Selection 4: Sing to the Stars

Now answer Numbers 1 through 10. Base your answers on the story “Sing to the Stars.”

1. How does Mr. Washington recognize Ephram?
   A. Shiloh barks when he sees Ephram.
   B. Mr. Washington hears the rhythm in Ephram’s walk.
   C. Ephram always tells Mr. Washington hello when he walks past.
   D. Ephram walks past the laundromat at the same time each day.

2. What does Grandma tell Ephram about Mr. Washington?
   F. He is blind and has a guide dog named Shiloh to help him.
   G. He owns a laundromat and lives in an apartment above it.
   H. He was a professional piano player before he was in a car accident.
   I. He organized a fundraiser to raise money for a neighborhood playground.

3. Which words from the story have almost the SAME meaning?
   A. happy, bold
   B. sweltering, sultry
   C. pulsating, broadly
   D. sprightly, determined

Go On
Selection 4: Sing to the Stars

When does Ephram decide to play at the concert?

F when Grandma tells him there is a brownout
G when Mr. Washington plays the piano for him
H when Mr. Washington tells him about the concert
I when Grandma tells him about Mr. Washington’s past

Why did Mr. Washington stop playing the piano? Use information and details from the story to support your answer.

[Blank space for student response]
Selection

Selection 4: Sing to the Stars

Name ________________________________

6 According to Mr. Washington, how is Ephram’s walk DIFFERENT on the day of the concert?

A It is faster.
B It is softer.
C It is bolder.
D It is sadder.

7 Which sentence BEST describes why Ephram is not afraid to play in the dark?

F He has Shiloh with him.
G He plays on the roof in the dark.
H He is determined to play for an audience.
I He watches Mr. Washington play without sight.

8 Read this sentence from the story.

“IT’s never too late, Balthazar Washington,” says Grandma.

Grandma says this to tell Mr. Washington that

A he can start to play the piano again.
B he should be called by his full name.
C he is not too late to hear Ephram play.
D he should not have arrived late to the concert.

9 What is Ephram’s BIGGEST problem in the story?

F his fear of playing the violin on the roof
G his fear of learning a new song on his violin
H his fear of learning to play an electric guitar
I his fear of playing the violin in front of people
In the story, both Mr. Washington and Ephram help each other. Use details and information from the story to explain how they help each other.
Now answer Numbers 1 through 10. Base your answers on the story “Sing to the Stars.”

1. How does Mr. Washington recognize Ephram?
   - A. Shiloh barks when he sees Ephram.
   - B. Mr. Washington hears the rhythm in Ephram’s walk.
   - C. Ephram always tells Mr. Washington hello when he walks past.
   - D. Ephram walks past the laundromat at the same time each day.
   (LA.4.1.7.3)

2. What does Grandma tell Ephram about Mr. Washington?
   - F. He is blind and has a guide dog named Shiloh to help him.
   - G. He owns a laundromat and lives in an apartment above it.
   - H. He was a professional piano player before he was in a car accident.
   - I. He organized a fundraiser to raise money for a neighborhood playground.
   (LA.4.2.1.2)

3. Which words from the story have almost the SAME meaning?
   - A. happy, bold
   - B. sweltering, sultry
   - C. pulsating, broadly
   - D. sprightly, determined
   (LA.4.1.6.6)
Selection 4: Sing to the Stars

Name ________________________________

4. When does Ephram decide to play at the concert?
   F. when Grandma tells him there is a brownout
   G. when Mr. Washington plays the piano for him
   H. when Mr. Washington tells him about the concert
   I. when Grandma tells him about Mr. Washington’s past

   (LA.4.2.1.6)

5. Why did Mr. Washington stop playing the piano? Use information and details from the story to support your answer.

   Sample 2-point response: Mr. Washington was in a car accident. He lost his sight, and his daughter died. He stopped playing the piano because he was so sad.

   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________

   Short-Response Rubric

   2 points  The answer shows that the student completely understands the task. The response is based on the text and is complete, correct, and provides needed examples and/or support.

   1 point  The answer shows that the student partially understands the task. The response is based on the text and mostly correct, but the information may be incomplete, too general, or lack support.

   0 points  The answer shows that the student does not understand the task. The response is inaccurate, incomplete, or irrelevant.

   (LA.4.2.1.2)
Selection 4: Sing to the Stars

Name __________________________

6 According to Mr. Washington, how is Ephram’s walk DIFFERENT on the day of the concert?
   A. It is faster.
   B. It is softer.
   C. It is bolder.
   D. It is sadder.
   (LA.4.1.7.3)

7 Which sentence BEST describes why Ephram is not afraid to play in the dark?
   F. He has Shiloh with him.
   G. He plays on the roof in the dark.
   H. He is determined to play for an audience.
   I. He watches Mr. Washington play without sight.
   (LA.4.1.7.3)

8 Read this sentence from the story.
   “It’s never too late, Balthazar Washington,” says Grandma.

Grandma says this to tell Mr. Washington that
   A. he can start to play the piano again.
   B. he should be called by his full name.
   C. he is not too late to hear Ephram play.
   D. he should not have arrived late to the concert.
   (LA.4.1.7.2)

9 What is Ephram’s BIGGEST problem in the story?
   F. his fear of playing the violin on the roof
   G. his fear of learning a new song on his violin
   H. his fear of learning to play an electric guitar
   I. his fear of playing the violin in front of people
   (LA.4.2.1.2)

Go On
In the story, both Mr. Washington and Ephram help each other. Use details and information from the story to explain how they help each other.

Sample 4-point response: Mr. Washington and Ephram help each other get over their fear of playing music. Mr. Washington no longer plays music at all. Ephram doesn't like to play in front of people. Mr. Washington helps Ephram when he tells him about the concert in the park. He asks if Ephram is interested in playing there. Ephram says he doesn't want to, and Mr. Washington tells him, "Music speaks best when someone listens."

The next morning Ephram goes to the park and sees them setting up for the concert. He sees a piano and has an idea. He tells Mr. Washington that he will play if Mr. Washington will play too. Mr. Washington isn't sure if he can. At the concert, there is a power outage. Ephram decides to play since he knows how to play in the dark. He asks Mr. Washington to join him. When Mr. Washington hesitates, Ephram says, "Music speaks best when someone listens." That convinces Mr. Washington, and they play onstage together.

Extended-Response Rubric

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>The answer shows that the student completely understands the task. The response is based on the text and is complete, correct, and provides needed examples and/or support.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>The answer shows that the student understands the task. The response is correct and based on the text, but the support and/or examples may not be complete.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>The answer shows that the student partially understands the task. The response is based on the text and mostly correct, but the information may be incomplete, too general, or lack support.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>The answer shows that the student has limited understanding of the task. The response is incomplete, lacks support, and may not answer all parts of the question.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>The answer shows that the student does not understand the task. The response is inaccurate, incomplete, or irrelevant.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(LA.4.2.1.2)