

**Week 1 Assessment**

**Directions:** Choose the letter representing the best answer for each question.

1. At the end of the story "The Great Mountains," why is Jody "full of a nameless sorrow?"
  - A. Jody believes that Gitano took the sword to the mountains to commit suicide.
  - B. Jody is still depressed about the death of the red pony.
  - C. Jody wants to run away from home, but is too scared to do so.
  - D. Jody worries that someday his parents and Billy Buck are going to die.
2. At the end of the story "The Red Pony," Jody kills a buzzard because
  - A. He is afraid that the buzzards will kill his pony.
  - B. He is angry and upset because his pony is dead.
  - C. He is angry that the buzzard killed Gabilan.
  - D. The buzzard is injured, and he doesn't want it to suffer any more.
3. "Doubletree Mutt looked into the barn, his big tail waving provocatively, and Jody was so *incensed* at his health that he found a hard black clod on the floor and deliberately threw it."

In the sentence above, the word *incensed* most closely means:

  - A. Angered
  - B. Annoyed
  - C. Depressed
  - D. Excited
4. In the sentence "He dragged one foot to give an impression of great innocence and *nonchalance*," the word *nonchalance* most closely means:
  - A. Arrogance
  - B. Being grown up
  - C. Formality
  - D. Lack of concern
5. It was four o'clock in the afternoon when Jody topped the hill and looked down on the ranch again. He looked for the saddle horses, but the corral was empty. His father was not back yet. He went slowly, then, toward the afternoon chores. At the ranch house, he found his mother sitting on the porch, mending socks (149.)

The above is an example of what kind of paragraph?

- A. Persuasive paragraph
- B. Expository paragraph
- C. Metaphorical paragraph
- D. Narrative paragraph

6. Place the following events in chronological order:
1. When Jody finds Gabilan, the pony is dead and is already being eaten by buzzards.
  2. Billy tells Jody that the mare will probably give birth without incident, and promises to do everything he can to make sure the colt comes out all right.
  3. Jody's father takes him to the barn and gives him a red pony and a red leather saddle.
  4. One rainy day, the pony is left outside while Jody is at school.
- A. 3, 2, 4, 1  
B. 3, 4, 1, 2  
C. 1, 4, 2, 3  
D. 3, 2, 1, 4
7. Strangles is
- A. A choking feeling that people have when they have to speak in public.  
B. A way people kill their enemies.  
C. An infectious disease that kills humans.  
D. An infectious disease that makes horses sick.
8. When Steinbeck's Billy Buck says "Have to tear the cold to pieces to get it out, or the mare'll die," it is an example of
- A. Alliteration  
B. Foreshadowing  
C. Metaphor  
D. Sensory details
9. Which of the following quotes do **not** describe Carl Tiflin?
- A. "(He) didn't like to be cruel, but he felt he must."  
B. "(He) said in the stern tone he reserved for children and animals."  
C. "His father was a disciplinarian."  
D. "This knowledge made (him) less sure of himself than he had been."
10. Why does Carl Tiflin want Jody to have a horse to raise as his own?
- A. Carl wants Jody to enter horse competitions to raise money for the family.  
B. Carl wants Jody to have a pony, because he had one when he was a child.  
C. He doesn't; his wife makes him give a pony to Jody.  
D. He thinks it will teach Jody responsibility.

**Week 2 Assessment**

**Directions:** Choose the letter representing the best answer for each question.

1. At the end of the story, "The Promise,"
  - A. Billy Buck died.
  - B. Billy Buck killed Nellie to get Jody's pony out.
  - C. Billy Buck murdered Jody's pony.
  - D. Billy Buck quit the ranch because he was mad at Carl Tiflin.
2. Before Mary was married to Harry, all of the following are true **except**:
  - A. Mary almost married another man, but he hated gardens.
  - B. Mary received a box of candy from Italy.
  - C. Mary was a pretty, quiet child.
  - D. Mary's father passed away.
3. In "The White Quail," Mary believes the quail is most like:
  - A. A white rose.
  - B. Her husband, Harry.
  - C. Her mother.
  - D. Herself.
4. In the sentence "A race of giants had lived then, fearless men, men of a *staunchness* unknown in this day," the word *staunchness* most closely means:
  - A. Extreme height
  - B. Old-fashioned
  - C. Rigidness
  - D. Strong and true
5. In the sentence "And they *discouraged* the enemy on the other side, the brush and scrubby, untrimmed trees," a good antonym for the word *discouraged* would be:
  - A. Angered
  - B. Assisted
  - C. Courageous
  - D. Encouraged

6. On Saturday afternoon Billy Buck, the ranch-hand, raked together the last of the old year's haystack and pitched small forkfuls over the wire fence to a few mildly interested cattle. High in the air small clouds like puffs of cannon smoke were driven eastward by the March wind. The wind could be heard whishing in the brush on the ridge crests, but no breath of it penetrated down into the ranch-cup.

The mood at the beginning of the story "The Leader of the People," as illustrated by the paragraph above, might best be described as

- A. Angry and violent.
  - B. Lazy and bored.
  - C. Playful and joyful.
  - D. Tense and exciting.
7. Place the following events from "The White Quail" in chronological order:
- 1. Harry kills the white quail.
  - 2. Mary and Harry get married.
  - 3. Mary begs Harry to poison a cat in her garden.
  - 4. Mary tells Harry about the plans for her beautiful garden.
- A. 4, 2, 3, 1
  - B. 2, 4, 3, 1
  - C. 4, 1, 3, 2
  - D. 1, 2, 3, 4
8. The title of the story "The Promise" refers to
- A. Billy Buck's promise that he will see that Nellie's colt is born healthy.
  - B. Billy Buck's promise that the red pony will survive the strangles.
  - C. Carl Tiflin's promise to Jody that he can have a pony.
  - D. Jody's grandfather's promise to tell him a story about Indians.
9. What is the **primary** conflict in "The Man of the People?"
- A. Carl Tiflin doesn't like his father-in-law because he talks endlessly about Indians and crossing the plains.
  - B. Carl Tiflin is angry because his son likes Billy Buck more than he likes his own father.
  - C. Jody's grandfather fights Carl Tiflin for custody of Jody.
  - D. There is tension between Mr. and Mrs. Tiflin because they disagree about how to raise their son.

10. Why does Harry kill the white quail?

- A. Harry finds out Mary was cheating on him, and the quail was a gift from the other man.
- B. Harry kills the quail because he is lonely, and Mary loves her garden more than him.
- C. Harry kills the quail by accident, when he was aiming at the cat.
- D. Harry kills the quail for food.

**Week 3 Assessment**

**Directions:** Choose the letter representing the best answer for each question.

1. The sentence “Her face was lean and strong and her eyes were as clear as water” is an example of which literary device?
  - A. Alliteration.
  - B. Hyperbole.
  - C. Metaphor.
  - D. Simile.
  
2. In the sentence “Carefully he pulled out the *sliver* of stone,” the word *sliver* most closely means:
  - A. Chunk
  - B. Rock
  - C. Shiny item
  - D. Tiny piece
  
3. Place the following events from “Flight” in chronological order:
  1. Mama asks Pepé to run an errand in town.
  2. Pepé is shot.
  3. Pepé killed a man with a knife.
  4. Pepé rides his horse into the mountains.
  5. Pepé’s hand is injured by a sliver of stone.
  - A. 5, 1, 3, 4, 2
  - B. 1, 3, 4, 5, 2
  - C. 1, 3, 5, 4, 2
  - D. 1, 2, 3, 5, 4
  
4. In the story, “The Snake,” what is Dr. Phillips’ job?
  - A. He collects animals for scientific study.
  - B. He is a snake handler.
  - C. He is a veterinarian.
  - D. He’s a pediatrician.

5. In the story "The Chrysanthemums," how does Elisa initially feel after the peddler leaves with her flowers?
- A. Angry and confused.
  - B. Frightened and miserable.
  - C. Sad and lonely.
  - D. Strong and happy.
6. In the sentence "The girl kept to her work, her face *averted* and her eyes on what she was doing," the word *averted* most closely means:
- A. Beautiful
  - B. Calm
  - C. Shy
  - D. Turned away
7. It was very early in the morning. The eastern mountains were black-blue, but behind them the light stood up faintly colored at the mountain rims with a washed red, growing colder, greyer and darker as it went up and overhead until, at a place near the west, it merged with pure night.

In the paragraph above, Steinbeck uses which of the following?

- A. Hyperbole
  - B. Metaphors
  - C. Sensory details
  - D. Similes
8. In the story "The Snake," why was Dr. Phillips bothered by his female visitor?
- A. He didn't like her because she wanted to kill the snake to make a purse.
  - B. He was bothered because she enjoyed watching the snake eat the rat.
  - C. He was bothered because she rejected him when he asked her out on a date.
  - D. He was mad because she distracted him from his work.
9. The word that best describes the story "Saint Katy the Virgin" is:
- A. Comedic
  - B. Dramatic
  - C. Romantic
  - D. Tragic

10. Put the following events from the story “The Chrysanthemums” in sequential order:

1. A traveling repairman stops at Elisa’s house.
2. Elisa gives the man some chrysanthemum cuttings, and explains how to take care of them.
3. Elisa pays the man to fix an old pot for her.
4. Elisa sees her flowers tossed in the road.
5. The repair man compliments Elisa on her beautiful flowers.

- A. 4, 1, 5, 3, 2
- B. 1, 5, 2, 3, 4
- C. 1, 5, 3, 2, 4
- D. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

**Final Assessment**

**Directions:** Choose the letter representing the best answer for each question.

1. “Doubletree Mutt looked into the barn, his big tail waving provocatively, and Jody was so *incensed* at his health that he found a hard black clod on the floor and deliberately threw it.”

In the sentence above, the word *incensed* most closely means:

- A. Excited
- B. Depressed
- C. Annoyed
- D. Angered

2. “Young Root glanced sidewise at Dick and saw that the older man was looking at him coldly, critically, as though he judged his *deportment*.”

In the above sentence, the word *deportment* most closely means:

- A. Personal hygiene
- B. Hair style
- C. Behavior
- D. Beauty

3. After Jim Moore kills a man in “The Murder,” what happens?

- A. He kills himself and his wife.
- B. He is chased into the mountains and shot dead.
- C. He goes to town to report the killing to the authorities.
- D. He gets away with it, but his wife leaves him.

4. After participating in a lynching in “The Vigilante,” Mike feels like

- A. Throwing up.
- B. He’s just been with a woman who isn’t his wife.
- C. Dancing in the street.
- D. Apologizing to the victim’s family.

5. At the end of the story “The Red Pony,” Jody kills a buzzard because

- A. The buzzard is injured, and he doesn’t want it to suffer any more.
- B. He is angry that the buzzard killed Gabilan.
- C. He is angry and upset because his pony is dead.
- D. He is afraid that the buzzards will kill his pony.

6. In "The Vigilante," the Mike discusses the lynching in detail with
- A. The sheriff.
  - B. His wife.
  - C. His African-American coworker.
  - D. A bartender.
7. In "The White Quail," Mary believes the quail is most like:
- A. Herself
  - B. Her mother
  - C. Her husband, Harry
  - D. A white rose
8. In the sentence "The girl kept to her work, her face *averted* and her eyes on what she was doing," the word *averted* most closely means:
- A. Turned away
  - B. Shy
  - C. Calm
  - D. Beautiful
9. In the story "Johnny Bear," the title character's special talent is:
- A. Street dancing.
  - B. Speaking Chinese fluently.
  - C. Playing piano even though he is blind.
  - D. Imitating anything he hears perfectly.
10. In the story "The Harness," the harness is a metaphor for
- A. The tool that Peter used to plant his field of sweet peas.
  - B. The device that Peter Randall had to wear to maintain good posture.
  - C. The control that Emma had over her husband Peter, even after she died.
  - D. Peter Randall's love of farming and horses.
11. In the story "The Murder," why does Jim kill his wife's cousin?
- A. The cousin was having an affair with Jim's wife.
  - B. The cousin tried to punish Jim for beating Jelka.
  - C. The cousin stole Jim's cattle.
  - D. Jim and the cousin had a fight over who was the best horseman.

12. In the story "The Snake," why was Dr. Phillips bothered by his female visitor?
- A. He was mad because she distracted him from his work.
  - B. He was bothered because she rejected him when he asked her out on a date.
  - C. He was bothered because she enjoyed watching the snake eat the rat.
  - D. He didn't like her because she wanted to kill the snake to make a purse.

13. "It was four o'clock in the afternoon when Jody topped the hill and looked down on the ranch again. He looked for the saddle horses, but the corral was empty. His father was not back yet. He went slowly, then, toward the afternoon chores. At the ranch house, he found his mother sitting on the porch, mending socks."

The above is an example of what kind of paragraph?

- A. Persuasive Paragraph
  - B. Narrative Paragraph
  - C. Metaphorical Paragraph
  - D. Expository Paragraph
14. "On Saturday afternoon Billy Buck, the ranch-hand, raked together the last of the old year's haystack and pitched small forkfuls over the wire fence to a few mildly interested cattle. High in the air small clouds like puffs of cannon smoke were driven eastward by the March wind. The wind could be heard whishing in the brush on the ridge crests, but no breath of it penetrated down into the ranch-cup."

The mood at the beginning of the story "The Leader of the People," as illustrated by the paragraph above, might best be described as

- A. Tense and exciting.
  - B. Playful and joyful.
  - C. Lazy and bored.
  - D. Angry and violent.
15. Place the following events from "Flight" in chronological order:
- 1. Mama asks Pepé to run an errand in town.
  - 2. Pepé is shot.
  - 3. Pepé killed a man with a knife.
  - 4. Pepé rides his horse into the mountains.
  - 5. Pepé's hand is injured by a sliver of stone.
- A. 1, 2, 3, 5, 4
  - B. 1, 3, 5, 4, 2
  - C. 1, 3, 4, 5, 2
  - D. 5, 1, 3, 4, 2

16. Place the following events from *The Red Pony* in chronological order:

1. When Jody finds Gabilan, the pony is dead and is already being eaten by buzzards.
2. Billy tells Jody that the mare will probably give birth without incident, and promises to do everything he can to make sure the colt comes out all right.
3. Jody's father takes him to the barn and gives him a red pony and a red leather saddle.
4. One rainy day, the pony is left outside while Jody is at school.

- A. 3, 2, 1, 4
- B. 1, 4, 2, 3
- C. 3, 4, 1, 2
- D. 3, 2, 4, 1

17. Place the following events from "The Harness" in sequential order:

1. Peter decides to plant his entire field in sweet peas.
2. Peter makes money, and decides to put electric lights in his house for Emma.
3. Peter tells his friend Ed that Emma controlled his life.
4. Peter's wife, Emma, dies.

- A. 1, 2, 4, 3
- B. 4, 3, 1, 2
- C. 2, 4, 3, 1
- D. 4, 3, 2, 1

18. Place the following events from "The White Quail" in chronological order:

1. Harry kills the white quail.
2. Mary and Harry get married.
3. Mary begs Harry to poison a cat in her garden.
4. Mary tells Harry about the plans for her beautiful garden.

- A. 1, 2, 3, 4
- B. 4, 1, 3, 2
- C. 2, 4, 3, 1
- D. 4, 2, 3, 1

19. Put the following events from the story “The Chrysanthemums” in sequential order:
1. A traveling repairman stops at Elisa’s house.
  2. Elisa gives the man some chrysanthemum cuttings, and explains how to take care of them.
  3. Elisa pays the man to fix an old pot for her.
  4. Elisa sees her flowers tossed in the road.
  5. The repairman compliments Elisa on her beautiful flowers.
- A. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5  
B. 1, 5, 3, 2, 4  
C. 1, 5, 2, 3, 4  
D. 4, 1, 5, 3, 2
20. The sentence “Her face was lean and strong and her eyes were as clear as water” is an example of which literary device?
- A. Simile  
B. Metaphor  
C. Hyperbole  
D. Alliteration
21. The title of the story “The Promise” refers to
- A. Jody’s grandfather’s promise to tell him a story about Indians.  
B. Carl Tiflin’s promise to Jody that he can have a pony.  
C. Billy Buck’s promise that the red pony will survive the strangles.  
D. Billy Buck’s promise that he will see that Nellie’s colt is born healthy.
22. The word *covet* in the sentence “The owners of the swamp to the north of the village began to *covet* the black land,” most closely means:
- A. Enjoy  
B. Desire.  
C. Cover.  
D. Change.
23. When Steinbeck’s Billy Buck says “Have to tear the cold to pieces to get it out, or the mare’ll die,” this is an example of
- A. Sensory details  
B. Metaphor  
C. Foreshadowing  
D. Alliteration

24. Why are Dick and Root beaten by a mob in the story "The Raid?"
- A. Dick and Root men killed a girl in a robbery attempt.
  - B. Dick and Root are holding a meeting promoting a union strike.
  - C. Dick and Root are attacked by members of an opposite gang.
  - D. Dick and Root are attacked because they are minorities working in a white area.
25. Why does Harry kill "The White Quail?"
- A. Harry kills the quail for food.
  - B. Harry kills the quail by accident, when he was aiming at the cat.
  - C. Harry kills the quail because he is lonely, and Mary loves her garden more than him.
  - D. Harry finds out Mary was cheating on him, and the quail was a gift from the other man.

## **Answer Keys**

### **Week 1 Assessment**

1. A
2. B
3. A
4. D
5. D
6. B
7. D
8. B
9. D
10. D

### **Week 2 Assessment**

1. B
2. A
3. D
4. D
5. D
6. B
7. A
8. A
9. A
10. B

### **Week 3 Assessment**

1. D
2. D
3. B
4. A
5. D
6. D
7. C
8. B
9. A
10. B

### **Final Assessment**

1. D
2. C
3. C
4. B
5. C
6. D
7. A
8. A
9. D
10. C
11. A
12. C
13. B
14. C
15. C
16. C
17. B
18. D
19. C
20. A
21. D
22. B
23. C
24. B
25. C