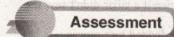
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# A. Choose A, B, C, or D for the correct answer.

#### The following text is for questions 1 to 4.

Once upon a time, a little girl living with her mom in a small thatched hut in a deserted hamlet. Her father had passed away when she was still young. Therefore, they had to work hard to fulfill their needs.

One day, the mother fell ill and asked the little girl to meet a doctor. The little girl quickly left home with worries filling up her heart. Suddenly, she met a snowy-haired old man who was a doctor. Then, they went to the little girl's house. The doctor examined the mother and said that she was seriously ill. He asked her to get to the banyan tree by the woods and found a daisy.

It was bitterly cold outside, while the girl was only wearing a thin layer of clothes. She kept on walking and it was not until her feet felt worn that she reached the banyan tree. In front of her was a bush with a beautiful daisy. She picked it up and cherished it in her hands.

All of a sudden, the old man's voice echoed in her ears, "Each petal represents a day your mother continues to live." She looked down on the flower and counted, "One, Two, Three ... Twenty! Oh, no! There are only twenty days left for my mother!"

Thinking for a while, she gently tore the petals into many small pieces. Each piece turned into a thin glossy petal. The twenty-petal daisy turned into a countless-petal flower. She rushed home with the strange flower. The old man was waiting for her at the door. He told her cheerfully, "Your mother has recovered. It is a reward for your pious heart."

Ever since then, every year during the autumn, the flowers with many thin glossy petals blossom created a picturesque scenery. They are called the Chrysanthemum, the symbol of piety.

Adopted from: https://www.bedtimeshortstories.com/the-legend-of-the-chrysanthemu (April 6, 2020)

- What was the conflict of the story?
  - A. The little girl's mother was seriously ill.
  - B. The location of the daisy was in the woods.
  - The old man gave a few petals to the little girl.
  - The little girl wore thin clothes in the cold weather.

- 2. Why did the little girl tear the petals?
  - A. To ease carry them home
  - B. To make her mother live longer
  - C. To keep the old man's advice
  - D. To make chrysanthemum flowers

set out on their wey together, soon, however

- 3. What cured the little girl's mother?
- A. The daisy's petals
- B. The doctor's medicine
  - C. The little girl's pure heart
  - D. The old man's echoed voice
- 4. What is the best title of the text?
  - A. The Symbol of Piety
  - B. The Little Girl and the Daisy
  - C. The Legend of Chrysanthemum
  - D. The Old Man and the Banyan Tree

# The following text is for questions 5 to 8.

In a village dwelt a poor old woman, who had gathered together a dish of beans and wanted to cook them. She made a fire on her hearth, and that it might burn the quicker, she lighted it with a handful of straw. When she was emptying the beans into the pan, one dropped without her observing it and lay on the ground beside a straw, and soon afterward burning coal from the fire leaped down to the two.

Then, the straw began and said, "Dear friends, from whence do you come here?"

The coal replied, "I, fortunately, sprang out of the fire, and if I had not escaped by sheer force, my death would have been certain. I should have been burnt to ashes."

The bean said, "I have escaped with a whole skin, too, but if the old woman had got me into the pan, I should have been made into broth without any mercy, like my comrades."

"And would a better fate have fallen to my lot?" said the straw. "The old woman has destroyed all my brethren in fire and smoke. She seized sixty of them at once and took their lives. I luckily slipped through her fingers."

"But what are we to do now?" said the coal.

"I think," answered the bean, "that as we have so fortunately escaped death, we should keep together like good companions, and lest a new mischance should overtake us here. We should go away together, and repair to a foreign country."

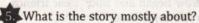
The proposition pleased the two others, and they set out on their way together. Soon, however, they came to a little brook, and as there was no bridge or foot-plank, they did not know how they were to get over it.

The straw hit on a good idea, and said, "I will lay myself straight across, and then you can walk over on me as on a bridge."

The straw, therefore, stretched itself from one bank to the other, and the coal, who was of an impetuous disposition, tripped quite boldly on to the newly-built bridge. When she had reached the middle and heard the water rushing beneath her, she was after all, afraid, and stood still, and ventured no farther. The straw, however, began to burn, broke in two pieces, and fell into the stream. The coal slipped after her, hissed when she got into the water and breathed her last.

The bean, who had prudently stayed behind on the shore, could not but laugh at the event, was unable to stop, and laughed so heartily that she burst. It would have been all over with her, likewise, if, by good fortune, a tailor who was traveling in search of work, had not sat down to rest by the brook. As he had a compassionate heart, he pulled out his needle and thread and sewed her together. The beans thanked him most prettily, but as the tailor used black thread, all beans since then have a black seam.

Adopted from: http://www.kidsgen.com/fables\_and\_fairytales/ brothers-grimm/the-straw-coal-bean.htm (March 28, 2020)



- A. Victory
- B. Solidarity
- C. Friendship
  - D. Love and respect
- 6. What did the coal and beans do to cross a river?
  - A. They made a small boat.
  - B. They walked on the straw.
  - C. They swam across the river.
  - D. They asked for human help.
- 7. Who finally survived?
  - A. The coals
  - B. The beans
  - C. The straws
  - D. The woman

- 8. What would happen if a tailor didn't sew the beans?
  - A. They will be divided into pieces.
  - B. They will be cooked by a woman.
  - C. They will be eaten by wild animals.
  - D. They will be apart from their friends.

#### The following text is for questions 9 to 12.

Once upon a time, there lived an old woman. This old woman had many children, and she loved each of them greatly. The children, too, returned the love. They lived in a giant shoe in the woods. The family lived without their father. The old woman's husband used to be a woodcutter.

Years before, they lived together in a massive castle in the woods. One day, when the old lady and the children went out, a giant destroyed the house. The giant took the old woman's husband as a prisoner and left their home in ruins. When the family returned, they could not find the woodcutter anywhere. They looked and looked and never found him. Then, they ventured into the forest in search of him, but all was in vain. In the end, the family found the giant's shoe and decided to make it into a house.

The eldest son drew up a roof and carved a door for the rest of the family. Their mother never forgot about their father and was constantly sad. The eldest son wanted to free their father from the giant's grip. However, the old woman knew of the giant's strength and forbade her twelve children to try anything.

The eldest son's heart never could accept his mother's command, for he knew his father should, by all means, be rescued. Therefore, all of them together went to rescue their father. When they reached the palace, they were met by a page. Fortunately, the dragon was sleeping, he did not hear the children enter and did not hear the children break their father's chains. Suddenly, the giant woke up. They tricked the giant by running around which made the giant was headache and fell. They ran fast and saved.

The father was happy to see his children and embraced his children happily. They returned home and the family had a sweet reunion. Later, the family built a pretty new house and lived happily.

Adopted from: https://www.bedtimeshortstories.com/the-old-woman-who-lived-in-a-shoe-story (April 6, 2020)

- 9. What happened to the woodcutter?
  - A. He lost in the woods.
  - He had passed away.
  - C. He worked for the giant.
  - D. He was kidnapped by the giant.
- 10. How did the old woman's family feel at the end of the story?
  - A. Amazed
  - B. Pleased
  - C. Surprised
  - D. Entertaining
- What can we learn from the story?
  - A. Unity makes us strong.
  - B. Practices make perfect.
  - C. Experience is the best teacher.
  - D. Hard work is the key of success.
- 12. "... and forbade her twelve children to try anything." (Paragraph 3)
  - What does the underlined word mean?
  - A. Chose
  - B. Advised
  - C. Oversaw
  - D. Prohibited

## The following text is for questions 13 to 16.

Many years ago, China was in the middle of a great war. The Emperor said that one man from each Chinese family must leave his family to join the army. Mulan, a teenage girl who lived in a faraway village of China, heard the news when she was outside washing clothes.

Mulan ran into the house. Her father was sitting in a chair, carving a piece of wood. "Father!" she said. "Did you hear what the Emperor says each family must do?"

"Yes," said her old father, "I heard about it in town. Well, I may as well go pack up."

"Wait!" said Mulan, "Dad, you have not been well. If I may say so, why at your age must you keep up with all those young men?"

"What else can be done?" said her father. "Your brother is a child. He cannot go."

"Of course that's true," said Mulan. "He is too little. But I have an idea." She poured her father a cup of tea and handed it to him. "Dad, please have some tea and sit a minute. I will be right back." "Very well, dear," said the father.

Mulan went into her room. With her sword, she cut off her long, black hair. Going back to her father, Mulan said, "Look at me. I am your son now. I will go to your place. I will do my part for my country."

"No, my daughter!" said the old man. "You cannot do this!"

"Dad, listen to me, please," said Mulan. "For years, you trained me in Kung Fu. You showed me how to use a sword." Mulan swung the sword back and forth with might.

"Only so that you could stay safe!" said her father. "I never meant for you to go to war."

"No one will find out, Dad," said Mulan. She picked up her sword.

"Mulan!" said her father. He tried to get up but had to hold on to his chair.

The daughter kissed him goodbye. "I love you, Dad," she said. "Believe me that I will be safe. Take care of yourself. Tell my brother I said goodbye."

Then, she climbed on a family horse and off she went to join the Emperor's army.

In the army, Mulan proved to be a brave soldier. In time, she was put in charge of other soldiers. Her battles went so well that she was put in charge of more soldiers. After a few years, Mulan was given the top job. She would be General of the entire army. Adopted from: https://www.storiestogrowby.org/story/earlyreader-mulan-chinese-short-story-for-kids/ (March 28, 2020)



What was Mulan like?

- A. Honest
- B. Beautiful
- C. Generous
- Courageous
- 14. Why did Mulan decide to be an army?
  - Being an army was her dream.
  - She wanted to be the general of the army.
  - She cared about her country and family.
  - She wanted to show her skill in Kung Fu.
- 15. What did Mulan's father feel when hearing that she intended to be a soldier?
  - Angry
  - R Anxious
  - C. **Iealous**
  - Sorrowful



16. From the text we know that

- Mulan had an elder brother
- Mulan was skillful at war strategy
- Mulan learned self-defense by herself
- nobody knew that Mulan was a woman

## The following text is for questions 17 to 20.

A long time ago, nobody knew the name of the sun. The people wanted to know what to call this familiar face that rose in the sky every day and gave them warmth. So, they held a meeting on the banks of the Surem River.

The biggest problem was that they couldn't decide if the sun was a man or a woman. Everyone had their own idea, but nobody could say for sure. "Let's ask the animals," said the people eventually. So they called all the animals of the world to join the meeting. Birds and beasts gathered by the tumbling blue waters of the river before daybreak. There had never been such a huge group of people and animals.

When the sun appeared, everyone fell silent in wonder. Then, a badger came out of the hole in the ground where it lived. It shuffled over to the meeting and said in a loud voice, "The sun rises from the earth like I come out of my hole."

"Oh, badger!" they cried. "You've done it!"
Everyone was so impressed that they started cheering and clapping. They decided to throw a huge party in the badger's honor. However, the badger took fright at the noise. It ran back into its hole and refused to come out. It thought they wanted to punish it.

To this day, a badger spends most of its time in its hole. It is scared that everyone is angry with it. Adopted from: Nn. Collins My First Book of Myths and Legends, Glasglow, HarperCollins, 2013.

- 17. What is the purpose of the text?
  - A. To describe a badger
  - B. To amuse the readers
  - C. To relate a person's experience
  - D. The explain why badgers live in a hole
- 18. What was the people's problem?
  - A. They didn't meet any badger.
  - B. They couldn't see the sun rising.
  - C. They could not find a warm place.
  - D. They didn't know the name of the sun.

-0		They didn't know the name of the sair	
4		om the story we know that at the end or ory the badger with the situation	
		was proud	
	В.	felt respected	
	C.	was ashamed	
	D.	was misunderstanding	
20	oThe	w decided to throw a buge party in the	

 "They decided to throw a huge party in the badger's honor." (Paragraph 4)

The closest meaning of 'huge' is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. great
- B. impressed
- C. memorable
- D. fascinating