“Freedom or Death” Quiz

Directions: Read the article “Freedom or Death” in the March/April 2017 issue of Storyworks. Then fill in the bubble next to the best answer for each question below.

1. Which of the following is a main idea of the story “Freedom or Death”?
   A. Hundreds of thousands of soldiers died in the Civil War.
   B. Robert Smalls became a good businessman.
   C. Robert Smalls freed himself and other slaves.
   D. Piloting a ship is challenging, but Robert Smalls did it.

2. Why did the harbor guards watch “in astonishment” as the Planter headed out to sea?
   A. The ship headed out to sea every day.
   B. The ship was heading towards enemy ships.
   C. Robert had taken off his hat.
   D. The ship was moving extremely slowly.

3. Why didn’t Robert’s mother want to try to escape?
   A. Trying to escape was dangerous.
   B. No slave had ever managed to escape.
   C. Without her, the McKees would starve.
   D. Mrs. McKee was her best friend.

4. Which line from the story supports the answer to question 3?
   A. “He was a piece of property . . .”
   B. “. . . for every slave that managed to escape, hundreds more died or were captured . . .”
   C. “Slaves could not legally marry . . .”
   D. “Except they weren’t slaves anymore.”

5. You can infer that Robert’s feelings toward Mr. and Mrs. McKee were______.
   A. affectionate; the McKees were kind people
   B. bitter; he couldn’t like slaveholders
   C. fearful; the McKees often whipped him
   D. grateful; the McKees gave him his freedom

6. Which sentence from the story supports the answer to question 5?
   A. “But Robert’s mother made sure that her son understood what it meant to be a slave.”
   B. “With those shots, the Civil War began.”
   C. “To Robert, this was intolerable.”
   D. “He took care of his former owner until she died.”

7. Which of the following convinced Robert that he had to escape to the North?
   A. In the Civil War, Robert was forced to fight against ending slavery.
   B. The captain of the Planter whipped him.
   C. His wife, Hannah, came up with a plan to try to free the family.
   D. He wanted to start a business in the North.

8. Which of the following did Robert NOT do after the Civil War?
   A. run a business
   B. serve in the U.S. Congress
   C. take care of Mrs. McKee
   D. open a restaurant

Constructed Response

Directions: On a separate piece of paper, write your answer to each question in a well-organized response. Make sure you support your answers with information and details from the article.

9. How did seeing a slave auction when he was a boy affect Robert later in his life?

10. Think about the things Robert did after he gained freedom. What can you infer about the kind of person he was?
The Amazing History of American Television Quiz

Directions: Read the feature “The Amazing History of American Television” in the March/April 2017 issue of Storyworks. Then fill in the bubble next to the best answer for each question below.

1. Both “The Box That Changed America” and “Television Transformed” provide information about ______.
   A how Karen Ross felt when she got a TV
   B how TV has changed over time
   C Neil Armstrong’s first step on the moon
   D YouTube

2. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a way in which TV improved in its first few years?
   A Pictures on TV sets got less fuzzy.
   B TV sets became less expensive.
   C TV screens got bigger.
   D TV stations started to show boxing matches.

3. Where in “The Box That Changed America” can you find the answer to question 2?
   A in the title
   B in the first paragraph
   C in the section “Bigger Screens”
   D in the image caption “Not Just Perfect Families”

4. You can tell from Karen Ross’s quote at the end of the first article that ______.
   A getting her first TV was exciting for her
   B she didn’t like TV when she was younger
   C her family could not afford a TV
   D she no longer watches TV

5. The author of “Television Transformed” says it’s not hard to imagine that there might one day be a TV channel just for cats. Why?
   A Cats love TV.
   B There are other channels with special purposes.
   C Cats are easily bored.
   D Many people want a cat channel.

6. Which line from the article supports the answer to question 5?
   A “Computers sat on desks . . .”
   B “First came cable TV. . .”
   C “Some new channels were dedicated entirely to one subject.”
   D “But some experts worry about what all these changes mean.”

7. Before cable TV, kids could watch cartoons mainly on ______.
   A Saturday mornings
   B Monday afternoons
   C Tuesday evenings
   D Friday evenings

8. Both articles mention Walter Cronkite, who ______.
   A walked on the moon
   B invented television
   C announced that President Kennedy had died
   D started one of the first television networks

Constructed Response

Directions: On a separate piece of paper, write your answer to each question in a well-organized response. Make sure you support your answers with information and details from the articles.

9. The second article says that Elijah’s family is worried about their TV-watching habits. What worries them?

10. In what ways has TV connected people? In what ways has it divided people?
“Lost and Found” Quiz

Directions: Read the story “Lost and Found” in the March/April 2017 issue of Storyworks. Then fill in the bubble next to the best answer for each question below.

1. Why did Laurel’s family rent a house on the beach?
   A) They rent a beach house every year.
   B) Their family beach house was damaged.
   C) They wanted to vacation in a new place.
   D) They hoped to find treasure.

2. What does artifacts mean in the sentence “The museum has a lot of artifacts from shipwrecks discovered on North Carolina beaches”?
   A) historical objects
   B) books about artists
   C) bits of garbage
   D) display cases

3. Why does Trevor want to keep the coins he finds on the beach?
   A) to add them to his coin collection
   B) to pay for repairs to the family beach cottage
   C) to buy more books about pirates
   D) to give to his grandfather

4. Why do Laurel and Trevor decide not to keep the coins?
   A) The local museum owns them.
   B) They promised their grandfather they wouldn’t.
   C) Items found on the National Seashore are not supposed to be removed.
   D) The coins are fake.

5. Which line from the story supports your answer to question 4?
   A) “It was always a big event at the museum when something new was discovered.”
   B) “‘Didn’t Grandpa keep the stuff he found?’”
   C) “Trevor, we’re definitely on the protected beach.’”
   D) “I didn’t know why, but my heart sank a little.”

6. The simile “the waters beyond the beach looked like an upset stew” tells you that the ocean waves were ______.
   A) calm
   B) shining
   C) choppy
   D) squeaky

7. You can infer that by the end of the story Laurel feels ______ about having to stay at a rental instead of the family beach house.
   A) heartbroken
   B) furious
   C) fearful
   D) accepting

8. Which line from the story supports your answer to question 7?
   A) “Suddenly, the shoreline didn’t seem so unfamiliar.”
   B) “It hadn’t tasted as good.”
   C) “I watched Trevor dig madly through the sand.”
   D) “It had looked so sad and broken.”

Constructed Response

Directions: On a separate piece of paper, write your answer to each question in a well-organized response. Make sure you support your answers with details from the story.

9. Explain why the family’s beach cottage is so important to Laurel.

10. Why do you think the writer titled her story “Lost and Found”?
Jason and the Golden Fleece Quiz

Directions: Read the play Jason and the Golden Fleece in the March/April 2017 issue of Storyworks. Then fill in the bubble next to the best answer for each question below.

1. Which of the following is NOT true about Jason?
   A. He is a prince from Greece.
   B. King Aeetes is his uncle.
   C. In Greek mythology, he is a hero.
   D. He is leader of the Argonauts.

2. When Jason says “I must be stronger than my fear,” he shows he is ______.
   A. physically strong
   B. clever
   C. courageous
   D. kind

3. In Scene 4, how does Aeetes feel when Jason succeeds at defeating the bulls and warriors?
   A. He is impressed by Jason’s skills.
   B. He is sad about the warriors’ deaths.
   C. He is surprised to see the warriors spring up from the plowed field.
   D. He is angry that Jason has succeeded, instead of being killed.

4. Which line from the play supports your answer to question 3?
   A. “Your eyes tell me you are noble and kind.”
   B. “Aeetes boils with rage as he approaches Jason.”
   C. “Helmets begin to rise from the earth.”
   D. “Congratulations. Tonight the Golden Fleece shall be yours.”

5. Because Medea helps Jason, she ______.
   A. angers her father and has to leave home
   B. must give up her magical powers
   C. is celebrated in Colchis with a great feast
   D. is burned by the dragon’s fire

6. Which line from the play supports your answer to question 5?
   A. “It unleashes its 40-foot tongue with a deadly wave of heat.”
   B. “I can never see my family again.”
   C. “Meanwhile, the Argonauts celebrate on the shores of the sea.”
   D. “I have only put it to sleep.”

7. What does merciless mean in the line “King Pelias is merciless”?
   A. cruel
   B. surprising
   C. forgiving
   D. selfish

8. In Scene 7, Jason tells the Argonauts to quickly grab an oar so they can row away from the angry ______.
   A. Medea
   B. King Aeetes
   C. fire-breathing dragon
   D. flying ram

Constructed Response

Directions: On a separate piece of paper, write your answer to each question in a well-organized response. Make sure you support your answers with details from the play.

9. In your own words, tell what happens to the warriors that grow from dragon’s teeth in Scene 4.

10. What is special about the Golden Fleece? Why do both Jason and Aeetes want it?
“Allow Chewing Gum in School?” Quiz

Directions: Read the debate “Allow Chewing Gum in School?” in the March/April 2017 issue of Storyworks. Then fill in the bubble next to the best answer for each question below.

1. According to Mr. Parker’s students, chewing gum may help with _______.
   - A time management  
   - B preparing for tests  
   - C focus  
   - D motivation

2. What does suggested mean in the line, “Several recent studies have suggested that gum-chewing improves your memory . . .”?  
   - A recommended  
   - B supported the idea  
   - C proved without a doubt  
   - D demanded

3. Which of the following is a main idea of the letter from Principal Hernandez?  
   - A Fidgeting can be hard to watch.  
   - B Students are always tidy with their gum.  
   - C Seeing and hearing gum-chewing can be distracting.  
   - D Most school libraries need more books.

4. According to Principal Hernandez, what cost $2,500?  
   - A cleaning up gum from a California school  
   - B new books for Mr. Parker’s class  
   - C researching how gum affects memory  
   - D extra trash cans for schools that allow gum

5. Principal Hernandez probably mentioned he’s a champion bubble-blower to show that _______.  
   - A gum helps him concentrate  
   - B he supports allowing gum at school  
   - C he likes gum as much as the students do  
   - D he’s better than Mr. Parker’s students

6. From reading the letters, you can infer that _______.  
   - A all schools currently forbid gum  
   - B Principal Hernandez’s school is the only one with a no-gum rule  
   - C some schools allow gum while others don’t  
   - D Principal Hernandez is likely to change his mind about gum in the future

Constructed Response

Directions: On a separate piece of paper, write your answer to each question in a well-organized response. Make sure you support your answers with information and details from the debate.

7. How does Principal Hernandez show in his letter that he carefully considered the students’ request?

8. What are the students’ and Principal Hernandez’s opinions about how gum affects concentration? How do these opinions differ?
“Just Before April Came” Quiz

Directions: Read the poem “Just Before April Came” in the March/April 2017 issue of Storyworks. Then fill in the bubble next to the best answer for each question below.

1. The poem is mainly about _____.
   A the time when summer ends and fall begins
   B the time when winter ends and spring begins
   C the difference between pigeons and crows
   D melting snow

2. The poem’s first line says, “The snow-piles in dark places are gone.” You can infer that they’re gone because _____.
   A people have shoveled them away
   B frogs have eaten them
   C they’ve melted in the warming weather
   D the speaker has poured water on them

3. What do all of the creatures in the poem have in common?
   A They’re laughing and having fun.
   B They’re flying.
   C They’re noisy.
   D They’re busy and active.

4. What idea does the speaker express with the question at the end of the poem?
   A There are no people in the poem.
   B The speaker dislikes birds, bugs, and animals.
   C The creatures seem like people doing interesting activities.
   D The creatures have secret names.

Constructed Response

Directions: On a separate piece of paper, write your answer to each question in a well-organized response. Make sure you support your answers with details from the poem.

5. The poem’s second stanza includes the unusual words plutter and squdge. What images might the poet have wanted to create with these words?

6. The poem’s third stanza says that the crows “celebrate an old festival.” In your own words, explain what you think this means.