



International School of Monterrey
SCHOOL YEAR 2022-2023

JUNIOR HIGH
Midterm Exam

9th Grade
Literature

Name _____ Date _____ List #: ____ - ____

I. DIRECTIONS: Read and choose the option with the correct answer. (7 pts.)

The Moustache

- _____ 1. Mike says that he and his mother ____.
- A. often argue about Annie
 - B. have a bad relationship
 - C. play the piano together
 - D. have a good relationship
- _____ 2. Why does Mike grow a moustache?
- A. He wants to look like his grandfather.
 - B. He wants to impress his girlfriend.
 - C. He wants to see if he can grow one.
 - D. He wants to look like an adult driver.
- _____ 3. Mike expresses guilt over all of the following EXCEPT ____.
- A. dreading to enter the nursing home
 - B. breaking a promise and driving too fast
 - C. comparing his grandmother to Ethel Barrymore
 - D. allowing his grandmother to believe he is her husband
- _____ 4. When his grandmother asks her "husband" for forgiveness, Mike sees for the first time that forgiveness is linked to ____.
- A. unselfish love
 - B. senseless guilt
 - C. poor memory
 - D. chronic disease
- _____ 5. When his mother asks about the visit, Mike ____.
- A. breaks down in tears
 - B. tells her how great Nana looked and that she seemed happy
 - C. explains that Nana thought he was her husband
 - D. says Nana is fine and then says nothing else
- _____ 6. Mike probably is hesitant about visiting the nursing home because ____.
- A. he thinks he will faint
 - B. it is upsetting to see someone you love who has become helpless
 - C. he has a date with his girlfriend
 - D. his sister is sick and he wants to spend time with her

- _____7. Which is the most likely reason that Mike plays the car radio loud on his way home from the nursing home?
A. He is happy and wants to sing along with the radio.
B. He wants to drown out his thoughts about the visit.
C. He wants to try out the speakers in his father's car.
D. He wants to hear the lyrics to a song about true love.

II. DIRECTIONS: Write the letter of the word that matches each definition. (5 pts.)

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| ___8. Germ free; unproductive. | a) Regally |
| ___9. Long-lasting and difficult to eradicate. | b) Lucid |
| ___10. Like a queen or king; majestically. | c) Conspiratorial |
| ___11. Clear headed. | d) Chronic |
| ___12. Suggesting a secret plot. | e) Sterile |

III. DIRECTIONS: Choose the word that has a NEGATIVE CONNOTATION, then write it in the blank. (3 pts.)

_____13. The nurse who tended to Mike's grandmother seemed (neutral, impersonal).

_____14. The old man who almost ran Mike over with his wheelchair was a (lunatic, character).

_____15. The atmosphere of the nursing home was (barren, tidy).

IV. DIRECTIONS: Complete the sentences. (5 pts.)

16. When Mike returns home from visiting his grandmother, he...

17. Mike's grandmother mistakes him for her husband because...

18. Apparently, to the woman who works at the movie theater, Mike's moustache makes him look _____.

_____19. The visit with his grandmother seems to leave Mike feeling ____.

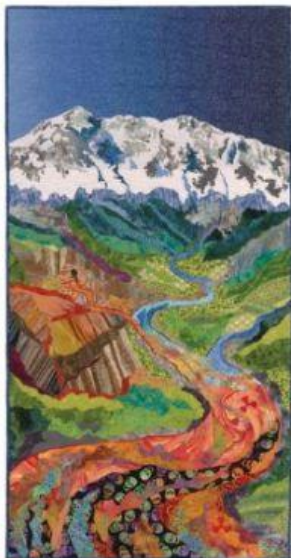
- | | |
|-------------|--------------|
| A. troubled | C. numb |
| B. cheerful | D. resentful |

20. For quite some time, Mike's grandmother has wanted her husband to...

V. DIRECTIONS: Read the text, then answer the questions. (9 pts.)

Recording Disaster: Environmental Activism in Quilts

by Haley Butler



Look at this image. This is a piece of quilt art created by artist and environmental activist Luana Rubin. Rubin's art often takes the form of a quilt. Quilts are a type of fabric craft made with three layers of cloth sewn together, and many textile artists use quilt art to **convey** difficult messages in what is seen as a gentle medium. This quilt, called Rocky Mountain Poison, was created in response to an environmental crisis on the Animas River in Colorado, USA.

In 2015, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was working to contain contaminated water within the Gold King Mine, an abandoned mine in Colorado. Advisors to the EPA said that accessing the mine at that particular time could lead to an accident, and that the land needed to be inspected further before any work was done. In spite of this recommendation, the work continued after EPA leadership went on vacation.

On August 5, while using heavy equipment, the crew working at the mine ruptured the land. This caused contaminated water to pour out of the mine. Three million gallons of wastewater, containing high levels of lead, iron, arsenic, and other chemicals, began pouring into the nearby Animas River. The amount of pollutants in the wastewater that was spilled that day was equivalent to what would typically be released by over a hundred mining sites over 300 days.

Within 24 hours, the contaminated wastewater had reached Durango, a small city near the New Mexico border. Even a day after the initial rupture, the mine was draining wastewater into the river at an estimated rate of 800 gallons per minute.

Luana Rubin, a textile artist, had friends in the area near the Gold King Mine spill. Rubin's friends told her about the differences between what was being reported in the news about the spill and what was actually happening to the residents and crops in the area. Residents told Rubin that when they tested the water from the river, they found pollutants that the press was not reporting. The pollutants included the heavy metals mercury and arsenic, which are toxic to humans and plant and animal life. In her quilt Rocky Mountain Poison, Rubin created a scene of a mountain with the river rushing down into the foreground. The blue and white water from the mountain turns orange with the pollution, and neon skulls and red radiation symbols float through it. Written within the river are the names of the pollutants that Rubin's friends told her were discovered in the waters.

Several groups of people were negatively affected in the wake of the Gold King Mine spill. For instance, the Navajo Nation, which resides near the San Juan River in New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah, was in the middle of its growing season at the time of the spill. The contaminated water caused damage to their growing crops. Moreover, it also caused spiritual damage amongst the Navajo Nation, since the water in the river carries a spiritual significance to them. The Navajo Nation filed a lawsuit against the mining company. The lawsuit was settled out of court in 2021. The company that owns the mine agreed to pay \$10 million to the tribe. Other lawsuits, against the EPA and its contractors, were still pending as of spring 2022.

Industries, too, were negatively affected by the spill. Rafting companies in Durango were forced to close down for over a week while the contaminated water worked its way downstream. Even after the water began to clear, tourists were **hesitant** to get back into the river. Local businesses and the state of Colorado both filed lawsuits against the mining company. Many of these lawsuits, seeking to recover lost income or combat stigma against the area, are ongoing.

Look again at Luana Rubin's quilt. Rubin has always incorporated philanthropy in her artwork. After the September 11th attacks on the World Trade Center, she and her business partner worked together to distribute 3,500 quilts to victims and survivors. So, after hearing the story of the Gold King Mine spill and how it was affecting the residents of the area, Rubin got to work on her quilt Rocky Mountain Poison. Rubin used this quilt to fundraise for Earth Works, a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting communities and environments from industrial development. "My purpose with this quilt is to encourage others to tell stories and move people, and give other people permission to speak out," Rubin said in a discussion about the piece.

What does this artwork inspire you to speak out about?

___ 21. What was the quilt Rocky Mountain Poison created in response to?

- A. a new kind of animal found in the Rocky Mountains
- B. a natural disaster in California
- C. an environmental crisis in Colorado
- D. an environmental crisis in North Carolina

___ 22. What effect did the Gold King Mine accident have on the Animas River?

- A. It filled the river with toxins and pollutants, including metals and chemicals.
- B. It cleaned the river and made it a safer place for fish to swim.
- C. It filled the river with one kind of toxin called arsenic.
- D. It made the river's waters darker in color but didn't change anything else.

___ 23. How did Luana Rubin approach her quilt about the environmental disaster in the Animas River?

- A. As a way to raise awareness and money for environmental issues.
- B. As a way to remind people that art is the only way to address problems.
- C. As a form of creative expression that doesn't have any deeper message.
- D. As a way to connect with her family and friends who she doesn't often see.

___24. Read the following sentences from the text. **"On August 5, while using heavy equipment, the crew working at the mine ruptured the land. This caused contaminated water to pour out of the mine... The contaminated water caused damage to [the Navajos] growing crops. Moreover, it also caused spiritual damage amongst the Navajo Nation, since the water in the river carries a spiritual significance to them. The Navajo Nation filed a lawsuit against the mining company. The lawsuit was settled out of court in 2021. The company that owns the mine agreed to pay \$10 million to the tribe."** What can you conclude based on this information?

- A. The Navajo Nation has a close and important relationship with the Animas River, so the river's status affects them deeply.
- B. The first time the Navajo brought their case to court, it was dismissed, but later, after bringing it back to another judge, they were awarded \$10 million.
- C. The crops that the Navajo were growing were not very affected by the contaminated water, but they had a slightly different taste than usual.
- D. The mining company that caused the contaminated water to spill into the river did not cause any suffering for the Navajo Nation.

___25. What is the **main idea** of this text?

- A. Luana Rubin likes to include philanthropy in her quilts, which means that she likes to make quilts that somehow give back to communities who are in need or that help people who need warm blankets.
- B. The Gold King Mine was an abandoned mine in Colorado, and the Environmental Protection Agency, or the EPA, was working to make sure that the wastewater at the mine didn't contaminate the nearby Animas River.
- C. The Navajo Nation are a Native American tribe that live on land in Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico, and their crops were harmed by the **toxic** water that leaked from the Gold King Mine.
- D. Artist and environmental activist Luana Rubin made a quilt to capture an environmental crisis that occurred when contaminated water leaked from a mine into the Animas River in Colorado, harming many groups of people.

___26. Read the following sentences from the text. **"For instance, the Navajo Nation, which resides near the San Juan River in New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah, was in the middle of its growing season at the time of the spill. The contaminated water caused damage to their growing crops."** What does the word contaminated most closely mean as it's used here?

- A. Clean and safe.
- B. Confusing and unclear.
- C. Dirty or polluted.
- D. Sad or upset.

___27. Choose the word that best completes the following sentence.

Local industries and communities were harmed ____ of the toxins in the Animas River.

- A. in conclusion
- B. however
- C. therefore
- D. because

28. "Philanthropy" is when someone wants to help other people. Sometimes, this is done by giving money to a group of people who are working to solve a problem. How did Rubin incorporate philanthropy into her Rocky Mountain Poison quilt?

29. How did Rubin's quilt challenge the media's messages about the pollution of the Animas River?

IV. DIRECTIONS: Write a paragraph to answer the following question. (5 pts.)

30. If you were a philanthropist, what social issue would you address? Mention at least 3 ways you could help solve that problem.