Name _____ Date _____

Instructions: Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

1. What causes Nicholas's aunt to forbid him from going on a trip to the Jagborough sands?

Ⓐ Nicholas argues with his cousins and brother during breakfast.

Ⓑ Nicholas refuses to eat his bread-and-milk because there is a frog in it.

Ⓒ Nicholas complains about having to eat bread-and-milk.

Ⓓ Nicholas has been trying to get into the gooseberry garden against his aunt's wishes.

2. Nicholas and the aunt both have _____ personalities.

Ⓐ easygoing

Ⓑ depressed

Ⓒ energetic

Ⓓ stubborn

3. Why does the aunt tell Nicholas that he is also not allowed to go into the gooseberry garden?

Ⓐ She is afraid that he will destroy the plants and flowers in the garden.

Ⓑ She is still taking away privileges to punish him.

Ⓒ She wants to keep him away from the dangers inside the garden.

Ⓓ She wants to work in the garden and needs a little time alone.

4. Nicholas's pretended attempts to get into the gooseberry garden are part of the _____ of this story.

Ⓐ rising action

Ⓑ introduction

Ⓒ resolution

Ⓓ falling action

Quick Check continued on following page

© Learning A–Z All rights reserved.

Name _____ Date _____

5. What clue from the story shows that Nicholas has already been planning to sneak into the lumber-room?

Ⓐ He gets in trouble so he won't have to go with his cousins to Jagborough sands.

Ⓑ He sets up the whole plan beginning with the frog in his bread-and-butter.

Ⓒ He confesses it to his aunt when she is stuck in the rainwater tank.

Ⓓ He has been practicing opening the schoolroom door with a key.

6. Based on his actions in the story, Nicholas is a boy who _____.

Ⓐ is quiet and unadventurous

Ⓑ obeys the adults in his life

Ⓒ is mischievous and clever

Ⓓ wants to keep animals safe

7. How do the objects in the lumber-room differ from those that Nicholas normally sees in his nursery?

Ⓐ The objects in the lumber-room are dreary and simple, while those from the nursery seem colorful and lively.

Ⓑ The objects in the lumber-room are dangerous, while those from the nursery seem safe and sensible.

Ⓒ The objects in the lumber-room are fantastic and colorful, while those from the nursery seem dull and shapeless.

Ⓓ The objects in the lumber-room are designed for kids, while those from the nursery seem better for adults.

Quick Check continued on following page

© Learning A–Z All rights reserved.

Name _____ Date _____

8. Why does Nicholas smile in the lumber-room after he hears his aunt screaming?

Ⓐ He knows she is playing a joke on him.

Ⓑ He knows she is lying when she says she can see him.

Ⓒ He dislikes his aunt and is happy that she is upset.

Ⓓ He realizes she figured out that he was in the lumber-room.

9. Which of the following events happens last in the story?

Ⓐ The aunt is rescued from the rainwater tank.

Ⓑ Nicholas is forbidden from going to Jagborough sands.

Ⓒ Nicholas explores the lumber-room.

Ⓓ The aunt tells Nicholas he cannot go into the gooseberry garden.

10. Why does the aunt enter the gooseberry garden?

Ⓐ She thinks she saw Nicholas climbing over the wall behind the lilacs and has gone to catch him in the act.

Ⓑ She believes that Nicholas is being too quiet and has started to search the garden to see what he is up to.

Ⓒ She is suspicious because Nicholas has disappeared and decides he must have snuck into the garden.

Ⓓ She expects that Nicholas wants to pull up her gooseberry bushes and is determined to stop him.

11. Extended Response: Why is Nicholas so interested in the tapestry? What does his thinking about the scene reveal about his character?

12. Extended Response: How did what actually happened in the story differ from what the aunt expected to occur? What does this reveal about the aunt's character?

© Learning A–Z All rights reserved.

1. Ⓑ *Cause and Effect*
2. Ⓓ *Compare and Contrast*
3. Ⓑ *Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions*
4. Ⓐ *Analyze Plot*
5. Ⓓ *Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions*
6. Ⓒ *Analyze Character*
7. Ⓒ *Compare and Contrast*
8. Ⓑ *Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions*
9. Ⓐ *Sequence Events*
10. Ⓒ *Cause and Effect*
11. Answers will vary. Sample answer: *Nicholas is drawn to the tapestry at first because it is large, colorful, and full of interesting details, making it unlike anything he sees in his aunt's house. Then he is more interested in it when he notices items in the picture that he did not see at first. He is fascinated with the wolves hiding on the sides. Nicholas's thoughts about the tapestry show that he is an intelligent and curious boy, and also that he likes to enter stories and to make his own. They also reveal that he is interested in some of the darker, more mature elements of life, things that his aunt does her best to keep away from him.*
12. Answers will vary. Sample answer: *The aunt set up the expedition to the sands to be a reward, but the cousins did not have any fun. She thought that Nicholas was going to break into the gooseberry garden, but in reality, the lumber-room was his plan all along. The aunt went into the garden to catch Nicholas in the act of disobeying, but instead she was caught when she fell into the rainwater tank. She thought she would outsmart Nicholas, but in the end, Nicholas was the one to outwit her. The aunt's behavior reveals that she thinks of herself as a clever and thoughtful person, but that she actually misjudges both people and situations.*

© Learning A–Z All rights reserved.