**Reading Comprehension #1**

**Objective 5: Words in Context**

Directions: Read the passage, and then answer the questions below it. Circle the letter of the correct answer.

Suddenly, he felt himself whirled round and round-- spinning like a top. The water, the banks, the forest, and now distant bridge, fort and men-- all were **(1) commingled** and blurred. Objects were represented by their colors only; circular horizontal streaks of color-- that was all he saw. He had been caught in a **(2)** **vortex** and was being whirled on with a velocity of **(3) advance** and **(4) gyration** that made him **(5) giddy** and sick. In a few moments he was flung upon the gravel at the foot of the left bank of the stream-- the southern bank-- and behind a **(6) projecting** point which concealed him from his enemies.

-“An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge” by Ambrose Bierce

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| --- | --- |
| 1. In this passage, the word **commingled** means--    1. large    2. mixed    3. elevated    4. spacious 2. In this passage, the word **vortex** means—    1. trap    2. ditch    3. whirlpool    4. fight 3. The word **advance** in this passage means—    1. forward movement    2. improvement    3. increase in price    4. payment of money | 1. The word **gyration** in this passage means—    1. reflection    2. violence    3. combustion    4. revolution 2. In this passage, the word **giddy** means—    1. dizzy    2. unconscious    3. lighthearted    4. detached 3. The word **projecting** in this passage means--    1. visual    2. protruding    3. jagged    4. throwing |

**Reading Comprehension # 2**

**Objective 5: Words in Context**

Directions: Read the passage, and then answer the questions below it. Circle the letter of the correct answer.

She was young, with a fair, calm face, whose lines **(1) bespoke** repression and even a certain strength. But now there was a **(2) dull** stare in her eyes, whose gaze was fixed **(3)** **away off yonder** on one of those patches of blue sky. It was not a glance of reflection, but rather indicated a **(4) suspension** of intelligent thought.

There was something coming to her and she was waiting for it, **(5) fearfully**. What was it? She did not know; it was too subtle and **(6) elusive** to name.

-“The Story of an Hour” by Kate Chopin

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| --- | --- |
| 1. In this passage, the word **bespoke** means—    1. indicated    2. talked about    3. recovered    4. choked back 2. In this passage, the word **dull** means    1. dark    2. blank    3. dutiful    4. serene 3. In this passage, the phrase **away off yonder** means—    1. just outside the window    2. off the beaten path    3. over the hill    4. in the distance | 1. The word **suspension** in this passage means—    1. interruption    2. permanent punishment    3. release    4. completion 2. The word **fearfully** in this passage means—    1. passively    2. with confusion    3. with dread    4. willfully 3. The word **elusive** in this passage means—    1. frightening    2. quick    3. small    4. difficult to grasp |

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