

## Quick Check

## By Hook or by Crook

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

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

1. Which word best describes Ruth?
  - Ⓐ sneaky
  - Ⓑ weak
  - Ⓒ entertaining
  - Ⓓ determined
2. What is Ruth's problem at the beginning of the story?
  - Ⓐ A man in Nevada chased her off his ranch with a shotgun.
  - Ⓑ Mr. and Mrs. Werner want to adopt Charlie.
  - Ⓒ She must get herself and her brother to California.
  - Ⓓ Her mother and father get into a fight.
3. Who is telling this story?
  - Ⓐ Ruth
  - Ⓑ Charlie
  - Ⓒ Mrs. Werner
  - Ⓓ a narrator
4. What does Ruth mean when she says, "By hook or by crook, we have got to get to California!"?
  - Ⓐ Ruth and Charlie must earn money before they make it to California.
  - Ⓑ Ruth and Charlie must take their time on their journey to stay safe and secure.
  - Ⓒ Ruth and Charlie must make it to California by any means possible.
  - Ⓓ Ruth and Charlie must learn as much about potential dangers as possible as they travel on their journey.

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5. Read this sentence from the story: *He introduced himself as Joe, the first resident of Dodge City's **shantytown**.* What is a **shantytown**?
  - (A) a part of a city that is home to middle-class citizens
  - (B) a small city made up of houses and apartments
  - (C) a town built on a farm or ranch
  - (D) a town or part of a town made up of small, roughly built shacks
6. What causes Ruth's father to leave the family?
  - (A) He marries a new woman and starts a life with her in Texas.
  - (B) He heads out West to find his parents in California.
  - (C) He gets sick and needs to search for a hospital to care for him.
  - (D) He loses his job during the Depression and leaves to look for work.
7. Which phrase best describes Charlie?
  - (A) trusting of his sister
  - (B) always complaining
  - (C) never wanting to work
  - (D) confident of his future
8. What clue from the story suggests that Ruth and Charlie will be happy living with their grandparents?
  - (A) The markings on their grandparents' fence reveal kind messages about their grandparents.
  - (B) Charlie finds a letter about their grandparents in their mom's possessions.
  - (C) Mr. and Mrs. Werner remind them of their grandparents.
  - (D) Ruth remembers how her grandparents treated them a long time ago.
9. What is the genre of this story?
  - (A) folktale
  - (B) historical fiction
  - (C) mystery
  - (D) science fiction

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10. In this story, Ruth and Charlie **traverse** the country. What does **traverse** mean?

- Ⓐ to secretly bring something out of a place
- Ⓑ to put away or store something
- Ⓒ to move through or across an area
- Ⓓ to run away or leave in a hurry

11. **Extended Response:** What were hobo hieroglyphics and why were they helpful during the Great Depression?

12. **Extended Response:** What effect do the settings in this story have on the events and characters?

## Quick Check Answer Sheet

## By Hook or by Crook

Main Comprehension Skill: Analyze Character

1. Ⓓ Analyze Character
2. Ⓒ Problem and Solution
3. Ⓓ Character Point of View
4. Ⓒ Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions
5. Ⓓ Vocabulary
6. Ⓓ Cause and Effect
7. Ⓐ Analyze Character
8. Ⓐ Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions
9. Ⓑ Identify Genre
10. Ⓒ Vocabulary
11. Answers will vary but should include the following: *Hobo hieroglyphics were a way for hobos to communicate with each other during a difficult time in American history. Since hobos were constantly on the move, one hobo could communicate information or warnings to another through the hieroglyphics.*
12. Answers will vary but should analyze how the setting affects the characters and plot. For example, answers can examine how the Great Depression brings great sadness and change for both Ruth and Charlie, how it forces them to go on their journey, how their time in the shantytowns teaches them important clues for survival, how their time at the Werner's farm pushes them to continue on their journey, and so on.