SASKATCHEWAN ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS A30 · UNIT B · 5 QUESTIONS

Social Responsibility - Shift Centres, Blur Margins — Practice Test

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Reading III - The River Poem

Use this reading for questions 1 to 5.

The river does not ask who belongs on its banks.

It carries the farmer's boat and the child's paper sail alike,

and it remembers, in silt and stone, every hand that touched it.

The centre of the river is not one current but many,

braiding together, separating, joining again,

and the margins, where water meets land, are where life gathers,

reeds, herons, and small fish in the shallow light.

1 **According to Reading III, what is the main idea of the poem?**

- **A** a poem argues rivers belong to one group only
- **B** a poem shows a river where many currents join and margins teem with life
- **C** a poem describes a desert with no water
- **D** a poem complains about boats and sails

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2 **According to Reading III, in this poem the word braiding most nearly means**

A separating forever

B drying up completely

C weaving together like strands of hair

D flowing in one line only

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3 **According to Reading III, what can the reader most reasonably infer?**

A the reader will see rivers as belonging to one group

B the reader will forget the river entirely

C the poem has no meaning about belonging

D the reader will likely see centre and margin as connected, not separate

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4 **According to Reading III, which theme is best supported by the poem?**



A many currents together, and lively margins, make a whole river

B only one current counts as a river

C margins are empty and lifeless

D rivers belong to a single group

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5 **According to Reading III, which detail is stated in the poem?**

A the river carries only one kind of boat

B reeds, herons, and small fish gather where water meets land

C the river forgets every hand that touched it

D no life gathers at the river margins

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ANSWER KEY

1. B
2. C
3. D
4. A
5. B

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