



# International School of Monterrey

## Junior High School Trimester 3 Final Exam

## 7th Grade Literature

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ List #: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**I. DIRECTIONS: Each question will ask you to make a logical inference based on textual details. Explain your answer by referencing the text. (6 pts.)**

Every day after work Paul took his muddy boots off on the steps of the front porch. Alice would have a fit if the boots made it so far as the welcome mat. He then took off his dusty overalls and threw them into a plastic garbage bag; Alice left a new garbage bag tied to the porch railing for him every morning. On his way in the house, he dropped the garbage bag off at the washing machine and went straight up the stairs to the shower as he was instructed. He would eat dinner with her after he was "presentable," as Alice had often said.

1. What type of job does Paul do?
2. How do you know this?
3. Describe Alice.
4. What in the text supports your description?
5. What relationship do Paul and Alice have?
6. Why do you feel this way?

II. DIRECTIONS: Read each passage and answer the questions that follow. Refer to the text to check your answers when appropriate. (19 pts.)

### Honey Badgers

What's fiercer than a lion but smaller than a beagle? The honey badger, one of the toughest mammals in Africa and western Asia. Honey badgers stand less than a foot high. They are only a couple feet long. They weigh just over 20 pounds. Yet they have a reputation for toughness that is far greater than their size.

Some honey badgers will chase away lions and take their kills. I guess that goes to show you that size isn't the only thing that matters in a fight.

So what makes the honey badger so tough? They have speed, stamina, and agility, but so do many animals. They aren't stronger than lions, so how do they stop them? The thing that sets the honey badger apart is their skin. Their skin is thick and tough. Arrows, spears, and bites from other animals can rarely pierce it. Small bullets can't even penetrate it. Not only is their skin thick and tough, it is also loose. This allows them to twist and turn to attack while another animal is gripping them. The only safe grip one can get on a honey badger is on the back of their necks.

Honey badgers have long, sharp claws. These claws are good for attacking and even better for digging. Honey badgers are some of nature's most skilled diggers. They can dig a nine-foot tunnel into hard ground in about 10 minutes. They love to catch a meal by digging up the **burrows** of frogs, rodents, and cobras. They also use their digging skills to create their homes. They live in small chambers in the ground and defend them fiercely. They will attack horses, cows, and even water buffalo if they are foolish enough to poke around a honey badger's den.

You don't get a reputation like the honey badger by running from danger. The honey badger is fearless and a tireless fighter. They will attack any creature that threatens them, man included. Because of the honey badger's reputation, most predators avoid them. Some animals use the honey badger's rep to their advantage. Adult cheetahs have spotted coats, but their kittens have silver manes and look like honey badgers. Some scientists believe that their coloring tricks predators into avoiding them. Wouldn't you walk the other way if you saw a honey badger?

You might be wondering: "If honey badgers are so tough, how did they get a name that makes them sound like a piece of candy?" The answer makes sense. Since honey badgers have such thick skin, bee stings rarely harm them. So honey badgers love to raid beehives. I can't blame them. Who doesn't like free honey? Honey badgers chase after honey aggressively. So much so that beekeepers in Africa have to use electric fencing to hold them back. There's nothing sweet about that.

Beekeepers aren't the only people who have grown to hate honey badgers. Honey badgers may be fun to read about, but they are nasty neighbors. They attack chickens,

livestock, and some say children, though they usually leave people alone. But if a honey badger moves in your backyard, there's not a whole lot that you can do about it. I mean, are you going to go and tangle with an animal that eats the bones of its prey? An animal with teeth strong enough to crunch through turtle shells? An animal that never tires, gives up, or backs down? Yeah, I wouldn't either...

\_\_\_7. Which best expresses the main idea of the third paragraph?

- A. Honey badgers have sharp claws that they use for fighting.
- B. Honey badgers digging skills assist them in many ways.
- C. Honey badgers use their claws to defend their homes.
- D. Honey badgers will defend their homes to the death against any animal.

\_\_\_8. Which statement would the author most likely **agree** with?

- A. What makes the honey badger so tough is their speed and strength.
- B. Honey badgers are large in size and tireless in fighting spirit.
- C. What makes honey badgers so tough is their thick, loose skin.
- D. Honey badgers got their name from the sweet taste of their meat.

\_\_\_9. Which best defines the meaning of the word *burrows* as it is used in the third paragraph?

- A. Lily pads or other seaweeds in which animals hide
- B. Holes or tunnels in which animals live
- C. A nest or animal dwelling in a tree or bush
- D. A water supply where small animals come to drink

\_\_\_10. Which best expresses the main idea of the last paragraph?

- A. Honey badgers are a nuisance to the neighborhood.
- B. Beekeepers and honey badgers do not get along well.
- C. Honey badgers have very strong jaws and teeth.
- D. Honey badgers eat chicken and livestock.

\_\_\_11. Which best describes one of the author's main purposes in writing this text?

- A. To persuade readers to join the efforts to protect honey badgers
- B. To compare and contrast honey badgers with beagles and lions
- C. To describe how honey badgers select their partners
- D. To explain why honey badgers are so tough

\_\_\_12. Which statement would the author most likely **disagree** with?

- A. Honey badgers like to raid beehives to eat honey.
- B. Honey badgers are not the biggest animals, but they may be the toughest.

- C. Honey badgers disguise their young to look like cheetah kittens.
- D. Honey badgers are not afraid to fight with humans.

13. Which person is **most likely** to be disturbed by a honey badger moving in next door?

- A. A beekeeper
- B. A biologist
- C. A bus driver
- D. A salesman

14. Which animal is the honey badger afraid to attack?

- A. Lion
- B. Water buffalo
- C. Poisonous snake
- D. None of these

15. Which is **not** one of the honey badger's strengths?

- A. Thick skin
- B. Powerful jaws and strong teeth
- C. Poisonous claws
- D. Tireless fighting spirit

16. Which title best expresses the main idea of this text?

- A. Battle on the Savannah: Honey Badgers Vs. Lions
- B. Little Badger, Big Fight: One of Nature's Toughest Scrappers
- C. Ace in the Hole: How Honey Badgers Build and Protect Their Homes
- D. Little Game: Interesting Animals That Live in Africa

## GOOGLE

You know that you're doing something big when your company name becomes a verb. Ask Xerox. In 1959 they created the first plain paper copy machine. It was one of the most successful products ever. The company name Xerox grew into a verb that means "to copy," as in "Bob, can you Xerox this for me?" Around 50 years later, the same thing happened to Google. Their company name grew into a verb that means "to do an internet search." Now everyone and their grandma knows what it means to Google it.

Unlike Xerox, Google wasn't the first company to invent their product, not by a long shot. Lycos released their search engine in 1993. Yahoo! came out in 1994. AltaVista began serving results in 1995. Google did not come out until years later, in 1998. Though

a few years difference may not seem like much, this is a major head start in the fast moving world of tech. So how did Google do it? How did they overtake their competitors who had such huge leads in time and money? Maybe one good idea made all the difference.

There are millions and millions of sites on the internet. How does a search engine know which ones are relevant to your search? This is a question that great minds have been working on for decades. To understand how Google changed the game, you need to know how search engines worked in 1998. Back then most websites looked at the words in your query. They counted how many times those words appeared on each page. Then they might return pages where the words in your query appeared the most. This system did not work well and people often had to click through pages and pages of results to find what they wanted.

Google was the first search engine that began considering links. Links are those blue underlined words that take you to other pages when you click on them. Larry Page, cofounder of Google, believed that meaningful data could be drawn from how those links connect. Page figured that websites with many links pointing at them were more important than those that had few. He was right. Google's search results were much better than their rivals. They would soon become the world's most used search engine.

It wasn't just the great search results that led to Google becoming so well liked. It also had to do with the way that they presented their product. Most of the other search engines were cluttered. Their home pages were filled with everything from news stories to stock quotes. But Google's homepage was, and still is, clean. There's nothing on it but the logo, the search box, and a few links. It almost appears empty. In fact, when they were first testing it, users would wait at the home page and not do anything. When asked why, they said that they were, "waiting for the rest of the page to load." People couldn't imagine such a clean and open page as being complete. But the fresh design grew on people once they got used to it.

These days Google has its hands in everything from self-driving cars to helping humans live longer. Though they have many other popular products, they will always be best known for their search engine. The Google search engine has changed our lives and our language. Not only is it a fantastic product, it is a standing example that one good idea (and a lot of hard work) can change the world.

\_\_\_17. Which event happened last?

- A. Lycos released their search engine.
- B. Yahoo! released their search engine.

C. Google released their search engine.  
D. Xerox released their copy machine.

18. Which statement would the author of this text most likely **disagree** with?

- Part of Google's success is due to the design of their homepage.
- Google succeeded by following examples of others in their field.
- Google wasn't the first search engine, but it was the best.
- Google's success may not have been possible without Larry Page.

19. Which best expresses the main idea of the third paragraph?

- There are lots and lots of websites connected to the internet.
- Google created a better way to organize search results.
- Many smart people have worked on search engines over the years.
- Older search engines used unreliable methods to order results.

20. What is the author's main purpose in writing this article?

- To explain how Google overtook its rivals
- To compare and contrast Google and Xerox
- To persuade readers to use Google for internet searches
- To discuss how companies can influence language over time

21. Which statement would the author most likely **agree** with?

- Google became successful because its founders were well-connected.
- Google was the world's first and best search engine.
- Google changed the world by solving an old problem in a new way.
- Google's other products are now more important to its success than search.

22. Which best expresses the main idea of the fourth paragraph?

- Links allow people to surf from one website to the next.
- Larry Page's ideas about links helped Google get to the top.
- Larry Page contributed to the internet by inventing the link.
- Google is a website that serves important links to users.

23. Which best explains why the author discusses Xerox in this text?

- He is discussing big companies that came before Google.
- He is explaining how companies must change with the times.
- He is showing how companies can affect our language.
- He is comparing and contrasting Google and Xerox.

\_\_\_\_\_ 24. How did Google improve search quality in 1998?

- They counted how many times queries appeared on each page.
- They looked more closely at the words in search queries.
- They linked to more pages.
- They studied the relationships of links.

\_\_\_\_\_ 25. Which was cited as a reason why Google became so popular?

- Google's homepage was clean.
- Google provided catchy news stories on their homepage.
- Google homepage loaded quickly.
- Google provided useful stock quotes on their homepage.

**III. DIRECTIONS:** Answer the following questions about "Abuela Invents the Zero".

\_\_\_\_\_ 26. Picture what Connie and her grandmother looked like as they went to church. Read the sentence from the short story.

**I have to help her climb the steps, and she stops to take a deep breath after each one, then I lead her down the aisle so that everybody can see me with my bizarre grandmother.**

Which word is most similar in meaning to the word bizarre as used in this sentence from "Abuela Invents the Zero?"

- normal
- reasonable
- peculiar
- usual

\_\_\_\_\_ 27. Read the sentences from the short story.

**I would like for her to disappear. I just know that on Monday my friends, and my enemies, in the barrio will have a lot of senile-grandmother jokes to tell in front of me. I am frozen to my seat. So the same woman who wants me dead on the spot does it for me. She makes a big deal out of getting up and hurrying to get Abuela.**

What does the sentence "I am frozen to my seat." mean in this excerpt?

- It is January in New Jersey and there is two feet of snow on the ground, and it is very cold in the unheated church.
- Connie is unable to move because she is afraid that someone will know that the old lady in the black coat is with her.
- Connie is ashamed that her grandmother didn't bring warm enough clothes with her when she flew up from Puerto Rico.
- Their spot in the church pew is inconvenient because it is at the end of a crowded pew, and Connie feels trapped in her seat.