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QUESTION 1

Temika purchased a set of blocks for her young son. In the kit, she found three red triangles, six yellow stars, and five blue circles. Follow the directions below and determine the answer.

Remove two yellow stars and three blue circles.

Replace one star and two circles.

Remove one triangle, and replace the second star.

How many of each color and shape are left?

- A. two red triangles, four yellow stars, and two blue circles
- B. three red triangles, four yellow stars, and four blue circles
- C. two red triangles, six yellow stars, and four blue circles
- D. three red triangles, two yellow stars, and one blue circle

Correct Answer: C

QUESTION 2

Why does the author of the passage quote the first line of the novel *Native Speaker*?

Chang-Rae Lee's debut and award-winning novel *Native Speaker* is about Henry Park, a Korean-American individual who struggles to find his place as an immigrant in a suburb of New York City. This novel addresses the notion that as the individuals who know us best, our family, peers, and lovers are the individuals who direct our lives and end up defining us. Henry Park is confronted with this reality in the very beginning of the novel, which begins: "The day my wife left she gave me a list of who I was." Upon separating from his wife, Park struggles with racial and ethnic identity issues due to his loneliness. Through Park's work as an undercover operative for a private intelligence agency, the author presents the theme of espionage as metaphor for the internal divide that Park experiences as an immigrant. This dual reality creates two worlds for Park and increases his sense of uncertainty with regard to his place in society. While he constantly feels like an outsider looking in, he also feels like he belongs to neither world. Chang-Rae Lee is also a first-generation Korean American immigrant. He immigrated to America at the early age of three. Themes of identity, race, and cultural alienation pervade his works. His interests in these themes no doubt stem from his first-hand experience as a kid growing up in a Korean household while going to an American school. Lee is also author of *A Gesture Life* and *Aloft*. The protagonists are similar in that they deal with labels placed on them based on race, color, and language. Consequently, all of these characters struggle to belong in America. Lee's novels address differences within a nation's mix of race, religion, and history, and the necessity of assimilation between cultures. In his works and through his characters, Lee shows us both the difficulties and the subtleties of the immigrant experience in America. He urges us to consider the role of borders and to consider why the idea of opening up one's borders is so frightening. In an ever-changing world in which cultures are becoming more intermingled, the meaning of identity must be constantly redefined, especially when the security of belonging to a place is becoming increasingly elusive. As our world grows smaller with increasing technological advances, these themes in Lee's novels become even more pertinent.

- A. It is the main idea of the novel.
- B. To illustrate one of the themes in the novel.



- C. To show how the book is semi-autobiographical.
- D. To create interest in the novel.

Correct Answer: B

The author of this passage uses the first line of the novel to provide an example of one of the themes of the novel.

QUESTION 3

What is Sarah's primary goal in having Christmas at her parents' house?

Andrew, This year, Mom and Dad will be traveling to Hawaii for Christmas. Dylan and I hoped we could still get together at the house for the sake of maintaining tradition for our kids. If you and Susan don't mind, we'd like to arrive two days before Christmas, as always, and uphold our typical schedules. Because Mom and Dad won't be here, we'll need help making Christmas dinner and desserts, and will also need help decorating the house for Christmas. Could you bring lights and ornaments? We will be providing the tree. Finally, we need help transporting all of our presents and decorations this year. Would you mind storing some of our decorations in your car for the drive to Mom and Dad's? Let me know! -Sarah

- A. upholding family traditions
- B. spending Christmas with Andrew
- C. traveling for Christmas
- D. visiting Hawaii with her parents

Correct Answer: A

QUESTION 4

Her ability to analyze issues fairly and competently has earned her the _____ of even her most peers.

- A. solicitation; unbiased
- B. attention; sympathetic
- C. suspicion; discerning
- D. reputation; knowledgeable
- E. respect; exacting

Correct Answer: E

An ability to analyze issue and competently will not result in "solicitation" (meaning begging) or "suspicion." So, "solicitation; unbiased" and "suspicion; discerning" can first be ruled out. The use of the phrase "even her" in the second part of the sentence rules out the adjectives "sympathetic" and "knowledgeable" in "attention; sympathetic" and "reputation; knowledgeable." It is the "respect; exacting" pair which completes a meaningful sentence, and is the answer.

**QUESTION 5**

The murderous capriciousness of Nero infused the Roman Empire with such pervasive _____ that not even the most citizens felt safe.

- A. distaste; vulgar
- B. paranoia; suspicious
- C. enthusiasm; apathetic
- D. unease; oppressed
- E. panic distinguished

Correct Answer: E

The phrase "not even" implies a contrast within the sentence.

Among the choices for the second missing word, it is only "distinguished" that will bring out this contrast. Its pair word "panic" (meaning great fear), could well have been the result of Nero's murderous capriciousness. So, "panic; distinguished" is the answer.

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