

Grade 7, Collection 1 Test

Analyzing Text: Literature

Directions Read the following story. Then answer the questions that follow.

Athene's City by Olivia Coolidge

- 1 In the days when Greece was first being settled, Cecrops was king in Attica, a rugged, triangular little country, good mainly for goat farming and the culture of honey bees, and surrounded on two sides by the sea. Here Cecrops planned a city around a steep rock that jutted from the plain a few miles inland. Down on the shore were two fine harbors, while around spread fertile country watered by two streams. The gods, who were always interested in the affairs of men, approved the idea of Cecrops and gave the new city their blessing, foreseeing that it would become in time one of the famous cities of the world. For this reason there was great dispute among the gods as to which of them should be its special patron. Many claims were put forward by this god or by that, but at last, after much arguing, it became clear that the award should lie between Athene, goddess of wisdom, and the sea god, Poseidon. Between these two the gods decided to have a contest. Each should produce some marvel in the Attic land, and each should promise some gift to the city that was to come. The greater gift should win the city.
- 2 When the appointed day came, the judges ranged themselves on the rock, and the two gods came before them. Some say that the twelve judges chosen were the spirits of the Attic hills and rivers, and some maintain that they were twelve Olympian gods. Be that as it may, on one side stood Poseidon with flowing dark-blue beard and majestic stature, carrying in his hand the three-pronged trident with which he rules the waves. On the other side stood Athene, grey-eyed and serene, helmet on her golden head and spear in hand. At the word Poseidon raised his trident and struck the ground. Beneath the feet of the judges the whole earth was terribly shaken, and with a mighty rumbling sound it split apart before them. Then appeared the marvel, a salt spring four miles inland where no water had appeared before. To this Poseidon added his gift of sea power, promising the city a great empire, a mighty navy, famed shipwrights, and trading vessels which should make her name known in every corner of the sea.
- 3 The judges looked at one another as Poseidon spoke and nodded their heads in approval, thinking the gift indeed a great one and the salt spring and the earthquake fine symbols of Poseidon's power. Grey-eyed Athene said nothing, but smiled gently to herself as she laid aside her spear and quietly kneeling down appeared to plant something in the earth. Between her hands as she worked, there gradually unfolded a little tree, a bush rather, small and unimpressive, with grey-green leaves and grey-green berries about an inch in length. When it had grown to full size, Athene stood up and looked at the judges. That was all.
- 4 Poseidon glanced at the dusty looking bush that had grown so quietly. He looked at the hole that had gaped in the earth with the thunder of earthquake, and he threw back his head and laughed. Round the bay rumbled and re-echoed the laughter of the god like distant waves thundering on the rocks, while far out to sea in their deep, green caverns, the old sea gods, his subjects, sent a muffled answering roar. Presently as silence fell, the quiet voice of Athene spoke to the assembled gods.

- 5 "This little shrub is the olive, at the same time my marvel and my gift to the city," she said. "With these berries the poor man will flavor his coarse bread and goat's-milk cheese. With scented oil the rich man will deck himself for the feast. Oil poured to the gods shall be among their favorite offerings. With it the housewife will light her lamp and do her cooking, and the athlete will cleanse himself from dust and sweat. This is the ware merchants will carry in the ships Poseidon speaks of, to gain riches and renown for the city which sells what all men use. Moreover, I will make its people skilled in pottery, so that the jars in which the oil is carried shall themselves be a marvel, and the city shall flourish and be famous, not only in trade but in the arts."
- 6 She finished, and the judges cried out in surprise at the richness of her dull-looking gift. They awarded the prize to Athene, who called the city Athens. Long afterwards when Athens became famous, celebrated for its beauty and wisdom, the Athenians built a great temple in honor of their patron goddess. This temple was called the Parthenon, or temple of the maiden goddess. Though in ruins, it is still standing and is one of the most famous buildings of the world.

Excerpt from "Athene's City" from *Greek Myths* by Olivia Coolidge. Text copyright © 1949 by Olivia Coolidge. Reprinted by permission of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company.

- _____ 1. One of the reasons that "Athene's City" is considered a myth is that it includes
- A a king and his plans.
 - B a contest between rivals.
 - C gods and their actions.
 - D the sudden appearance of a marvel.
- _____ 2. Athene's reaction to Poseidon's marvel and gift suggests that she feels
- A angry.
 - B confident.
 - C surprised.
 - D worried.
- _____ 3. Athene's explanation of her marvel's uses is part of the story's
- A climax.
 - B exposition.
 - C falling action.
 - D rising action.
- _____ 4. Why were the judges surprised by Athene's explanation of her marvel?
- A The explanation was so lengthy and unbelievable.
 - B The gift had first appeared to be so dull and ordinary.
 - C They had not known the Attic soil could grow plants.
 - D They had not realized that Athene was so wise.

Name: _____

ID: A

- _____ 5. Which sentence from the story is the climax?
- A "Though in ruins, it is still standing and is one of the most famous buildings of the world."
 - B "When it had grown to full size, Athene stood up and looked at the judges."
 - C "This temple was called the Parthenon, or temple of the maiden goddess."
 - D "They awarded the prize to Athene, who called the city Athens."
- _____ 6. This story suggests that Athens was first known for
- A olive oil.
 - B its navy.
 - C its beauty.
 - D shipping.

Directions Read the following poem. Then answer the questions that follow.

To Helen
by Edgar Allan Poe

Helen, thy beauty is to me
Like those Nicéan barks¹ of yore,
That gently, o'er a perfumed sea,
The weary, way-worn wanderer bore
5 To his own native shore

On desperate seas long wont to roam,
Thy hyacinth hair, thy classic face,
Thy Naiad² airs have brought me home
To the glory that was Greece,
10 And the grandeur that was Rome.

Lo! in yon brilliant window-niche
How statue-like I see thee stand,
The agate lamp within thy hand!
Ah, Psyche³, from the regions which
15 Are Holy Land

¹ **Nicean barks:** sailing ships from, or made in, Nicaea, an ancient city.

² **Naiad:** water nymphs in the shape of young women.

³ **Psyche:** a beautiful woman who was loved by the god Cupid.

- _____ 7. What is the most likely reason that the poet uses *o'er* instead of *over* in line 3?
- A to make the reader think of *oar*
 - B to make the poem seem old-fashioned
 - C to maintain the rhythm of the poem
 - D because *o'er* has a slightly different meaning than *over*
- _____ 8. Which line in the first stanza contains alliteration?
- A line 1
 - B line 2
 - C line 3
 - D line 4
- _____ 9. Which of the following is consistent within the poem?
- A the line length
 - B the number of beats per line
 - C the number of lines per stanza
 - D the punctuation within each stanza

Name: _____

ID: A

- _____ 10. Poe had originally written the last two lines of the second stanza as "To the beauty of fair Greece / And the grandeur of old Rome." What does the later version add?
- A more rhyme
 - B more alliteration
 - C more emphasis on Rome
 - D a steadier rhythm
- _____ 11. The alliteration in "How statue-like I see thee stand" most strongly suggests the idea of
- A beauty.
 - B hardness.
 - C patience.
 - D stillness.
- _____ 12. It is most likely that the last line of the poem is the shortest because the poet
- A wanted to emphasize this line.
 - B wanted the poem to end quite abruptly.
 - C did not want to explain his meaning.
 - D felt that "Holy Land" should not be modified.

Analyzing Text: Informational Text

Directions Read the following newspaper article. Then answer the questions that follow.

Winner Crowned at Miss Northern Iowa Child Pageant

Livingston News and Observer

- 1 Yesterday, thirty-five young girls in makeup and ball gowns gathered at the Livingston Community Center to compete in the four- and five-year-old age grouping for the title of Miss Northern Iowa Child.
- 2 This occasion marked the first Miss Northern Iowa Child competition, a beauty pageant. The larger Miss America Child program sponsored the event. From 8 A.M. until well after dark, the center was abuzz with child competitors, parents, and audience members.
- 3 This year's winner, Angela Ruiz, a five-year-old girl from Waterville, will go on to compete at the Miss Iowa Child competition and possibly the Miss America Child competition. Each win or finalist finish along the way—placing within the top four—brings in trophies, cash, or other prizes.
- 4 Interviewed after her daughter's win, Marta Ruiz said, "Angie wants to be Miss America Child, so for the next couple weeks we'll be practicing hard to win the next pageant." The entire Ruiz family is planning to be in Des Moines in three weeks to watch Angela compete.
- 5 Beauty competitions for children are often surrounded by controversy, and Miss Northern Iowa Child is no exception. Opponents of these competitions say that pageants take advantage of young children and teach them false values, while supporters feel that the contests are a chance for young girls to learn and grow.
- 6 "I saw this as a wonderful experience for all involved. We teach self-respect, discipline, and confidence to these girls. Everyone here, from the crowd to the parents to the competitors, was a winner," said Raphael Moldanado, event organizer and regional director. "These contests have been going on since 1921. They've become an accepted part of American life. Hopefully, they will continue far into the future."
- 7 Carl Wilson, holding the hand of a weeping child, disagreed, but only mildly. "This look like self-respect and confidence to you?" he said. Then, stroking his daughter's hair, he said, "Come on, honey, next time will be different."
- 8 The feelings of Moldanado are not echoed by everyone in the community. Amy Rushman, kindergarten teacher and mother of two young girls, said such contests only teach little girls to be shallow.
- 9 "The talent portion, if there is one, is usually little more than them prancing around in a dress. They often have a swimsuit portion with suits that would make grown women blush. And the most important score they have for the young girl all day is 'beauty,' as if that were an appropriate word for a kindergartener," said Rushman. "They turn these little girls into a spectacle. I can't believe some of these parents call this a sport, but they do! I guess they're trying to pretend the pageants are no more harmful than basketball games."
- 10 Rushman's comments might be understating the truth. With over-the-top costumes, makeup better suited for a grown up, and all the confident prancing of a show horse, these little girls put on a show that won't soon be forgotten.

_____ 13. What can you conclude from the first three paragraphs?

- A All the towns in Iowa had their own pageants.
- B Angela Ruiz is likely to win the Miss Iowa Child pageant.
- C The Miss America Child pageant will involve two days of competing.
- D The winner of the Miss America Child competition will have won several other pageants.

- _____ 14. Which paragraph contains information that is both critical and supportive of beauty pageants for young girls?
- A paragraph 4
 - B paragraph 5
 - C paragraph 6
 - D paragraph 7
- _____ 15. It is logical to conclude that Amy Rushman would not let her daughters
- A wear swimsuits.
 - B try to look their best.
 - C enter a beauty pageant.
 - D play a competitive sport.
- _____ 16. The central idea of the article is that
- A beauty pageants take advantage of young girls.
 - B Angela Ruiz won the Miss Northern Iowa Child pageant.
 - C a local beauty competition for children was held yesterday.
 - D people disagree about whether beauty pageants for children are a good idea.
- _____ 17. Which two people quoted in the article agree most strongly?
- A Marta Ruiz and Amy Rushman
 - B Marta Ruiz and Raphael Moldanado
 - C Carl Wilson and Amy Rushman
 - D Carl Wilson and Marta Ruiz
- _____ 18. What does Raphael Moldanado use to support his idea that these competitions have "become a part of American life"?
- A "We teach self-respect, discipline, and confidence to these girls."
 - B "I saw this as a wonderful experience for all involved."
 - C "These contests have been going on since 1921."
 - D "Hopefully, they will continue far into the future."

Name: _____

ID: A

____ 19. In which paragraph does the writer reveal his or her own opinion?

- A paragraph 2
- B paragraph 5
- C paragraph 8
- D paragraph 10

____ 20. Why does the writer quote several people in the article?

- A to support the main idea
- B to provide a range of ideas
- C to show that the issue is complicated
- D to prove that the writer is not taking sides

Directions Read the following editorial. Then answer the questions that follow.

Child Beauty Pageants Bad for Girls and Society

Livingston News and Observer

- 1 I try not to judge other parents because I usually understand that I can't possibly know all the reasons that they do what they do. It has been hard for me as a working mother, and I realize that parents make different decisions. That being said, I still can't understand parading one's child around in meaningless beauty competitions.
- 2 When I look at toddler beauty competitions, all I see are mothers and fathers attempting to live their lives through innocent youngsters who will do anything to make their parents happy. I see parents using their children just to make a buck or draw attention to themselves. Some of these parents deprive their child of what she really needs by going deeply into debt to pay for costumes and other costs associated with beauty pageants.
- 3 A parent's job is to love and protect his or her children and to raise them and give them a chance to positively interact with society later in life. While some adults claim that their children love pageants and are totally dedicated to being in them, the parents are really doing it as much for personal attention as they are for their children.
- 4 When asked how these contests could possibly be positive for children, Raphael Moldanado, an event organizer said, "We teach self-respect, discipline, and confidence to these girls." I find that to be an interesting answer. When I was a child, I learned those values at home. My mom always raised me to believe beauty was only skin deep and confidence should come from within. I've always hoped I could raise my daughter the same way.
- 5 Teaching children that their looks are important or that winning means everything can lead to issues later in life. And, while things such as pageants often appear pointless to anyone who isn't participating, the pageant culture only reinforces our society's notion that beauty is more important than brains or character.
- 6 I realize that women as a whole are more important than their looks or their ability to walk in high heels. So the idea of taking my daughter to an auditorium, putting her in adult makeup, fixing her hair to make her seem older, and picking out a swimsuit in which she will appear in front of strangers unnerves me. Because even though I know that someday my daughter will grow up, I don't want that day to come any sooner than it has to ... and certainly not before she's ready!

_____ 21. Where is the central idea of the editorial most clearly stated?

- A in the heading
- B in paragraph 1
- C in paragraph 4
- D in paragraph 5

_____ 22. What are the author's two main purposes in the editorial?

- A to inform and to explain
- B to explain and to persuade
- C to entertain and to express feelings
- D to persuade and to express feelings

- _____ 23. What is the most likely reason that the editorial writer refers to her own daughter?
- A to take advantage of being a parent
 - B to explain why she feels as she does
 - C to give an example of someone with good values
 - D to show that she understands parenting problems
- _____ 24. It is logical to conclude that the editorial writer tries to pass on to her daughter the values
- A that matter to society.
 - B that are easiest to learn.
 - C that will help her be popular.
 - D that the writer's mother taught her.

Written Response

Directions Write two or three sentences to answer each question about the passages.

25. Use the text of "Athene's City" to explain what the conflict in the story was and how it was resolved.
26. What do you think the author of the article "Winner Crowned at Miss Northern Iowa Child Pageant" thought of the pageant? Cite the article to support your answer.

Vocabulary

Directions Use your knowledge of Latin roots and suffixes to answer the following questions.

- _____ 27. Using your knowledge of the root *mar*, you can tell that a maritime journey involves traveling by
- A car.
 - B ship.
 - C train.
 - D airplane.
- _____ 28. In which word does *-ty* or *-ity* at the end of a word add the meaning of "state or condition of"?
- A city
 - B kitty
 - C pretty
 - D reality

_____ 29. An item with a lot of elasticity is something that

- A is heavy.
- B is expensive.
- C can stretch.
- D can be carried easily.

Directions Use your knowledge of connotation to answer the following questions.

_____ 30. Which of the following synonyms has the most negative connotation?

- A curious
- B inquiring
- C nosy
- D questioning

_____ 31. Which of the following words has the most positive connotation?

- A extraordinary
- B odd
- C rare
- D strange

_____ 32. What is the literal meaning of the word *unnerves* in paragraph 6 of "Child Pageants Bad for Girls and Society"?

- A cowardly
- B fearful
- C pained
- D upset

Revising and Editing

Directions Read the story and answer the questions that follow.

(1) During the summer, I spent three weeks in June visiting my grandmother in Pennsylvania. (2) I went on a train to Philadelphia. (3) The trip was four hours long. (4) I got tired, so I took a nap. (5) I looked out the window. (6) That was after I woke up. (7) I saw small towns and farms, and I enjoyed seeing people, houses, and cows. (8) When the train got to the station, my grandmother was waiting, and we drove to her house in the country.

(9) She lives in a small white house with a beautiful flower-filled yard. (10) She also has a huge garden. (11) She grows strawberries and lots of vegetables in it. (12) There are apple trees near the garden, and I like to climb them. (13) Sometimes, on warm days, I can sit high up in the branches, where I read a book for hours. (14) When I do this, my grandmother never tells me to get down.

(15) One nice day during the middle of my visit, after we'd picked a lot of strawberries, I got a very good idea. (16) I set up an old card table and a cheap folding chair near the narrow busy road in front of the house. (17) I put up a sign that advertised strawberries at a reasonable price. (18) I put the delicious fresh berries into some little wooden boxes Grandma had. (19) People could safely pull into the driveway if they wanted to get off the road to stop.

(20) Before the sun went down, I had sold twenty dollars' worth of strawberries! (21) Then I took the card table and chair back indoors. (22) We still had strawberries in the refrigerator; I hadn't tried to sell all of them. (23) I'm not foolish enough not to have saved some for us.

(24) When I told Grandma, she was very happy that none of the berries had been wasted. (25) She was also glad I had made some money selling strawberries. (26) We decided to use the money I'd made to have some fun, and we did. (27) We dressed in clean comfortable clothes and went to an exciting interesting movie. (28) I enjoyed the whole day!

- _____ 33. Which of the following sentences is a compound sentence?
- A sentence 1
 - B sentence 2
 - C sentence 3
 - D sentence 4
- _____ 34. How could sentences 5 and 6 be combined using a subordinate clause?
- A After I woke up, I looked out the window.
 - B After I woke up I looked out the window.
 - C I looked out the window, after I woke up.
 - D I woke up, and then I looked out the window.
- _____ 35. How should sentence 9 be punctuated?
- A She lives in a small, white, house with a beautiful, flower-filled yard.
 - B She lives in a small white house with a beautiful, flower-filled yard.
 - C She lives in a small, white house with a beautiful, flower-filled yard.
 - D She lives in a small, white house with a beautiful flower-filled yard.

- _____ 36. Which of the following sentences is a simple sentence?
- A sentence 11
 - B sentence 12
 - C sentence 13
 - D sentence 14
- _____ 37. What is the subordinate clause in sentence 15?
- A "One nice day"
 - B "during the middle of my visit"
 - C "after we'd picked a lot of strawberries"
 - D "I got a very good idea"
- _____ 38. How should sentence 16 be punctuated?
- A I set up an old, card table and a cheap, folding chair near the narrow, busy road in front of the house.
 - B I set up an old card table and a cheap, folding chair near the narrow, busy road in front of the house.
 - C I set up an old card table and a cheap folding chair near the narrow, busy road in front of the house.
 - D I set up an old card table and a cheap, folding chair near the narrow busy road in front of the house.
- _____ 39. Which of the following sentences contains a subordinate clause?
- A sentence 16
 - B sentence 17
 - C sentence 18
 - D sentence 19
- _____ 40. How should sentence 18 be punctuated?
- A I put the delicious, fresh berries into some little wooden boxes Grandma had.
 - B I put the delicious, fresh, berries into some little, wooden boxes Grandma had.
 - C I put the delicious fresh berries into some little, wooden boxes Grandma had.
 - D I put the delicious, fresh berries into some little, wooden boxes Grandma had.
- _____ 41. Which of the following sentences is a compound sentence?
- A sentence 20
 - B sentence 21
 - C sentence 22
 - D sentence 23

_____ 42. Which of the following sentences contains a subordinate clause?

- A sentence 24
- B sentence 25
- C sentence 26
- D sentence 27

_____ 43. Which of the following sentences is a compound sentence?

- A sentence 24
- B sentence 25
- C sentence 26
- D sentence 27

_____ 44. How should sentence 27 be punctuated?

- A We dressed in clean, comfortable, clothes and went to an exciting, interesting movie.
- B We dressed in clean, comfortable clothes and went to an exciting, interesting movie.
- C We dressed in clean comfortable clothes and went to an exciting, interesting movie.
- D We dressed in clean, comfortable clothes and went to an exciting interesting movie.

Grade 7, Collection 1 Test Answer Section

- | | | | |
|-----|--------|--------|-----------|
| 1. | ANS: C | PTS: 1 | NAT: RL 3 |
| 2. | ANS: B | PTS: 1 | NAT: RL 1 |
| 3. | ANS: D | PTS: 1 | NAT: RL 3 |
| 4. | ANS: B | PTS: 1 | NAT: RL 1 |
| 5. | ANS: D | PTS: 1 | NAT: RL 3 |
| 6. | ANS: A | PTS: 1 | NAT: RL 1 |
| 7. | ANS: C | PTS: 1 | NAT: RL 5 |
| 8. | ANS: D | PTS: 1 | NAT: RL 4 |
| 9. | ANS: C | PTS: 1 | NAT: RL 5 |
| 10. | ANS: B | PTS: 1 | NAT: RL 4 |
| 11. | ANS: D | PTS: 1 | NAT: RL 4 |
| 12. | ANS: A | PTS: 1 | NAT: RL 5 |
| 13. | ANS: D | PTS: 1 | NAT: RI 1 |
| 14. | ANS: B | PTS: 1 | NAT: RI 3 |
| 15. | ANS: C | PTS: 1 | NAT: RI 1 |
| 16. | ANS: D | PTS: 1 | NAT: RI 2 |
| 17. | ANS: B | PTS: 1 | NAT: RI 3 |
| 18. | ANS: C | PTS: 1 | NAT: RI 2 |
| 19. | ANS: D | PTS: 1 | NAT: RI 6 |
| 20. | ANS: B | PTS: 1 | NAT: RI 3 |
| 21. | ANS: A | PTS: 1 | NAT: RI 2 |
| 22. | ANS: D | PTS: 1 | NAT: RI 6 |
| 23. | ANS: B | PTS: 1 | NAT: RI 6 |
| 24. | ANS: D | PTS: 1 | NAT: RI 1 |
| 25. | ANS: | | |

Sample response: The conflict in the story was between two gods, Poseidon and Athene. Each of them wanted to be the patron god of a new city. The conflict was resolved when the judges determined that Athene's marvel, although unimpressive at first, provided the better gift.

PTS: 1 NAT: RL 3

26. ANS:

Sample response: The author seems to feel negatively about the pageant. The writer shows this by calling the children's costumes "over the top" and comparing the contestants to show horses.

PTS: 1 NAT: RI 6

- | | | | |
|-----|--------|--------|-----------|
| 27. | ANS: B | PTS: 1 | NAT: L 4b |
| 28. | ANS: D | PTS: 1 | NAT: L 4b |
| 29. | ANS: C | PTS: 1 | NAT: L 4b |
| 30. | ANS: C | PTS: 1 | NAT: L 5c |
| 31. | ANS: A | PTS: 1 | NAT: L 5c |
| 32. | ANS: D | PTS: 1 | NAT: L 5c |
| 33. | ANS: D | PTS: 1 | NAT: L 1b |
| 34. | ANS: A | PTS: 1 | NAT: L 1a |

- | | | | |
|------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|
| 35. | ANS: B | PTS: 1 | NAT: L 2a |
| 36. | ANS: A | PTS: 1 | NAT: L 1b |
| 37. | ANS: C | PTS: 1 | NAT: L 1a |
| 38. | ANS: C | PTS: 1 | NAT: L 2a |
| 39. | ANS: D | PTS: 1 | NAT: L 1a |
| 40. | ANS: A | PTS: 1 | NAT: L 2a |
| 41. | ANS: C | PTS: 1 | NAT: L 1b |
| 42. | ANS: A | PTS: 1 | NAT: L 1a |
| 43. | ANS: C | PTS: 1 | NAT: L 1b |
| 44. | ANS: B | PTS: 1 | NAT: L 2a |