebrate Christmas with their own families..
  - His wife doesn't want to bother trimming the tree.
  - He hasn't got over his fathers death.
- \_\_\_ 23. During a flashback in the story, Robert:
- Thinks about his children.
  - hears his mother talking.
  - trims the Christmas tree.
  - writes a letter to his wife.

24. Both the flashback and the rest of the story:

- a. take place at the same time of year.
- b. involve the same characters.
- c. occur in the same place.
- d. occupy the same amount of time.

25. During the flashback, Robert realized his father loves him when his father tells his mother that:

- a. Robert is old enough to take on a man's responsibilities.
- b. he appreciates Robert's help with chores.
- c. he wishes he could let Robert sleep longer in the morning.
- d. Robert has earned a special Christmas present.

26. Which of the following takes place before Robert goes out to the barn by himself?

- a. Robert's father hugs him.
- b. Robert spends a restless night.
- c. Robert says he wants to be good.
- d. Robert's father wakes him up.

27. In what way is the Christmas that Robert celebrates with his wife similar to the Christmas he remembers in the flashback.

- a. There is a large dinner
- b. There are many children
- c. There are many memories
- d. There is a special gift

28. What word describes the overall mood or general feeling of the story?

- a. affectionate
- b. sad
- c. funny
- d. festive

29. Why does Robert get up early and trim the tree?

- a. He forgot to trim the tree the night before.
- b. he is very restless and can't sleep
- c. He wants to do something for his wife.
- d. He wants to be sure the tree is ready when his children arrive.

30. Which of the following sentences best represents the theme or message for "Christmas Day in the Morning"?

- a. Love has nothing to do with age.
- b. Loneliness and joy are sometimes not very far apart.
- c. Being with the people you love is the best part of Christmas.
- d. A gift of love leads to more gifts of love.

### **"A Retrieved Reformation"**

31. "A Retrieved Reformation" is a story of:

- a. the friendship between a thief and a detective
- b. a thief who tries unsuccessfully to reform
- c. a convict who learns a new trade in prison
- d. a safecracker who becomes an honest citizen.

32. The most important conflict in the story is that between:

- a. Jimmy and the warden
- b. Jimmy's love of safecracking and his love for Annabel
- c. Jimmy and Ben Price
- d. Jimmy's criminal record and his desire to "quit the old business"

33. The author used an allusion when Jimmy is described by:

- a. the warden as an innocent victim.
- b. the author as not too intelligent.
- c. Jimmy as a salesman.
- d. the author as Ralph Spencer.

34. Which of the following developments supports the story's surprise ending?

- a. After his release from prison, Jimmy retrieves his burglary tools.
- b. Ben Price tracks Jimmy down in Elmore.
- c. Jimmy tells his Old Pal that he has given up his life of crime.
- d. Mr. Adams shows Jimmy the bank's new vault.

35. How does Ben Price know that Jimmy is robbing safes again?

- a. Jimmy signs his name on each safe he robs.
- b. Ben recognizes Jimmy's style of safecracking.
- c. The amount of money means it could only be Jimmy.
- d. Ben knows Jimmy prefers to work in the Springfield area.

36. Jimmy Valentine suddenly becomes Ralph Spencer so that he can:

- a. start a new life with Anabel
- b. safely plan how to rob the bank.
- c. hide from Ben Price.
- d. get a job in the bank.

37. The ultimate proof of Jimmy Valentine's honesty is that he:

- a. wants to give away his tools.
- b. risks being discovered as Jimmy Valentine to save Agatha.
- c. willingly offers to go with Ben Price after the rescue.
- d. runs a successful business.

38. Which of the following makes the ending of the story a surprise?

- a. Jimmy is not formally accused of the crimes he has committed since his release from prison.
- b. Ben Price arrives in Elmore without letting Jimmy know.
- c. Ben Price watches as Jimmy opens the bank vault.
- d. Jimmy tries to turn himself over to Ben Price.

39. Which of the following is the best description of the dilemma Jimmy faces after the little girl is locked in the safe?

- a. If he saves the girl, he will miss his train.
- b. If he can't open the safe, he will lose Annabel's respect.
- c. If he cracks the safe, his true identity may be revealed.
- d. If he doesn't open the safe, Mr. Adams will not let him marry Annabel..

\_\_\_\_\_ 40. Ben Price calls Jimmy “Mr. Spencer” because Ben:

- a. is arresting Jimmy.
- b. is making a joke.
- c. doesn’t recognize Jimmy.
- d. no longer wants to arrest Jimmy.

### “Thank You, M’am”

\_\_\_\_\_ 41. What is the theme of “Thank You, M’am”?

- a. A person’s self respect is influenced by the trust others in him or her.
- b. Older people forget what it is like to be young.
- c. willingly offers to go with Ben Price after the rescue.
- d. runs a successful business.

\_\_\_\_\_ 42. What generalization does Roger most likely believe at the story’s beginning?

- a. Individuals out walking at night are usually quite wealthy.
- b. Young criminals seldom get away with their crimes.
- c. Women are not able to defend themselves.
- d. New possessions do not bring happiness.

\_\_\_\_\_ 43. What is the theme of “Thank You, M’am”?

- a. She does not like looking at Roger as he is.
- b. She does not want people making fun of Roger.
- c. She thinks of will make Roger feel better about himself.
- d. She wants to punish Roger by humiliating him.

\_\_\_\_\_ 44. Which of the following generalizations does Mrs. Jones most likely believe at the beginning of the story.

- a. Young people steal because they are hungry.
- b. Young boys cannot be trusted.
- c. Young people pay no attention to their elders.
- d. Young thieves are dangerous characters.

\_\_\_\_\_ 45. When Mrs. Jones fixes supper, she leaves Roger in the room with her purse. This indicates that she:

- a. wants to show Roger she trusts him.
- b. doesn’t have any money in the purse.
- c. is trying to tempt Roger into stealing again.
- d. has forgotten that she left the purse there.

\_\_\_\_\_ 46. Why does Roger offer to go to the store?

- a. He wants a chance to escape from Mrs. Jones.
- b. He wants to prove that he can be trusted.
- c. He wants to steal the grocery money.
- d. He does not want ham and lima beans for supper.

\_\_\_\_\_ 47. Mrs. Jones suggests that one of the reasons she forgives Roger that she:

- a. has young sons of her own.
- b. occasionally has to steal money for food.
- c. knows that life is difficult without belief in God.
- d. did things that were wrong when she was young.

48. What makes it apparent that Mrs. Jones has very little money to spare?

- a. She walks alone late at night.
- b. She works in a hotel beauty shop.
- c. She does not want Roger to go to the store.
- d. She lives in one room in a large house.

49. Which of Mrs. Jones characteristics is most important to the theme of “Thank You, M’am”?

- a. her awareness of the value of money.
- b. her belief in hard work.
- c. her concern for other people.
- d. her strength and determination.

50. At the end of the story, Roger thanks Mrs. Jones for:

- a. letting him leave.
- b. listening to him.
- c. walking him home.
- d. trusting him.

### “Flowers for Algernon”

51. “Flowers for Algernon” is about:

- a. the harmful effects of intelligence on friendship.
- b. how a man’s ideas about other people and himself change.
- c. the relationship between human intelligence and animal intelligence.
- d. the brave efforts of two scientists to improve human life.

52. How would you describe Charlie in the beginning of the story?

- a. eager and kind.
- b. ambitious and clever.
- c. intelligent but sad.
- d. happy and wise.

53. As Charlie becomes more intelligent, he realizes that Dr. Strauss and Dr. Nemur:

- a. are sensitive people who care about him.
- b. are incompetent doctors who have botched the operation.
- c. are ambitious men who don’t particularly care about him.
- d. want him to lose his intelligence because they feel inferior to him.

54. At the height of Charlie’s powers, how does he feel about Miss Kinnian?

- a. He respects her and wants her to teach him everything she knows.
- b. Charlie is annoyed that his intelligence makes it very difficult to communicate with Miss Kinnian.
- c. Charlie is ashamed of his condition and refuses to see Miss Kinnian.
- d. Charlie is sad that he is not smart enough to talk to Miss Kinnian.

55. Charlie’s friends Joe and Frank make fun of Charlie in the beginning of the story. At the end of the story Joe and Frank:

- a. are glad that Charlie has lost his intelligence.
- b. are scared of Charlie and don’t want to talk to him.
- c. hate Charlie for becoming so intelligent.
- d. protect Charlie against workers who might make fun of him..

56. Why does Miss Kinnian begin to feel sad about Charlie?

- a. Charlie becomes too intelligent to communicate with her.
- b. She finds out that Charlie is leaving New York.
- c. She knows that Charlie is losing his intelligence.
- d. Charlie stops loving her when he becomes intelligent.

57. What will probably happen to Charlie?

- a. Charlie will die for the same reasons Algernon died.
- b. Charlie will make new friends after he leaves New York.
- c. Charlie will decide to stay in New York with his friends.
- d. Charlie will slowly begin to get more intelligent again.

58. At the end of the story, Charlie feels that Algernon:

- a. was the victim of cruel scientists.
- b. somehow betrayed him by dying.
- c. was a reflection of himself.
- d. did not really die.

59. What conclusion does Charlie draw at the end of the story?

- a. He thinks that intelligence is a curse.
- b. He wishes that he had not taken part in the experiment.
- c. He cannot remember anything about being intelligent.
- d. He still believes that intelligence is a good thing.

60. What lesson can be learned from “Flowers of Algernon”?

- a. Intelligence, even on the genius level doesn’t last forever.
- b. All humans deserve to be treated with basic respect.
- c. Only people who really try in life are worth of respect.
- d. Intelligent people are lonely and unhappy.

### “The Tell-Tale Heart”

61. “The Tell-Tale Heart” is the story of:

- a. a heart that continues to beat after death.
- b. an old man who is killed for his gold.
- c. a man who is driven to confess a crime.
- d. a police officer who solves a murder.

62. What drives the narrator to murder and then to confess the murder?

- a. hatred and spite
- b. greed and selfishness
- c. fear and panic
- d. obsession and fury (rage)

63. The atmosphere of “The Tell-Tale Heart” is most strongly established by setting the story:

- a. in an old house.
- b. in the middle of the night.
- c. in the old man’s chamber.
- d. in a dangerous neighborhood.

64. Poe creates a mood of terror by using words that are associated with:

- a. darkness
- b. pain.
- c. silence.
- d. cunning

65. The narrator does not kill the old man until the eighth night. What does this indicate about the narrator's character?

- a. He is unable to make decisions.
- b. He is extremely patient.
- c. He is afraid of being caught.
- d. He is physically clumsy.

66. The narrator prides himself on his:

- a. courage and strength.
- b. fluency (capable of flowing) and composure.
- c. anxiety and terror.
- d. sagacity (mischievous) and cunning (clever).

67. The narrator invites the police officers into the old man's room because he wants to:

- a. found out what they know.
- b. lead them to the body.
- c. enjoy his own cleverness.
- d. hear the beating heart.

68. As the narrator talks with the police, his mood changes from:

- a. confident to horrified.
- b. bored to excited.
- c. uninterested to angry.
- d. worried to frantic.

69. Why does the narrator finally confess his crime?

- a. The police officers find the old man's body.
- b. The realizes a neighbor heard him kill the old man.
- c. The narrator believes the police officers are mocking him.
- d. The police officers tell him he is mad.

70. Why does Poe call his story "The Tell-Tale Heart?"

- a. The narrator blames the old man's heart for giving him away.
- b. The story is told from the point of view of the old man's heart.
- c. Poe's story, or tale, is about the old man's heart.
- d. It is the dead man's beating heart still-beating heart that leads the police to the murderer.

### **"The White Umbrella"**

71. Why doesn't the narrator's daughter tell her daughters that she has a job?

- a. She is forgetful.
- b. She wants to surprise them.
- c. She's fearful.
- d. She's embarrassed.

\_\_\_\_\_ 72. What character trait of the narrator is illustrated by the following excerpt from the story: "I imagined that she was selling perfume, testing dessert recipes for the local newspaper"?

- a. her imagination.
- b. her humor.
- c. her immaturity.
- d. her writing ability.