

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

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Unit 1 Cluster 1

“The Moustache”

I. **DIRECTIONS:** Read each question, then write the letter of the correct option in the blank.

____ 1. Read the sentence from the short story.

The woman smiled, patience like a label on her face.

What literary device is used in the sentence above?

- A. hyperbole, exaggerating the woman’s ability to hide her true feelings
- B. simile, comparing the woman’s facial expression to a mark on her face
- C. symbolism, representing the smile as a trademark for an attendant
- D. D. personification, portraying her facial expression as an object

____ 2. “The Moustache” contains many examples of figurative language. Which excerpt does NOT contain a simile?

- F. “My mother lined me up against the wall. She stood there like a one-man firing squad, which is kind of funny because she’s not like a man at all, she’s very feminine, and we have this great relationship—I mean, I feel as if she really likes me.”
- G. “The blue jays are like hawks—they take the food that the small birds should have.”
- H. “I bent and brushed my lips against her cheek. Her flesh was like a leaf in autumn, crisp and dry.”
- I. “Both my grandmother and Ethel Barrymore have these great craggy faces like the side of a mountain and wonderful voices like syrup being poured.”

____ 3. Read the sentence from the short story.

Finally, I saw a beautiful girl approaching, dressed in white, a nurse or an attendant, and I was so happy to see someone young, someone walking and acting normally, that I gave her a wide smile and a big hello and I must have looked like a kind of nut. Anyway, she looked right through me as if I were a window, which is about par for the course whenever I meet beautiful girls.

What does the second sentence above tell you about Mike?

- A. Mike expects that any pretty girl he passes will simply ignore him.
- B. Mike is afraid to make eye contact with a pretty girl he doesn’t know.
- C. Mike thinks he cannot keep any secrets from girls—that they will easily see right through his excuses.
- D. Mike anticipates that pretty girls will play hard to get until they really get to know him.

____ 4. What can you infer is the immediate reason why Mike shaved off his moustache?

- F. His mother did not think it looked good on him.
- G. Cindy didn't like the way he looked with a moustache.
- H. His grandmother thought he was his grandfather Mike.
- I. It cost him money because it made him look older than 17.

____ 5. What does this story NOT tell you about Mike's character?

- A. He believes that a nonverbal sigh is better or easier than maybe saying the wrong thing.
- B. He thinks it is okay to put tasks off until a later time—delay is okay.
- C. He is observant and watchful of his surroundings.
- D. He is calm, attentive, and cautious when driving a car.