

English Week 8 – Unit Test

Grade 6

If Trees Stayed Green

Why don't all those trees in my front yard get smart?
 Why don't they figure out a way to hold on to their leaves?
 As soon as school throws open its doors
 And the clock rolls its hands back 60 minutes,
 All those perfectly fine green leaves turn yellow,
 And orange,
 And fiery red.
 They're like girls who change the color of their
 Shoes and pocketbooks
 Just because the calendar tells them it's time.
 If the trees just got smart and stayed green,
 They could hold on to their leaves,
 Then they wouldn't have to waste all that
 Energy each spring
 Growing new leaves that are just going
 To shrivel up and fall off anyway.
 If the trees just got smart and stayed
 Green,
 I wouldn't have to spend the rest of
 My life raking leaves.

1. The line As soon as school throws open its doors uses figurative language to describe
 - A. the end of the school day
 - B. the first day of school in the fall
 - C. someone going to a new school
 - D. a new learning experience
2. The speaker of the poem compares leaves changing colors to
 - A. a fiery red sunset
 - B. the calendar telling the trees the time
 - C. wasted energy
 - D. girls changing the color of their shoes
3. The poet gives all of these objects in the poem human traits except
 - A. the calendar
 - B. pocketbooks
 - C. school
 - D. the clock
4. Which group of words is an example of exaggeration in the poem?
 - A. got smart and stayed green
 - B. change the color
 - C. spend the rest of my life raking
 - D. shrivel up and fall off anyway

Selection 1

Mixed Messages

Kia looked at the piece of metal in her hand. "What am I supposed to do with this?"

"It goes over the back of your door," her dad answered. "You hang your jacket on it, I guess. You said you wanted me to pick up a coat hook on my way home."

It had happened again. "Dad," Kia giggled, "I asked you to get me a *notebook*. I need to write a lab report for science."

Kia's dad insisted on driving around with the windows down. He said he loved the feel of the fresh air blowing through his hair. Kia thought that was funny, since her dad didn't have any hair. She guessed he might have meant his eyebrows, which were quite bushy. The real problem was that he kept the windows down even when he was talking on his cell phone. As a result, he never heard things quite right.

Just yesterday, Kia's mom had asked him to stop at the store and get some milk and bread. There was some lovely *silken thread* on the kitchen counter—but no toast or cereal this morning. And Kia still couldn't understand how her dad could have possibly thought they were out of rope.

Kia didn't really mind the mix-ups. She just hoped that one of these days her mom would need something that rhymed with *swimming pool*.

5. This passage is mostly about
 - A. remarkable things Kia's dad brings home
 - B. funny hearing mistakes Kia's dad makes
 - C. Dad's driving habits
 - D. how much Kia would like a pool

6. The story has all of the following except
 - A. interesting characters
 - B. dialogue between characters
 - C. directions for doing something
 - D. amusing details

7. Which word from the story is a clue to how the author wants you to feel while reading?
 - A. yesterday
 - B. metal
 - C. understand
 - D. giggled

8. What is the author's purpose?
 - A. to describe a metal coat hook
 - B. to explain how some people drive
 - C. to persuade people to drive with the windows up
 - D. to entertain readers with a funny story about Kia's dad

9. This passage is written in
 - A. first person point of view
 - B. second person point of view
 - C. third person limited point of view
 - D. third person omniscient point of view

Selection 2

An Unwanted Visitor

Raya was doing her homework and her mother was at the kitchen counter preparing dinner when they heard a knock at the front door. Ordinarily, Raya would have just flung open the door, but for some reason, she didn't. Instead, she peeked out of the small round window at eye level. There was no one there. "It's windy outside. Must have been the wind," she told her mom.

A few minutes later, they heard the knocking again, but louder. This time Raya's mom went to the door. "Who's there?" she demanded. No one answered. "I'm not going to open the door unless you identify yourself," she said. Still, no one answered. The knocking grew more forceful, and Raya's mom looked out the little window as Raya had done earlier. No one was standing there.

"Someone's playing a trick on us," Raya said. "Maybe it's that little boy next door. He's always teasing me. He's probably knocking and then running away."

"Maybe," her mom said worriedly, "but I'm going to call the police anyway."

An hour later, Raya and her mom finally opened the front door. They watched in amazement as a trapper from the Florida Animal Rescue loaded the eight-foot wriggling alligator—its snout bloodied from pounding on their door—into a van.

10. This story is about
 - A. a trapper and a wild alligator
 - B. a strange knocking on the door
 - C. the little boy next door
 - D. a girl doing her homework
11. Which sentence in the story best expresses the main idea of the story?
 - A. first paragraph, first sentence
 - B. first paragraph, second sentence
 - C. second paragraph, last sentence
 - D. last paragraph, last sentence
12. Which detail from the story would be included in a summary?
 - A. Raya looks up from her homework.
 - B. Raya goes to see who's at the door.
 - C. The boy next door teases Raya.
 - D. The door has a small window.
13. Which detail from the story would *not* be included in a summary?
 - A. Raya hears a knock at the door.
 - B. Raya does not see anyone outside.
 - C. Raya realizes that it's windy outside.
 - D. No one was standing at the door.
14. From what point of view is the story written?
 - A. first person
 - B. second person
 - C. third person limited
 - D. third person omniscient

