**Student Team Literature**  
**Standardized Reading Practice Test**  

**Bridge to Terabithia**  

### Reading Vocabulary

**DIRECTIONS**  
Choose the word that means the same, or about the same, as the underlined word. Circle the letter for the answer you have chosen.

#### SAMPLE A

**A discomfort is**  
A. a prediction  
B. a question  
C. an objection  
D. an irritation

1. **Postponed** means  
   A. put off to a later time  
   B. cancelled  
   C. ended early  
   D. held on time

2. **Another word for abruptly is**  
   F. gradually  
   G. suddenly  
   H. ominously  
   J. silently

3. **Someone who feels desperate is**  
   A. very comfortable  
   B. very content  
   C. very worried  
   D. very idle

4. **Solemn** means the same as  
   F. silly  
   G. serious  
   H. sodden  
   J. sick

5. **Relentless** means  
   A. persistent  
   B. reluctant  
   C. repulsive  
   D. possible

6. **To perceive** is to  
   F. conspire  
   G. predict  
   H. understand  
   J. falter

7. **A prompt person is**  
   A. on time  
   B. absent  
   C. plump  
   D. late

8. **Another word for hostile is**  
   F. hypocritical  
   G. friendly  
   H. prissy  
   J. warlike

9. **Stranded** means the same as  
   A. braided  
   B. twisted  
   C. abandoned  
   D. inclined

10. **A fragile thing is very**  
    F. rare  
    G. delicate  
    H. lopsided  
    J. sturdy
DIRECTIONS
Read the sentence in the box, then choose the answer in which the underlined word is used in the same way. Circle the letter for the answer you have chosen.

SAMPLE B
Momma would be as mad as flies in a fruit jar if they woke her up this time of day.

In which sentence does the word flies mean the same thing as in the sentence above?
A Captain Sutton flies commercial jets between New York and London.
B Mosquitoes, flies, and other insects can ruin a picnic.
C On weekends time flies, but on school days time moves very slowly.
D The ballplayer’s statistics record the number of flies, balls, strikes, and homeruns he has hit.

11.
In the room Jess shared with the little ones, he dug under his mattress and pulled out his pad and pencils. Then, stomach down on the bed, he began to draw.

In which sentence does the word draw mean the same thing as in the sentence above?
A Teams of mules draw rafts down the canal between each waterfront town.
B Mattie stopped at the bank to draw money out of her account before she shopped.
C If only he could draw better, Pat was sure people would recognize his animal sketches.
D The boxing match ended in a draw that disappointed the fans.

12.
This was the day he was going to be a champion – the best runner of the fourth and fifth grades, and he hadn’t even won his heat.

In which sentence does the word heat mean the same thing as in the sentence above?
F The recipe says to heat the butter over a low flame so that it does not turn brown.
G The heat of summer does not make Grandma as uncomfortable as the cold of winter.
H In the ninth inning, the heat is on the pitcher not to allow another man on base.
J Carol came in first in her heat and again in the semifinal; now she is ready for the final race.

13.
He had seen Miss Bessie jitter away from P.T., but that was different. A yapping puppy was an immediate threat, but... when there was no P.T. in sight, she was perfectly content, sleepily chewing her cud.

In which sentence does the word content mean the same thing as in the sentence above?
A The content of a non-fiction book is usually described in the introduction.
B Miners brought samples of their ore to the assayer to find out the gold content.
C A good book and a comfortable chair are all that Mark needs to feel content.
D Dad said I should content myself with my allowance because he would not raise it.

14.
May Belle’s face sagged. “Joyce Ann ain’t nothing but a baby.”
“Well, she wouldn’t likely be a queen first off. You’d have to train her and stuff.”

In which sentence does the word train mean the same thing as in the sentence above?
F Mort plans to train horses for the show ring as a career.
G A loud noise interrupted Cal’s train of thought.
H The long freight train wound around the side of the mountain and into the tunnel.
J Train your eye on the center of the target before you shoot.
DIRECTIONS
As you read each sentence, use the other words in the sentence to help you figure out what the underlined word means. Circle the letter for the answer you have chosen.

SAMPLE C
“May Belle had her eyes all squinched as though Leslie was some strange creature in a zoo. ‘You gotta believe in the Bible, Leslie.’

“Why?” It was a genuine question. Leslie wasn’t being a smarty.”

Genuine means--
A real
B sarcastic
C abrupt
D smug

15. Miss Bessie’s bag was tight, and she was fidgeting with discomfort. She should have been milked a couple of hours ago.

Fidgeting means--
A chewing contentedly
B dancing happily
C moving restlessly
D sleeping soundly

16. This was the day he was going to be champion... and he hadn’t even won his heat. There was no cheering at either end of the field. The rest of the boys seemed as stunned as he.

Stunned means--
A stranded
B shocked
C satisfied
D soaked

17. The fifth-grade boys, bursting with new importance, ordered the fourth graders this way and that, while the smaller boys tried to include themselves without being conspicuous. Conspicuous means--
A respectable
B contemptible
C liable
D noticeable

18. Christmas was almost a month away, but at Jesse’s house the girls were already obsessed with it. This year Ellie and Brenda both had boyfriends... and the problem of what to give them and what to expect from them was cause of endless speculation and fights. Obsessed with means--
A always thinking about
B dreading
C wishing to avoid
D ignoring

19. Sometimes he would sneak down to the old Perkins place and find Prince Terrien crying on the porch, where Mr. Burke had exiled him. You couldn’t blame the man. No one could get anything done with that animal grabbing his hand or jumping up to lick his face. Exiled means--
A welcomed
B sent away
C vanquished
D pursued

20. They had all hated Leslie... Even after they’d given up trying to make her miserable, they’d kept on despising her... Despising means--
A knighting
B perceiving
C scorning
D valuing
SAMPLE: from Chapter  One

Jessie Oliver Aarons, Jr.

It was May Belle who came to tell him in the bean patch that people were moving into the old Perkins place down on the next farm. Jess wiped his hair out of his eyes and squinted. Sure enough. A U-Haul was parked right by the door. One of those big jointed ones. These people had a lot of junk. But they wouldn't last. The Perkins place was one of those ratty old country houses you moved into because you had no decent place to go and moved out of as quickly as you could. He thought later how peculiar it was that here was probably the biggest thing in his life, and he had shrugged it off as nothing.

1. Information in this passage tells you that the setting for the novel is
   A  in a castle.
   B  in the country.
   C  in a large city.
   D  in a suburban town.

2. The statement “The Perkins place was one of those ratty old country houses you moved into because you had no decent place to go and moved out of as quickly as you could” is
   F  a fact.
   G  a legend.
   H  an opinion.
   J  a mystery.
From Chapter Six
The Coming of Prince Terrien

Later that afternoon, Leslie gave Jess his present. It was a box of watercolors with twenty-four tubes of color and three brushes and a pad of heavy art paper.

“Lord,” he said. “Thank you.” He tried to think of a better way to say it, but he couldn’t. “Thank you,” he repeated.

“It’s not a great present like yours,” she said humbly, “but I hope you’ll like it.”

He wanted to tell her how proud and good she made him feel, that the rest of Christmas didn’t matter because today had been so good, but the words he needed weren’t there. “Oh, yeah, yeah,” he said, and then got up on his knees and began to bark at Prince Terrien. The puppy raced around him in circles, yelping with delight.

Leslie began to laugh. It egged Jess on. Everything the dog did, he imitated, flopping down at last with his tongue lolling out. Leslie was laughing so hard she had trouble getting the words out. “You – you’re crazy. How will we teach him to be a noble guardian? You’re turning him into a clown.”

“R-r-r-oof,” wailed Prince Terrien, rolling his eyes skyward. Jess and Leslie both collapsed. They were in pain from the laughter.

“Maybe,” said Leslie at last, “we’d better make him court-jester.”

“What about his name?”

“Oh, we’ll let him keep his name. Even a prince” – this in her most Terabithian voice – “even a prince may be a fool.”

That night the glow of the afternoon stayed with him. Even his sisters’ squabbling about when the presents were to be opened did not touch him. He helped May Belle wrap her wretched little gifts and even sang “Santa Claus is Coming to Town” with her and Joyce Ann. Then Joyce Ann cried because they had no fireplace and Santa wouldn’t be able to find the way, and suddenly he felt sorry for her going to Millsburg Plaza and seeing all those things and hoping that some guy in a red suit would give her all her dreams. May Belle at six was already too wise. She was just hoping for that stupid Barbie. He was glad he’d splurged on it. Joyce Ann wouldn’t care that he only had a hair clip for her. She would blame Santa, not him, for being cheap.

1. From this passage you can infer that
   A Jess has plenty of money to spend on Christmas gifts.
   B Joyce Ann will get everything she wants from Santa Claus.
   C May Belle will not get her Barbie doll.
   D Jess enjoys the Christmas celebration in Terabithia more than he enjoys the celebration at home.

2. We can guess from the context that “court-jester” (paragraph 7) means
   F a prince.
   G a clown.
   H a noble guardian.
   J a puppy.

3. The mood of Jess and Leslie’s Christmas celebration in Terabithia is
   A tense and gloomy.
   B glad and generous.
   C quiet and solemn.
   D wild and stormy.

4. The mood of the Christmas celebration at the Aarons’ house is
   F quarrelsome and sad.
   G quiet and soothing.
   H ominous and dark.
   J merry and giving.
5. Look at the T chart below. Which of the following is the best title for the T-chart?
A  “Happy Christmas in Terabithia”
B  “Greedy for Gifts”
C  “Two Different Christmas Celebrations”
D  “A Perfect Christmas”

6. Which of the following items belongs in the space marked with a Y?
F  Leslie was laughing so hard she could hardly get the words out.
G  “Then we’ll name him Prince Terrien and make him guardian of Terabithia,” Leslie declared.
H  Leslie dropped to her knees on the cold ground, picked the puppy up and held it close to her face.
J  Jess was glad that he had splurged on May Belle’s gift.

Title: ____________________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Terabithia</th>
<th>The Aarons’ House</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• He wanted to tell her how proud and good he felt.</td>
<td>• His sisters squabbled about when the presents were to be opened.</td>
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<td>• Jess began to bark at Prince Terrien.</td>
<td>• Z</td>
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<tr>
<td>• The puppy raced around him in circles and yelped with delight.</td>
<td>• Joyce Ann cried because they had no fireplace.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Y</td>
<td>• Jess felt sorry for her.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• They were in pain from laughter.</td>
<td>• She would blame Santa for being cheap.</td>
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7. Which of the following items belongs in the space marked with a Z?
A  Jess put his arm awkwardly around Joyce Ann.
B  Jess got up on his knees and began to bark at Prince Terrien.
C  Jess was glad that he had bought a hair clip for May Belle.
D  Jess helped May Belle wrap her wretched little gifts.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE
For Jess the fear of the crossing rose with the height of the creek. Leslie never seemed to hesitate, so Jess could not hang back. But even though he could force his body to follow after, his mind hung back, wanting to cling to the crab apple tree the way Joyce Ann might cling to Momma's skirt.

While they were sitting in the castle on Wednesday, it began suddenly to rain so hard that water came through the top of the shack in icy streams. Jess tried to huddle away from the worst of them, but there was no escaping the miserable invaders.

“Dost know what is in my mind, O King?” Leslie dumped the contents of one coffee can on the ground and put the can under the worst leak.

“What?”

“Me thinks some evil being has put a curse on our beloved kingdom.”

“Damn weather bureau.” In the dim light he could see Leslie’s face freeze into its most queenly pose – the kind of expression she usually reserved for vanquished enemies. She didn’t want to kid. He instantly repented his unkingly manner.

Leslie chose to ignore it. “Let us go even up into the sacred grove and inquire of the Spirits what this evil might be and how we must combat it. For of a truth I perceive that this is no ordinary rain that is falling on our kingdom.”

“Right, queen,” Jess mumbled and crawled out of the low entrance of the castle stronghold.

Under the pines even the rain lost its driving power. Without the filtered light of the sun it was almost dark, and the sound of the rain hitting the pine branches high above their heads filled the grove with a weird, tuneless music. Dread lay on Jess’s stomach like a hunk of cold, undigested doughnut.

Leslie lifted her arms and faced up toward the dark green canopy. “O Spirits of the grove,” she began solemnly. “We are come on behalf of our beloved kingdom which lies even now under the spell of some evil, unknown force. Give us, we beseech thee, wisdom to discern this evil, and power to overcome it.” She nudged Jess with her elbow.

He raised his arms. “Um. Uh.” He felt the point of her sharp elbow again. “Um. Yes. Please listen, thou Spirits.”

She seemed satisfied. At least she didn’t poke him again. She just stood there quietly as if she was listening respectfully to someone talking to her. Jess was shivering, whether from the cold or the place, he didn’t know. But he was glad when she turned to leave the grove. All he could think of was dry clothes and a cup of hot coffee and maybe just plunking down in front of the TV for a couple of hours. He was obviously not worthy to be king of Terabithia. Who ever heard of a king who was scared of tall trees and a little bit of water?

8. Which of the following best describes the mood of this passage?
   F dark and dreadful
   G bright and cheerful
   H quiet and peaceful
   J mean and spiteful

9. Jess feels ashamed because he
   A cannot build a castle that does not leak.
   B cannot talk to the Spirits in kingly language.
   C cannot shake off his fear of swinging across the swollen creek.
   D cannot control the evil, unknown force that has cast a spell on the kingdom.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE
10. Leslie has the imagination to believe that the heavy rain is
   - F caused by the Spirits of the grove.
   - G caused by the weather bureau.
   - H caused by the spell of an unknown, evil force.
   - J caused by miserable invaders.

11. Jess is glad when
   - A Leslie turns to leave the grove.
   - B the sound of rain hitting the pines fills the grove with a weird, tuneless music.
   - C he puts on dry clothes.
   - D Leslie stands quietly as if listening respectfully to someone talking to her.

12. Look at the sequence chart below. Which item belongs in the box numbered 2?
   - F She just stood there quietly as if she was listening respectfully to someone talking to her.
   - G All he could think of was dry clothes and a cup of hot coffee...
   - H Leslie dumped the contents of one can on the ground and put the can under the worst leak.
   - J He raised his arms. “Um. Uh.” He felt the point of her sharp elbow again.

Sequence Chart

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<td>Leslie lifted her arms and face up toward the dark green canopy. “O Spirits of the grove,” she began solemnly.</td>
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GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE
He thought about it all day, how before Leslie came, he had been nothing – a stupid, weird little kid who drew funny pictures and chased around a cow field trying to act big – trying to hide a whole mob of foolish little fears running riot inside his gut.

It was Leslie who had taken him from the cow pasture into Terabithia and turned him into a king. He had thought that was it. Wasn’t king the best you could be? Now it occurred to him that perhaps Terabithia was like a castle where you came to be knighted. After you stayed for a while and grew strong you had to move on. For hadn’t Leslie, even in Terabithia, tried to push back the walls of his mind and make him see beyond to the shining world – huge and terrible and beautiful and very fragile? (Handle with care – everything – even the predators.)

Now it was time for him to move out. She wasn’t there, so he must go for both of them. It was up to him to pay back to the world in beauty and caring what Leslie had loaned him in vision and strength.

As for the terrors ahead – for he did not fool himself that they were all behind him – well, you just have to stand up to your fear and not let it squeeze you white. Right, Leslie?

Right.

13. Jess realizes that the best gift that Leslie gave to him was
   A to take him out of the cow pasture to Terabithia.
   B to take him to the castle and make him a knight.
   C to push back the walls of his mind and make him see beyond to the shining world.
   D to tell him it is time to move out and know that there would be no more terrors ahead.

14. Jess learned from his experience in Terabithia that
   F all his fears were behind him.
   G running is a good way to hide his fears.
   H king was the best he could be.
   J he had to stand up to his fears.

15. “Handle with care – everything – even the predators” describes how we should
   A face fears.
   B treat the world.
   C enter Terabithia.
   D remember people who have died.