**2015-2016 UCS ELA 9 Practice Midterm**

**Multiple Choice**

*Identify the choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.*

**Reading and Literary Analysis**

**DIRECTIONS Read the passage below, and answer the following questions.**

**After Twenty Years**

**by O. Henry**

THE POLICEMAN on the beat moved up the avenue impressively.

The impressiveness was habitual and not for show, for spectators were few. The time was barely ten o’clock at night, but chilly gusts of wind with a taste of rain in them had well nigh depeopled the streets.

Trying doors as he went, twirling his club with many intricate and artful movements, turning now and then to cast his watchful eye down the pacific thoroughfare, the officer, with his stalwart form and slight swagger, made a fine picture of a guardian of the peace.

The vicinity was one that kept early hours. Now and then you might see the lights of a cigar store or of an all-night lunch counter, but the majority of the doors belonged to business places that had long since been closed.

Then about midway of a certain block the policeman suddenly slowed his walk. In the doorway of a darkened hardware store a man leaned, with an unlighted cigar in his mouth.

As the policeman walked up to him, the man spoke up quickly. “It’s all right, officer,” he said, reassuringly. “I’m just waiting for a friend. It’s an appointment made twenty years ago. Sounds a little funny to you, doesn’t it? Well, I’ll explain if you’d like to make certain it’s all straight. About that long ago there used to be a restaurant where this store stands—‘Big Joe’ Brady’s restaurant.”

“Until five years ago,” said the policeman. “It was torn down then.”

The man in the doorway struck a match and lit his cigar. The light showed a pale, square-jawed face with keen eyes, and a little white scar near his right eyebrow. His scarf-pin was a large diamond, oddly set.

“Twenty years ago tonight,” said the man, “I dined here at ‘Big Joe’ Brady’s with Jimmy Wells, my best chum, and the finest chap in the world. He and I were raised here in New York, just like two brothers, together. I was eighteen and Jimmy was twenty. The next morning I was to start for the West to make my fortune. You couldn’t have dragged Jimmy out of New York; he thought it was the only place on earth. Well, we agreed that night that we would meet here again exactly twenty years from that date and time, no matter what our conditions might be or from what distance we might have to come. We figured that in twenty years each of us ought to have our destiny worked out and our fortunes made, whatever they were going to be.”

“It sounds pretty interesting,” said the policeman. “Rather a long time between meets, though, it seems to me. Haven’t you heard from your friend since you left?”

“Well, yes, for a time we corresponded,” said the other. “But after a year or two we lost track of each other. You see, the West is a pretty big proposition, and I kept hustling around over it pretty lively. But I know Jimmy will meet me here if he’s alive, for he always was the truest, staunchest old chap in the world. He’ll never forget. I came a thousand miles to stand in this door tonight, and it’s worth it if my old partner turns up.”

The waiting man pulled out a handsome watch, the lids of it set with small diamonds.

“Three minutes to ten,” he announced. “It was exactly ten o’clock when we parted here at the restaurant door.”

“Did pretty well out West, didn’t you?” asked the policeman.

“You bet! I hope Jimmy has done half as well. He was a kind of plodder, though, good fellow as he was. I’ve had to compete with some of the sharpest wits going to get my pile. A man gets in a groove in New York. It takes the West to put a razor-edge on him.”

The policeman twirled his club and took a step or two.

“I’ll be on my way. Hope your friend comes around all right. Going to call time on him sharp?”

“I should say not!” said the other. “I’ll give him half an hour at least. If Jimmy is alive on earth he’ll be here by that time. So long, officer.”

“Good-night, sir,” said the policeman, passing on along his beat, trying doors as he went.

About twenty minutes the man waited, and then a tall man in a long overcoat, with collar turned up to his ears, hurried across from the opposite side of the street. He went directly to the waiting man.

“Is that you, Bob?” he asked, doubtfully.

“Is that you, Jimmy Wells?” cried the man in the door.

“Bless my heart!” exclaimed the new arrival, grasping both the other’s hands with his own. “It’s Bob, sure as fate. I was certain I’d find you here if you were still in existence. Well, well, well! Twenty years is a long time. The old restaurant’s gone, Bob; I wish it had lasted, so we could have had another dinner there. How has the West treated you, old man?”

“Bully; it has given me everything I asked it for. You’ve changed lots, Jimmy. I never thought you were so tall by two or three inches.”

“Oh, I grew a bit after I was twenty.”

“Doing well in New York, Jimmy?”

“Moderately. I have a position in one of the city departments. Come on, Bob; we’ll go around to a place I know of, and have a good long talk about old times.”

The two men started up the street arm in arm. The man from the West, his egotism enlarged by success, was beginning to outline the history of his career. The other, submerged in his over-coat, listened with interest.

At the corner stood a drug store, brilliant with electric light.

When they came into this each of them turned simultaneously to gaze upon the other’s face.

The man from the West stopped suddenly and released his arm. “You’re not Jimmy Wells,” he snapped. “Twenty years is a long time, but not long enough to change a man’s nose from a Roman to a pug.”

“It sometimes changes a good man into a bad one,” said the tall man. “You’ve been under arrest for ten minutes, ‘Silky’ Bob. Chicago thinks you may have dropped over our way and wires to us she wants to have a chat with you. Going quietly, are you? That’s sensible. Now, before we go to the station here’s a note I was asked to hand to you. You may read it here at the window. It’s from Patrolman Wells.”

The man from the West unfolded the little piece of paper handed him. His hand was steady when he began to read, but it trembled a little by the time he had finished. The note was rather short.

Bob: I was at the appointed place on time. When you struck the match to light your cigar I saw it was the face of the man wanted in Chicago. Somehow I couldn’t do it myself, so I went around and got a plainclothes man to do the job. —Jimmy

1. This story takes place —

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | from sunup to sundown |
| b. | during twenty long years |
| c. | over the course of a week |
| d. | in about a half hour one evening |

2. Bob’s **character** is revealed *most* by his —

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | bragging about his achievements |
| b. | hostility toward the policeman |
| c. | poetic descriptions of his travels |
| d. | choice of place to wait for his friend |

3. Jimmy Wells’s **internal conflict** in this story is over whether or not to —

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | continue in his career |
| b. | arrest his old friend |
| c. | keep the twenty-year date |
| d. | write Bob a note |

4. What does the tearing down of “Big Joe” Brady’s restaurant **foreshadow**?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Bob’s desire to show off his wealth |
| b. | The arrival of the plainclothes officer |
| c. | Bob’s fond remembrances of Jimmy |
| d. | The end of Jimmy and Bob’s friendship |

5. What **impression** does the narrator create of Patrolman Jimmy Wells?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | He has enjoyed the intrigue of the evening. |
| b. | He is an honorable and principled man. |
| c. | He is wary of arresting Silky Bob. |
| d. | He will leave the police force over this incident. |

6. When “Silky” Bob says, “I’ve had to compete with some of the sharpest wits going to get my pile,” he **reveals** that he is —

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | crafty and proud |
| b. | loyal and dependable |
| c. | dull and hardworking |
| d. | quiet and bashful |

7. Throughout the story, Bob’s **attitude** toward Jimmy is *mostly* one of —

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | envy |
| b. | distrust |
| c. | tolerance |
| d. | affection |

8. In the **resolution** of the story, readers learn that —

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | the policeman on the beat was Bob’s old friend Jimmy |
| b. | Jimmy and Bob dined at “Big Joe” Brady’s |
| c. | Jimmy and Bob were best friends twenty years ago |
| d. | a tall man in an overcoat met up with Bob |

9. The **tone** of the note written by Patrolman Wells is —

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | friendly and casual |
| b. | angry and upset |
| c. | pleased and hopeful |
| d. | straightforward yet sad |

10. Jimmy’s note to Bob reveals that Jimmy ***most*** values —

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | being a good friend |
| b. | following the law |
| c. | walking a beat |
| d. | writing notes |

11. Read this sentence from the second paragraph of the story.

|  |
| --- |
| “The time was barely ten o’clock at night, but chilly gusts of wind with a taste of rain in them had well nigh depeopled the streets.” |

In the **context** of the sentence, the word depeopled means that –

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | no one was around |
| b. | the streets were wet |
| c. | people were hurrying away |
| d. | the spectators were impressed |

12. When Bob claims that Jimmy thought New York was “the only place on earth,” he doesn’t mean it literally. The **figurative** meaning he intends is that it is —

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | the only place in the country |
| b. | the best place to find work |
| c. | the place Jimmy likes best |
| d. | the only place Jimmy knows |

13.

|  |
| --- |
| “You’ve changed lots, Jimmy. I never thought you were so tall by two or three inches.” |

The above text is an example of:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| a. | Suspense | c. | Foreshadowing |
| b. | Author’s purpose | d. | Character motivation |

14. What is the **author’s purpose** of this selection?

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| a. | to persuade | c. | to inform |
| b. | to entertain | d. | to express thoughts and feelings |

15. The **resolution** is most likely:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| a. | when the man from the west realized he wasn’t dealing with Jimmy Wells | c. | when the reader finds out the contents of the note. |
| b. | when the tall man identifies the man from the west as “Silky Bob” | d. | none of the above. There is no resolution. |

16. The **point of view** from which this story is written is:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| a. | | 1st Person | c. | Third Person omniscient | |
| b. | | Third person limited | d. | none of the above | |
| **5**    **10**  **15**  **20**  **25**  **30**  **35**  **40**  **45**  **50**    **55**  **60**  **65**  **70** | | ***from* To Kill a Mockingbird**  **from Chapter 15**  **by Harper Lee**  The Maycomb jail was the most venerable and hideous of the county’s buildings. Atticus said it was like something Cousin Joshua St. Clair might have designed. It was certainly someone’s dream. Starkly out of place in a town of square-faced stores and steep-roofed houses, the Maycomb jail was a miniature Gothic joke one cell wide and two cells high, complete with tiny battlements and flying buttresses. Its fantasy was heightened by its red brick facade and the thick steel bars at its ecclesiastical windows. It stood on no lonely hill, but was wedged between Tyndal’s Hardware Store and *The Maycomb Tribune office*. The jail was Maycomb’s only conversation piece: its detractors said it looked like a Victorian privy; its supporters said it gave the town a good solid respectable look, and no stranger would ever suspect that it was full of niggers.  As we walked up the sidewalk, we saw a solitary light burning in the distance. “That’s funny,” said Jem, “jail doesn’t have an outside light.”  “Looks like it’s over the door,” said Dill.  A long extension cord ran between the bars of a second-floor window and down the side of the building. In the light from its bare bulb, Atticus was sitting propped against the front door. He was sitting in one of his office chairs, and he was reading, oblivious of the nightbugs dancing over his head.  I made to run, but Jem caught me. “Don’t go to him,” he said, “he might not like it. He’s all right, let’s go home. I just wanted to see where he was.”  We were taking a short cut across the square when four dusty cars came in from the Meridian highway, moving slowly in a line. They went around the square, passed the bank building, and stopped in front of the jail.  Nobody got out. We saw Atticus look up from his newspaper. He closed it, folded it deliberately, dropped it in his lap, and pushed his hat to the back of his head. He seemed to be expecting them.  “Come on,” whispered Jem. We streaked across the square, across the street, until we were in the shelter of the Jitney Jungle door. Jem peeked up the sidewalk. “We can get closer,” he said. We ran to Tyndal’s Hardware door—near enough, at the same time discreet.  In ones and twos, men got out of the cars. Shadows became substance as lights revealed solid shapes moving toward the jail door. Atticus remained where he was. The men hid him from view.  “He in there, Mr. Finch?” a man said.  “He is,” we heard Atticus answer, “and he’s asleep. Don’t wake him up.”  In obedience to my father, there followed what I later realized was a sickeningly comic aspect of an unfunny situation: the men talked in near-whispers.  “You know what we want,” another man said. “Get aside from the door, Mr. Finch.”  “You can turn around and go home again, Walter,” Atticus said pleasantly. “Heck Tate’s around somewhere.”  “The hell he is,” said another man. “Heck’s bunch’s so deep in the woods they won’t get out till mornin‘.”  “Indeed? Why so?”  “Called ‘em off on a snipe hunt,” was the succinct answer. “Didn’t you think a’that, Mr. Finch?”  “Thought about it, but didn’t believe it. Well then,” my father’s voice was still the same, “that changes things, doesn’t it?”  “It do,” another deep voice said. Its owner was a shadow.  “Do you really think so?”  This was the second time I heard Atticus ask that question in two days, and it meant somebody’s man would get jumped. This was too good to miss. I broke away from Jem and ran as fast as I could to Atticus.  Jem shrieked and tried to catch me, but I had a lead on him and Dill. I pushed my way through dark smelly bodies and burst into the circle of light.  “H-ey, Atticus!”  I thought he would have a fine surprise, but his face killed my joy. A flash of plain fear was going out of his eyes, but returned when Dill and Jem wriggled into the light.  There was a smell of stale whiskey and pigpen about, and when I glanced around I discovered that these men were strangers. They were not the people I saw last night. Hot embarrassment shot through me: I had leaped triumphantly into a ring of people I had never seen before.  Atticus got up from his chair, but he was moving slowly, like an old man. He put the newspaper down very carefully, adjusting its creases with lingering fingers. They were trembling a little.  “Go home, Jem,” he said. “Take Scout and Dill home.”  We were accustomed to prompt, if not always cheerful **acquiescence** to Atticus’s instructions, but from the way he stood Jem was not thinking of budging.  “Go home, I said.”  Jem shook his head. As Atticus’s fists went to his hips, so did Jem’s, and as they faced each other I could see little resemblance between them: Jem’s soft brown hair and eyes, his oval face and snug-fitting ears were our mother’s, contrasting oddly with Atticus’s graying black hair and square-cut features, but they were somehow alike. Mutual defiance made them alike. | | | |

17. Which of the following would serve as the *best* replacement for the word “detractors” in the **line 9**?

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| a. | critics | c. | optimists |
| b. | believers | d. | defenders |

18. When the narrator says “Shadows became substance as lights revealed solid shapes moving toward the jail door.” (**lines 32**), what is she implying?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | What first looked like only shadows, emerged as a mob of men in the light. |
| b. | The streetlights were not working, so the mob was able to surprise Atticus. |
| c. | The men hid in the darkness because they were shy about approaching the jail. |
| d. | The mob of men disappeared into the shadows. |

19. Which of the following is the *best* **paraphrase** of the following sentence (lines 36-37)?

|  |
| --- |
| “In obedience to my father, there followed what I later realized was a sickeningly comic aspect of an unfunny situation: the men talked in near-whispers.” |

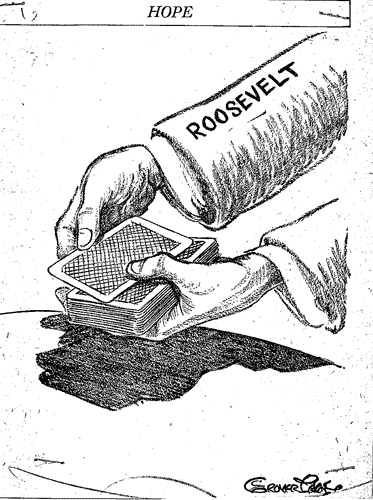
|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Scout and Jem obeyed Atticus’s order to “Go home, Jem.” |
| b. | Scout and Jem stayed by Atticus, disobeying his order to return home. |
| c. | The crowd of men disobeyed Atticus and kept speaking loudly, waking up Tom Robinson. |
| d. | The crowd of men--somewhat humorously--obeyed Atticus and spoke quietly to each other so as to not wake Tom Robinson. |

20. Which of the following **literary elements** does the author utilize in **line 49** when she says “Its owner was a shadow.”?

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| a. | metaphor | c. | allusion |
| b. | irony | d. | simile |

21. All of the following could be viewed as the **author’s purpose** for including the **last paragraph** in which Jem defies Atticus **EXCEPT**.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | To show how a child’s mannerisms often mimic his or her parents. |
| b. | To emphasize that Jem has learned “defiance”--especially against injustice--from his father. |
| c. | To depict how immature Jem is and how he rarely obeys Atticus. |
| d. | To display how the boy and his father are more alike than they both realize. |



22. Based on the context, the word “acquiescence” (**line 67**) most nearly means

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| a. | disagreement | c. | rebellion |
| b. | disputation | d. | acceptance |

23.How does the cartoon on the side refer/**allude** to the novel,

*To Kill a Mockingbird*?

1. It is showing how people had no hope because of the Great Depression.
2. It is showing how Roosevelt was trying to create the New Deal

Programs like the Works Progress Administration (WPA) to help

people during the Great Depression.

24. What **analogies** from the cartoon can you connect to Atticus Finch in *To Kill a Mockingbird*?

Pick all that apply.

a. Both Atticus and Roosevelt saw no hope in the events of the Great Depression

b. Both Atticus and Roosevelt realized their society had an uneven “playing field” & tried to make things fairer.

c. Both Atticus and Roosevelt hoped to bring a positive change in inequality

25. Why is the word **“hope”** written in the cartoon?

a. It’s trying to show how people had hope that these programs would relieve them of their economic hardships.

b. It’s trying to show how the people hoped Roosevelt would win a second election.

c. It is trying to show how people hoped Roosevelt would get off his gambling crisis.

26.The WPA also created jobs such as building and cleaning parks. Which character from *To Kill a Mockingbird* could

you **infer** would apply for one of these jobs?

a. Bob Ewell

b. Atticus Finch

c. Mr. Boo Radley

d. Mr. Cunningham

**Revising and Editing**

**Directions** Read the personal narrative and answer the questions that follow.

|  |
| --- |
| (1) Zippy was my sister Sue’s dog, he was not the brightest pet. (2) Most Jack  Russell terriers are incredibly smart. (3) They easily learn tricks that entertain he or  she owners. (4) Zippy, however, was not like most terriers. (5) He could not do  even simple tricks such as “shake” or “speak.”  (6) One day I decided to teach Zippy to sit. (7) While I was watching TV.  (8) I had just watched a television program. (9) About training animals. (10) The  process did not look too complicated. (11) I even wondered why Sue was having  so much trouble.  (12) “Zippy!” I shouted from the living room.  (13) Zippy bounded into the living room and leaped onto my lap.  (14) “I am going to teach you how to sit, Zippy,” I said as he looked at me  quizzically.  (15) “Yeah, right,” Sue said. (16) She had walking into the room when I was  talking to Zippy.  (17) Her negativity only motivated me more. (18) I knew that I just needed  to figure out what kind of command Zippy would respond to. (19) I tried using  different commands, such as “Sit!” and “Stay!” (20) None of them worked.  (21) Next, I tried different kinds of treats. (22) My family members eyes rolled they  watched me fail day after day. (23) They all had decided that Zippy was simply  not trainable.  (24) One day, I was got a bone for Zippy from the cabinet. (25) He was  jumping at the back of my legs. (26) I turned around to hush him and happened  to hold up my finger as a motion to wait. (27) Amazingly, Zippy sat right down.  (28) I could not believe it! (29) Zippy responded to hand gestures.  (30) I proudly showed my accomplishment to each of my family members.  (31) They were impressed, even Sue. (32) Everyone was shocked that its opinions  about Zippy were wrong. |

27. Which is the best correction of the run-on in sentence 1?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Zippy was my sister Sue’s dog. Not the brightest pet. |
| b. | Zippy was my sister Sue’s dog. He was not the brightest pet. |
| c. | Zippy, my sister Sue’s dog, who was not the brightest pet. |
| d. | Zippy was not the brightest pet, he was my sister Sue’s dog. |

28. To maintain pronoun-antecedent agreement in sentence 3, change *he or she* to

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | its |
| b. | them or he |
| c. | his or her |
| d. | Their |

29. Choose the best way to combine numbers 6 and 7 to eliminate the sentence fragment.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Zippy, I decided, while watching TV to sit. |
| b. | To teach Zippy to sit, I decided while watching TV. |
| c. | While watching TV, I decided to teach Zippy to sit. |
| d. | Zippy, while watching TV, I decided to teach to sit. |

30. Which of the following correctly replaces the verb *had walking* in sentence 16?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | has walks |
| b. | was walking |
| c. | is walk |
| d. | had walked |

31. Choose the best way to rewrite sentence 21, using sensory details to bring the experience to life.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Next, I tried expensive treats. |
| b. | Next, I tried bone-shaped treats. |
| c. | Next, I tried unusual treats. |
| d. | Next, I tried more treats. |

32. Which is the best correction of the run-on in sentence 22?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | My family members’ eyes rolled; they watched me fail day after day. |
| b. | My family members’ eyes rolled, they watched me fail day after day. |
| c. | My family members’ eyes rolled. As they watched me fail day after day. |
| d. | My family members’ eyes rolled. Watching me fail day after day. |

33. Which of the following correctly replaces the verb *was got* in sentence 24?

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| a. | was getting | c. | will got |
| b. | is gotten | d. | was get |

**GRAMMAR**

Choose the best way to correct each underlined word or words. If the underlined section needs no change, mark the choice “correct as is.”

We superhero fans also enjoy the not-so-perfect hero whom is a little smaller than Superman. We’ve grown to know and

(34) (35)

love Underdog, Super chicken, and The Tick, even though he can’t leap tall buildings in a single bound. Perhaps fans

(36)

enjoy these characters because they don’t take they’re lives very seriously. George of the Jungle is a funny Tarzan type.

(37)

George’s story begins when gorillas raised he from a baby. George’s best friends are a talking gorilla and an elephant

(38)

whom wishes to be a dog. However, the beautiful Ursula comes between them and he. Him is leaving the jungle because

(39) (40) (41)

of her. George moves to California, where him and Ursula live hilariously ever after.

(42) (43)

Choose the best pronoun that fits in each numbered sentence.

1. a. us b. our c. whoever d. no change
2. a. he b. they c. who d. no change
3. a. Their b. there c. they d. no change
4. a. Themselves b. their c. them d. no change
5. a. it b. him c. himself d. no change
6. a. who b. whoever c. they d. no change
7. a. they and him b. they and he c. them and him d. no change
8. a. He b. they c. them d. no change
9. a. She b. they c. him d. no change
10. a. them b. he c. them and he d. no change