

## Quick Check

## A Place for Wild Things

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:** Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

1. Why is Alejandro's mother hesitant about selling the estancia?
  - Ⓐ She wanted to maintain it in the gaucho tradition and keep it in the family.
  - Ⓑ She wanted to wait until a more profitable offer came through.
  - Ⓒ She wasn't sure which city she and Alejandro should move to.
  - Ⓓ She was hoping to sell it to Martín after he saved enough money to buy it.
2. What is Alejandro's main problem in the story?
  - Ⓐ He must convince his mother to move to the city to follow his dreams.
  - Ⓑ He must learn the ways of the gaucho before he heads back to school.
  - Ⓒ He must come up with a solution to save the estancia from being sold.
  - Ⓓ He must learn to get along without his father, who died two years before.
3. How does Alejandro's mother, Melissa, feel about the idea of selling the estancia?
  - Ⓐ conflicted
  - Ⓑ supportive
  - Ⓒ neutral
  - Ⓓ excited

*Quick Check continued on following page*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

4. Which word best describes Alejandro?
  - Ⓐ destructive
  - Ⓑ funny
  - Ⓒ impulsive
  - Ⓓ caring
5. What is a **gaucho**?
  - Ⓐ a mammal from South America with a long neck and soft brown fur
  - Ⓑ a South American plant with six-petaled flowers
  - Ⓒ a cowboy of the South American grassy plains
  - Ⓓ a field with grass and other low plants on which animals graze
6. Which of the following is established during the introduction of the story?
  - Ⓐ Alejandro saddled horses, herded sheep, fixed fences, and hauled feed.
  - Ⓑ Señora Ortega received an offer.
  - Ⓒ Mr. Somerset was due to return.
  - Ⓓ Martín set an animal free that was caught in a fence.
7. What would be the benefit of not having fences on the estancia?
  - Ⓐ There would be fewer predators trying to get into the estancia.
  - Ⓑ There would be more wildlife to catch and sell.
  - Ⓒ There would be more land for the animals to graze on.
  - Ⓓ There would be fewer pumas since the sheep would scare them away.

*Quick Check continued on following page*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

8. What conclusion does Alejandro draw after his encounter with the puma?
  - Ⓐ They must tear down the fences of the estancia.
  - Ⓑ They must buy more sheep to increase their flock.
  - Ⓒ They must scare off the pumas so the sheep can roam free.
  - Ⓓ They must move to the city and start a new life.
9. Which of the following is part of the rising action of the story?
  - Ⓐ Alejandro races back to the estancia to tell his mother his new idea to save the estancia.
  - Ⓑ Martín asks Alejandro to save a sheep that has wandered away outside of the fence.
  - Ⓒ Alejandro discovers that his mother has been offered money sell the estancia.
  - Ⓓ Alejandro watches Martín save a guanaco that has been trapped in the fence.
10. Which of the following means *the process by which land that once was able to produce a lot of vegetation becomes a desert*?
  - Ⓐ acidification
  - Ⓑ oversimplification
  - Ⓒ disqualification
  - Ⓓ desertification
11. **Extended Response:** Write what will happen next after Alejandro races back to the estancia to tell his mother and Martín his idea.
12. **Extended Response:** What lesson from this story can readers apply to their own life?

## Quick Check Answer Sheet

## A Place for Wild Things

*Main Comprehension Skill: Analyze Plot*

1. Ⓐ *Cause and Effect*
2. Ⓒ *Problem and Solution*
3. Ⓐ *Analyze Character*
4. Ⓓ *Analyze Character*
5. Ⓒ *Vocabulary*
6. Ⓑ *Analyze Plot*
7. Ⓒ *Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions*
8. Ⓐ *Sequence Events*
9. Ⓒ *Analyze Plot*
10. Ⓓ *Vocabulary*
11. Answers will vary but should include what the student thinks will happen next in the story on the basis of where the story leaves off.
12. Answers will vary but should include a valid lesson from the story using evidence from the text as support.