INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF MONTERREY

7-Literature

NAME:_____ DATE:_____ Trim. #:___ LIST #:___ - ___

"Abuela Invents the Zero"

_____1. Identify the detail that explains Connie's feelings about her mother's family at the beginning of the story.

A. "You made me feel like a zero, like a nothing," she says in Spanish, "*un cero, nada*".
B. My mother and father paid her way here so that she wouldn't die without seeing snow, though if you asked me, and nobody has, the dirty slush in this city is not worth the price of a ticket.
C. I'd die of a heart attack too if I had a troop like that to support.
D. I was born here and I have lived in this building all my life.

_____2. Which of the following details best explains Connie's relationship with her Abuela at the beginning of the story?

A. It all began with Abuela coming up from the Island for a visit—her first time in the United States.
B. Anyway, I had seen her only three or four times in my entire life, whenever we would go for somebody's funeral.
C. I'm not a monster, after all.
D. She is trembling, an angry little old woman lost in a heavy winter coat that belongs to my mother.

_____3. Which of the following details BEST supports the idea that Connie is embarrassed to be seen with her Abuela?

A. I try to walk far behind them in public so that no one will think we're together.
B. So since she's only four feet eleven inches tall, she walks around in my mother's big black coat looking ridiculous.
C. My father decides that he should stay home with my mother and that I should escort la abuela to church.
D. I have no idea what I'm getting myself into.

_____4. Which of the following is the BEST inference about Abuela's home country?

A. She is from the United States.
B. She lives close enough to drive to Connie's hometown.
C. There isn't much cold weather in Abuela's home country.
D. No one speaks English there.

_____5. Which detail from the text shows that Connie feels regret over how she treated Abuela?

A. If I were a good Catholic, I'm sure I'd get some purgatory time taken off for my sacrifice.
B. I put my hands over my face like I'm praying, but it's really to hide my burning cheeks.
C. "Your grandmother says to tell you that of all the hurtful things you can do to a person, the worst is to make them feel as if they are worth nothing."
D. I can feel myself shrinking right there in front of her.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

_____6. Which of the following best demonstrates Connie's feelings at the end of the story?

A. She feels ashamed of her actions.
B. She is relieved that Abuela doesn't want to speak with her.
C. She is ready for Abuela to leave.
D. She feels sorry that she let her father down.

_____7. Which of the following best explains Abuela's actions at the church as seen below?

All I know is that my grandmother kneels the whole time with her hands over her face. She doesn't speak to me on the way home, and she doesn't let me help her walk, even though she almost falls a couple of times.

A. Abuela is a proud woman and is disappointed by Connie's selfish concern for herself.
B. Abuela probably got hurt when she was lost and is still in pain when they leave.
C. Abuela prays the entire time the mass is being held.
D. Abuela doesn't ever want anyone to help her walk because it makes her feel old.

_____8. Which of the following explains what is meant by a "zero" in this story?

A. Not having any friends.
B. The feeling of being unimportant to someone else.
C. Being from another country.
D. How Connie's mother felt at the end of the story.

LIVEWORKSHEETS