

1. PART A

According to the following passage, what is the best inference we can make about the lawyer for Adnan's trial?

Rabia was writing to me because, way back when, I used to be a reporter for the Baltimore Sun, and she'd come across some stories I'd written about a well-known defense attorney in Baltimore who'd been disbarred for mishandling client money. That attorney was the same person who defended Adnan, her last major trial, in fact.

Rabia told me she thought the attorney botched the case-- not just botched it, actually, but threw the case on purpose so she could get more money for the appeal. The lawyer had died a few years later. She'd been sick.

- a) She is a strong lawyer with a history of successful cases.
- b) She was prejudiced about the fact that Adnan was Muslim.
- c) She is a greedy lawyer that cannot be trusted.
- d) She was probably not well enough to try Adnan's case successfully.

2. PART B

Which evidence from the passage **best** supports this inference?

- a) "...disbarred for mishandling client money."
- b) "She'd been sick."
- c) "...a well-known defense attorney..."
- d) "...the attorney botched the case..."

3. PART A

Read the following passage:

I read a few newspaper clips about the case, looked up a few trial records. And on paper, the case was like a Shakespearean mashup-- young lovers from different worlds thwarting their families, secret assassinations, jealousy, suspicion, and honor besmirched, the villain not a Moor exactly, but a Muslim all the same, and a final act of murderous revenge. And the main stage? A regular old high school across the street from a 7Eleven.

Which of the following statements is the **best** difference in connotation and denotation in this paragraph?

- a) The connotation suggests that the public was shocked by the case while the denotation suggests that they should have expected it.
- b) The connotation suggests that the trial was entertaining while the denotation suggests that the crime was quite serious.

- c) The connotation suggests that the crime was the result of compromised morals while the denotation suggests that it was a crime of passion.
- d) The connotation suggests that Shakespeare could have written the story while the denotation suggests that the story is quite common.

4. PART B

Pick the best quote to support your answer to Part A.

- a) “And on paper, the case was like a Shakespearean mashup...”
- b) “...young lovers from different worlds thwarting their families...”
- c) “...the villain not a Moor exactly, but a Muslim all the same...”
- d) “...and a final act of murderous revenge...”

5. PART A

Sarah Koenig includes interviews with Sam, Tyler, and Elliot at the beginning of Episode 1 (pages 1 and 2 of the transcript). How does this structure **best** contribute to the meaning of Episode 1?

- a) The interviews prove that teenage boys can be unpredictable and lie frequently, which is a character flaw of Joy.
- b) The interviews show the personality of the narrator, Sarah, who becomes an important part of the narrative.
- c) The interviews set a mood for the episode, one of questioning, because Sarah questions the boys just like she questions Adnan and Jay.
- d) The interviews support a theme that memory is not always reliable because the boys cannot remember parts of their past.

6. PART B

Pick the best quote to support your answer to Part A.

- a) “Wait, Sam, my nephew Sam?”
- b) “I most likely did this, or I most likely did that.”
- c) “Oh, OK. So Sam says he was at work.”
- d) “Just for a lark, I asked some teenagers to try it.”

Constructed Response

Sarah Koenig claims that *Serial* is the search for justice for Adnan Syed, but critics have argued that it is actually her search for truth. How is the idea of “truth” portrayed in the podcast? What conclusions can you make about “truth?” Remember to cite evidence from the transcript in your response.

