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
Another word for sincerity is
A  cheerfulness
B  sadness
C  honesty
D  trickery

1. Another word for outrage is
A  surprise
B  anger
C  delight
D  discouragement

2. Disorderly means
F  stern
G  kind
H  quick
J  messy

3. To cherish something is to
A  value it
B  get it dirty
C  change it
D  describe it

4. Hostile means
F  welcoming
G  unfriendly
H  healthy
J  disturbed

5. Another word for tenacity is
A  determination
B  hesitation
C  disappearance
D  gentleness

6. A catastrophe is
F  an achievement
G  a goal
H  a disaster
J  an obstacle

7. Another word for hilarious is
A  frightening
B  comical
C  encouraging
D  painful

8. Discarded means
F  organized
G  wrote about
H  gathered together
J  threw away

9. To be occupied is to be
A  busy
B  careful
C  furious
D  interested

10. Vigorous means
F  weak
G  artistic
H  forceful
J  unkind
DIRECTIONS
Read the excerpt 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
Mom comes, bringing the first-aid kit.
“You don’t got one of these, where’s your medical benefits, you had your tetanus shot? Somebody shoved you?” says my mother to Jolly.

In which sentence does the word shot mean the same thing as in the line above?
A The photographer wanted to get a shot of the whole family in the front yard.
B The price of concert tickets shot up after the group was featured in a national magazine.
C My grandma goes to the clinic to get a flu shot every year.
D Devon’s shot from the middle of the court went into the basket to win the game.

11. I’m passing confidence through the clothes and muscles
but her shoulder doesn’t feel like it gets it.
Maybe she conducts it right through her to the next person like electricity.

In which sentence does the word conducts mean the same thing as in the line above?
F Each year, Mr. Stafford conducts the school band at graduation.
G Metal conducts heat very well, so the pans of hot food became quite warm to touch.
H If our class conducts itself well at the museum, we can go out for ice cream afterwards.
J The usher conducts the guests of honor to the front of the theater when they arrive.

12. “Can I call her then? She has to know.”
You can corner even a big Mom like mine sometimes
When you have to have an answer in a hurry.

In which sentence does the word corner mean the same thing as in the line above?
A I was standing on the corner, waiting for the bus, when it began to rain.
B Mom always put the bills to be paid on the corner of the kitchen table.
C I had to corner my brother to get him to pay me back the money he borrowed.
D The doctor said my dad has turned a corner and should be feeling better soon.

13. …[Jolly’s] jeans were spotted wet with tears from being mad
and here’s this little messy kid who you think is a hopeless case
and she comes crawling and she plants herself among us
asking with her eyes,
What’s up?

In which sentence does the word plants mean the same thing as in the line above?
F Mom bought some flowering plants for the big pot on the front porch.
G Many people were out of work when the auto plants in our neighborhood closed last year.
H If someone plants false evidence at a crime scene, the case will be thrown out of court.
J So this great idea plants itself in my mind and I can’t rest until I check it out.

14. I thought about how I was blaming Jolly
for having Jilly when she should know better,
and then here comes Jilly on her own steam all the way across the floor
to land here like a boat nobody expected.

In which sentence does the word land mean the same thing as in the lines above?
A The bird came to land on the branch, where it found shelter from the wind and rain.
B A lot of the land around here was bought up by a big development company.
C Mr. Brody is terribly afraid of airplanes, so he always travels by land if possible.
D Missing too many homework assignments will land you in big trouble at the end of the year.
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
... I play Lego blocks with Jeremy and clean up after Jilly who is crawling everywhere now and investigates behind the toilet like an inspector.

Investigates means—
A glances quickly
B pokes around
C listens closely
D reaches goals

15. “And you’re gonna learn how to make your bed,” I tell Jeremy. He’s standing on it. “We’ll pull the blanket up from here,” I show him. He squats and pulls and we make it mostly straight together but there’s a massive ridge of wrinkle underneath.

“A ridge is—
A a fold
B a tower
C a valley
D a hole

16. And also [Jilly] gets into Jeremy’s things, she dumps his barnyard puzzle just when he’s almost put it together but looked away for a moment, she topples his blocks.

Topples means—
F picks up
G places in a circle
H knocks down
J counts

17. My Dad he comes in little tiny pieces into my mind,
Like those remnants, those samples you see
In the home ec room
Where there’s not the whole cloth.
Remnants means—
A photocopies
B full bags
C big rolls
D leftover scraps

18. [Jeremy] goes alert at the bell ringing, And I tell him he can pull the string when it’s our turn.

I hoist him on my lap to watch what’s going by.

To hoist means—
F to drag
G to lift
H to squeeze
J to dump

19. She looks at me with those eyes
And it’s like she’s a prisoner, resenting.

Resenting means—
A feeling grateful
B feeling angry
C feeling sad
D feeling foolish

20. The counselor wants to explain for her.
“Homework is a problem for Jolly Because she’s been out of school for some time, And to reestablish a schedule is a challenge for her.”

To reestablish is to—
F put back in place
G make harder
H write down
J disagree with
**DIRECTIONS**
Read each passage, then read each question about the passage. Decide which is the best answer to the question. Circle the letter for the answer you have chosen.

### SAMPLE C

**from part one**

4. This word COLLEGE is in my house, and you have to walk around it in the rooms like furniture.

Here’s the actual conversation way back when I’m in 5th grade and my Mom didn’t even have her gray hairs yet. I’m sitting on the high stool in the kitchen cutting up carrots and celery. You have to understand this vegetable work would be a big deal for a little kid which I was one then. My Mom was putting the other stew things together in the pot and I was thinking about the movie they showed in school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. The first stanza (lines 1-3) of this excerpt are an example of:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A parable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B parallel structure</td>
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<tr>
<td>C comic relief</td>
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<tr>
<td>D simile</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>2. We can infer from this description that</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F the speaker’s Mom does not take an interest in her future.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G the speaker’s Mom has taught her to take responsibility since she was young.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H the speaker and her Mom don’t talk very much about important things.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J the speaker is angry with her Mom for being so pushy all the time.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
From part one: 13.

A whole day of school I missed and my teachers will turn their shoulders hard to the chalkboard and say, Life is tough, here’s your assignments due.

My Mom was in her outrage when I called late saying I had to stay over. “Never again,” she says in her voice that at the same time pities the kids too.

Jolly didn’t know she’d be gone so long. She didn’t even call. She should call while she still has a phone. She keeps not paying the bill, she won’t have one. But she paid me. Jilly held tight, pulling my hair around her face, and her fists were like wrenches fastened on.

I unclenched her and she was screaming but I don’t think Jeremy even noticed I was leaving, he was at the lemon pot.

Jolly didn’t look so good. I didn’t ask. I was curious but I didn’t want to know.

I know I won’t end up like Jolly. But maybe she thought she knew that too.

How do I study what I missed when nobody was listening to tell me what I missed?
The social studies teacher says I could stay after but I have to go to Jolly’s then. The teacher looks at me. I can almost see a movie going on in her mind.

1. The narrator, LaVaughn, missed a day of school because
   A  she was sick.
   B  her Mom was sick.
   C  she had to watch the children when Jolly didn’t come home on time.
   D  she had to watch the children while Jolly went to get the phone turned on.

2. This text is an example of
   F  free verse
   G  comic relief
   H  parable
   J  sensory imagery

3. Which word best describes the mood or feeling of this poem?
   A  joyful
   B  anxious
   C  angry
   D  suspenseful

4. The situation described in this passage is ironic because
   F  Jolly hasn’t paid the phone bill but she did pay LaVaughn.
   G  LaVaughn’s mom is upset that she’s late, but also concerned about Jolly’s children.
   H  Jeremy didn’t notice that LaVaughn was leaving because he was watching the lemon pot.
   J  LaVaughn is earning money for college, but fears her job will bring her grades down so she can’t go to college.

5. Which of the following includes a simile?
   A  “my teachers/ will turn their shoulders hard to the chalkboard...”
   B  “Jilly held tight, pulling my hair... and her fists were like wrenches fastened on.”
   C  “but I don’t think Jeremy even noticed I was leaving/ he was at the lemon pot.”
   D  “The teacher looks at me,/ I can almost see a movie going on in her mind.”

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE
Jolly she’s holding her hands to the sides of her head the very next night like she’s keeping something from spilling out on the floor and I ask her, of course.
I’m too young to understand, she tells me. I’m a child, she tells me, this is too complicated for me. I ask her again anyway what’s with her hands up there pressing. She looks at me like it’s useless to tell me and she tells me: “You know how the astronaut up there in space he might have to go outside the rocket he’s in? Like to make repairs or something? Like they radio him up there from down in Florida, they say he’s gotta go outside and fix something?” I never heard Jolly talk about space before, so I listen hard. “Yeah,” I say. Jolly says, “Well, he’s hooked by his cord. Like a big belly-button cord. Right?” “Right,” I say, agreeing. I’m not sure but I say right anyway.

“Well, spose the hatch closes while he’s out there. By an accident.” She’s breathing in short little puffs now, like the air’s thin. “It cuts his cord. Slices it right off. He floats away.” She takes her hands down and they float out to her sides slow, like clouds drifting apart. “See? He floats out there. Just out there. You know?” Her voice is sort of floating too. “Just out there, on and on.” She breathes out for a long time.
Then she starts again, “See, even if they wanted to send somebody after him, they wouldn’t know where to look. He ain’t connected. See?” “And even if he wanted to fall down, he couldn’t. Ain’t any gravity to do it. “He’s just out there. Nobody knows where. “See how alone he is?” Jolly stands in the middle of the floor and her arms are out like floating away.

6. This excerpt includes all of the following devices except
F parallel structure
G repetition
H simile
J comic relief

7. We can infer that Jolly feels
A that she has been sent to fix something, like an astronaut in space.
B that she is cut loose and alone, like an astronaut in space.
C that LaVaughn should tell her what to do, like the radio man in Florida.
D that people are looking out for her, to make sure she doesn’t float away.

8. Which word best describes how Jolly feels about the picture she is describing to LaVaughn?
F frightened
G thrilled
H furious
J inspired

9. A good title for this selection would be
A “Jolly’s Headache”
B “Hooked by a Cord”
C “Space Explorers”
D “Just Out There Alone”
From part three: 49.

... I’m leaving, this place is too hot for me and I’m sorry about the question I asked Jolly that was none of my business and my legs are shaking but I’m going anyway and I bend down and scoop up my book fast and then I do what I wasn’t going to: I turn my head and I look back. On the floor in front of Jolly’s foot is a headless doll without clothes on, its arm all twisted in a direction no person could ever reach and beside her leg is her head with happy plastic eyes staring dead at the ceiling.

I look at Jolly leaning on the wall and her face is standing there with those regretful eyes and I’m just going to straighten that doll’s arm so I won’t have to remember it every time I think of Jolly, I’m just going to walk over and move the arm to normal and I go to squat down at the bent doll and Jolly’s legs are standing in front of me and my arms do the thinking before I have time to check with them, I’m hugging Jolly’s legs with both arms and I’m telling her a lie, I’m saying, “It’ll be okay, Jolly. It’ll be okay, Jolly. It’ll be okay.”

She slides down the wall and now there are knees everywhere and she’s gasping and I’m locked in, looking in her face, my math book is up against her leg, and she begs, kind of soft, knocking my shoulder with just a touch of her fist, “Tell the time about your mother and the Vaseline, come on. Tell about that time.”

She looks like a promise, like she can just begin living all over again from this minute and everything will be fine. “Come on, tell about that time,” she says.

I shrug my shoulders and I start slow. I tell her again the story she already knew about my mother and her three friends how they put Vaseline on their eyebrows, their moms and my Mom’s aunts wouldn’t let them wear makeup but Vaseline would make their eyebrows shine. (Who wants shiny eyebrows? Jolly and me used to ask when I told it before.)

And then about the four boys they knew that took them to the drag races and they were sposed to sit on top of the Chevy parked by the track and watch the race and the dust came like ocean waves with every time the cars came around the laps, and my mother and her three friends looked like they had beards growing on their foreheads, layers of dust piled on like frosting stuck to the Vaseline and the boys laughed so hard with shock they never took those girls anywhere ever again, not even to a movie.

10. At the beginning of this selection, we can infer that the speaker, La Vaughn, is leaving because
   F she has finished her work for the day.
   G she and Jolly have had an argument.
   H she has to run an errand for Jolly.
   J she has to study for a test.

11. La Vaughn is surprised at herself when she
   A bends to pick up her books.
   B turns to look back at Jolly.
   C suddenly hugs Jolly’s legs with both arms.
   D Both B and C
12. This selection includes several sensory images. Which of the following senses is not addressed?
F  sight
G  sound
H  taste
J  touch

13. Which of the following terms does not accurately describe the last stanza (beginning with the line “I shrug my shoulders and I start slow”)?
A  story-within-a-story
B  comic relief
C  complication
D  free verse

14. Jolly probably asks LaVaughn to tell the story about her Mom because
F  she never heard it before.
G  she wants something to take her mind off all her problems.
H  she wants to know how to have shiny eyebrows.
J  she thinks it would be a good story to tell the children at bedtime

15. We can conclude from this passage that
A  LaVaughn and Jolly’s friendship is stronger than the differences between them.
B  LaVaughn and Jolly are much smarter than LaVaughn’s mom and her friends.
C  Jolly can just begin her life over again from this moment and everything will be fine.
D  LaVaughn does not take Jolly and her problems seriously enough.