

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

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

1. Why do you think Hannah Eve Smith chooses Word Smith to help her?
  - Ⓐ He is a famous Private I specializing in cases that have to do with parts of speech.
  - Ⓑ He doesn't charge very much money for his services.
  - Ⓒ He is the first name she sees in the phone book.
  - Ⓓ He is cute.
2. How are Hannah and Word Smith alike?
  - Ⓐ They both are detectives.
  - Ⓑ They both like wordplay.
  - Ⓒ They live on the same street.
  - Ⓓ They both like alphabet soup.
3. Why is Word Smith nervous when Hannah first introduces herself?
  - Ⓐ He thinks she is going to rob him.
  - Ⓑ He knows she has a lot of money.
  - Ⓒ He thinks she might arrest him for incorrect punctuation.
  - Ⓓ He doesn't want her to find out who he is.
4. Which of the following is an example that shows the author is writing to entertain readers?
  - Ⓐ A palindrome is a word that reads the same forward or backward.
  - Ⓑ Imagine a world where people put *i* before *e* even after *c*—there would be chaos!
  - Ⓒ Terrible jokes with rhyming punch lines are called *Hinky Pinkys*.
  - Ⓓ Both A and B

*Quick Check continued on following page*

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5. What is a **pun**?
  - Ⓐ a play on words
  - Ⓑ a letter that is not a vowel
  - Ⓒ a special party or event
  - Ⓓ a comparison of two things that are not alike
6. Why does Word Smith think Otto has been put into a trance?
  - Ⓐ He is telling puns and Hinky Pinkys.
  - Ⓑ He is just standing there and staring at the wall.
  - Ⓒ He is mumbling the same thing over and over.
  - Ⓓ All of the above
7. How does Word Smith win the ultimate riddle contest?
  - Ⓐ He defines what a spoonerism is.
  - Ⓑ He completes the riddle crossword puzzle first.
  - Ⓒ He answers the riddle about three of these that make a right.
  - Ⓓ He is able to tell what it means when someone says, "Makes like a tree and leaves."
8. How does Word Smith feel when Otto wakes up from his trance and says, "Now if you'll excuse me, I have a job to do"?
  - Ⓐ relieved
  - Ⓑ worried
  - Ⓒ frustrated
  - Ⓓ angry
9. What is a **simile**?
  - Ⓐ a play on words
  - Ⓑ something very important
  - Ⓒ a comparison of two things using *like* or *as*
  - Ⓓ a word spelled the same way forwards and backwards
10. Read this sentence: *An anagram is a word or phrase made by reordering the letters of another word or phrase.* What is the author's purpose?
  - Ⓐ to persuade
  - Ⓑ to inform
  - Ⓒ to entertain
  - Ⓓ both A and C

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**11. Extended Response:** How did the PUNisher and Word Smith feel about each other throughout the book?

**12. Extended Response:** Why do you think the author wrote this book?

## Quick Check Answer Sheet

## Word Smith, Private I

Main Comprehension Skill: Author's Purpose

1. Ⓐ *Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions*
2. Ⓑ *Compare and Contrast*
3. Ⓑ *Analyze Character*
4. Ⓑ *Author's Purpose*
5. Ⓐ *Vocabulary*
6. Ⓐ *Cause and Effect*
7. Ⓒ *Cause and Effect*
8. Ⓐ *Analyze Character*
9. Ⓒ *Vocabulary*
10. Ⓑ *Author's Purpose*
11. Answers will vary somewhat but should include the following ideas: *they were enemies because the PUNisher had left the grammar patrol and was now doing things that were against the rules, while Word Smith was still trying to enforce grammar correctly and work within the law.*
12. Answers will vary somewhat but would likely include the following ideas: *the author enjoys wordplay and classic detective stories and wants to share this information with young readers in an entertaining way.*