

8th Grade Released/Sample OST Questions

Reading Literary Text and Language Standards

RL.8.1 Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A What does the discussion of rubber in paragraph 8 emphasize about the narrator?

Part B Select a sentence from paragraph 10 that provides the strongest evidence for Part A.

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A What do the author's physical descriptions of Toby suggest about how he feels in the passage?

Part B Select **two** sentences from the passage that support the idea in Part A.

Select **two** details from Passage 1 that show why Gawain chooses to pursue the Graal.

Select the sentence from paragraph 3 of "Narcissus Myth" that explains what causes Narcissus to become obsessed with looking at himself.

Select the detail that shows that Alice prefers to avoid conflict with the Queen.

Which sentence from Passage 1 shows why Atlas offers to take the apples to the king?

RL.8.2 Analyze literary text development.

a. Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text.

b. Incorporate a theme and its relationship to other story elements into an objective summary of the text.

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A In Passage 2, what theme is suggested by Graham's situation?

Part B Which quotation helps develop the theme in Part A?

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A What is a theme of the passage?

Part B How do Alice's actions develop the theme?

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A What is a theme of in Passage 1?

Part B Which sentence from the passage supports the theme in Part A?

RL.8.3 Analyze how particular lines of dialogue or incidents in a story or drama propel the action, reveal aspects of a character, or provoke a decision.

How do paragraphs 4 through 8 contribute to decisions regarding the island's resources?

How do paragraphs 8-10 further develop the passage?

What do the details provided in paragraph 15 reveal about Toby?

What does the discovery in paragraph 2 reveal about Fritz and his father?

In "Narcissus Myth," what does Hera's treatment of Echo reveal about Hera?

What does paragraph 14 reveal about Alice?

Read the excerpt from Passage 1.

"We will see about that, one of these days," answered the giant. 'At all events, you ought not to complain, if you have to bear it the next hundred years, or perhaps the next thousand. I bore it a good while longer, in spite of the back-ache.'" (paragraph 6)

What does this excerpt reveal about Atlas?

Read the sentence from Passage 2.

'Since you ask, I'd like a pad for my head—take the weight off.'

How does this dialogue lead to Atlas's decision to take the universe from Heracles?

RL.8.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.

L.8.4 Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words or phrases based on grade 8 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

Read this sentence from Passage 1.

"And, besides, I have no fancy for burdening myself with the sky, just now.'" (paragraph 4)

What is the meaning of the word fancy as it is used in this paragraph?

In this sentence from paragraph 2, the author refers to a nest as a "wonder." What tone does the word emphasize?

"And now we met with another wonder: a number of birds who lived in a community, in nests, sheltered by a common roof, in the formation of which they had probably labored jointly."

How does the author's use of words such as "chugs" (paragraph 15), "staggers" (paragraph 17), and "laboured" (paragraph 33) affect the tone of the passage?

Based on the passage, select **two** possible interpretations of the figurative language in paragraph 43.

Which emotion does the word lamented emphasize?

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"With great pleasure I gathered a bag of these berries, knowing how my wife would appreciate this acquisition; for she often lamented that we were compelled to go to bed with the birds, as soon as the sun set." (Paragraph 1)

Read the excerpt from Passage 1.

"Sir, I bring here a young knight, the which is of king's lineage, whereby the marvels of this court shall be accomplished, and the trial of this thy kingdom shall be brought to a happy end, if that may be. And the name of him is Galahad."

What does the use of the word trial suggest in this excerpt?

Read the sentence from paragraph 1 of "Narcissus Myth."

"As she listened amused, the others silently stole away and Hera could come to no conclusion as to where Zeus's wandering fancy had alighted."

What does the phrase stole away reveal about the nymphs?

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A Read the sentence from paragraph 2 of "Narcissus Myth."

"He was calling his companions, 'Is anyone here?' and she called back in rapture. 'Here—Here.'"

What does the phrase in rapture mean as it is used in the sentence?

Part B Select **two** phrases from paragraph 2 that support the answer in Part A.

Read the sentence from Passage 1.

"Ah, the thick-witted old rogue of a giant!" (paragraph 9)

What is the meaning of the phrase thick-witted as it is used in this sentence?

Read the sentence from Passage 2.

"Slowly, so as not to spill one drop of milk, Atlas lowered the Cosmos back onto his shoulders, and bent himself under the burden." (paragraph 30)

How does the author's use of the phrase "so as not to spill one drop of milk" affect the story?

RL.8.5 Compare and contrast the structure of two or more texts and analyze how the differing structure of each text contributes to its meaning and style.

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A How is the structure of Passage 2 different from the structure of Passage 1?

Part B Which aspect of the passages is affected by this difference in structure?

Read the sentence from the passage.

"It is one of those moments where effort turns to music, and they feel it, hardly dare to hope it will continue." (paragraph 15)

What does the phrase "hardly dare to hope" show about musicians?

RL.8.6 Analyze how differences in the points of view and perspectives of the characters and the audience or reader (e.g., created through the use of dramatic irony) create effects such as suspense or humor.

What is emphasized by Alice's and the Queen's differing points of view?

Select the sentence from the passage that reveals that Toby wants the members of the Guitar Choir to have a good experience.

Read paragraphs 7 and 8 from Passage 1.

How does the speaker's point of view in those paragraphs increase the tension of Passage 1?

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A In "Narcissus Myth," how is the reader's understanding of Echo different from Narcissus's understanding of Echo?

Part B How does the difference described in Part A affect the tone of the passage?

Which statement accurately explains why the Oreads are surprised by the pool's reaction to Narcissus's death in "The Disciple"?

How does the difference between Alice's point of view and the Queen's in paragraphs 24-25 affect the passage?

RL.8.9 Analyze how a modern work of fiction alludes to themes, patterns of events, or character types from myths, traditional stories, and religious literary texts, such as (but not limited to) the Bible and *The Epic of Gilgamesh*, including describing how the material is rendered new.

Select **two** ways that the story in Passage 2 is similar to the story in Passage 1.

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A How has Atlas's character in Passage 2 been transformed from the way it was portrayed in Passage 1?

Part B Select the detail from Passage 2 that supports the answer in Part A.