

Directions: Answer the following question(s).

- 1 Which of these forms of literature is MOST likely to begin with the words "Once upon a time"?
- A. fairy tales and fables
 - B. myths and legends
 - C. science fiction and myths
 - D. legends and science fiction

Master ID: 3293108 Revision: 1

Correct: A

Rationale:

- A. Correct answer
- B. Student(s) may have assumed that these legends and myths would begin with "Once upon a time" because myths and legends are supposedly things that happened in the past. Student(s) may not have considered the other options and may not have realized that myths and legends are less likely to begin with this phrase than fairy tales and fables.
- C. Student(s) may have assumed that myths would begin with "Once upon a time" because they are supposed to have happened long ago. Student(s) may have been familiar with some popular science fiction stories that begin with "Once upon a time" but may not have realized that science fiction stories typically happen in the future.
- D. Student(s) may have assumed that legends would begin with "Once upon a time" because they are supposed to have happened long ago. Student(s) may have been familiar with some popular science fiction stories that begin with "Once upon a time" but may not have realized that science fiction stories typically happen in the future.

Rubric: 1 Point(s)

Standards:

4.RL.5

Directions: Read the passage below and answer the question(s) that follow.

Passage 1: How the Wicked Sons Were Duped
A story from India



A very wealthy old man, thinking he was near the point of death, sent for his sons. He divided his property among them. However, he did not die for several years afterwards. For many of these years, he was miserable. Besides being weary from old age, the old fellow had to bear much cruelty from his sons. Before this, they had competed with one another to try to please their father, hoping to receive more money. But now that they had received their inheritance, they did not care if their father died.

They saw him only as a needless trouble and expense. And they let the poor old man know how they felt.

One day, the old man met a friend and explained his situation to him. The friend sympathized very much with him. He promised to think over the matter. He said that he would call in a little while and tell him what to do. A few days later, he visited the old man and put three bags full of stones and gravel before him.

"Look here, friend," he said. "Your sons will hear about my visit with you today, and will inquire about it. You must pretend that I came to repay a long-standing debt with you, and that you are now much richer than you thought you were. Keep these bags in your own hands, and under no circumstances let your sons get to them as long as you are alive. You will soon notice a change in their behavior toward you. I will come again soon to see how you are doing."

When the young men heard of this further increase of wealth, they began to be more attentive and pleasing to their father than ever before. And they continued this way to the day of the old man's demise, when the bags were greedily opened, and found to contain only stones and gravel!

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Directions: Answer the following question(s) relating to the passage titled "Passage 1: How the Wicked Sons Were Duped A story from India / Passage 2: The Farmer and His Sons By Aesop".

Passage 2: The Farmer and His Sons
By Aesop

A rich old farmer, who felt that he had only a few more days to live, called his sons to his bedside.

"My sons," he said, "listen to what I have to say to you. Do not ever part with the estate that has belonged to our family for so many generations. There is a rich treasure hidden somewhere. I do not know the exact spot, but it is there, and you will surely find it. Spare no energy and leave no spot unturned in your search."

The father died, and no sooner was he in his grave than the sons set to work digging with all their might. They turned up every foot of ground with their spades, and went over the whole farm two or three times.

They did not find any hidden gold. But at harvest time, when they had settled their accounts, they pocketed a rich profit far greater than that of any of their neighbors. They now understood that the treasure their father had told them about was the wealth of a bountiful crop. In their hard work, they had found the treasure.

Public Domain

2 These passages would BEST be described as _____.

- A. stories about real people with events that are exaggerated
- B. stories that teach a lesson or moral
- C. stories that explain how something came to be
- D. stories that have characters who live happily ever after

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

Part A:

These two passages are *best* described as _____.

- A. fantasies
- B. tall tales
- C. biographies
- D. fables

Master ID: 3268116 Revision: 1

Correct: B

Rationale:

- A. Student(s) may have been confused and thought these stories seemed like they were about real people.
- B. Correct answer
- C. Student(s) may not understand that this is a description of a myth. These passages are not myths.
- D. Student(s) may have thought this would be a good description since the sons in "The Farmer and His Sons" found treasure after their hard work. However, this does not accurately describe both passages.

Rubric: 1 Point(s)

Standards:
4.RL.5

Directions: Answer the following question(s) relating to the passage titled "Passage 1: How the Wicked Sons Were Duped A story from India / Passage 2: The Farmer and His Sons By Aesop".

Master ID: 3235167 Revision: 1
 Correct: D
 Rationale:
 A. Student(s) may have confused these stories with fantasy. Student(s) may have correctly known this story was fiction, but did not understand that fantasies usually have magical events in the story and these stories do not have that element.
 B. Student(s) may have confused a tall tale with a fable. Student(s) may not have understood that tall tales are about heroes and exaggerated events.
 C. Student(s) may have thought these stories were biographies since they both are about the lives of older fathers and their sons. Student(s) may have also misunderstood the meaning of a biography and confused it with a fable.
 D. Correct answer
 Rubric: 2 Point(s)
 Standards:
 4.RL.5

Part B:

What evidence from both passages support the answer to part A?

- A. Both passages tell real stories.
- B. Both passages have a character that dies.
- C. Both passages seek to teach a lesson.
- D. Both passages feature talking animals.

Master ID: 3235167 Revision: 1
 Correct: C
 Rationale:
 A. Student(s) may have believed that each story could have happened. Student(s) may not have realized that fables are made-up stories that are meant to teach a lesson.
 B. Student(s) may have known that this was a common piece in both passages; however, this does not support the literary type.
 C. Correct answer
 D. Student(s) may have known that fables often feature talking animals. Student(s) may not have looked to the passages for evidence.
 Rubric: 2 Point(s)
 Standards:
 4.RL.5

Directions: Read the passage below and answer the question(s) that follow.

The Dove and the Ant

Adapted from the French of La Fontaine, written by: W. T. Larned, public domain

- 1 There once was an Ant who went for a drink on the bank of a nearby brook. Sadly, the little Ant slipped and dropped off the bank. As she tried to swim, she became considerably discouraged. Panic eventually set in. "I cannot live, for this pool of water is too wide." Just then a lovely dove flew right over the brook and saw the little Ant struggling.
- 2 This kind Dove flew down and pulled up a blade of grass. She lent one end to the weak and tattered Ant. Grateful the Ant was as she grabbed the other end. As she was pulled to the safe earth, the Ant thanked the benevolent Dove. "I will never forget your kind deed," cried the Ant. Then she went on her way.
- 3 Now, listen carefully to what happened next, for it is very important for us all to hear. Just a little while later, some trouble arose for the Dove. A scoundrel of a boy glared at the Dove with a slingshot in his hand. Such meanness was in this boy, that he wanted to transform the Dove into a pie. Poor gentle bird, she had no chance.
- 4 When all was almost lost, the cruel lad gave out a yelp. The Ant came to the Dove's rescue, for the Ant had stung him on the heel. At once, the Dove flew extremely far away. The kind Dove continued to live and constantly displayed love towards others as well. And in return, everything else loved the kind and loving Dove.

Directions: Read the passage below and answer the question(s) that follow.

- 4 This question has two parts. First, answer part A. Then, answer part B.

Part A:

What type of story *best* describes "The Dove and the Ant"?

- A. tall tale
- B. fairy tale
- C. myth
- D. fable

Master ID: 3233532 Revision: 1

Correct: D

Rationale:

- A. Student(s) may not have remembered that tall tales feature stories about people that are extremely exaggerated.
- B. Student(s) may have thought that this story exemplified a fairy tale. Student(s) may not have noticed that this story holds certain qualities that signify a fable.
- C. Student(s) may not have realized that myths are usually told to explain how things came to be.
- D. Correct answer

Rubric: 2 Point(s)

Standards:

4.RL.5

Part B:

What evidence from the passage supports the type of story chosen in Part A? Select *two* that are correct.

- A. The story teaches a moral or lesson.
- B. The story explains how something came to be.
- C. The story features talking animals.
- D. The story shows both good and evil.
- E. The story talks about magical events.

Master ID: 3233532 Revision: 1

Correct: AC

Rationale:

- A. Correct answer
- B. Student(s) may not have realized that this would be a feature of a myth.
- C. Correct answer
- D. Student(s) may not have realized that this is usually evident in fantasy stories.
- E. Student(s) may not have realized that this is a feature of fairy tale stories.

Rubric: 2 Point(s)

Standards:

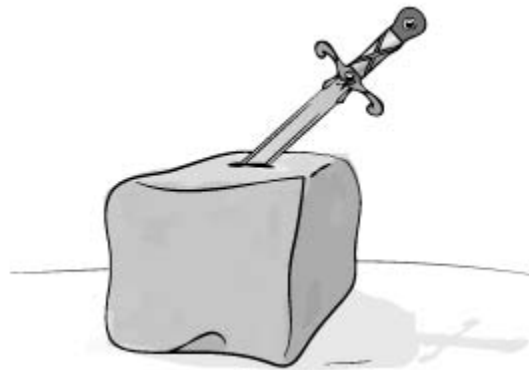
4.RL.5

Directions: Read the passage below and answer the question(s) that follow.

The Sword and the Stone:

A Retelling

- 1 Long, long ago, there was a young man named Arthur. He would grow to become a great king someday. There was a lot of fighting and danger in all the surrounding towns when he was young. People were not happy. They needed a good king to help them, and so they were looking for one.
- 2 One day, many knights and princes of the land gathered at a church. They were hoping that at the church they could get the answer as to who would be best as the next king. As they sat in the church, people noticed a huge square stone outside. A long sword was stuck right in the middle of this great stone. People were astonished, for they could not figure out how it came to be in the churchyard. Written in gold on the stone was a message explaining that whoever could remove the sword from the stone would be the next great king of the land.
- 3 So it began that every man—princes, lords, knights, peasants—took his turn trying to pull the sword from the stone. Even after dozens and dozens of tries, the sword would not budge.
- 4 Word traveled quickly about the stone and the sword. For days people traveled from near and far to try to remove the sword. It didn't move a hair. It remained as stuck as ever in that rock.
- 5 Finally it was January, and a celebration of the new year was taking place with lots of games and sports. Arthur needed to bring his brother a forgotten sword so his brother could compete in the games and sports. However, Arthur could not get into his locked house to get the sword. He remembered the sword in the churchyard that everyone was talking about. Arthur went right up to that sword in the stone and bravely and easily removed it.
- 6 Once he gave the sword to his brother, his father recognized it as the sword from the stone. He was overjoyed for his son. Arthur was not one to boast or be ungrateful. He promised to be a strong and brave leader for his family and for all people. So began the journeys of King Arthur and his life as a hero.



Directions: Read the passage below and answer the question(s) that follow.

5 If this story were turned into a play, what would MOST LIKELY change?

- A. There would be more characters.
- B. The setting would change from a church to a castle.
- C. There would be more dialogue.
- D. The ending would be the act of pulling out the sword.

Master ID: 2101621 Revision: 3

Correct: C

Rationale:

- A. The story has sufficient characters in it to tell the story of how Arthur becomes king.
- B. Even though the story is about becoming king, there is nothing in the story that would require the setting of a castle in a play.
- C. Plays are told mainly in dialogue. Because this story has no dialogue, it would have to have much more dialogue to be retold as a play.
- D. While the moment when Arthur pulls the sword out of the stone is the most important one, a play, like a story, does not have to end with the most important or exciting moment.

Rubric: 1 Point(s)

Standards:

4.RL.5