SASKATCHEWAN ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS B30 · UNIT A · 25 QUESTIONS

Reading and Responding to Canadian Texts — Practice Test

This practice test was made by AI and there may be mistakes. If a question or answer looks wrong, use the Flag a mistake button to let Brett know so he can fix it.

Reading I - North of the City

Use this reading for questions 1 to 9.

The bus left Saskatoon before dawn, and by noon the road had narrowed to gravel and the towns had grown farther apart. Lena, who had grown up in the city, watched the land open around her: fields, sloughs, and the long line of the horizon, like a sentence that refused to end. She was travelling to interview her uncle, a trapper turned teacher, for a project on northern Saskatchewan life.

Her uncle met her at the road with tea and stories, not lectures. He spoke of winters that taught patience, of neighbours who shared fuel and food, and of a school where Cree and English lived side by side in the same classroom. Lena realised that Canadian identity is not found only in cities. It is also found in small places, where people adapt to land and to one another, and where the horizon is not an ending but an invitation.

1 **According to Reading I, what is the main idea of the passage?**

- **A** a city student learns Canadian identity also lives in small northern places
- **B** a city student learns cities are the only real Canada
- **C** a student refuses to travel outside Saskatoon
- **D** a student decides northern life has no stories

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2 **According to Reading I, which word best describes the main character?**

A narrow-minded

B open-minded

C hostile

D indifferent

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3 **According to Reading I, which detail is stated in the passage?**

A Lena travelled to buy supplies in the city

B Lena's uncle was a lecturer at a university

C Lena travelled to interview her uncle for a project on northern life

D Lena never left Saskatoon

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4 **According to Reading I, in this passage the word sloughs most nearly means**

A long sentences

B city buses

C school classrooms

D shallow ponds or marshy places on the prairie

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5 **According to Reading I, what can the reader most reasonably infer?**

A Lena will likely value small places and northern stories more

B Lena will dismiss northern stories entirely

C Lena will never travel outside the city again

D Lena learned nothing from her uncle

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6 **According to Reading I, which theme is best supported by the passage?**

- **A** Canadian identity exists only in large cities
- **B** Canadian identity includes small places and adaptation to land and neighbours
- **C** northern life teaches nothing about patience
- **D** the horizon always means an ending

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7 **According to Reading I, the phrase like a sentence that refused to end is an example of**

- **A** a metaphor, because it says one thing is another thing
- **B** personification, because it gives human qualities to a nonhuman thing
- **C** a simile, because it compares two things using like or as
- **D** a hyperbole, because it greatly exaggerates for effect

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8 **According to Reading I, which word best describes the mood of the passage?**

A tense, with a sense of danger

B joyful, with a sense of celebration

C angry, with a sense of frustration

D reflective, with a sense of thoughtful looking back

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9 **According to Reading I, from which point of view is the story told?**

A third person limited, because the narrator follows one character and shares that character's thoughts

B third person omniscient, because the narrator knows the thoughts of every character

C first person, because the narrator tells the story using **I**

D second person, because the narrator speaks directly to the reader as you

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Reading II - Reading Canadian Texts

Use this reading for questions 10 to 18.

Canadian texts often return to certain questions: how people live with vast distances, harsh winters, and many languages and cultures in one country. A novel set on the prairie, a poem about a northern lake, and an essay about immigration may seem unrelated, yet each asks how belonging is built when home is spread across a huge and varied land.

Reading these texts together therefore teaches more than reading one alone. Compare a prairie story of isolation with a city story of crowded streets, and both reveal something about belonging: that it is made, not given, by neighbours, work, and shared stories. Canadian literature, in this sense, is a conversation across distance, and each new text adds a voice to it.

10 **According to Reading II, what is the main idea of the passage?**

- **A** Canadian texts all tell exactly the same story
- **B** Canadian texts together explore belonging across distance, land, and cultures
- **C** Canadian texts never mention land or distance
- **D** only city stories count as Canadian literature

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11 **According to Reading II, which detail is stated in the passage?**

- A Canadian texts never ask about belonging
- B prairie and city stories reveal nothing together
- C a poem about a northern lake asks how belonging is built
- D Canadian literature has only one voice

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12 **According to Reading II, in this passage the word vast most nearly means**

- A small and narrow
- B crowded and noisy
- C warm and gentle
- D very large in size or extent

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13 **According to Reading II, what is the author's main purpose?**

A to explain what Canadian texts together reveal about belonging

B to tell a story about a bus trip from Saskatoon

C to persuade readers to read only city stories

D to list every Canadian novel ever written

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14 **According to Reading II, what can the reader most reasonably infer?**

A readers will learn nothing from comparing texts

B readers who compare Canadian texts will likely understand belonging more deeply

C Canadian texts will stop asking about belonging

D only one Canadian text will ever matter

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15 **According to Reading II, which claim is best supported by the passage?**

- A belonging is given automatically by birthplace
- B distance prevents all belonging
- C belonging is made by neighbours, work, and shared stories
- D shared stories weaken belonging

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16 **According to Reading II, which title fits the passage best?**

- A North of the City
- B A Bus Schedule
- C City Stories Only
- D Reading Canadian Texts

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17 **According to Reading II, which text structure does the author mainly use?**

A compare and contrast, showing how two things are alike and different

B chronological order, telling events in the order they happened

C cause and effect, showing how one thing leads to another

D problem and solution, presenting a difficulty and then a way to solve it

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18 **According to Reading II, who is the intended audience of the passage?**

A students at a school who might take part

B general readers interested in the topic

C parents deciding about a school program

D specialists who already work in the field

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19 **Which statement best explains the difference between a topic and a theme?**

A a topic names a subject, while a theme states a message about that subject

B a topic is always stated directly, while a theme is never important

C a topic is the main character, while a theme is the setting

D a topic and a theme mean exactly the same thing in literature

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20 **A character keeps a promise even when keeping it costs her time and comfort. What does this action most clearly show about her?**

A she dislikes spending time with others

B she values loyalty over convenience

C she is afraid of making decisions

D she wants praise for every small act

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21 **In a story, a storm arrives just as a character makes a difficult choice. The storm most likely functions as**

A a factual weather report with no story meaning

B proof that the character controls the weather

C a symbol of conflict and change

D a reason to end the story at once

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22 **Which sentence is an example of foreshadowing?**

A She ate breakfast and then went to school as usual

B The town had a library, a rink, and a grocery store

C He finished his homework before dinner every night

D As she packed her bag, she did not know the letter waiting at home would change everything

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23 **A narrator says one thing but clearly means the opposite. This is an example of**

- **A** irony
- **B** a simile
- **C** a summary
- **D** a biography

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24 **Which of the following is a theme rather than a topic?**

- **A** bravery
- **B** courage grows when people act despite fear
- **C** a brave character
- **D** a story about a rescue

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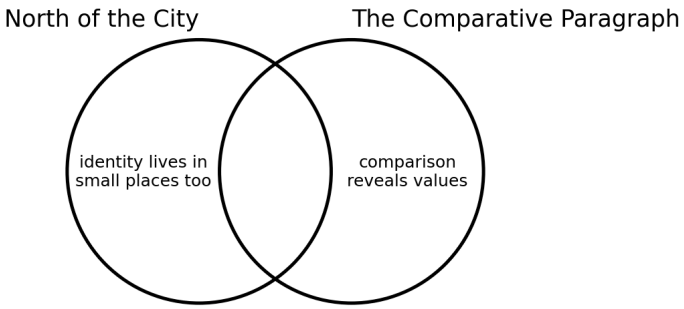
25 **In the diagram, which idea belongs in the overlapping middle region shared by both texts?**



A belonging is made, not given

B identity lives in small places too

C comparison reveals values

D an idea found in neither text

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ANSWER KEY

1. A
2. B
3. C
4. D
5. A
6. B
7. C
8. D
9. A
10. B
11. C
12. D
13. A
14. B
15. C
16. D
17. A
18. B
19. A
20. B
21. C
22. D
23. A
24. B
25. A

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