



International School of Monterrey

Junior High School Trimester 2

7th Grade Literature

Name _____ Date _____ List #: ___ - ___

Edge Level A Unit 4 Cluster 2 "Brother Ray"

1. Which was NOT a burden that teenage Ray Charles worked to overcome?
A. poverty
B. racism
C. intelligence
D. blindness

2. Ray's mother told him, "You might not be able to do things like a person who can see. But there are always two ways to do everything. You've just got to find the other way." Which event in the autobiography addresses this concept?
F. when Ray was sent to live away from home to attend a state school for the blind
G. when his mother made him start all over to scrub and mop the floor correctly
H. when he was allowed to ride a bicycle by himself
I. when his mother sought the advice of the banker and a post office worker

3. Although his mother had little education, why did Ray feel his mother had great wisdom?
A. She knew he needed to become self-reliant because she'd not always be there to help him.
B. She knew he should learn to pick out his own clothes.
C. She knew he should learn a job skill, like doing the wash.
D. She knew he needed to have basic skills, like good listening skills, since he couldn't read.

4. Based on the illustration and caption on page 311, which is NOT a characteristic of an African bottle tree?
F. it is a tradition brought by African slaves
G. it is a tree adorned with glass bottles
H. it has bright red brush-shaped flowers
I. its purpose is to ward off evil

5. Read this excerpt from Ma Beck's words in the autobiography.
You know what she taught you. You know what she told you. You gotta carry on.
Ma Beck is telling Ray many important things EXCEPT
A. to persevere; keep at it
B. to ignore his education
C. to continue to achieve
D. to work through his pain

Edge Level A Unit 4 Cluster 2 "Power of the Powerless: A Brother's Lesson"

6. Read this excerpt from the memoir.
One day, during my first year teaching, a boy in the last row raised his hand and said, "Oh, Mr. de Vinck. You mean he was a vegetable."
I stammered for a few seconds.
There are many reasons why Christopher may have stammered EXCEPT

F. Christopher thought that the student didn't fully understand, and he searched for the right words to explain the concept to him.

G. Christopher couldn't talk right away because his mind became filled with images of Oliver, and he felt the strong love and bond he had for his brother.

H. Christopher always spoke in a stuttering, halting manner when talking about Oliver in front of an audience.

I. Christopher thought of Oliver as an important part of his family, not as an object or empty shell.

7. Read this excerpt from the memoir.

Oliver grew to the size of a 10-year-old. He had a big chest, a large head. His hands and feet were those of a 5-year-old, small and soft. We'd wrap a box of baby cereal for him at Christmas and place it under the tree; pat his head with a damp cloth in the middle of a July heat wave.

The author included this excerpt for many reasons EXCEPT

- A. The description helps the reader create an image of Oliver while reading the memoir.
- B. He wanted the reader to see Oliver as a person not as a medical condition.
- C. This excerpt shows how the family treated Oliver as a boy with feelings.
- D. The author wants you to feel pity for Oliver because he did not look like other people.

8. Ray Charles' and Oliver de Vinck's lives were similar in many ways EXCEPT

F. Ray's life and success were a tribute his mother's lifelong guidance; Oliver's long life was a tribute to his doctors' dedication.

G. Both families made a sacrifice: Ray's mother when she sent him as a young boy away to school and Oliver's family to provide 24/7 care at home.

H. Both men achieved beyond expectations: Ray achieved from riding a bike to writing and playing music and Oliver achieved living for over three decades.

I. Ray and Oliver served as an inspiration to all who met or heard about them due to Ray's music and due to Christopher's writing about Oliver.

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9. Which is one way that the lives of Ray Charles in "Brother Ray" and Oliver de Vinck in "Power of the Powerless" are similar?

A. As boys, both Ray and Oliver required special diets: Ray because he couldn't eat with utensils and Oliver because he couldn't digest solid food.

B. Ray's father and Oliver's father left the family home when they learned that their sons were disabled and might need specialized care.

C. Ray and Oliver enjoyed listening to the radio and moving to the beat of the music.

D. Ray's mother taught him academic and self-respect lessons while Oliver's mother taught his brother Christopher lessons in compassion and humanity.

10. Which statement from the memoir is best supported by the picture on page 319?

F. "He could do absolutely nothing except breathe, sleep, eat, and yet he was responsible for action, love, courage, insight."

G. "And she once said, "When you go to heaven, Oliver will run to you, embrace you, and the first thing he will say is 'Thank you.'"

H. "One afternoon, a few months later, my mother brought Oliver to a window."

I. "The good doctor answered, 'Then take him home and love him.'"