

Rip Van Winkle by Washington Irving

I. Multiple choice. Click on the correct answer

1. Which of the following statements about the story is true?
 - a. The time is less than a hundred years ago.
 - b. The story's action covers a period of about five years.
 - c. The Place is a village in the Catskill Mountains of New York.
 - d. The main character is a wealthy farmer.
2. All of the following correctly describe Rip Van Winkle except
 - a. nagged
 - b. simple
 - c. kind-hearted
 - d. quick-tempered
3. "The great error in Rip's character was an insuperable dislike of all kinds of profitable labor." This means that Rip
 - a. was fiercely independent
 - b. did not tend to business
 - c. was exceedingly lazy
 - d. disliked being with people
4. Of the following, which did Rip like least?
 - a. Helping a neighbor
 - b. Being around children
 - c. Working on his farm
 - d. Hunting or fishing
5. Whenever his wife started lecturing him, Rip
 - a. shrugged and said nothing
 - b. angrily left the room
 - c. went fishing
 - d. argued back
6. Rip's only constant companion and friend was
 - a. Wolf
 - b. Nicholas Vedder
 - c. his oldest son
 - d. Dame Van Winkle
7. Why did Rip help carry the keg of liquor up the mountain?
 - a. He was simply afraid to refuse.
 - b. He hoped to help drink it up.
 - c. He was invited to attend the party.
 - d. He was always happy to help others.
8. Who were the "company of odd-looking personages playing at ninepins" that Rip saw?
 - a. Creatures he dreamed about when he fell asleep
 - b. Dwarves who lived inside the Catskill Mountains
 - c. Ghosts of Henry Hudson and his sailors
 - d. Ghosts of long-dead Flemish soldiers
9. Why did Rip fall asleep in the midst of the party?
 - a. He got drunk on the liquor.
 - b. He was weary from his climb and unusual work.
 - c. The party lasted late into the night.
 - d. He was tired of filling the flagons.
10. From Rip's point of view, his long sleep had at least one happy consequence. What was it?
 - a. His farm had prospered in his absence.
 - b. His country had gained its independence from Great Britain.
 - c. No one was left to scold him.
 - d. His village had grown and prospered.