

Name _____ Date _____

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

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>1. What is Rat's main problem in the story?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ He is trying to escape the river area, but he can't find a way to leave. Ⓑ The birds are supposed to go on a picnic with him, but they are flying south instead. Ⓒ He is upset at all the migrating animals and yet feels the pull of the season himself. Ⓓ The Sea Rat wants to take Rat's home and is trying to scare the him off. <p>2. How is Rat affected by his conversation with the swallows?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ He thinks he needs to talk with Mole about everything. Ⓑ He is upset and doesn't want to speak to the Sea Rat. Ⓒ He heads home disappointed with the other animals. Ⓓ He feels the need to travel south stirring in his heart. | <p>3. Which word means <i>a feeling of hatred or disgust</i>?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ contempt Ⓑ panorama Ⓒ querulous Ⓓ tawny <p>4. Which event happens first in this part of the story?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ The Sea Rat appears. Ⓑ Rat talks to the swallows. Ⓒ Rat talks to the field mice. Ⓓ Sigurd, the King of Norway, appears. <p>5. What evidence from the story supports the conclusion that the Sea Rat is a confident character?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ He thinks that other animals are better than he is. Ⓑ He is satisfied with and enthusiastic about his life. Ⓒ He wishes he were doing something else with his life. Ⓓ He is shy and nervous when he meets Rat. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Quick Check continued on following page

Name _____ Date _____

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>6. Which line from the story describes how the change of seasons from summer to fall affects Rat?</p> <p>Ⓐ <i>"O, bother starts," said the Rat. "It's a splendid day."</i></p> <p>Ⓑ <i>It was difficult to settle down to anything seriously, with all this flitting going on.</i></p> <p>Ⓒ <i>The Rat was a self-sufficing sort of animal, rooted to the land . . .</i></p> <p>Ⓓ <i>Footsteps fell on his ear, and the figure of one that walked somewhat wearily came into view . . .</i></p> <p>7. In what way is Rat different from the other characters in this part of the story?</p> <p>Ⓐ He cannot fly away.</p> <p>Ⓑ He stays home all year.</p> <p>Ⓒ He is wiser than the other animals.</p> <p>Ⓓ He does not react to the change of seasons.</p> | <p>8. Which of the following words is a synonym for <i>wings</i>?</p> <p>Ⓐ mariners</p> <p>Ⓑ pinions</p> <p>Ⓒ premonitions</p> <p>Ⓓ wayfarers</p> <p>9. When is this story set?</p> <p>Ⓐ the middle of winter</p> <p>Ⓑ the beginning of spring</p> <p>Ⓒ the end of summer</p> <p>Ⓓ the middle of fall</p> <p>10. Which of the following details from the text expresses an opinion?</p> <p>Ⓐ <i>You know it isn't time to be thinking of winter quarters yet, by a long way!</i></p> <p>Ⓑ <i>Restlessly the Rat wandered off once more . . .</i></p> <p>Ⓒ <i>He returned somewhat despondently to his river again . . .</i></p> <p>Ⓓ <i>In the osiers which fringed the bank, he spied a swallow sitting.</i></p> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Quick Check continued on following page

Name _____ Date _____

-
- 11. Extended Response:** Write a paragraph that explains why the plot is structured so that Rat interacts with other animals before meeting the Sea Rat.
- 12. Extended Response:** Describe in a paragraph how the end of the text shows a significant change in Rat. Then, considering this change, write a prediction of what you think Rat will do next.

1. Ⓒ *Problem and Solution*
2. Ⓓ *Cause and Effect*
3. Ⓐ *Vocabulary*
4. Ⓒ *Sequence Events*
5. Ⓑ *Analyze Character*
6. Ⓑ *Analyze Setting*
7. Ⓑ *Compare and Contrast*
8. Ⓑ *Vocabulary*
9. Ⓒ *Story Elements: Identify Setting*
10. Ⓐ *Fact or Opinion*
11. Answers will vary. Sample response:
The plot of this part of the story brings Rat into contact with several groups of animals traveling to other areas before cold weather comes. He meets the mice, and argues with them about leaving, but is upset when they go. Then he speaks with the swallows, and is still impatient, but he listens more closely. These conversations force Rat to think about the benefits of traveling south for the winter, and increase his own restlessness and desire for travel, which he has been trying to ignore. When he finally meets the Sea Rat, a true wanderer that never settles, Rat has been prepared to eagerly listen and maybe sees the Sea Rat as a sign of what he should do.
12. Answers will vary. Sample response: *In the last paragraph, Rat tells the Sea Rat that today his life feels "narrow and circumscribed." But earlier in the story, Rat thinks his life is great and the others just don't understand how nice it is by the river all year. So Rat seems to be changing his mind about how he chooses to live. Answers will conclude with the student's predictions about Rat's next actions, reflecting some impact from the change indicated at the end of the story.*