

Week 1 Assessment (p. 1-40)

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

1. “Did I say hot? When I stepped off that airplane in San Juan, it was like I had opened an oven door” (p. 2).

What literary device is the author using in the passage above?

- A. Metaphor
- B. Paradox
- C. Simile
- D. Anecdote

2. “But Ramon has a little problem that you will soon notice. He cannot tell time very accurately” (p. 2).

What is the antonym for the underlined word in this passage?

- A. Correct
- B. Precise
- C. Model
- D. Faulty

3. “But then she got serious and said to me, ‘I was your age when I met Juan. I married him a year later and started having babies. They’re scattered all over los Estados Unidos now. Did I ever tell you I wanted to be a professional dancer? At your age I was winning contests and traveling with a mambo band’” (p. 9).

After reading the above passage what tone do you think the author is trying to convey?

- A. Regret
- B. Happiness
- C. Loss of self
- D. Self assurance

4. “Are you sure, Rita? You are more important to me than any poor girl sick in her soul. And I don’t need to eat crab, either” (p. 11). Rita’s grandmother was willing to _____ for Rita. What word best completes the sentence?

- A. Sacrifice
- B. Relinquish
- C. Sustain
- D. Give up

5. Rita and Meli’s parents came up with awful punishments. Rita ended up having a great time, meeting new people, and getting to know her grandparents, page 25.

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What literary device best describes the above situation?

- A. Overstatement
- B. Paradox
- C. Irony
- D. Exaggeration

6. On page 28-29, Arturo is explaining his relationship with Johan the night janitor at the church. Johan is trying to meet Arturo's needs asking him if he is hungry or cold. After Johan invites him into the church he asks, "Are you in pain?" looking into my eyes again. This time I didn't answer him because the questions made me think. Was I?"

When Johan asks this question what was he alluding to?

- A. Physical pain; because he saw Arturo limp
- B. Stomach pain; because he is hungry
- C. Emotional pain; because he is at a church alone in the middle of the night
- D. All of the above

7. Arturo describes feeling safe in the church on page 34-35. What factors contribute to that feeling, based on the writing?

- A. The fact that he grew up in the church took him back to a time that he felt safe.
- B. He began to trust Johan and knew he wouldn't be hurt by him.
- C. He began to relax and that helped him.
- D. The sights, sounds, and smells all brought back wonderful memories that returned a feeling of safety to him.

8. Johan told Arturo the story of his life. This negated Arturo's desire to run away. "Old Johan's story made me feel like a crybaby for thinking my troubles were that bad" (p. 37).

The author was able to convey this message by giving Arturo perspective. Perspective can best be defined as?

- A. A view or vista
- B. To better view issues by looking at them from another point of view
- C. An understanding of other people
- D. By putting his situation in his own written voice

9. What was the overall theme of Rita's story?

- A. It is important to take time to understand people's perspective and cultural difference.
- B. If you take time to really see people you may learn a lot from them.
- C. It is important to be open minded, you never know what opportunities await for you.

D. All of the above

10. What is the overall theme of Arturo's story?

- A. You can better understand the world if you take time to talk with others.
- B. It is OK to be a good student.
- C. People all have stories. Listening to others can help you feel better about your own situation.
- D. It is OK to be an individual. Don't worry about anyone else's opinion but your own.

Week 2 Assessment (p. 41-81)

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

1. In the story “Beauty Lessons”, Sandra feels invisible. Read the passage below.

“I hear Luis shout at Paco, ‘Later, man,’ and one last giggle from Jennifer before she slinks past me to her seat in the back row, where she’ll do her nails during class. Then Paco walks toward me. I’m right in the doorway, but he looks straight ahead as he squeezes around me. He could have at least said ‘Excuse me.’”

What stylistic device did the author use to set the mood and tone of this passage?

- A. Dramatic monologue
 - B. Foreshadow
 - C. Personification
 - D. Overstatement
2. “Anita helped me straighten out my face, which was a mess after all my stupid crying” (p. 45). The phrase straighten out my face is an example of which literary device?
- A. Homonyms
 - B. Idiom
 - C. Jargon
 - D. Literal
3. “My group is doing track this week, and as soon as I put my shorts, T-shirts, and running shoes and tie my hair back in a pony tail, I feel like I can fly. It’s because I am aerodynamic...” (p. 46).

What feeling does the author allude to about Sandra’s relationship with running?

- A. Running makes her feel great.
 - B. Sandra is aerodynamic so she can go faster than others.
 - C. Running gives Sandra the feeling of freedom.
 - D. None of the above
4. Based on the above passage what phrase best describes the word aerodynamic?
- A. Ability to go fast
 - B. Smooth and sleek
 - C. Ability to have endurance
 - D. Design with round edges to reduce drag

5. What does the phrase “late boomer” represent?
- A. Slow to mature and develop.
 - B. Talents and capabilities are slow to develop.
 - C. Child that is slow to develop but who catches up and exceeds expectations.
 - D. All of the above
6. The phrase “late boomer” would be considered which literary device?
- a. Simile
 - b. Irony
 - c. Garden term
 - d. Metaphor
7. “Modesta is really into her looks. She spends hours getting ready to go out. It’s like a job, especially now that she is ‘in circulation’ again.”

Based on the description of Modesta what character trait do you think she lacks?

- A. Self-confidence
 - B. Dignity
 - C. Honesty
 - D. Strong work ethic
8. What is the overall theme of the story “Beauty Lessons”?
- A. Being beautiful takes a lot of hard work and effort.
 - B. Late bloomers will eventually catch up to the others.
 - C. It is best to be yourself and take pride in who you are.
 - D. Most people are to self critical.
9. Mr. Cintron had many plans for his junkyard. He wanted to organize and categorize many of the items so they would be easy to find. He spent time polishing *everything* and he continued to educate himself. Why do you think Mr. Cintron spent some much time working and planning?
- A. He was a self-taught man who was very driven.
 - B. He had his son to be responsible for so he aimed at being successful.
 - C. He was grieving for his wife and staying busy helped keep him sane.
 - D. All of the above
 - E. None of the above
10. “‘I have time, Abuelo.’ I am a little embarrassed that he saw me looking at my watch.
‘Yes, hijo. You have spoken the truth. La verdad. You have much time’” (p. 68).

What do you think that Abuelo is referring to when he says, “‘You have much

time”?

- A. He knows that Arturo has to stay for an hour and he just got there.
- B. He realizes that Arturo is young and has his entire life ahead of him.
- C. He knows that once Arturo hears his story he will want to stay longer.
- D. None of the above

Week 3 Assessment (p. 82-114)

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

1. What do the characters Don Quixote, from La Mancha and Don Juan from “Don Jose of La Mancha” have in common?
 - A. They both are award-winning dancers.
 - B. They are hard workers.
 - C. They left a country to make a new life in another.
 - D. They are good men, with high ideals, and believe in chivalry.
2. Yolanda is out on the porch as Don Jose leaves. She notices he is looking more sophisticated tonight. Which of the following words or phrases *least* describes sophisticated?
 - A. Complicated
 - B. Worldly
 - C. Cultivated
 - D. Naïve
3. “What if this Don Jose is just pretending to be an innocent jibaro so he can get her alone? I should have checked out his story about his job at St. Mary’s. Now that Papi is dead, I’m responsible for Mami’s safety. She doesn’t have street smarts like I do?”

What word best describes innocent in the passage above?

 - A. Uncorrupted
 - B. Not dangerous or harmful
 - C. Not experienced or worldly
 - D. A guilty person
4. What is Yolanda referring to when she claims her mother doesn’t have “street smarts”?
 - A. Wise and able to care for herself
 - B. Self educated and motivated
 - C. She is too trusting
 - D. All of the above
5. Don Jose sings folksongs. What is a folksong?
 - A. Song comprised of traditional music.
 - B. Music that tells a story.
 - C. Music that represents a story.
 - D. All of the above

6. What theme is represented in the story “Don Jose of La Mancha”?
- A. It is important to grieve; but equally important to live life.
 - B. Do not forget your love ones.
 - C. You can respect those you have lost and still move forward.
 - D. You should always carry loved ones in your heart.
7. “‘You made me feel like a zero, like a nothing,’ she says in Spanish, un cero, nada. She is trembling, an angry old woman lost in a heavy winter coat that belongs to my mother” (p. 107).

What did Connie do to make her grandmother feel like nothing?

- A. She did not help her when she was lost in mass.
 - B. She made fun of the way she was dressed.
 - C. She did not respect her.
 - D. She gave her no worth.
8. In the above passage what word or phrase describes the word trembling the least?
- A. To shake violently
 - B. To feel fear or anxiety
 - C. To be angry
 - D. To be calm
9. “I ignore her when she gets up with a hundred other people to take communion. I’m actually praying hard now—that this will all be over soon. But the next time I look up, I see a black coat dragging around and around the church, stopping here and there so a little gray head can peek out like a periscope on a submarine” (p. 110).

In the passage, what literary device is being used?

- A. Metaphor
 - B. Simile
 - C. Internal Monologue
 - D. Rising action
10. “Your grandmother says to tell you that of all the hurtful things you can do to a person, the worst is to make them feel as if they are worth nothing” (p. 111) Does everyone and everything have a worth? Explain your answer.

Week 4 Assessment (p. 115-165)

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- B. Paradox
- C. Irony
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5. The phrase “late boomer” would be considered which literary device?

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 - C. He knows that once Arturo hears his story he will want to stay longer.
 - D. None of the above
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8. What is Yolanda referring to when she claims her mother doesn’t have “street smarts”?
- A. Wise and able to care for herself
 - B. Self educated and motivated
 - C. She is too trusting
 - D. All of the above
9. “And one thing nobody knows: I am interested in Bob Dylan too. But I would never hurt Anne. And as of now, he is playing the field, anyway. He flirts with every girl in school. Even me. That’s what I really like about Bob Dylan—he’s democratic” (p. 114).

What term below best describes democratic?

- A. She likes the political party he is affiliated with.
 - B. He is popular.
 - C. He believes in social equality; everyone wants to date him.
 - D. He is a common guy that everyone likes.
10. What theme is represented in the story “Don Jose of La Mancha”?
- A. It is important to grieve; but equally important to live life.

- B. Do not forget your love ones.
- C. You can respect those you have lost and still move forward.
- D. You should always carry loved ones in your heart.

11. In the story “A Job for Valentin” what tone does Mrs. O’ Brian set?

- A. One of stability—she is always there and involved in day-to-day operations.
- B. Overbearing—she is always asking Teresa to spy on Bob Dylan.
- C. Overworked—she is flustered and busy all the time.
- D. Inviting—she seems to want to mentor people and ensure they are having a great work experience.

12. “‘You speak English?’ I cannot believe he’s fooled me into thinking that he can barely speak a few words of Spanish and here he understands two languages” (p. 129).

In this situation Teresa has not given Valentin full respect or appreciation. Why didn’t she give him the benefit of the doubt?

- A. She was told he had special needs—she assumed that those needs made him less intelligent than her.
- B. She had preconceived notions about him based on his limited abilities.
- C. She is so worried about her friends and what they will think about her—she doesn’t even try to know or understand him.
- D. All of the above
- E. None of the above

13. In the story “Home to El Building” what do you think is the theme?

- A. There is no place like home.
- B. Everyone needs a safe place.
- C. Before you can make decisions with others you have to know what you want.
- D. None of the above

14. Doris and Rick became good friends. Doris could relate to him. What role did Rick play for Doris?

- A. Mentor
- B. Big brother
- C. Understanding and empathetic friend
- D. Counselor

15. Rick and Martini wanted the kids to see a Broadway show. Why was this experience invaluable for the kids?

- A. It is important for all people to experience new things—to know that there are awesome opportunities in the world.
 - B. To appreciate where they came from but to know that you can leave and be successful.
 - C. For the kids to know that they need to seize all opportunities.
 - D. For the kids to understand that everyone can be successful and keep their roots at the same time.
16. Why did the author choose “An Island Like You” as the title of the book?
- A. The story has ties to Puerto Rico.
 - B. Islands are small entities—so are people.
 - C. Islands are small and unique; tied together by water. People are small and unique tied together by common circumstance.
 - D. People can relate to islands. They are isolated and surrounded by water. People are isolated also.
17. The novel falls into the Integrity Theme. *“Integrity Requires Wholeness. Integrity requires that the way I live my life is whole, entire, undivided, sound, coherent, and principled. Integrity moves me to do difficult things not just easy and accustomed.”* Why do you think this book met criteria to represent Integrity?
- A. The characters chose to do the right thing when no one else was looking.
 - B. All of the characters were well rounded and lived by a set of high ideals.
 - C. The characters in the novel were all challenged to do difficult things. They chose to follow the difficult path not the easy path.
 - D. None of the above
18. What did the party for Rick Martinez at the end represent?
- A. People in the barrio love a reason to celebrate and get together.
 - B. A deeper understanding of people with AIDS.
 - C. Appreciation that although he was different he wanted to give back to his neighborhood.
 - D. Unification; everyone in the neighborhood is unique and different his party brought everyone together. To celebrate and to remember.
19. What was the outcome of Rick’s party?
- A. People were able to understanding his disease.
 - B. People were able to remember those who came before them.
 - C. They were able to celebrate life together

Answer Key

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