

As the child's mind was growing into knowledge, his mind was growing into memory: as her life
55 unfolded, his soul, long stupefied in a cold narrow prison, was unfolding too, and trembling gradually into full consciousness.

It was an influence which must gather force with every new year: the tones that stirred Silas' heart
60 grew articulate, and called for more distinct answers; shapes and sounds grew clearer for Eppie's eyes and ears, and there was more that "Dad-dad" was imperatively required to notice and account for. Also, by the time Eppie was three years old, she
65 developed a fine capacity for mischief, and for devising ingenious ways of being troublesome, which found much exercise, not only for Silas' patience, but for his watchfulness and penetration. Sorely was poor Silas puzzled on such occasions by the incompatible
70 demands of love.

1

Which choice best describes a major theme of the passage?

- A) The corrupting influence of a materialistic society
- B) The moral purity of young children
- C) The bittersweet brevity of childhood naïveté
- D) The restorative power of parental love

2

As compared with Silas's gold, Eppie is portrayed as having more

- A) vitality.
- B) durability.
- C) protection.
- D) self-sufficiency.

3

Which statement best describes a technique the narrator uses to represent Silas's character before he adopted Eppie?

- A) The narrator emphasizes Silas's former obsession with wealth by depicting his gold as requiring certain behaviors on his part.
- B) The narrator underscores Silas's former greed by describing his gold as seeming to reproduce on its own.
- C) The narrator hints at Silas's former antisocial attitude by contrasting his present behavior toward his neighbors with his past behavior toward them.
- D) The narrator demonstrates Silas's former lack of self-awareness by implying that he is unable to recall life before Eppie.

4

The narrator uses the phrase "making trial of everything" (line 7) to present Eppie as

- A) friendly.
- B) curious.
- C) disobedient.
- D) judgmental.

5

According to the narrator, one consequence of Silas adopting Eppie is that he

- A) has renounced all desire for money.
- B) better understands his place in nature.
- C) seems more accepting of help from others.
- D) looks forward to a different kind of future.

6

Which choice provides the best evidence for the answer to the previous question?

- A) Lines 9-11 (“The gold . . . itself”)
- B) Lines 11-16 (“but Eppie . . . years”)
- C) Lines 41-43 (“Then . . . stillness”)
- D) Lines 61-63 (“shapes . . . for”)

7

What function does the second paragraph (lines 30-52) serve in the passage as a whole?

- A) It presents the particular moment at which Silas realized that Eppie was changing him.
- B) It highlights Silas’s love for Eppie by depicting the sacrifices that he makes for her.
- C) It illustrates the effect that Eppie has on Silas by describing the interaction between them.
- D) It reveals a significant alteration in the relationship between Silas and Eppie.

8

In describing the relationship between Eppie and Silas, the narrator draws a connection between Eppie’s

- A) physical vulnerability and Silas’s emotional fragility.
- B) expanding awareness and Silas’s increasing engagement with life.
- C) boundless energy and Silas’s insatiable desire for wealth.
- D) physical growth and Silas’s painful perception of his own mortality.

9

Which choice provides the best evidence for the answer to the previous question?

- A) Lines 1-9 (“Unlike . . . her”)
- B) Lines 30-41 (“And when . . . flowers”)
- C) Lines 46-48 (“Sitting . . . again”)
- D) Lines 53-57 (“As the . . . consciousness”)

10

As used in line 65, “fine” most nearly means

- A) acceptable.
- B) delicate.
- C) ornate.
- D) keen.