

### Week 1 Assessment

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

1. “He’d been a headbanger as a toddler and still threw tantrums when he didn’t get his way. He knew he couldn’t afford a *tirade* here.”

The word *tirade* in the passage below most closely means:

- A. crying fit.
  - B. outburst of anger.
  - C. seizure.
  - D. tragedy.
2. After the crash, the reader next sees Brent
- A. at the courthouse in front of a judge.
  - B. crying in the hospital.
  - C. on a bus to Seattle.
  - D. throwing up outside his car at the scene of the accident.
3. Alexandra and Steph use the whirligig in Maine to
- A. find a new boyfriend for Alexandra.
  - B. help Steph visualize a boyfriend.
  - C. map out their futures as famous actresses.
  - D. meet their boyfriends in secret where their parents won’t see.
4. Brent is angry with his friend, Jonathan, when they arrive at the party because
- A. Jonathan tells Chaz that he doesn’t know Brent.
  - B. Jonathan forgot to tell him that it was a theme party with a dress code.
  - C. Jonathan didn’t bring the cookies they made for the party.
  - D. Jonathan is hitting on the girl that Brent likes.
5. Brent’s last name is, like the chess piece,
- A. Bishop.
  - B. King.
  - C. Knight.
  - D. Rook.

6. Courage Requires \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. Action.  
B. Effort.  
C. Moderation.  
D. Wholeness.
7. In the sentence “‘We’re meeting today,’ said Miss Gill, ‘to apologize, and to understand, and to *atone*,’” the word *atone* most closely means:  
A. discuss sand and angry feelings.  
B. forgive someone for something bad they did to you.  
C. make up for something bad you have done.  
D. sing a beautiful song.
8. Place the following events in chronological order:  
1. Brent drives his friend Jonathan to Chaz’s party.  
2. Brent meets with Lea’s mother to discuss possible restitution.  
3. Lea’s father sends Brent’s letter of apology back to him in shreds.  
4. While drunk, Brent decides to crash his car, and kills a girl.  
A. 4, 3, 2, 1  
B. 1, 4, 3, 2  
C. 2, 1, 4, 3  
D. 1, 4, 2, 3
9. The author of *Whirligig* is  
A. C.S. Lewis  
B. George Orwell  
C. John Steinbeck  
D. Paul Fleischman
10. The setting of Brent’s Ordinary World is  
A. Chicago, Illinois.  
B. Los Angeles, California.  
C. Atlanta, Georgia.  
D. New York, New York.

### Week 2 Assessment

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

1. Lea's mother asks Brent to make restitution by
  - A. agreeing to spend every summer volunteering in the same hospital as Lea.
  - B. building four whirligigs and placing them around the country.
  - C. giving her family \$50,000 to start a scholarship in Lea's memory.
  - D. travelling around the country and telling people about Lea.
  
2. In the phrase "...he added drop by drop to his store of *perseverance*, which supplied both tasks" the word *perseverance* most closely means
  - A. knowledge.
  - B. not giving up
  - C. peanut butter.
  - D. skills.
  
3. Brent's first whirligig is
  - A. a harp player.
  - B. an angel.
  - C. knocked down right after he puts it up.
  - D. really easy to make.
  
4. Place the following events in chronological order:
  1. Brent starts his second whirligig.
  2. Brent starts his work at a campground in Washington.
  3. Brent takes the bus to San Diego, and stays in a youth hostel.
  4. Lea's mother tells Brent what she wants him to do for restitution.
  - A. 4, 2, 3, 1
  - B. 4, 1, 2, 3
  - C. 2, 4, 1, 3
  - D. 1, 2, 3, 4
  
5. Brent starts to learn how to play the
  - A. acoustic guitar.
  - B. bagpipes.
  - C. harmonica.
  - D. piano

6. The word *disparate* in the phrase "...a term for a *disparate* group of people linked together without their knowledge," most closely means
- A. angry.
  - B. dangerous.
  - C. different.
  - D. similar.
7. The whirligig in Miami, Florida, helps a man by
- A. giving him the idea to leave his family and become a professional whirligig builder.
  - B. helping him think about how mean his wife is, and he decides to leave her.
  - C. making him realize that he wants to start his own band.
  - D. showing him that people are always in a group, sometimes getting along, sometimes not.
8. Brent hangs his San Diego whale and mermaid whirligig at
- A. a local artists home.
  - B. a tree on a campground.
  - C. an empty building at the beach.
  - D. the youth hostel where he stayed.
9. When he arrives in San Diego, Brent first
- A. calls his parents and tells them how difficult his trip has been.
  - B. sleeps on the beach.
  - C. starts to build his next whirligig right away.
  - D. tours the city with a friend he made at the youth hostel.
10. When arrives in Washington, Brent shares a camp site with
- A. a cyclist.
  - B. a rowdy young family.
  - C. his new friend, Emil.
  - D. the ghost of Lea.

**Week 3 Assessment**

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

1. Brent writes a note to the maid in Florida that says:
  - A. "Do you want to go out tonight?"
  - B. "I am completely alone."
  - C. "I'm sorry I don't have enough money to give you a tip."
  - D. "Thank you for doing a great job cleaning my room."
2. Brent's harp-playing whirligig helps Tony by
  - A. convincing his mother that he doesn't have to play the violin all the time.
  - B. distracting his mother while he sneaks out to meet his girlfriend.
  - C. giving him a great idea for his woodshop project.
  - D. helping him realize that violin playing is the best thing in his life.
3. In Florida, Brent teaches some local children about
  - A. not talking to strangers.
  - B. playing the harmonica.
  - C. taking the bus safely.
  - D. using tools.
4. In the phrase "He didn't mind *apprenticing* himself to a third-grader," the word *apprenticing* most closely means
  - A. being mean to.
  - B. laughing with.
  - C. learning from.
  - D. taking care of.
5. Jenny is frustrated because
  - A. Brent wants to spend all his time with her, and she doesn't really like him.
  - B. her grandmother keeps asking her to drive to random buildings in their neighborhood.
  - C. she wants to interview her grandmother for her history project, but isn't allowed to.
  - D. she would rather be at the mall than hanging out with her grandmother.

6. Jenny's grandmother is a survivor of
- A. a bad marriage.
  - B. a terrible car accident.
  - C. the Holocaust.
  - D. the Vietnam War.
7. Place the following events in chronological order:
- 1. A bunch of kids hang around while Brent is building his whirligig.
  - 2. A lady on the bus tells Brent her entire boring life story.
  - 3. Brent checks into a motel in Florida.
  - 4. Brent starts to build a whirligig on the beach.
- A. 4, 3, 2, 1
  - B. 2, 3, 4, 1
  - C. 2, 4, 3, 1
  - D. 2, 4, 1, 3
8. The quality that the whirligigs all share is
- A. each has two propellers.
  - B. they are all hung in trees.
  - C. they are all painted red.
  - D. they have a feature that looks like Lea.
9. The word *unintelligible* in the phrase "It was *unintelligible*, a foreign language," most closely means
- A. beautiful and exotic.
  - B. from a different country.
  - C. impossible to understand.
  - D. not intelligent.
10. Tony, who is forced to play the violin, is a huge fan of
- A. ballet dancing.
  - B. baseball.
  - C. classical music.
  - D. rock and roll.

### Final Assessment

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

1. "He continued on and found a site more to his liking among the trees, with a table, a barbecue, and *seclusion*."

The word *seclusion* in the passage above most closely means:

- A. busy.
  - B. grassy.
  - C. lots of trees.
  - D. privacy.
2. Alexandra and Steph use the whirligig in Maine to
- A. find a new boyfriend for Alexandra.
  - B. help Steph visualize a boyfriend.
  - C. map out their futures as famous actresses.
  - D. meet their boyfriends in secret where their parents won't see.
3. At the end of the novel, Brent considers
- A. becoming a doctor to make up for what he did to Lea.
  - B. building a whirligig in every state.
  - C. forgetting about school and hitchhiking around the country for a year.
  - D. joining the army.
4. Brent leaves his last whirligig
- A. at a youth hostel.
  - B. in another campground.
  - C. on an abandoned building at the beach.
  - D. outside the home of an artist in Maine.
5. Brent starts to learn how to play the
- A. acoustic guitar.
  - B. bagpipes.
  - C. harmonica.
  - D. piano

6. Brent telling the painter about what he did to Lea represents which part of his Heroic Journey?
- A. Tests, Allies, and Enemies.
  - B. the Ordeal.
  - C. the Reward.
  - D. the Road Back.
7. Brent's harp-playing whirligig helps Tony by
- A. convincing his mother that he doesn't have to play the violin all the time.
  - B. distracting his mother while he sneaks out to meet his girlfriend.
  - C. giving him a great idea for his woodshop project.
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- A. Action.
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- A. not talking to strangers.
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10. In the sentence "'We're meeting today,' said Miss Gill, 'to apologize, and to understand, and to *atone*,'" the word *atone* most closely means:
- A. discuss sad and angry feelings.
  - B. forgive someone for something bad they did to you.
  - C. make up for something bad you have done.
  - D. sing a beautiful song.
11. Jenny finds out that the purpose of her grandmother's trip around town was to
- A. find the best way to get to the hospital.
  - B. look for a bakery she liked, because she was craving cake.
  - C. see important places from her past.
  - D. teach Jenny how to drive so she can get her license early.

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13. Lea's mother asks Brent to make restitution by

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- 4. Lea's mother tells Brent what she wants him to do for restitution.

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

16. The author of *Whirligig* is

- A. C.S. Lewis
- B. George Orwell
- C. John Steinbeck
- D. Paul Fleischman

17. The night after Brent completes his fourth whirligig he
- A. cries in his tent all night.
  - B. flies home to Chicago right away.
  - C. goes to a square dance.
  - D. tries to kill himself again.
18. The quality that the whirligigs all share is
- A. each has two propellers.
  - B. they are all hung in trees.
  - C. they are all painted red.
  - D. they have a feature that looks like Lea.
19. The whirligig in Miami, Florida, helps a man by
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  - B. from a different country.
  - C. impossible to understand.
  - D. not intelligent.

**Answer Keys**

**Week 1 Assessment**

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

9. C
10. B

**Week 2 Assessment**

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

**Week 3 Assessment**

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

**Final Assessment**

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