

7th grade Literature Diagnostic Test

Trim. #: _____

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

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I. **DIRECTIONS:** Read each passage. Then answer each question by choosing the best answer. (15 pts.)

Part of the Family

We were all so excited to learn that Mom was going to let us adopt and add a new member to our family! My brother, my two sisters, and I had worked for weeks to convince Mom that we were responsible enough to have a new puppy. Many days after school I had visited the library and researched puppy training, the proper feeding of a puppy, how to socialize a new puppy, and even the meanings of names one might choose for a puppy. All of us had selected certain jobs that would need to be performed if we were lucky enough to convince Mom to get a puppy. In order to prove to Mom that she would not be the only person taking care of our new family member, we had divided the jobs among us and created a chart for the first month. Finally, after several weeks of cajoling and wheedling, all our hard work and extra effort had been successful. Mom gave in to our pleas and agreed to let us adopt a puppy!

Now the real work would begin. We decided to visit the Humane Society in order to select just the right puppy to join our family. Of course, once we saw all the puppies and dogs available, none of us could decide on only one. Each little face had its own special charm. Who could resist those big brown eyes? All the puppies were so thrilled we were visiting them, but each was unaware that just one would be leaving with us. They jumped, they yipped, they wagged their tails as if each had a motor attached. They joyfully licked every bare inch of skin we had. How would we ever decide?

As we strolled through the aisles of kennels, I noticed one little bundle of fur. He sat off to the side of the temporary home he shared with three other rambunctious puppies. He quietly watched as his unruly housemates tried to be the most outgoing, the cutest, and the perfect pet for us by showing their enthusiasm. As I walked closer to his corner, he peered at me and smiled a crooked puppy grin. His tail wagged his entire body. He tentatively jumped up to greet me with a playful lap of his tongue and I noticed his lopsided ears. One ear stood up just a little straighter than the other, giving the impression he was listening quite closely to the words I was saying.

"Hi there, little buddy. What do you think?" I kind of cooed to him. He seemed to know it didn't matter that he was the smallest and the most **reserved** of the boisterous group of puppies occupying the kennel. I motioned for my siblings to join me at the corner and introduced them to "Buddy."

"This is him, this is Buddy! He needs us, I can tell," I explained to my brother and sisters.

"I don't know, he is so tiny and kind of funny looking," my youngest sister observed.

7 "He has character," I explained, feeling rather **defensive** of Buddy. He was not funny looking, he was unique! "Look in his eyes. He knows what you are saying and his feelings are hurt!"

My sister looked at the little bundle of fur with the big eyes and the uneven ears. She reached out her hand, and Buddy gave her a lick. "I'm sorry, Buddy, I didn't mean to hurt your feelings," she said. She looked as if she might cry. "You're right! Buddy has character."

Mom joined our little group and introduced herself to our new friend. "Okay, Buddy, I guess you're it! Do you want to come home with us?"

As I watched the little dog's reaction to her words, I could tell he understood. He again cocked his head to one side and flashed us his crooked puppy smile as if to say he knew he was part of the family.

- ___ 1. What is the perspective of the mom in the story?
- A. She is reluctant to get a puppy because she would do all the work.
 - B. She is reluctant to get a puppy because she would have to spend money.
 - C. She is reluctant to get a puppy because she prefers cats.
 - D. She is reluctant to get a puppy because she is afraid of dogs.
- ___ 2. What evidence shows the children are prepared for a puppy?
- A. They research puppy training and care.
 - B. They beg and plead with their mother.
 - C. They get jobs to raise money to buy the dog.
 - D. They research personalities of different breeds.
- ___ 3. The author uses the word **reserved** in the passage. Which phrase best completes the analogy, "**Reserved** is to active as _____"?
- A. excitable is to energetic.
 - B. timid is to rowdy.
 - C. unruly is to naughty.
 - D. noisy is to loud.
- ___ 4. In paragraph 7, the author is described as feeling **defensive** of Buddy. What is the meaning of the word **defensive**?
- A. Wanting to capture Buddy.
 - B. Wanting to tease Buddy.
 - C. Wanting to protect Buddy.
 - D. Wanting to admire Buddy.
- ___ 5. What is the little dog's reaction to Mom's words, "Okay, Buddy, I guess you're it"?
- A. He gives a playful lap of his tongue.
 - B. He jumps up to greet the narrator.
 - C. He cocks his head to one side and flashes a smile.
 - D. He makes one ear stand up straighter.

- ___ 6. What is the main idea of the story?
- A. Following the process of adopting a new puppy.
 - B. Researching the responsibilities of caring for a puppy.
 - C. Convincing mom to allow the adoption of a new puppy.
 - D. Determining the criteria for selecting a new puppy.
- ___ 7. From what point of view is the story told?
- A. First person.
 - B. Second person.
 - C. Third person limited.
 - D. Third person omniscient.

Marie Curie

January 1, 1934

Dearest Marie,

I hope your new year is off to a good start. I hope we will be able to spend more time together this year. I do consider you a very dear friend.

It is amazing to think of your accomplishments in science. I am still amazed that you have received two Nobel Prizes. You are a pioneer in the field of science. I admire the way you have worked so hard throughout your life.

I remember the stories you used to tell me about being one of the first female scientists. We can laugh about it now because times are changing. Yet I know that life was not so easy for you.

I remember you telling me that when you were fifteen you finished high school in Warsaw, Poland. The government did not allow women to go to universities. However, you worked hard as a governess, and your elder sisters gave you money. With this support, you were able to move to Paris, France, in order to attend the Sorbonne. It was in Paris that you first met Pierre, your husband. When you finished your studies, you were able to teach and research with Pierre.

You and Pierre discovered many wonderful things together, such as the elements polonium and radium. I remember in 1903 you received the Nobel Prize in physics. Finally, you were taken seriously. And why shouldn't you be? I remember the years that followed were difficult for you. In 1904 your second daughter, Ève, was born. Two years later Pierre was killed in a terrible horse-carriage accident.

You continued the work that you and Pierre had started. You became the first female university professor at the Sorbonne. In 1911 you were the first person ever to receive a second Nobel Prize. I admire the way you and Pierre had decided long ago you wanted to share the work you did with the world. You fully believed that any scientist should be able to research and build from your work with radium and polonium.

In letting others share the results of your research, many great things happened. In 1914, during World War I, your research with radium helped hundreds of soldiers. The discovery of radium helped people to develop x-

ray machines. This equipment helped soldiers receive immediate medical help. In America, hospitals began using x-ray machines to help hundreds of injured patients. It was amazing to hear you were invited to America shortly after. In 1921 America was very generous and offered you money and equipment to continue your research.

- 8 For the past several years, however, I know you have not been feeling quite well. You have been tired, dizzy, and have had a low fever. Recently, these problems have gotten worse. Did you ever wonder about the other scientists you worked with? They, too, have had similar problems. Could it possibly be a **side effect** of working with radium? It would be hard to believe your life's work has had such a negative effect on you considering all the wonderful things you have done for science!

Please write back soon. I am hoping to put together a book of the letters that we exchange. You are famous now, but I expect you will be even more famous in years to come.

Your faithful friend,

Helene

Marie Curie Timeline

1867	Born in Warsaw, Poland
1891	Attends the Sorbonne in Paris
1895	Marries Pierre Curie
1903	Wins the Nobel Prize in physics along with her husband Pierre Curie
1911	Wins a second Nobel Prize in recognition of her work in radioactivity
1914	Is appointed Director of the Radium Institute in Paris
1922	Becomes a member of the French Academy of Medicine
1932	Establishes a radium institute at Warsaw

- ___ 8. "I **admire** the way you have worked so hard throughout your life." What part of speech is **admire**?

A. Verb.
B. Noun.
C. Adverb.
D. Adjective.

- ___ 9. What is the author's opinion of women in the field of science?

A. The author believes women should work with men in the science field.
B. The author believes women do not belong in the field of science.
C. The author supports the role of women in science.
D. The author thinks women should teach about science.

- ___ 10. Which word contains a suffix?
- A. Element.
 - B. Equipment.
 - C. Tournament.
 - D. Document.
- ___ 11. In paragraph 8, what does the phrase **side effect** mean?
- A. An undiagnosed situation.
 - B. An expected result.
 - C. An intentional problem.
 - D. An unplanned outcome.
- ___ 12. Read the list of events in Marie Curie's life.
- 1. Became a governess.
 - 2. Graduated high school.
 - 3. Married husband Pierre.
 - 4. Moved to Paris.

In which order did these events occur?

- A. 2, 1, 4, 3
 - B. 4, 1, 3, 2
 - C. 3, 2, 1, 4
 - D. 1, 4, 3, 2
- ___ 13. What lesson can be learned from studying the life of Marie Curie?
- A. Admiration of women scientists is long overdue.
 - B. People can accomplish much through hard work and dedication.
 - C. Men can work more effectively in the field of science.
 - D. Sacrifice is necessary to be a scientist.
- ___ 14. Which statement about Marie Curie is a fact?
- A. Marie Curie's discovery of radium helped people develop x-ray machines.
 - B. Marie Curie's accomplishments in science are amazing.
 - C. Marie Curie is admirable because of her dedication to science.
 - D. Marie Curie was the best teacher at the Sorbonne.

___ 15. When does Marie Curie marry Pierre Curie?

- A. In 1893.
- B. In 1894.
- C. In 1895.
- D. In 1896.