

Name _____ Date _____

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

1. What is the contest within the contest to catch the biggest catfish?
 - Ⓐ the boy against his grandfather
 - Ⓑ the boy against his best friend
 - Ⓒ the grandfather against the mayor
 - Ⓓ none of the above
2. What is the boy's secret plan?
 - Ⓐ to use the plumpest grubs as bait
 - Ⓑ to try to catch the smallest fish
 - Ⓒ to start later than everyone else
 - Ⓓ to give the prize to his grandfather
3. What does the expression "I didn't have two nickels to rub together" mean?
 - Ⓐ He didn't have two nickels.
 - Ⓑ He didn't have any money.
 - Ⓒ He needed two nickels.
 - Ⓓ He was polishing coins.
4. Why is the staircase out by Syrup Creek?
 - Ⓐ It is what is left of a house.
 - Ⓑ Someone has moved it there.
 - Ⓒ It is a mystery in town.
 - Ⓓ All of the above
5. Why does the boy think things didn't end too badly even though he hadn't won?
 - Ⓐ He isn't late to school anymore, and he won't have to give away his prize.
 - Ⓑ He is glad to have the contest over and to be able to use the new pole.
 - Ⓒ His grandpa gets the prize, and he is proud that he's caught the biggest fish.
 - Ⓓ He knows he could try again next year and that he'd be able to win.

Quick Check continued on following page

Name _____ Date _____

6. What does **enchanted** mean in the sentence, "He was **enchanted** by the competition himself?"
 - Ⓐ to have a magic spell
 - Ⓑ to be delighted
 - Ⓒ to want something badly
 - Ⓓ to be proud of something
7. Why was the boy late to school so often?
 - Ⓐ He woke up late.
 - Ⓑ He had been fishing.
 - Ⓒ He had stared at the pole.
 - Ⓓ He played games on the way.
8. What problem does the boy have on the morning of the catfish contest?
 - Ⓐ He uses a cane pole to catch the catfish.
 - Ⓑ His fish is way too small to win the catfish contest.
 - Ⓒ He is ten minutes late because Grandpa didn't wake him up.
 - Ⓓ He uses a barbless hook to catch the big catfish.
9. What problem did the boy have in getting to school on time?
 - Ⓐ He was home making and eating breakfast.
 - Ⓑ He stopped and stared at the contest prize.
 - Ⓒ He didn't hear his alarm clock to get up.
 - Ⓓ He couldn't find his lunch money.
10. Why does the boy say he feels "all grown up" at the end of the story?
 - Ⓐ He has grown taller this summer.
 - Ⓑ He has gone fishing all by himself.
 - Ⓒ He has gotten praise from all the men.
 - Ⓓ He knows his granddaddy got what he'd wanted.

Quick Check continued on following page

Name _____ Date _____

11. Extended Response: Give two describing words (adjectives) to describe the boy, and support each with an event from the story.

12. Extended Response: How does the boy handle the problem of “getting off to a really bad start” for the fishing contest?

Quick Check Answer Sheet

Fishing in Simplicity

Main Comprehension Skill: Problem and Solution

1. Ⓐ Main Idea and Details
2. Ⓓ Main Idea and Details
3. Ⓑ Vocabulary
4. Ⓐ Cause and Effect
5. Ⓒ Cause and Effect
6. Ⓑ Vocabulary
7. Ⓒ Cause and Effect
8. Ⓒ Problem and Solution
9. Ⓑ Problem and Solution
10. Ⓒ Cause and Effect
11. Answers will vary but could include: *thoughtful because he was going to give the prize to his granddaddy; determined because he didn't quit while fishing; a daydreamer since he was late to school because he was dreaming about the prize; competitive because he wanted to win the contest and the contest within the contest.*
12. Answers will vary. Sample: *The boy didn't give up. He stuck to his plan and fished from the top step of the flooded Deucane place.*