Quick Check The Black Stones

Name ______ Date _____

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

- 1. Why did Mrs. Yates want Tala to give Paco one of the stones?
 - A She thought Tala had too many stones.
 - B She wanted Paco to put it in his collection.
 - © She wanted Tala to understand that sharing is good.
 - ① All of the above
- 2. What was the main problem in this story?
 - A The twins couldn't decide what to search for on the Internet.
 - B The twins didn't know how to cooperate with each other.
 - ① The twins needed to be more serious about school and grades.
 - ① The twins didn't agree about what the black stones were.

- **3.** Read this sentence: The rocks Tala found were translucent. What does translucent mean?
 - A not clear but allowing some light to pass through
 - B not allowing any light to pass through
 - © speckled with mixed colors
 - ① clear like glass and sparkling
- **4.** Why didn't Tala want to show Paco the stones?
 - A She knew Paco would make her throw them back into the river.
 - B She knew Paco would want her to give them to him.
 - © She knew Paco would tell her they were ugly and worthless.
 - D She knew Paco would want to research them on the Internet.

LEVEL Z

Quick Check (continued)

The Black Stones

Name ______ Date _____

- **5.** Why did Mrs. Yates turn on the computer?
 - A She wanted the twins to have a chance to work together cooperatively.
 - B She wanted to show the children the legend of the Apache Tears.
 - © She wanted to let the children play a computer game so they wouldn't argue.
 - She wanted to find out where the stones came from.
- **6.** Which sentence best explains how Tala and Paco were different?
 - A Paco was angry and sullen, but Tala was cheerful and eager.
 - B Paco was outgoing and friendly, but Tala was quiet and shy.
 - ① Tala was athletic and graceful, but Paco was serious and studious.
 - Tala was interested in facts and science, but Paco was fascinated by beauty and magic.

7. What is a legend?

- A a story from long ago that explains something from the past
- B an experiment that people try in order to prove something
- the history of an event or object
- D someone who researches a mysterious event
- **8.** Why did Paco and Tala want their mother to have the black stones?
 - A Their mother thought the black stones were pretty and liked them very much.
 - B They wanted their mother to know they wished her good luck and happiness.
 - © They wanted their mother to keep them so they wouldn't argue about the stones.
 - ① They wanted their mother to put them in her collection and write a story about them.



Quick Check (continued)

The Black Stones

Name ______ Date _____

- **9.** How was Mrs. Yates like the Apache women in the legend?
 - (A) Mrs. Yates and the Apache women were sad because their husbands had died.
 - B Mrs. Yates and the Apache women were miserable because their children often quarreled.
 - © Mrs. Yates and the Apache women all cried tears in the ocean for their lost husbands.
 - Mrs. Yates and the Apache women were alive during the time of the story.
- **10.** Why did Tala and Paco read the "Apache Tears" poem twice?
 - (A) The wanted to memorize it.
 - B They wanted to understand it better.
 - ① They wanted to be able to follow the directions exactly.
 - ① All of the above

- 11. Extended Response: What did the author mean when she said, "Apache Tears really had brought them all good luck!"
- **12. Extended Response:** Write a short summary of the legend of the Apache Tears.

LEVEL Z

Quick Check Answer Sheet

The Black Stones

Main Comprehension Skill: Compare and Contrast

- **1.** © Story Elements
- 2. (B) Problem and Solution
- 3. A Vocabulary
- **4.** B Analyze Character
- **5.** (A) Cause and Effect
- **6.** D Compare and Contrast
- 7. A Vocabulary
- **8.** (B) Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions
- **9.** A Compare and Contrast
- **10.** (B) Cause and Effect
- 11. Answers will vary but should include finding the Apache Tears was lucky for them because the children learned how to work together and this made them all happy.
- 12. Answers will vary but should include the main points of the legend. Example: Apache warriors jumped to their deaths because they didn't want to be captured by the white men. Their women were so sad that they cried and cried, and their tears are in the black stones found in the rivers. The stones bring good luck to those who keep the stones close to them.