

Character-Based Literacy Program Assessment

Counting by 7s, Day 1



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

Name:

Date:

Period:

1. Responsibility Requires _____.

- A. Action
- B. Wholeness
- C. Effort
- D. Initiative

2. The main character is speaking a language that is not her native tongue. What language is it?

- A. English
- B. Vietnamese
- C. Japanese
- D. Spanish

3. Where are they eating ice cream?

- A. Foster's Freeze
- B. Coldstone Creamery
- C. Baskin Robbins
- D. Ice Cream truck

4. What is Mr. Duke's first name?

- A. Michael
- B. Derick
- C. Dell
- D. Daniel

5. What is Mr. Duke's job?

- A. School Counselor
- B. Therapist
- C. Teacher
- D. Principal

6. What happened to Willow's parents?

- A. They abandoned Willow
- B. They left for vacation
- C. They disappeared
- D. They passed away

7. What are Willow's major obsessions?

- A. The number 7 and plants
- B. Medical Conditions
- C. California History
- D. Both A and B

8. The word sanctuary most closely means:

- A. A protected space
- B. A type of tax
- C. A place of prayer
- D. A native California flower

9. Who is the author of *Counting by 7s*?

- A. Jodi Picoult
- B. Holly Goldberg Sloan
- C. John Steinbeck
- D. J.K. Rowling

10. Which of the following best describes Willow?

- A. She's a fast learner
- B. She's highly gifted
- C. She's antisocial
- D. She's a good helper

Character-Based Literacy Program Assessment

Counting by 7s, Day 2



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

Name:

Date:

Period:

1. What is Willow's favorite color?

- A. Green
- B. Violet
- C. Yellow
- D. Red

2. Why is it Willow's favorite color?

- A. It is very important in the plant world
- B. It's the 7th color on the spectrum
- C. It's the prettiest color
- D. All of the above

3. Who was Willow's "true companion" in grade school?

- A. Her mom
- B. Zelda B. Muckle
- C. Margaret Z. Buckle
- D. Brenda M. Zuckle

4. Where did Willow's friend move to?

- A. Oregon
- B. Canada
- C. Japan
- D. New York

5. The word cultivating most likely means:

- A. Prying
- B. Doing
- C. Procrastinating
- D. Developing

6. What does Willow want to wear for her first day at Sequoia Middle School?

- A. Overalls
- B. Her gardening outfit
- C. A lab coat
- D. A sunhat

7. Why do Willow's parents want her to wear something different?

- A. They worry she will get sunburned
- B. She needs to wear her school uniform
- C. Her parents wanted her to fit in
- D. None of the above

8. What score did Willow get on the standardized test?

- A. 100
- B. 99
- C. 95
- D. 0

9. What did the teacher think Willow did to get her score?

- A. Answered questions wrong on purpose
- B. Not answer any questions
- C. Cheat on the test
- D. Tried her hardest

10. What was Willow's Counselor's name?

- A. Bell Burke
- B. Dell Duck
- C. Dell Burke
- D. Dell Duke

Character-Based Literacy Program Assessment

Counting by 7s, Day 3



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

Name:

Date:

Period:

1. How long did it take Dell to graduate college?
 - A. 3 years
 - B. 6.5 years
 - C. 4 years
 - D. 7 years
2. In which city did Dell Duke accept a school counselor position?
 - A. Fresno
 - B. Malibu
 - C. Bakersfield
 - D. Los Angeles
3. Who preceded Dell Duke at this job?
 - A. Dickie Winkleman
 - B. Ariana Silverstein
 - C. Sandra Juarez
 - D. Daniel Windmeyer
4. What are the four categories Dell uses to categorize his students?
 - A. Weirdos, Punks, Oddballs, Lone Wolves
 - B. Misfits, Punks, Oddballs, Lone Wolves
 - C. Misfits, Punks, Oddballs, Weirdos
 - D. Misfits, Oddballs, Lone Wolves, Weirdos
5. What did Dell name his system?
 - A. The Four Strangers
 - B. Strange Groupings
 - C. The Strange
 - D. None of the above

6. What was in the jar on Dell's desk?

- A. Jelly Beans
- B. M & Ms
- C. Skittles
- D. All of the above

7. What sort of game did Dell want to play with Willow?

- A. Monopoly
- B. A card game
- C. A guessing game
- D. A word game

8. What does Dell call Willow when he gets frustrated?

- A. "You're stupid"
- B. "You animal"
- C. "You cheater"
- D. "You misfit"

9. On what island is a lemur found?

- A. Madagascar
- B. Hawaii
- C. U.S. Virgin Islands
- D. Philippines

10. How did Willow's parents react when she said she had met someone who "interested" her?

- A. They were scared
- B. They were angry
- C. They were neutral
- D. They were eager

Character-Based Literacy Program Assessment

Counting by 7s, Day 4



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

Name:

Date:

Period:

1. What were Dickie Winkleman's three areas of evaluation?

- A. Activity, Association, Attention
- B. Activity, Patience, Attention
- C. Patience, Association, Attention
- D. None of the above

2. What Category of the Strange did Dell put Willow in?

- A. Weirdo
- B. Lone Wolf
- C. Oddball
- D. Genius

3. What was the picture that Dell put in the picture frame?

- A. A picture of his family
- B. A picture of his wife
- C. A picture of a lemur
- D. None of the above

4. What is Willow's last name?

- A. Bend
- B. Ramirez
- C. Smith
- D. Chance

5. When did Dell want Willow to come in again?

- A. The next day
- B. In a week
- C. Later that day
- D. In three days

Counting by 7s; Day 4

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6. Willow likes to keep the acidity of her soil at what pH level?

- A. 5
- B. 7
- C. 6.5
- D. 1

7. What was the older boy doing in Dell's office?

- A. Drawing
- B. Coloring
- C. Doing homework
- D. Playing cards

8. Where was Dell at this time?

- A. In the office
- B. Walking around
- C. In the restroom
- D. None of the above

9. Why was Willow interested in the girl sitting in the office?

- A. She was loud
- B. She seemed familiar
- C. She was beautiful
- D. Her ethnicity was not easily identifiable

10. Willow thought the girl was a member of which Native American Tribe?

- A. Cahuilla
- B. Chemehuevi
- C. Barona
- D. Campo

Character-Based Literacy Program Assessment

Counting by 7s, Day 5



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

Name:

Date:

Period:

1. What is Mai's full name?

- A. Mai Nguyen
- B. Thi Nguyen
- C. Nguyen Thi Mai
- D. Nguyen Mai Thi

2. How much older is Quang-ha than Mai?

- A. One Year
- B. Two Years
- C. Three Years
- D. He's one year younger

3. Mai was born in the year of the _____?

- A. Horse
- B. Monkey
- C. Ram
- D. Dragon

4. Mai's mother was originally named _____ and later changed it to _____.

- A. Lana, Pattie
- B. Dung, Daisy
- C. Daisy, Pattie
- D. Dung, Pattie

5. What is Dell's cat's name?

- A. Mozzarella
- B. Cheddar
- C. Gouda
- D. Fluffy

6. What was the taxi driver's name?

- A. Jairo Hernandez
- B. Tan Nguyen
- C. Moises Meza
- D. Antonio Rivera

7. What language does Willow learn to speak with Mai?

- A. Persian
- B. Japanese
- C. Spanish
- D. Vietnamese

8. What did Willow see on Jairo's neck?

- A. A bug
- B. A birthmark
- C. A mole
- D. A scar

9. What were Willow's parent's names?

- A. Robert and Janet
- B. Jimmy and Roberta
- C. Roger and Jana
- D. James and Rachel

10. How did Willow's parents die?

- A. A car accident
- B. A murder
- C. A medical issue
- D. None of the above

Character-Based Literacy Program Assessment

Counting by 7s, Day 6



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

Name:

Date:

Period:

1. How long did Mai tell the police she had known Willow?

- A. Several weeks
- B. A year
- C. Many years
- D. A few months

2. How did Willow respond to Dell's words of "encouragement"?

- A. She felt better
- B. She felt worse
- C. She did not react
- D. None of the above

3. What color does Pattie think is lucky?

- A. Red
- B. Yellow
- C. White
- D. Green

4. Where does the Nguyen family live?

- A. In an apartment complex near the school
- B. In the house next to the nail salon
- C. In someone's garage
- D. Behind a nail salon

5. True or False: the Nguyen family household is safe and up to code.

- A. True
- B. False

6. How did Quang-ha feel about Willow moving in?

- A. Excited
- B. Afraid
- C. Angry
- D. Neutral

7. What is Willow's Case Manager's name?

- A. Lenore
- B. Laura
- C. Liane
- D. Lisa

8. How many bullet points does Willow have in her note?

- A. Twelve
- B. Eleven
- C. Seven
- D. Five

9. What happens to Willow when she sees an article about her parents in the newspaper?

- A. She vomits
- B. She cries
- C. She screams
- D. She faints

10. What does Willow leave in the back of Jairo's taxi?

- A. Her hospital bracelet
- B. Her list of demands
- C. Her book
- D. Her picture of her parents

Character-Based Literacy Program Assessment

Counting by 7s, Day 7



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

Name:

Date:

Period:

1. Who finds Willow in the library?

- A. Pattie
- B. Dell
- C. Mai
- D. Lenore

2. Where did Mai insist Dell take Willow?

- A. Happy Jack's Pie n' Burger Shop©
- B. Burger King©
- C. McDonalds©
- D. Baskin Robbins©

3. Whose address does Pattie put down as her own?

- A. Willow's
- B. Jairo's
- C. Lenore's
- D. Dell's

4. Why does Willow dislike the balloon idea at the service?

- A. She does not want people to waste balloons
- B. She is concerned for the marine animals
- C. She feels bad for the child who wanted to keep his
- D. She is scared they will pop and scare her

5. Finish the quote: "And that's why the deepest form of pain comes out as _____."

- A. Screams
- B. Tears
- C. Silence
- D. Anger

Counting by 7s; Day 7

6. When does Willow intend on going back to school?

- A. In two months
- B. Next week
- C. She does not know
- D. In one year

7. Where does Pattie insist Dell take them all?

- A. Back to the burger shop
- B. To school
- C. To the Jamison office
- D. To his apartment

8. Why does Pattie give Dell's apartment a makeover?

- A. To help him feel better
- B. To make it look like they live there
- C. To give Willow something to do
- D. To make it ready to sell

9. What do Quang-Ha and Willow do to give the room better light?

- A. They buy new lamps
- B. They break bottles over the skylight
- C. They take down the curtains
- D. They break a wall to add a window

10. What does Mai find on the ground that she wants to give to Willow?

- A. An acorn
- B. A sparkling bead
- C. An old book
- D. A pointy rock

Character-Based Literacy Program Assessment

Counting by 7s, Day 8



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

Name:

Date:

Period:

1. Where did Willow find the small green acorn?
 - A. On the couch
 - B. In her pocket
 - C. On the counter
 - D. In her bed
2. Where does Pattie think Dell should live temporarily?
 - A. In a spare room in the apartment with them
 - B. In a spare room in another apartment
 - C. Out of his car
 - D. With a friend
3. Birds who fly together and migrate together are called what?
 - A. A grumble
 - B. A gaggle
 - C. A group
 - D. A flock
4. Willow decides it's time to help out. What does she begin with?
 - A. Cleaning the kitchen
 - B. Programming Happy Polish's accounting on a computer
 - C. Starting a new garden
 - D. Fixing all the appliances in the apartment
5. Who does Willow begin to observe more intensely?
 - A. Dell and Pattie
 - B. Pattie and Jairo
 - C. Dell and Quang-Ha
 - D. Quang-Ha and Mai

Counting by 7s; Day 8

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6. Finish the quote: "Until then, my life is at the Gardens of Glenwood. And I'm thinking this place needs a real _____."

- A. Orchard
- B. Upgrade
- C. Garden
- D. Forest

7. The word clippings in this context most closely means?

- A. Plant clippings
- B. Toenail clippings
- C. Newspaper clippings
- D. None of the above

8. What does Willow tell Dell will help make her life better?

- A. Going back to school
- B. Giving her more plants
- C. Helping her find a foster home
- D. Bringing her sunflower seeds

9. How much did Jairo win by being the 1,000,000th customer at the bookstore?

- A. \$10,000
- B. \$20,000
- C. Free tuition
- D. Free books for life

10. What habit does Dell start?

- A. Running
- B. Yoga
- C. Gardening
- D. Reading

Character-Based Literacy Program Assessment

Counting by 7s, Day 9



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

Name:

Date:

Period:

1. In what category did Dell put himself into?

- A. Lone Wolf
- B. Misfit
- C. Mutant
- D. Oddball

2. Whose plant grew the most in a short amount of time?

- A. Quang-ha
- B. Mai
- C. Willow
- D. Pattie

3. Willow decides she needs more exercise. Which sport does she choose?

- A. Swimming
- B. Running
- C. Fencing
- D. Badminton

4. In what subject is Willow helping Quang-ha?

- A. Chemistry
- B. Computer Science
- C. Physics
- D. Biology

5. What does Jairo decide to use his prize money for?

- A. A new car
- B. Paying for college
- C. Buying a house
- D. Giving it to Willow

Counting by 7s; Day 9

6. Complete the sentence. "[The sunflowers] needed to put down a real root system to achieve their _____."

- A. Fate
- B. Destiny
- C. Potential
- D. Dreams

7. A Rototiller is what?

- A. A jackhammer for dirt
- B. A pest poison
- C. A fertilizing agent
- D. None of the above

8. The paint in the gardens is _____, but after the team power washes it, it's _____?

- A. Pink, Grey
- B. Pink, Black
- C. Grey, Pink
- D. Grey, Black

9. Who did Dell find after he crashed the car into the fence?

- A. Pattie
- B. Mai
- C. Willow
- D. Cheddar

10. Willow wants to start taking cuttings from plants in the neighborhood. Who asks her, "would that be stealing?"

- A. Pattie
- B. Quang-ha
- C. Dell
- D. Jairo

Character-Based Literacy Program Assessment

Counting by 7s, Day 10



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

Name:

Date:

Period:

1. Why did the repairman put all of the growing plants in the dumpster?

- A. He thought they were ugly
- B. He thought nothing was allowed to be there
- C. Both A and B
- D. None of the above

2. What does Willow think the “massacre” of the plants is a sign for?

- A. That she will have to start school again
- B. That she will have to find a foster home
- C. That she will have to leave the Gardens of Glenwood
- D. All of the above

3. Dell Duke writes a letter to Willow asking her to take Cheddar when she moves into a new foster home. What does he say Cheddar is going to be?

- A. A Therapy dog
- B. A Therapy cat
- C. An emotional support animal
- D. Her new best friend

4. Henry brought Willow many plants for the garden. How long does it take to plant them all?

- A. 1 Hour
- B. 2 Hours
- C. 3 Hours
- D. 4 Hours

5. Finish the quote: "I don't want to know how you did it. I want to believe that you're _____."

- A. Amazing
- B. Crazy
- C. Magic
- D. Wonderful

6. Which two characters start to become closer without anyone knowing?

- A. Pattie and Jairo
- B. Pattie and Dell
- C. Willow and Quang-ha
- D. None of the above

7. The word insurmountable in this context most closely means:

- A. Crazy
- B. Too difficult
- C. Knightly
- D. Too tall

8. What did Willow find on Dell's files?

- A. His System of the Strange
- B. His Diary
- C. A love letter to Pattie
- D. A letter to Willow

9. Who files a formal request for Willow's guardianship?

- A. Dell
- B. Pattie
- C. Jairo
- D. Both B and C

10. What did Willow find in her pocket at the end of the book?

- A. A note from her parents
- B. A card from Dell
- C. Her lucky acorn
- D. Her favorite plant

Character-Based Literacy Program Assessment

Counting by 7s, Answer Keys



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