

Name _____

Date _____



Big Book 6 Midterm Test

Units 01-10

A. Choose the right answer to fill in each blank from the box.

| | | | | |
|-----------|----------|---------|------------|---------|
| workhouse | strange | migrate | mesmerized | seminar |
| eliminate | trickery | angered | flooding | account |

1. Mary sometimes heard _____ cries in the house.
2. Oliver Twist was an orphan, who spent his days in a _____.
3. Narcissus was _____ by the reflection.
4. Zeus _____ the gods by stealing the secret of fire from the heavens.
5. This helps to _____ environmental damage.
6. The main reason why birds _____ is to find food.
7. Some people save money by placing it into a savings _____.
8. Global warming is causing more and more _____ during the monsoon season.
9. I went to a very informative _____ about the history of Hinduism.
10. April Fool's Day is so popular that even businesses get involved in the _____.

B. Match each word or phrase to its correct definition.

- | | | |
|--------------|---|--|
| 11. bury | • | • a. a person who commits a crime |
| 12. criminal | • | • b. to find the answer |
| 13. peculiar | • | • c. evil |
| 14. wicked | • | • d. occurring once a year |
| 15. produce | • | • e. to locate |
| 16. annual | • | • f. odd |
| 17. borrow | • | • g. a person who lacks judgment or sense |
| 18. solve | • | • h. to make |
| 19. pinpoint | • | • i. to take with the promise to return the same |
| 20. fool | • | • j. to hide something in the ground |

C. Read and answer.**[21-22]****April Fool's Day Tradition**

Do you play tricks on your friends on April Fool's Day? Do you know about this odd celebration? It happens on the first of April every year. April Fool's Day has been celebrated for centuries, but how did the custom begin?

People play tricks on one another during April Fool's Day. In modern times, friends often tell each other outrageous lies hoping others will believe them. April Fool's Day is so popular that even businesses get involved in the trickery. For example, newspapers often report made-up stories. One year, an American sports magazine made up a story about a baseball pitcher. The article said the pitcher could throw a baseball over 160 miles per hour. Guess what? People believed it!

Historians are not exactly sure how April Fool's Day began. Some speculate that it occurred when France switched calendars. Today, most calendars begin on January 1. However, before 1852, calendars started on April 1. When France shifted calendars, many people forgot or were not informed, so they continued to celebrate the New Year on April 1. These people were labeled fools, and they had tricks played on them.

Are you going to play tricks on your friends on April Fool's Day? Be careful, because perhaps someone might play a trick on you!

21. What is the main idea of paragraph 3?

- a. Many people in France were fools.
- b. No one knows exactly when April Fool's Day started.
- c. People in France use a different calendar to the rest of the world.
- d. Historians don't like April Fool's Day.

22. What can be inferred from the reading?

- a. You shouldn't believe everything someone tells you on April 1.
- b. People in America play the funniest tricks on other people.
- c. People who read sports magazines are fools.
- d. It's not nice to play tricks on other people.

[23-25]

Oliver Twist

Oliver Twist was an orphan, who spent his days in a workhouse. Oliver's mother had died, and his father was nowhere to be found. Life in the workhouse was difficult. Oliver worked in poor conditions with little food. He spent his days making oakum, which is fiber used for building ships.

One day, Oliver was sent to work for an undertaker, Mr. Sowerberry. Oliver liked Mr. Sowerberry, but not Mr. Sowerberry's wife. After getting beaten by Mr. Sowerberry's wife, Oliver decided to run away to London.

In London, Oliver met a gang of **@pickpockets**. The gang leader, nicknamed the Artful Dodger, convinced Oliver to join the group. However, Oliver did not realize they were criminals. Oliver realized the boys were stealing when the Artful Dodger took a handkerchief from a man named Mr. Brownlow. Mr. Brownlow spotted Oliver and took him to court. A witness told the judge that Oliver was not responsible, but Oliver was so frightened, he fainted. Mr. Brownlow decided to take Oliver home to care for him.

Oliver recovered in the care of Mr. Brownlow, but the Artful Dodger and his gang soon recaptured Oliver because they were afraid he would tell the police about their criminal activities. A girl from the gang, Nancy, felt sorry for Oliver. She contacted Mr. Brownlow, who had treated Oliver well. In the end, Oliver was rescued, and it was revealed that Mr. Brownlow was once the best friend of Oliver's father.

23. What is the main idea of paragraph 1?

- a. Oliver wanted to meet his parents.
- b. Oliver was a very hard worker.
- c. Oliver had a difficult life when he was young.
- d. Oliver was frightened of working in the workhouse.

24. What can be inferred from the story?

- a. Mr. Brownlow didn't like Oliver.
- b. Mr. Sowerberry's wife didn't like Oliver.
- c. Nancy liked Mr. Brownlow.
- d. The Artful Dodger is an honest man.

25. What does **@pickpocket** mean in the reading?

- a. A person who works in a court
- b. A person who cares for other people
- c. A person who steals things from other people
- d. A person who is the leader of a gang

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D. Read and write.**Bird Migration**

Have you ever noticed groups of birds flying together during certain times of the year? Where do you think they are going? It is possible the birds are on their annual migration.

Bird migration is the regular journey taken by many bird species each year. Nearly two thousand species of birds migrate long distances. But why do they do it?

The main reason why birds migrate is to find food. For example, the most common pattern in bird migration involves the birds flying north during the spring and flying south during autumn. There is plenty of food for birds to eat in northern places during the summer. However, during the winter months, food sources are covered with snow! Therefore, the birds fly toward the equator and warmer climates, where food is available year-round. During spring, the birds fly north again to lay their eggs and raise their young in more moderate climates.

You may be wondering how birds know when it is time to migrate. Migrating birds are genetically programmed to fly long distances. The birds sense it's time to fly based upon the amount of daylight. As the days grow shorter, birds feel winter drawing near. So, they fly south once more and then repeat the cycle every year!

Rewrite the sentence to make it correct.

26. Bird migration is the long journey taken by many bird species each month.

27. The main reason why birds migrate is to lay eggs.

28. The most common pattern in bird migration involves the birds flying north during the winter and flying north during autumn.

29. During spring, the birds fly north again to find food and raise their young in more extreme climates.

30. The birds sense it's time to stay based upon the amount of darkness.
