

Quick Check

The House in the Desert

Name _____ Date _____

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

1. What is the point of view in this story?
 - Ⓐ first person, with Odie as narrator
 - Ⓑ third person limited
 - Ⓒ first person, with Qynn as narrator
 - Ⓓ third person omniscient
2. What character traits best describe Qynn?
 - Ⓐ She is smart, resourceful, and brave.
 - Ⓑ She is slow, mean, and helpless.
 - Ⓒ She is kind, weak, and easily distracted.
 - Ⓓ She is angry, worried, and useless.
3. Which of the following words means *a person with no home who travels all the time and has little money*?
 - Ⓐ miscreant
 - Ⓑ benign
 - Ⓒ vagabond
 - Ⓓ desolation
4. Which event causes Qynn to look out the window?
 - Ⓐ There is a knock at the door.
 - Ⓑ Odie's snores wake her.
 - Ⓒ Odie whines to get out of the house.
 - Ⓓ Something moves and makes a noise outside.
5. Which of the following details suggests that Uncle Jasper lives in the house?
 - Ⓐ He likes the desert and the creature calls his name.
 - Ⓑ The house is cared for and his name is on the door.
 - Ⓒ His name is on the blanket and there is food in the house.
 - Ⓓ He asks Qynn to come to the house.

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| <p>6. What causes the creature to think Qynn is a thief?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ She stole his water. Ⓑ She took his keys. Ⓒ She is inside a house that does not belong to her. Ⓓ She let the dog inside after he told her not to. <p>7. Why does Qynn not mind the dog's awful breath?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ She is so happy to see a familiar face. Ⓑ She is hot, and the kisses cool her off. Ⓒ She thinks the dog can explain what is happening to her. Ⓓ She knows that Odie will save them all from the octopus creatures. | <p>8. Which event is the climax of the story?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ A creature tries to get into the house and reaches a tentacle under the door. Ⓑ Qynn gets to the house and finds Odie. Ⓒ Qynn wanders through the dry desert, with no idea where she is or where she is going. Ⓓ The creature calls Qynn a miscreant and a burglar. <p>9. What do Qynn and the octopus creature have in common?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ They are both trying to figure out where they are. Ⓑ They are both waiting for Uncle Jasper to arrive. Ⓒ They are both afraid of the other octopus creatures. Ⓓ They are both angry at Odie for breaking in to the house. |
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10. Which of the following words means *shining brightly*?

- Ⓐ meander
- Ⓑ sensibilities
- Ⓒ benign
- Ⓓ radiant

11. **Extended Response:** Write a paragraph describing what Qynn thinks about while she is walking through the desert, and why you think the author included this scene.

12. **Extended Response:** The author describes three distinct settings for the story. Describe each setting and explain how each one affects the plot of the story.

Quick Check Answer Sheet

The House in the Desert

Main Comprehension Skill: Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions

1. Ⓒ Identify Character Point of View
2. Ⓐ Analyze Character
3. Ⓒ Vocabulary
4. Ⓓ Sequence Events
5. Ⓐ Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions
6. Ⓒ Cause and Effect
7. Ⓐ Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions
8. Ⓐ Analyze Plot
9. Ⓒ Compare and Contrast
10. Ⓓ Vocabulary
11. Answers will vary. Sample answer: *While Qynn walks through the desert, she thinks about her trip to Death Valley, which reminds her of Uncle Jasper and how he loved deserts. She remembers a book he gave her. I think the author included this scene because it reminds the reader about Uncle Jasper, who we know is connected to the mystery surrounding Qynn, and who is mentioned later on in this part. It also introduces the small notebook, which could be an important object later on in the story.*
12. Answers will vary but should include that there was first a forest, then a desert, and finally a house. Answers will describe each setting with details from the text. Answers will conclude with an explanation of the setting's impact on the plot. For example, the forest seems to guide Qynn to the desert, the desert gives her plenty of time to think about her situation and make connections to her Uncle Jasper, all while building suspense, and the house increases the suspense while allowing Qynn to meet a new character and encounter the climax of this part of the story.