

The Storyteller Saki

COMPREHENSION Circle the letter of the best answer to each of the following items. (30 points; 6 points each)

- The aunt is best described as—
 - poor and mistreated
 - ordinary and unimaginative
 - creative but overworked
 - clever and determined
- All of the following factors make the train ride unbearable except for—
 - sorrow
 - lack of things to do
 - boredom
 - humidity and heat
- The children consider the aunt's story unsatisfactory because the—
 - girl is dreadfully wicked
 - story is too long
 - story teaches a boring moral lesson
 - children have heard the same story before
- After the bachelor tells the story about Bertha, his mood is best described as—
 - self-satisfied
 - apologetic
 - thrilled
 - unhappy
- Why did the aunt object to the bachelor's story?
 - It was more interesting than her story.
 - It was about pigs instead of flowers.
 - It would give the children nightmares.
 - It showed that good was not rewarded.

Unit 1: Collection 3, Selection Test *continued*

VOCABULARY DEVELOPMENT Match the definition on the left with the vocabulary word on the right. On the line provided, write the letter of the correct vocabulary word. (10 points; 2 points each)

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| _____ 6. continuing; stubborn | A) sultry |
| _____ 7. impatient; irritable; peevish | B) persistent |
| _____ 8. strong belief; certainty | C) resolute |
| _____ 9. hot and humid; sweltering | D) petulant |
| _____ 10. determined | E) conviction |

VOCABULARY SKILL Circle the word in parentheses that is the best meaning for the underlined word in each sentence. Look for context clues in the sentence to help you determine the word's meaning. (10 points; 2 points each)

11. The children groaned and moved listlessly toward the aunt's end of the carriage. (quickly, unexcitedly, angrily, soothingly)
12. The aunt covered her mouth and suppressed a gasp of admiration. (lifted, yawned, revealed, concealed)
13. Bertha saw the wolf and saw that it was slowly stealing toward her. (hopping, rolling, moving stealthily, running)
14. The aunt bristled in instant defense at this unexpected attack. (laughed, became angry, spat, gawked)
15. It was a beautiful park, and no children were ever allowed in it, so it was a great honor for Bertha to be allowed to go there. (tribute, laughter, insult, tease)

LITERARY FOCUS Circle the letter of the best answer to each of the following items. (15 points; 5 points each)

16. Judging from the descriptions of the aunt's attempts to control and interest the children, which statement best conveys the narrator's attitude toward her?
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|------------------------|------------------------|
| A) She is sympathetic. | C) She is incompetent. |
| B) She is overbearing. | D) She is harsh. |

Unit 1: Collection 3, Selection Test *continued*

17. Which sentence illustrates what is meant by an omniscient narrator?
- A) The Prince loved the garden, but Bertha was undecided. C) “The wolf will never see me now,” I thought.
- B) Bertha hid in the myrtle bush. D) The moon illuminated the garden.
18. The most important thing an omniscient narrator can reveal about a character is his or her—
- A) appearance C) name
- B) motivation D) home

READING FOCUS Circle the letter of the best answer to each of the following items. (15 points; 5 points each)

19. The narrator’s attitude toward the aunt in the story is—
- A) positive C) full of pity
- B) sorrowful D) disapproving
20. The point the bachelor is making in his story is—
- A) sentimental stories are boring C) children must be good as often as they can
- B) trains are good places to tell stories D) wolves are dangerous
21. Saki’s purpose for writing this story might be—
- A) to persuade the reader to take trains C) to satirize people who tell overly sentimental stories
- B) to explain how to build the perfect garden D) to convince the audience that people should get medals for being good

CONSTRUCTED RESPONSE (20 points)

22. What do we learn about each character through the omniscient point of view? How does this choice of narrator affect the plot? On a separate sheet of paper, write a paragraph that explains your answer. Support your ideas with details from the story.