

Week 1 Assessment

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

1. In the poem “The Oak and the Rose” by Shel Silverstien, what do you think the theme is?
 - A. Friends can come from different backgrounds.
 - B. It is important to grow and be yourself even if you have to leave your friends behind.
 - C. True friends will support your growth.
 - D. Roses are sweeter smelling and more attractive than oaks.
2. “As we were driving down the Virginia Place, it felt as if something wasn’t right. What it was, I don’t know. Something just didn’t feel right” (p. 3). In this passage the author was using what literary device?
 - A. Imagery
 - B. Irony
 - C. Foreshadow
 - D. Symbolism
3. “After they searched, they came back to us. The hard cop asked us in a *sarcastic* way, ‘Where did you get the money for the beer?’” (p. 5). In this sentence, what word means the opposite of sarcastic?
 - A. Caustic
 - B. Sincere
 - C. Satire
 - D. Ironic
4. “He went flying back like a puppet” (p. 8). is an example of what literary term?
 - A. Metaphor
 - B. Analogy
 - C. Simile
 - D. Allusion
5. “‘Let’s go,’ I said anxiously” (p. 9) What part of speech is *anxiously*?
 - A. Noun
 - B. Verb

- C. Adverb
 - D. Pronoun
6. “When you are young and dumb as I was, you don’t think of the consequences of your actions. When I think back to this night, I think “I didn’t even know Caesar well enough to give my life for him, and what if we did kill someone? For what? For someone I didn’t even know? For a cause that wasn’t even noble?” (p. 10). In this passage the author implies which of the following?
- A. Your life can be drastically altered in an instant of rash decision-making.
 - B. It is important consider all consequences before making decisions.
 - C. Violence is not an answer to any problem.
 - D. Both a and b.
7. After the fight at the party when all of the boys are trying to get away what is the tone and mood that the author is trying to convey?
- A. Calm; well intentioned planning.
 - B. Chaotic; no one is stopping to listen or think.
 - C. Reality check; the boys know what they have done is wrong and the reality is starting to hit them.
 - D. Fearful; the boys know they are in deep and they are fearful of their parents and the authorities.
8. “‘Turn around boy!’ He put the handcuffs on me—so tight that they hurt. All my circulation was cut off” (p. 18). In this sentence circulation means:
- A. Movement in a circle or circuit, the movement of blood through bodily vessels as a result of the heart’s pumping action.
 - B. Movement or passage through a system of vessels, as of water through pipes; flow.
 - C. Free movement or passage.
 - D. The passing of something, such as money or news, from place to place or person to person.
9. Based on what you have learned about Arthur in the text so far what word or words describe him best.
- A. A decent kid that was in the wrong place at the wrong time.
 - B. A good-natured kid that likes to have fun with his friends.
 - C. A loving brother and son who is fearful of his future.
 - D. A teen who pushes the limits and rules at every opportunity.
10. “All this time I was in the interrogation room, I heard people in the hallway” (p. 36).

In this sentence interrogation most closely means:

- A. A way to get data and information.
- B. A systematic effort to procure information by direct questioning of a person under the control of the questioner.
- C. To be deceived.
- D. To give information freely.

Week 2 Assessment

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

1. What does a plea bargain (p. 92), mean for Arthur?
 - A. Arthur was able to do his “time” while on house arrest.
 - B. Arthur would be able to plead not guilty and get out with time served.
 - C. Arthur would have to pay restitution in the form of money to the victims family and do community service.
 - D. Arthur would plead guilty and receive a lesser sentence.
2. “I got out of my chair and stood by the table. A lot of thoughts were spinning through my mind. What a short visit for such big news. Looking at the lawyer still in disbelief, I asked, ‘Now if we go to court tomorrow what does that mean?’” (p. 92). What does the prefix dis- mean in this passage?
 - A. Through, across
 - B. Apart, not
 - C. Ill, difficult, bad
 - D. Down, away
3. What word is derived from the word meaning, excitement; agitation, commotion?
 - A. Sensation
 - B. Temper
 - C. Obey
 - D. Prolonged
4. Arthur was transferred from mini-row to Perkins, the prison system hospital. What best describes the situation at Perkins? (p. 101-103).
 - A. Institutional
 - B. Racially, divided
 - C. Relaxed
 - D. All of the above
5. What lesson does Arthur learn from his father when he is forced to walk to the store by himself? (p. 99-100)
 - A. The unknown is scary.
 - B. Bravery comes in many forms.
 - C. Although you may conquer your fears, there will still be times that you are scared of the unknown.
 - D. The more you take risks and conquer your fears, the more confident you become that you can do anything.

6. “The guys told me stories about the castle. There’s an abandoned castle which was at Preston back in the 1800’s and early 1900’s. One of the guys at Perkins was sent to Preston in the past, and he had been in it. There’s a saying about the castle; when you’re released and driving away from Preston, never look back at it. If you do, you’ll be going back. The day I was released from Preston and the car rolled out of the gate and down the street, I didn’t look back” (p. 109).

What lesson do you think the author wants you to learn from this story?

- A. The ability to look forward helps you plan for your future and set goals.
 - B. Looking back and dwelling on the past can force you to make bad decisions and have negative consequences throughout your life.
 - C. If you look back your past will always follow you.
 - D. Both a & b
7. Why is learning your personality traits and style important?
- A. So the state could keep people with various personality traits separated.
 - B. So the state can better rehabilitate young adults.
 - C. If you know your personality type you can become more effective in all aspects of your life.
 - D. Both a & b
8. Which of the following best describes the mood at Preston? (p. 110-113).
- A. Grim and horrible.
 - B. Giant, many of the inmates held special jobs to keep the place running.
 - C. Similar to a small town.
 - D. There was no privacy what-so-ever.
9. Put these events in order as they have happened in Arthur’s life.
- 1. Arthur wants to be liked by his brother’s friends so he encourages them to fight on behalf of Caesar.
 - 2. Arthur is placed at Preston.
 - 3. Arthur has to fight to earn respect at Perkins
 - 4. Arthur was saddled with much responsibility while he grew up.
- A. 1, 3, 4, 2
 - B. 4, 2, 1, 3
 - C. 4, 1, 3, 2

D. 2, 3, 1, 4

10. Which of the following is derived from the word meaning “blameless, naïve”?
- A. Lewd
 - B. Immoral
 - C. Ethical
 - D. Innocent
11. The writer makes references to “trade school” at Preston. Why do you think so much emphasis is put on education, especially “trade school” in this novel?
- A. Youth who drop out of school, traditionally, have low paying or no jobs and therefore become delinquent costing the system more to pay for services.
 - B. Education helps open doors to many opportunities that will help increase social awareness and enable youth to become more self sufficient.
 - C. It is important to give youth offender’s skills that are useful so when they leave custody they have the ability to be productive in their community.
 - D. All of the above.
12. “Mr. Gorman came back the next day with some religious literature. I looked his way, and he motioned for me to go to the platform. He gave me the literature and told me about it. I told him I liked to read materials like this and would read it. I was a big liar. I didn’t like to read religious materials, and I wasn’t going to read it because I couldn’t” (p. 151).

What literary term best describes the author’s style in this passage?

- A. Allusion
- B. Colloquialism
- C. Juxtaposition
- D. Irony

Week 3 Assessment

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

1. “The doctor pointed to my room. The old man looked over at me, and his eyes caught mine. He walked into the room slowly, staring at me. I didn’t like this old man. He tried to be nice and had a friendly smile. He stepped to the side of my bed, picked up my hair and held it. ‘Almost time, Arthur!’ Feeling my hand with his other hand, he continued just yet. I’ll be back in a little while for you” (p. 163).

The author spends much time describing the “man in black”. What impact does this man have on Arthur?

- A. The man is from Preston and he wants Arthur to return with him.
 - B. He is another doctor trying to find out what is wrong with Arthur.
 - C. He is a man from the church and wants to support Arthur.
 - D. Arthur realizes he is being visited by death and he is not ready to die.
2. “Mr. Gorman, thank you for being so kind to me while I was here” (p. 166). Why was Mr. Gorman a significant role model in Arthur’s life.
- A. Unlike his father, Mr. Gorman was fair, honest, trusting, and consistent.
 - B. Mr. Gorman was a push-over who Arthur manipulated.
 - C. Mr. Gorman treated Arthur with respect.
 - D. Both A & C
3. What steps should Arthur take to stay out of jail?
- A. Get a job, associate with positive people, attend meetings, follow his terms and conditions of probation
 - B. Become an active member in his family, stay out of trouble, take up a hobby
 - C. Find friends that have the similar interests, return to school, and get healthy
 - D. Try not to get caught while engaging in negative behaviors and activities
4. “I turned my head, and saw his break lights illuminate.” What word best describes the meaning of illuminate?
- A. Go out
 - B. To turn on
 - C. To become enlightened
 - D. To brighten with light

5. “As I stepped in, I just couldn’t believe it. Again! I looked up at the ceiling, and what
- Character Education at the Markkula Center for Applied Ethics**

did I see up there etched in the wall? 'ART WAS HERE.' It sent a chill up my back!" (p. 176). What literary device does the author use in this passage?

- A. Bias
- B. Point of View
- C. Irony
- D. Alliteration

6. In the question above, what is the antonym of the word *etched*?

- A. Carved
- B. Embossed
- C. Scratched
- D. Uncarved

7. In the chapter "Curly Hair Little Brat", Arthur has a chance to meet his father again. How does this visit affect Arthur?

- A. Arthur was able to see his father and apologize for his behavior as a teen.
- B. Arthur has an opportunity to see his father and his successes enabling him to understand his father better.
- C. Arthur saw this as an opportunity to get to know his father better.
- D. This visit opened up a line of communication with his father.

8. "We all sat with my father and talked. He was happy to see us and wanted to be close to us. We didn't blame him for the experiences we went through when we were young" (p. 181).

What factors contributed to the families understanding of each other?

- A. Respect. Time and distance enabled everyone to come to mutual respect of one another.
- B. Understanding, as the kids got older they choose to try and understand their father and accept him for who he was.
- C. Forgiveness. The kids forgave their father and decided to value the positive lessons that he taught them.
- D. All of the above.

9. What does Arthur learn from his encounter with Richard (p. 185)?

- A. Given time and space people can change and become better humans.
- B. Things that bothered us as teens and young adults become insignificant as

we get older.

- C. Fighting is not always needed or the best answer.
- D. All of the above

10. Many of Arthur's uncle's lives ended in tragedy: "Uncle Joe shot himself in the head a few years later, having become depressed with life. Later on Aunt Maryann divorced Uncle Alfred. A few years after that, Uncle Alfred died from a bad liver, the result of having a wild life. Uncle Ray died years after that, also from the same illness, a bad liver" (p. 193). In what way did these deaths affect Arthur?
- A. Arthur realized that death is a naturally occurring event. He was saddened but understands, "*these things happen.*"
 - B. Arthur begins to see that there are lasting and permanent consequences to all decisions and he begins to think about his future choices.
 - C. Arthur sympathizes with his grandparents who lost three children at early ages.
 - D. Arthur uses these deaths as an excuse to continue to make bad decisions.

Week 4 Assessment

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

1. “When you are young and dumb as I was, you don’t think of the consequences of your actions. When I think back to this night, I think ‘I didn’t even know Caesar well enough to give my life for him, and what if we did kill someone? For what? For someone I didn’t even know? For a cause that wasn’t even noble?’” (p. 10).

In this passage the author implies which of the following?

- A. Your life can be drastically altered in an instant of rash decision-making.
 - B. It is important consider all consequences before making decisions.
 - C. Violence is not an answer to any problem.
 - D. Both a and b.
2. “The pretrial hearing didn’t last to long” (p. 49). The prefix *pre-* means.
- A. Against
 - B. Good
 - C. After
 - D. Before
3. “At least in Juvenile if I were a good reader, I could have read. In lockup there was nothing to read, not even a magazine. I had a small window with nothing to see but the wall of the building next to our building. What I learned to do really well was to use my imagination. I could go anywhere I wanted and be anyone I wanted to be” (p. 116).

The author talks of the importance of being able to use your imagination. Why do you think he values this skill?

- A. It helped him pass time while he was locked up.
 - B. He was able to think about home and what he wanted to do once he returned.
 - C. With imagination you can think of things bigger than yourself and set goals based on those things.
 - D. Knowledge is limited and concrete. Imagination helps you process the knowledge.
4. In the story “The Monsters” what did Arthur learn from his father?

- A. Once you learn what the unknown is you can conquer your fears and live a more productive life.
 - B. There are “monsters” in everyday situations and you have to face them.
 - C. That once you conquer a “monster” you have the confidence to try new things.
 - D. All of the above.
5. “The guys told me stories about the castle. There’s an abandoned castle which was at Preston back in the 1800’s and early 1900’s. One of the guys at Perkins was sent to Preston in the past, and he had been in it. There’s a saying about the castle; when you’re released and driving away from Preston, never look back at it. If you do, you’ll be going back. The day I was released from Preston and the car rolled out of the gate and down the street, I didn’t look back” (p. 109).

What lesson do you think the author wants you to learn from this story?

- A. The ability to look forward helps you plan for your future and set goals.
 - B. Looking back and dwelling on the past can force you to make bad decisions and have negative consequences throughout your life.
 - C. If you look back your past will always follow you.
 - D. Both a & b
6. Why is learning your personality traits and style important?
- A. So the state could keep people with various personality traits separated.
 - B. So the state can better rehabilitate young adults.
 - C. If you know your personality type you can become more effective in all aspects of your life.
 - D. Both a & b
7. Why is the story of “Blow Your Horn” so significant to Arthur’s life and memory?
- A. This is a fond memory for Arthur and made him realize that his childhood was made up of positive experiences not just adversity.
 - B. Arthur liked to swim.
 - C. He liked to watch his mother—she enjoyed watching the kids have a good time.
 - D. “Blow Your Horn” was a piece of childhood that Arthur valued.
8. “At this point in my life, I was having a very difficult time with him. I felt he didn’t care for me. There was a lot of animosity built up between him and me” (p. 147).

What word or phrase best describes the term animosity?

- A. Support and care
- B. Confusion
- C. Miscommunication
- D. Resentment

9. The writer makes references to “trade school” at Preston. Why do you think so much emphasis is put on education, especially “trade school” in this novel?
- A. Youth who drop out of school, traditionally, have low paying or no jobs and therefore become delinquent costing the system more to pay for services.
 - B. Education helps open doors to many opportunities that will help increase social awareness and enable youth to become more self-sufficient.
 - C. It is important to give youth offender’s skills that are useful so when they leave custody they have the ability to be productive in their community.
 - D. All of the above.
10. Arthur went through much change in East Side Dreams. Put the following in order to reflect the change in Arthur’s life.
- 1. Arthur got married and had a child.
 - 2. Arthur decided he wasn’t going to do drugs anymore.
 - 3. Arthur worked to mend relationships with those he cared for.
 - 4. Arthur decided that his future was in his control and he decided to get away from his friends and live his own life.
 - 5. Arthur had great work ethic so he went to work and became focused.
- A. 1, 2, 4, 5, 3
 - B. 5, 2, 3, 1, 4
 - C. 3, 1, 4, 2, 5
 - D. 3, 1, 2, 4, 5*
11. Many of Arthur’s uncle’s lives ended in tragedy: “Uncle Joe shot himself in the head a few years later, having become depressed with life. Later on Aunt Maryann divorced Uncle Alfred. A few years after that, Uncle Alfred died from a bad liver, the result of having a wild life. Uncle Ray died years after that, also from the same illness, a bad liver” (p. 193).

In what way did these deaths affect Arthur?

- A. Arthur realized that death is a naturally occurring event. He was saddened

but understands, "*these things happen.*"

- B. Arthur begins to see that there are lasting and permanent consequences to all decisions and he begins to think about his future choices.
 - C. Arthur sympathizes with his grandparents who lost 3 children at early ages.
 - D. Arthur uses these deaths as an excuse to continue to make bad decisions.
12. What factor(s) contributed to Arthur making changes in his life?
- A. Arthur's marriage, the birth of his son, and his new job.
 - B. The death of Arthur's uncles, almost being stabbed at a club, the birth of his son.
 - C. Positive influences in Arthur's life (like Cathy and Mr. Goreman), timing, a positive work environment.
 - D. Arthur's mother holding him accountable, being away from his negative friends, the birth of his son, willingness to listen to others and knowing that change had to be his decision.
13. Arthur has an opportunity to make extra money by selling sweaters. What life lesson does Arthur learn from this deal?
- A. If a deal sounds too good to be true it probably is.
 - B. Arthur should know his product before trying to sell it.
 - C. If you are selling a poor product you should not sell it to your friends.
 - D. Make sure you price your product to ensure you make a profit.
14. "Because my father liked to go on trips all over Mexico and spend money, he wasn't doing well in his business. He also bought and sold diamonds. The man in charge of his store let the business go down; he wasn't taking care of it. My father thought he also stole some of his diamonds" (p. 221).
- What answer best describes the lesson that the writer is trying to convey.
- A. Choose your friends and associates carefully.
 - B. It is important to do background checks on all of your employees.
 - C. Sometimes it is better to do a job yourself.
 - D. You are only as good as those who are around you.
15. What goals did Arthur have related to work?
- A. He wanted to be independent
 - B. He wanted to be his own boss
 - C. He wanted to work in a good paying job and be able to have some freedom.
 - D. All of the above

16. What statement best describes Arthur?
- A. A misguided youth who just got caught up in the wrong crowd.
 - B. A teen that struggled through adversity, survived, and did everything he could to better himself.
 - C. A young man who wanted respect and acceptance from his father.
 - D. A man who had good business sense and ethics.
17. What voice is the novel *East Side Dreams* written in?
- A. First-person point of view.
 - B. Third-person point of view.
 - C. Omniscient
 - D. Limited Omniscient
18. What genre of writing is *East Side Dreams*?
- A. Historical Fiction
 - B. Parody
 - C. Autobiography
 - D. Biography
19. *East Side Dreams* is written in present day but also with a series of flashbacks looking into the main character as he was growing up. How do you think the flashbacks were intended to help the reader?
- A. Flashbacks give the reader and opportunity to understand why the character has evolved into the person they are.
 - B. Flashbacks give the author an opportunity to explain the story to the reader.
 - C. Flashbacks enable the reader to learn lessons with the main character.
 - D. Flashbacks enable the author to act as a moral compass to the main character.
20. What type of father figure was Arthur's father?
- A. Democratic; will listen to both sides of a situation before making a decision.
 - B. Indulgent; "permissive" or "nondirective", are more responsive than they are demanding.
 - C. *Authoritarian*: highly demanding and directive, but not responsive.
 - D. *Authoritative*: both demanding and responsive. "They monitor and impart clear standards for their children's conduct."

21. As Arthur was starting his new company, what did he learn about the people who helped him?
- A. There are generous people in the world.
 - B. If you ask for help there are generous people that will be willing to help you.
 - C. In order to earn respect from people you must give respect.
 - D. You must be able to identify what you want and ask for it.
 - E. All of the above
22. What factor contributed to Arthur being able to promote within the companies he worked for?
- A. Arthur was never afraid of hard work.
 - B. Arthur learned how to do a job from others.
 - C. Arthur was never afraid to accept a challenge and he was willing to try anything new.
 - D. Arthur was willing to ask questions and accept help from his supervisors
23. What lesson did Arthur learn about his father?
- A. Despite being critical, Arthur's father was proud of him and interested in him.
 - B. To be confident and accept challenges in business.
 - C. To fight for what you believe in.
 - D. Both A and B
 - E. Both A and C
24. "I arrived home with the first money and my first receipt. Flora and I sat on the sofa and looked at each other; we knew our business had started. Through the years we have kept that first receipt; and every so often, we stop to look at it. We remember the first days of starting Number One Disposal."
- Why do you think Arthur and his wife continued to reflect on their first day?
- A. Taking the first step to start a new venture is sometimes more significant than becoming successful at it.
 - B. To know if you are going in the right direction.
 - C. Continuing to live in the past is important for growth.
 - D. They were proud of their accomplishments and success.
25. "I was shocked! I couldn't believe it at that instant. It took a few seconds for it to sink in. Then I cried and cried and cried. So did my brothers and sister. We grew to

love my father a lot. Even though he was abusive when we were young, he was a good man. He had a good heart. He just had his ways and was brought up in a hard way—in the traditional Mexican style. He thought it was the only decent way to bring up his children” (p. 266).

What do you think are the most significant changes that occurred in Arthur’s life?

- A. Being in custody taught him to respect authority.
- B. Learning to respect and understand his father for the gifts he was given instead of hating him for his hard childhood.
- C. Having children gave him something to live for.
- D. Learning that setting goals, trying new things, and hard work help you become successful.

Character Based Literacy Program Assessment
East Side Dreams

Name _____

Date _____

Character Based Literacy Program Assessment
East Side Dreams, Answer Key

Name _____

Date _____

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