

Name: _____

Ms. Giordano

Spring Break Packet*****All questions must be answered to receive full credit!!!!*******The Two Travelers**
by Ella Lyman Cabot

Two friends, Ganem and Salem, were journeying together, when they came to a broad stream at the foot of a hill. The woods were near at hand, and the shade was so welcome after the heat of the desert that they halted here to rest. After they had eaten and slept, they arose to go on, when they discovered near at hand a white stone, upon which was written in curious lettering this inscription:

Travelers, we have prepared an excellent banquet for your refreshment; but you must be bold and deserve it before you can obtain it. What you are to do is this: throw yourselves bravely into the stream and swim to the other side. You will find there a lion carved from marble. This statue you must lift upon your shoulders and, with one run, carry to the top of yonder mountain, never heeding the thorns which prick your feet nor the wild beasts that may be lurking in the bushes to devour you. When once you have reached the top of the mountain, you will find yourselves in possession of great happiness.

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Ganem was truly delighted when he read these words. "See, Salem," he cried, "here lies the road which will lead us to the end of all our travels and labor. Let us start at once, and see if what the stone says be true."

③

Salem, however, was of another mind. "Perhaps," he answered, "this writing is but the jest of some idle beggar. Perhaps the current of the stream runs too swiftly for any man to swim it. Perhaps the lion is too heavy to carry, even if it be there. It is almost impossible that any one could reach the top of yonder mountain in one run. Take my word, it is not worth while to attempt any such mad venture. I, for one, will have no part in it."

Nevertheless, Ganem was not to be discouraged. "My mind is fully made up to try it," he replied, "and if you will not go with me, I must go alone." So the two friends embraced, and Salem rode off on his camel.

He was scarcely out of sight before Ganem had stripped off his clothes and thrown himself into the stream. He soon found that he was in the midst of a whirlpool, but he kept bravely on, and at last reached the other side in safety. When he had rested a few moments on the beach, he lifted the marble lion with one mighty effort, and with one run reached the top of the mountain. Here he saw to his great surprise that he was standing before the gates of a beautiful city. He was gazing at it in admiration, when strange roars came from the inside of the lion on his shoulder. The roaring grew louder and louder, until finally the towers of the city were trembling and the mountain-sides

reechoing with the noise. Then Ganem saw to his astonishment that great crowds of people were pouring out of the city gates. They did not seem afraid of the noise, for they all wore smiling faces. As they came nearer, Ganem saw that they were led by a group of young noblemen, who held by the rein a prancing black horse. Slowly they advanced and knelt before Ganem, saying,

"Brave stranger, we beseech thee to put on these regal robes which we are bringing, and, mounted upon this horse, ride back with thy subjects to the city."

Ganem, who could scarcely believe his ears, begged them to explain to him the meaning of these honors, and the noble youths replied,

"Whenever our king dies, we place upon the stone by the river the inscription which you have read. Then we wait patiently until a traveler passes by who is brave enough to undertake the bold venture. Thus we are always assured that our king is a man who is fearless of heart and dauntless of purpose. We crown you today as king over our city."

http://www.archive.org/stream/ethicsforchildr00cabogoog/ethicsforchildr00cabogoog_djvu.txt (02/28/2013).

1. Which quote from the selection shows that Ganem's hopes for riches will be fulfilled?
 - A. "When once you have reached the top of the mountain, you will find yourselves in possession of great happiness."
 - B. "'See, Salem,' he cried, 'here lies the road which will lead us to the end of all our travels and labor.' "
 - C. "'Brave stranger, we beseech thee to put on these regal robes which we are bringing, and, mounted upon this horse, ride back with thy subjects to the city.' "
 - D. "'We crown you today as king over our city.' "

2. In the context of paragraph 3, what is the meaning of *venture*?
 - A. an uncertain undertaking
 - B. a crazy representation
 - C. a serious proposal
 - D. a potential philosophy

3. What does paragraph 3 reveal about Salem?
 - A. He is really clever.
 - B. He is very cowardly.
 - C. He is overly cautious.
 - D. He is extremely confident.

4. In the selection, why does Ganem accept the challenge?
 - A. Ganem is afraid to take chances.
 - B. Ganem wants to be friends with Salem.
 - C. Ganem wants to be king of a city.
 - D. Ganem is optimistic about the future.

5. Which is a brief summary of the selection?
 - A. A community uses a series of challenges to select a new king.
 - B. A mountaintop city tricks a traveler into performing difficult tasks.
 - C. A man faces great obstacles to beat his friend for a chance to be king.
 - D. Two travelers argue over whether to accept a challenge written on a stone.

6. Which statement illustrates the theme of the selection?
 - A. Great risks can often yield tremendous rewards.
 - B. Traveling across unknown territory is frightening.
 - C. Finding a new king can be difficult for some groups.
 - D. Friends disagree about dangerous and unknown things.

Disease Detectives

From the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

This disease detective knows a lot about his case.

Dr. Redd is the Chief of the Air Pollution and Respiratory Health Branch in the National Center for Environmental Health at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)—Whew! That’s a title! He used to study other diseases, but became “Dr. Asthma” about four years ago when he realized that our nation’s lungs needed his help!

②

Dr. Redd spends lots of time on the phone and traveling around the country to work with other CDC groups, as well as outside organizations, on the topic of asthma. Dr. Redd’s team closely tracks the asthma cases that occur in the U.S. Their goal is to learn more about what’s going on with asthma, so that they can stop the disease in its tracks. Dr. Redd also oversees national programs to help people get their asthma under control.

Asthma: The basics

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Asthma is a breathing condition that leads to coughing, wheezing (whistling sound while breathing), trouble catching your breath, and a chest that feels tight. Even chest pains, dizziness, and always having to clear your throat can be signs of asthma, and should be checked out by a doctor.

④

For people with asthma, things like cold or dry air, dust, pollen, pollution, cigarette smoke, or stress can be “triggers,” which cause the body to pump out chemicals that make the airways shrink, stopping air from getting through to the lungs—and causing an asthma attack. An asthma attack can feel like trying to suck air in and push it out through a straw!

⑤

Physical activity can cause asthma attacks too. Although experts aren’t entirely sure why physical activity sometimes brings one on, a likely explanation is that fast breathing through the mouth (like what happens when you get winded) can irritate the airways. Dr. Asthma advises, “When smog levels are high, it’s always a good idea to participate in physical activity in the morning instead of in the afternoon—smog levels rise later in the day.”

Is asthma a big problem for kids today?

⑥

"About five million young people in our country have asthma," says Dr. Redd, "When your parents were young (about 30 years ago), asthma was an uncommon disease seen in only about 3% of people. Now, it's up to at least 7%, and rising. As young kids, more boys have asthma. But some people 'grow out' of asthma (their lungs get bigger and they no longer have symptoms) and the tables turn. So, as teenagers, slightly more girls have the disease."

How can kids help their friends who have asthma?

⑦

If their condition is under control, people with asthma can do the same things that you can. So, your job is to help them know that it's okay to use their inhalers or take their medicines. Also, don't worry about catching asthma because it isn't contagious.

If your friend or relative is having an asthma attack, it can be scary to watch. But according to Dr. Redd, the first thing to do is stay calm. Encourage the person to use an inhaler (if it's on hand) and get help. What causes asthma, anyway?

No one knows for sure yet. Dr. Redd reports that people's genes help decide whether they develop asthma. Some researchers think that since today's young people are exposed to germs that are different than the ones that kids faced 20 or 30 years ago, their immune systems might not develop in the same way, leading to more asthma and allergies. The fact that more people than ever are overweight also might be related to increased asthma cases. (This does not mean that you should lose weight if you have asthma, though if you're overweight, it could help. Talk to your parents or your doctor to find out.) Perhaps something in the environment causes asthma. One thing is for sure—the disease detectives have leads* and they're on the case!

***leads:** important information leading to a solution

7. How does the author's inclusion of paragraph 2 contribute to the overall development of the selection?
 - A. It establishes Dr. Redd's credibility.
 - B. It explains Dr. Redd's work on asthma.
 - C. It identifies Dr. Redd's accomplishments.
 - D. It shows the importance of Dr. Redd's title.
8. How does the section titled "Asthma: The basics" develop the central idea of the text?
 - A. It describes the sensations people experience during an asthma attack.
 - B. It provides a definition of asthma and explains causes of asthma attacks.
 - C. It identifies symptoms of asthma that should be investigated by a doctor.
 - D. It gives Dr. Redd's research findings and recommendations about asthma.
9. How do paragraphs 3-5 affect the reader's understanding of the rest of the selection?
 - A. They provide background information about the disease.
 - B. They identify the reasons why people have the disease.
 - C. They detail Dr. Redd's research findings about the disease.
 - D. They describe the physical sensations related to the disease.
10. Why did the author include paragraph 5?
 - A. It provides expert opinion to prove the claim from paragraph 3.
 - B. It provides another example to support paragraph 4.
 - C. It provides evidence that contrasts with paragraph 4.
 - D. It provides background information to explain paragraph 3.

11. Why does the author include statistics in paragraph 6?
 - A. It warns young boys about the dangers of asthma.
 - B. It shows young readers the seriousness of asthma.
 - C. It convinces adults to screen their children for asthma.
 - D. It shows readers that asthma is still a growing concern.
12. In paragraph 7, what does the phrase "don't worry about catching asthma" mean?
 - A. Asthma can't be transmitted from one person to another.
 - B. Asthma can be thrown back and forth.
 - C. Asthma is a highly infectious disease.
 - D. Asthma has hidden disadvantages that can be a hindrance to activity.
13. What does the author imply by ending the selection with information on the uncertainty about the causes of asthma?
 - A. Current research into asthma is insufficient and should continue.
 - B. Only a few asthma treatment options are available.
 - C. Current asthma research techniques are adequate.
 - D. There haven't been many improvements in researching asthma.
14. Which statement summarizes the selection?
 - A. Dr. Redd from the CDC explains that asthma is a serious disease that can make it difficult for a person to breathe.
 - B. Dr. Redd from the CDC helps people cope with asthma and works toward being able to eliminate the disease.
 - C. There are many hypotheses about the causes of asthma, but none have been proven.
 - D. Asthma can be a problem for many kids, but it does not have to hinder their lifestyle.

Greenhouse Effect: Can We Change the Climate?

From the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

It may seem hard to believe that people can actually change Earth's climate. But scientists think that the things people do that send greenhouse gases into the air are making our planet warmer.

②

Once, all climate changes occurred naturally. However, during the Industrial Revolution, we began altering our climate and environment through agricultural and industrial practices. The Industrial Revolution was a time when people began using machines to make life easier. It started more than 200 years ago and changed the way humans live. Before the Industrial Revolution, human activity released very few gases into the atmosphere, but now through population growth, fossil fuel burning, and deforestation,* we are affecting the mixture of gases in the atmosphere.

Since the Industrial Revolution, the need for energy to run machines has steadily increased. Some energy, like the energy you need to do your homework, comes from the food you eat. But other energy, like the energy that makes cars run and much of the energy used to light and heat our homes, comes from fossil fuels like coal and oil. Burning these fuels releases greenhouse gases.

When Do You Send Greenhouse Gases into the Air?

Whenever you . . .

- Watch TV
- Use the air conditioner
- Turn on a light
- Use a hair dryer
- Ride in a car
- Play a video game
- Listen to a stereo
- Wash or dry clothes
- Use a dish washer
- Microwave a meal
-

. . . you are helping to send greenhouse gas into the air.

⑤

To perform many of these functions, you need to use electricity. Electricity comes from power plants. Most power plants use coal and oil to make electricity. Burning coal and oil produces greenhouse gases.

Other things we do send greenhouse gases into the air, too. The trash that we send to landfills produces a greenhouse gas called methane. Methane is also produced by the animals we raise for dairy and meat products and when we take coal out of the ground. Whenever we drive or ride in a car, we are adding greenhouse gases to the atmosphere. And, when factories make the things that we buy and use every day, they, too, are sending greenhouse gases into the air.

***deforestation:** clearing forests of trees

15. According to paragraph 5, how does the use of electricity contribute to climate change
 - A. Electricity is generated from methane, which produces greenhouse gases in the air.
 - B. Electricity creates greenhouse gases in the air because of the heat it is able to create.
 - C. Electricity is generated in factories, which burn fossil fuels that produce greenhouse gases in the air.
 - D. Electricity comes from power plants, which burn coal and oil that produce greenhouse gases in the air.
16. How is the selection organized to emphasize how people have contributed to changing the climate?
 - A. It lists practical causes, discussing the effects of greenhouse gas emissions, and suggesting decreasing electricity.
 - B. It provides historical information, listing the practical causes, and discussing the effects of greenhouse gas emissions.
 - C. It explains practical causes, discussing effects of greenhouse gas emissions and giving reasons to ban greenhouse gas emissions.
 - D. It gives reasons to ban greenhouse gas emissions, suggesting decreasing electricity, and encouraging the use of public transportation.

17. Which statement from the text explains the primary cause of increased greenhouse gases in the last 200 years?
- A. "All climate changes occurred naturally."
 - B. "People began using machines to make life easier."
 - C. "Some energy, like the energy you need to do your homework, comes from the food you eat."
 - D. "Methane is also produced by the animals we raise."
18. How does the author's use of a list contribute to the development of ideas in the selection?
- A. The list is in abbreviated form, showing that its importance is minimal.
 - B. The list makes the information easier to read than paragraph format.
 - C. The list breaks up the article, making it less boring to read.
 - D. The list gives a lot of information in a compacted form.
19. Which is the author's primary purpose for including paragraph 2 in the selection?
- A. to provide scientific data
 - B. to explain natural climate change
 - C. to provide an historical comparison
 - D. to show how gases change climate
20. What is the structure of paragraph 5 so that it contributes to the development of the selection?
- A. general information to specific
 - B. chronological
 - C. compare and contrast
 - D. cause and effect

21. How does the title contribute to the development of the selection?
- A. by inquiring if readers can cause climate change
 - B. by suggesting that readers are willing to change the climate
 - C. by introducing readers to a new term and explaining its origin
 - D. by encouraging readers to become involved in changing the climate
22. Based on the selection, what is the author's attitude toward greenhouse gases?
- A. There is nothing we can do to impact greenhouse gasses.
 - B. Scientists are unsure of the impact of greenhouse gasses.
 - C. People can make better choices to limit greenhouse gasses.
 - D. All energy causes greenhouse gases.
23. How does the author support the idea that more manufacturing caused an increase in greenhouse gasses?
- A. by listing examples of how climate change occurs naturally
 - B. by contrasting greenhouse gasses before and after the Industrial Revolution
 - C. by describing things animals do to send greenhouse gasses into the air
 - D. by explaining precisely how people can limit greenhouse gasses

What the Page Says

- Here it is again,
that ghostly blank page
staring me down,
glaring at me in defiance.*
- 5 *"Here," the page says, "place your words here.
Fill my lines. Crowd me with words,
all kinds of words—
happy, joyous words,
angry, jangled words,*
- 10 *burdened words, sad words,
any words.
Just write," it says.*
- "Start with any scribble,
and soon the ideas will form.*
- 15 *Words will come marching up the walls,
little soldiers bearing ideas, pacing all around you.
They will become your clever companions,
your fine and famous friends.*
- 20 *"In lush gardens,
the words will bloom up all around you,
flowering your thoughts,
coloring your world
with myriad ideas in brilliant hues."*
- 25 *But what does the page know
of that secret, silent soul
sitting in the center of me—
that frozen-up one,
that defiant little imp who refuses to speak?*
- 30 *Does that smug, sassy sage—
that demanding page
with all its bald and boring blankness—
know how to find the key
to unlock, inside me, that treasure chest*
- 35 *chock full of brilliant words and thorny thoughts?*
- But wait . . . what is this?
Here it comes! An idea!*

Quickly marching words,
all in a line,
40 stepping, stepping forward
with order and with grace.
And now there forms in my mind
a sentence screaming for the page,
urgent to leap onto that first line
45 like a runner at the start of the race,
charged with excitement,
ready to join the pace,
fully certain of a job well done.
Hello, words.
50 Hello, victory!

24. Which quote from the poem illustrates a lesson that the speaker learns?

- A. "In lush gardens,/the words will bloom up all around you,"
- B. "Quickly marching words,/all in a line"
- C. "Start with any scribble,/and soon the ideas will form."
- D. "Hello, words./Hello, victory!"

25. What is the meaning of the word *imp* as it is used in line 29?

- A. mischievous scamp
- B. favorite child
- C. modest queen
- D. sprightly master

26. Which quote from the poem reflects the speaker's frustration?

- A. "chock full of brilliant words and thorny thoughts"
- B. "Quickly marching words,/all in a line"
- C. "the words will bloom up all around you,/flowering your thoughts"
- D. "staring me down,/glaring at me in defiance"

27. Based on the last line of the poem, what can be inferred about how the speaker would view a blank page?
- A. as a distraction
 - B. as a mystery
 - C. as a challenge
 - D. as a commitment
28. What does the last stanza reveal about the speaker?
- A. The speaker wants to write about winning a race.
 - B. The speaker hopes to finish writing soon.
 - C. The speaker has begun expressing ideas freely.
 - D. The speaker hopes to learn organizational skills.