

Work for Mrs. Harrison 8th grade ELA

Complete the reading comprehension packet that begins with **Passage 1: from Mockingjay**. Be sure to answer all questions completely and use correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, etc...

If you have any questions please email me at kara.harrison@db.k12.oh.us or you can message me through the remind app.

If any students would like to work on readingplus.com here is the info:

Readingplus.com

Site code: **rpdawso**

Username: **first.last**

Password: **hornets** (unless you changed it yourself, this is your password)

In *Mockingjay*, Suzanne Collins's *Hunger Games* trilogy, Katniss is recovering from her second time participating in the Hunger Games. She recently found out that her home, District 12, was destroyed by the Capitol. Katniss then fights to return home and see District 12 for herself.

Passage 1: from *Mockingjay*

by Suzanne Collins

- 1 I stare down at my shoes, watching as a fine layer of ash settles on the worn leather. This is where the bed I shared with my sister, Prim, stood. Over there was the kitchen table. The bricks of the chimney, which collapsed in a charred heap, provide a point of reference for the rest of the house. How else could I orient myself in this sea of gray?
- 2 Almost nothing remains of District 12. A month ago, the Capitol's firebombs obliterated the poor coal miner's house in the seam, the shops in the town, even the Justice Building. The only area that escaped incineration was the Victor's Village. I don't know why exactly. Perhaps so anyone forced to come here on capital business would have somewhere decent to stay. The odd reporter. A committee assessing the condition of the coal mines. A squad of peacekeepers checking for returning refugees.
- 3 But no one is returning except me. And that's only for a brief visit. The authorities in District 13 were against my coming back. They viewed it as a costly and pointless venture given that at least a dozen hovercrafts are circling overhead for my protection and there's no intelligence to be gained. I had to see it, though. So much so that I made it a condition of my cooperating with any of their plans.
- 4 Finally, Plutarch Heavensbee, the Head Gamemaker who had organized the rebels in the Capital, threw up his hands. "Let her go. Better to waste a day than another month. Maybe a little tour of Twelve is just what she needs to convince her we're on the same side."
- 5 The same side. A pain stabs my left temple and I press my hand against it. Right on the spot where Johanna Mason hit me with a coil of wire. The memories swirl as I try to sort out what is true and what is false. What series of events led me to be standing in the ruins of my city? This is hard because the effects of the concussion she gave me haven't completely subsided and my thoughts still have a tendency to jumble together. Also, the drugs used to control my pain and mood sometimes make me see things. I guess. I'm still not entirely convinced that I was hallucinating the night the floor of my hospital room transformed into a carpet of writhing snakes.
- 6 I use a technique one of the doctors suggested. I start with the simplest things I know to be true and work toward the more complicated. The list begins to roll in my head....
- 7 *My name is Katniss Everdeen. I am seventeen years old. My home is District 12. I was in the Hunger Games. I escaped. The Capital hates me. Peeta was taken prisoner.*

Passage 2: George W. Bush Address to the Nation on 9/11

- 8 Good evening. Today, our fellow citizens, our way of life, our very freedom came under attack in a series of deliberate and deadly terrorist acts. The victims were in airplanes, or in their offices; secretaries, businessmen and women, military and federal workers; moms and dads, friends and neighbors. Thousands of lives were suddenly ended by evil, despicable acts of terror.
- 9 The pictures of airplanes flying into buildings, fires burning, huge structures collapsing, have filled us with disbelief, terrible sadness, and a quiet, unyielding anger. These acts of mass murder were intended to frighten our nation into chaos and retreat. But they have failed; our country is strong.
- 10 A great people has been moved to defend a great nation. Terrorist attacks can shake the foundations of our biggest buildings, but they cannot touch the foundation of America. These acts shattered steel, but they cannot dent the steel of American resolve. America was targeted for attack because we're the brightest beacon for freedom and opportunity in the world. And no one will keep that light from shining.
- 11 Today, our nation saw evil, the very worst of human nature. And we responded with the best of America — with the daring of our rescue workers, with the caring for strangers and neighbors who came to give blood and help in any way they could.
- 12 Immediately following the first attack, I implemented our government's emergency response plans. Our military is powerful, and it's prepared. Our emergency teams are working in New York City and Washington, D.C. to help with local rescue efforts.
- 13 Our first priority is to get help to those who have been injured, and to take every precaution to protect our citizens at home and around the world from further attacks.
- 14 The functions of our government continue without interruption. Federal agencies in Washington which had to be evacuated today are reopening for essential personnel tonight, and will be open for business tomorrow. Our financial institutions remain strong, and the American economy will be open for business, as well.
- 15 The search is underway for those who are behind these evil acts. I've directed the full resources of our intelligence and law enforcement communities to find those responsible and to bring them to justice. We will make no distinction between the terrorists who committed these acts and those who harbor them.
- 16 I appreciate so very much the members of Congress who have joined me in strongly condemning these attacks. And on behalf of the American people, I thank the many world leaders who have called to offer their condolences and assistance.
- 17 America and our friends and allies join with all those who want peace and security in the world, and we stand together to win the war against terrorism. Tonight, I ask for your prayers for all those who grieve, for the children whose worlds have been shattered, for all whose sense of safety and security has been threatened. And I pray they will be comforted by a power greater than any of us.
- 18 This is a day when all Americans from every walk of life unite in our resolve for justice and peace. America has stood down enemies before, and we will do so this time. None of us will ever forget this day. Yet, we go forward to defend freedom and all that is good and just in our world.
- 19 Thank you. Good night and God bless America.

1

Read the following sentence from Passage 1.

"The only area that escaped incineration was the Victor's Village." (paragraph 2)

What does the word incineration mean in this sentence?

- (A) place to escape
- (B) layer of coal
- (C) reduce to ashes
- (D) safe from harm

2

How does paragraph 10 in Passage 2 contribute to the overall speech?

- (A) It builds a sense of urgency.
- (B) It emphasizes America's strength.
- (C) It explains what people need to do.
- (D) It shows the need for freedom.

3

Briefly describe what happened to Katniss's home. Use details from Passage 1 to support your response.

Write your answer in the space provided.

4

Select **two** words from Passage 1, paragraph 5, that the author uses to show Katniss's confusion.

- (A) concussion
- (B) pain
- (C) ruin
- (D) hallucinating
- (E) control
- (F) memories

5

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

Part A

What is the purpose of Katniss's memory flashback in Passage 1?

- (A) It shows the reader that she is in present time.
- (B) It suggests that the narrator is looking for the family she loves.
- (C) It explains the narrator's own confusion as she pieces together what has happened.
- (D) It tells what the narrator is going to do about the bombing.

Part B

Which paragraph from Passage 1 supports the answer in Part A?

- (A) Paragraph 3
- (B) Paragraph 4
- (C) Paragraph 5
- (D) Paragraph 6

6

What internal conflict does Katniss face in Passage 1?

- (A) She is unhappy about the bombing of her home.
- (B) She is not prepared for the sight of District 12.
- (C) Her choice of how to handle the present situation.
- (D) Her struggle to piece together what is true and what is false.

7

How does the setting influence the plot in Passage 1?

- (A) The hospital introduces where Katniss came from.
- (B) The ruins of District 12 contribute to the conflict Katniss is experiencing.
- (C) The Capitol provides the explanation for what is happening.
- (D) The Victor's Village introduces the supporting characters.

8

Select **two** lines from Passage 1 that show how Katniss is feeling.

- (A) "The authorities in District 13 were against my coming back." (paragraph 3)
- (B) "Let her go. Better to waste a day than another month. Maybe a little tour of Twelve is just what she needs to convince her we're on the same side." (paragraph 4)
- (C) "This is hard because the effects of the concussion she gave me haven't completely subsided and my thoughts still have a tendency to jumble together." (paragraph 5)
- (D) "Right on the spot where Johanna Mason hit me with a coil of wire." (paragraph 5)
- (E) "The memories swirl as I try to sort out what is true and what is false." (paragraph 5)
- (F) "I start with the simplest things I know to be true and work toward the more complicated." (paragraph 6)

9

Select **three** details from Passage 2 that would be important to include in a summary.

- (A) The United States was deliberately attacked by terrorist.
- (B) These acts can not shake the foundation of America.
- (C) Our emergency teams are working in New York City and Washington, D.C.
- (D) Our financial institutions remain strong.
- (E) All resources will be used to find those responsible for this evil act.
- (F) I ask for your prayers for all those who grieve.

10

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

Part A

What is a theme expressed in **both** Passage 1 and 2?

- (A) People should help those who are in need.
- (B) A strong person makes the best of a bad situation.
- (C) People must hide their anger from others.
- (D) Do not dwell on the past, try and move on.

Part B

How do President George Bush's words develop the theme?

- (A) He questions the people responsible.
- (B) He explains the situation to the American people.
- (C) He takes time to process before responding poorly.
- (D) He reminds the American people they are strong.

11

How does the real account of 9/11 in Passage 2 further the development of the fictional story in Passage 1?

- (A) It highlights the importance of coming together in a difficult time.
- (B) It emphasizes what war is like and how things should be handled in Passage 1.
- (C) It creates a real connection between the reader and the narrator in Passage 1.
- (D) It reveals why these events are important and what the characters will do next.

12

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

Part A

What is shared by Katniss in Passage 1 and President George Bush in Passage 2?

- (A) These attacks were related.
- (B) The government will come to your aid.
- (C) It's important to come together as a family.
- (D) Recovering after an attack can be hard.

Part B

Select the letter before the detail from Passage 1, paragraph 3 that supports the answer in Part A.

- (A) But no one is returning except me.
- (B) And that's only for a brief visit.
- (C) The authorities in District 13 were against my coming back.
- (D) They viewed it as a costly and pointless venture given that at least a dozen hovercrafts are circling overhead for my protection and there's no intelligence to be gained.
- (E) I had to see it, though.
- (F) So much so that I made it a condition of my cooperating with any of their plans.

Writing Prompt

Write a multi-paragraph response in which you analyze the significance of Katniss losing her home in the bombing of District 12. In your response, consider the significance of the 9/11 attacks in the United States. Your response must be based on ideas and information that can be found in the passages.

Manage your time carefully so that you can:

- review the passages;
- plan your response;
- write your response; and
- revise and edit your response.

Be sure to:

- include an introduction;
- use evidence from the passages to support your explanation;
- avoid overly relying on one passage; and
- include a conclusion.

Write your multi-paragraph response in the space provided.

Name: _____ Period: _____ Date: _____

English Language Arts Assessment

The Two Brothers by Leo Tolstoy (1886)

(1) Once upon a time, in the days long since gone by, there dwelt at Jerusalem two brothers; the name of the elder was Athanasius, the name of the younger John. They dwelt on a hill not far from the town, and lived upon what people gave to them. Every day the brothers went out to work. They worked not for themselves, but for the poor. Wherever the overworked, the sick were to be found—wherever there were widows and orphans, thither went the brothers, and there they worked and spent their time, taking no payment. Thus the brothers went about separately the whole week, and only met together in the evening of the Sabbath at their own dwelling. Only on Sunday did they remain at home, praying and conversing together. And the Angel of the Lord came down to them and blessed them. On the Monday they separated again, each going his own way. Thus did the brothers live for many years, and every week the Angel of the Lord came down to them and blessed them.

(2) One Monday, when the brothers had gone forth to work, and had parted their several ways, the elder brother, Athanasius, felt sorry at having had to part from his beloved brother, and he stood still and glanced after him. John was walking with bent head, and he did not look back. But suddenly John also stopped as if he perceived something and continued to gaze fixedly at it. Presently he drew near to that which he had been looking upon, and then suddenly leaped aside, and, not stopping for another instant, ran towards the mountain and up the mountain, right away from the place, just as if some savage beast were pursuing him. Athanasius was astonished, and turned back to the place to find out what his brother had been so afraid of. At last he approached the spot, and then he saw something glistening in the sun. He drew nearer—on the grass, as if poured out from a measure, lay a heap of gold. And Athanasius was still more astonished, both at the sight of the gold and at the leaping aside of his brother.

(3) "What was he afraid of, and what did he run away from?" thought Athanasius. "There is no sin in gold, sin is in man. You may do ill with gold, but you may also do good. How many widows and orphans might not be fed therewith, how many naked ones might not be clothed, how many poor and sick might not be cared for and cured by means of this gold? Now, indeed, we minister to people, but our ministrations are but little, because our power is small, and with this gold we might minister to people much more than we do now." Thus thought Athanasius, and would have said so to his brother, but John was by this time out of hearing, and looked no bigger than a cockchafer on the further mountain.

(4) And Athanasius took off his garment, shoveled as much gold into it as he was able to carry, threw it over his shoulder, and went into the town. He went to an inn, gave the gold to the innkeeper, and then went off to fetch the rest of it. And when he had brought in all the gold he went to the merchants, bought land in that town, bought stones, wood, hired labourers, and set about building three houses. And Athanasius abode in the town three months, and built the three houses in that town; one of the houses was an asylum for widows and orphans, the second house was a hospital for the sick, the third house was a hospice for the poor and for pilgrims. And Athanasius sought him out three God-fearing elders, and the first elder he placed over the refuge, the second over the hospital, and the third over the hospice for pilgrims. And Athanasius had three thousand gold pieces still left.

Please turn the page.

Name: _____ Period: _____ Date: _____

The Two Brothers (continued)

(5) And he gave a thousand to each of the elders that they might have wherewith to distribute among the poor. And all three houses began to be filled with people, and the people began to praise Athanasius for all that he had done. And Athanasius rejoiced thereat, so that he had no desire to depart from the town. But Athanasius loved his brother, and, taking leave of the people, and not keeping for himself a single coin of all this money, he went back to his dwelling in the selfsame old garment in which he had come to town.

(6) Athanasius was drawing near to his mountain, and he thought to himself: "My brother judged wrongly when he leaped aside from the gold and ran away from it. Haven't I done much better?"

(7) And Athanasius had no sooner thought this than suddenly he beheld standing in his path the Angel who had been sent to bless them, but now looked threateningly upon him. And Athanasius was aghast and could only say:

(8) "Wherefore, my Lord?"

(9) And the Angel opened his mouth and said:

(10) "Depart from hence! Thou art not worthy to dwell with thy brother. That one leap aside of thy brother's was worth more than all that thou hast done with thy gold."

(11) Athanasius began to talk of how many poor and how many pilgrims he had fed, and of how many orphans he had cared for.

(12) And the Angel said to him:

(13) "That same Devil who placed the gold there in order to corrupt thee, hath also put these big words into thy mouth.

(14) And then the conscience of Athanasius upbraided him, and he understood that what he had done was not done for God, and he wept and began to repent.

(15) Then the Angel stepped aside from the road, and left free for him the path in which John was already standing awaiting his brother. And from thenceforth Athanasius yielded no more to the wiles of the Devil who had strewn the gold in his path, and he understood that not by gold, but by good works only, could he render service to God and his fellow-man.

(16) And the brethren dwelt together as before.

Please turn the page.

Name: _____ Period: _____ Date: _____

English Language Arts Assessment

1. For what purposes does Tolstoy repeat a phrase about the "Angel of the Lord" in paragraph 1? Select all that apply.
 - a. This repetition develops the tension between Athanasius and John.
 - b. This repetition develops the religious devotion of the brothers.
 - c. This repetition foreshadows the climactic scene of the narrative.
 - d. This repetition reveals the boredom that later motivates Athanasius's actions.

2. How does paragraph 3 contribute to the narrative? Select all that apply.
 - a. Paragraph 3 reveals Athanasius has devious plans for his discovery.
 - b. Paragraph 3 develops a contrast between Athanasius and John.
 - c. Paragraph 3 reveals Athanasius's distrust of the poor.
 - d. Paragraph 3 characterizes Athanasius as both generous and logical.

3. Read the following excerpt from paragraph 14.

And then the conscience of Athanasius **upbraided** him, and he understood that what he had done was not done for God, and he wept and began to repent.

Which word would best replace upbraided in the sentence above?

- a. criticized
- b. concealed
- c. worshipped
- d. revealed

Please turn the page.

Name: _____ Period: _____ Date: _____

English Language Arts Assessment (Continued)

4. PART A

Which of the following themes is developed in this narrative?

- a. Wise spending will ensure happiness.
- b. A boastful attitude detracts from one's good deeds.
- c. A life of service is a life of isolation.
- d. To serve others, you must first serve yourself.

PART B

Which piece of text evidence best supports this theme?

- a. But Athanasius loved his brother, and, taking leave of the people, and not keeping for himself a single coin of all this money, he went back to his dwelling in the selfsame old garment in which he had come to town.
- b. Depart from hence! Thou art not worthy to dwell with thy brother.
- c. That same Devil who placed the gold there in order to corrupt thee, hath also put these big words into thy mouth.
- d. Then the Angel stepped aside from the road, and left free for him the path in which John was already standing awaiting his brother.

