

The Cask of Amontillado

Multiple Choice

Identify the choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.

Comprehension

The questions below refer to the selection "The Cask of Amontillado."

- ___ 1. According to Montresor, he decides to seek revenge against Fortunato because Fortunato —
- a. attacked him with his fists
 - b. injured him more than a thousand times
 - c. insulted him
 - d. stole some valuable wine from him
- ___ 2. According to Montresor, revenge would not be successful if he were —
- a. punished for taking his revenge
 - b. not punished for taking his revenge
 - c. recognized by his victim
 - d. compelled to murder
- ___ 3. The story takes place in —
- a. Amontillado during Carnival time
 - b. the present right after Christmas
 - c. America during Carnival time
 - d. Italy during Carnival time
- ___ 4. Fortunato's weak point is his —
- a. habit of dressing in silly costumes
 - b. pride about his knowledge of fine wines
 - c. jealousy of Luchesi
 - d. poor sense of direction
- ___ 5. Which evidence *best* supports the claim that Montresor is insane?
- a. He wears a strange costume.
 - b. Thoughts of Fortunato's death make him smile.
 - c. He pays full price for a cask of wine.
 - d. He does not ask Luchesi to test the wine.
- ___ 6. Which of the following things does Montresor do?
- a. Explain how Fortunato has insulted him
 - b. Let Fortunato know how upset he is with him
 - c. Never let the readers know how Fortunato has insulted him
 - d. Be rude to Fortunato from the very beginning of the story
- ___ 7. Dramatic irony occurs when —
- a. the reader knows that Montresor plans revenge, but Fortunato does not know
 - b. Fortunato dresses as a jester
 - c. the narrator urges Fortunato to try the wine
 - d. the crime is committed in the crypt
- ___ 8. Montresor kills Fortunato by —
- a. walling him up
 - b. stabbing him
 - c. poisoning him
 - d. beating him to death with iron rods
- ___ 9. Based on Montresor's actions throughout the story, the reader can conclude that he is —
- a. rational and open-minded
 - b. patient and forgiving
 - c. good-natured and sociable
 - d. treacherous and unbalanced

- _____ 10. What can you conclude about Montresor’s feelings toward those who have allegedly wronged him?
- Holding grudges is a waste of time.
 - One must not let injustice dominate reason.
 - Wrongdoers must be punished, and the wrong must be avenged.
 - If the injustice is intentional, retaliation is justified.

Literary Focus

The questions below refer to the selection “The Cask of Amontillado.”

- _____ 11. An **unreliable narrator** may be described as one who —
- deliberately does not tell the whole truth
 - makes untrue statements but is always corrected by another character
 - lies throughout the story but admits the truth at the end
 - is unreliable until the story’s climax
- _____ 12. One reason why we know that Montresor is an unreliable narrator is he —
- is drunk
 - does not reveal anything about the past
 - is wealthy and snobbish
 - is feverish and unable to think clearly
- _____ 13. The narrator’s persona is clearly —
- elderly
 - sane
 - insane
 - friendly
- _____ 14. The story’s tone is *best* described as —
- immature and unaware
 - friendly and warm
 - relaxed throughout
 - mounting hysteria

Completion

Complete each statement.

Vocabulary Development

On the line before each sentence, write the Vocabulary word with the closest meaning to that of the italicized word or phrase.

impunity retribution recoiling impose precluded

15. _____ Fortunato’s drunkenness *made impossible in advance* his realization of his fate.
16. _____ The catacombs ensured Montresor’s *freedom from punishment*.
17. _____ Montresor viewed Fortunato’s death as suitable *punishment*.
18. _____ “I don’t wish to *intrude* on your time!” lied Montresor.

19.

_____ *Moving backward* as if in horror, Montresor frowned.

Short Answer

Constructed Response

The question below refers to the selection "The Cask of Amontillado."

20. In "The Cask of Amontillado," Montresor seems so intent upon revenge that readers might question his state of mind. Explain whether you think Montresor is a reliable narrator or an unreliable narrator. On the lines provided, write a paragraph that explains your answer. Support your ideas with details from the story.

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Answer Section

MULTIPLE CHOICE

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|------------|--------|---|
| 1. ANS: C | PTS: 1 | OBJ: 9.1.1 (plot) |
| 2. ANS: A | PTS: 1 | OBJ: 9.1.1 (plot) |
| 3. ANS: D | PTS: 1 | OBJ: 9.1.3 (setting and mood/atmosphere) |
| 4. ANS: B | PTS: 1 | OBJ: 9.1.4.1 (characterization) |
| 5. ANS: B | PTS: 1 | OBJ: 9.1.4.1 (characterization) |
| 6. ANS: C | PTS: 1 | OBJ: 9.1.1 (plot) |
| 7. ANS: A | PTS: 1 | OBJ: 9.1.7.9 (irony) |
| 8. ANS: A | PTS: 1 | OBJ: 9.1.1 (plot) |
| 9. ANS: D | PTS: 1 | OBJ: 9.1.1 (plot) 9.2.1.4 (drawing conclusions) |
| 10. ANS: C | PTS: 1 | OBJ: 9.2.1.4 (drawing conclusions) |
| 11. ANS: A | PTS: 1 | OBJ: 9.1.5 (point of view) |
| 12. ANS: B | PTS: 1 | OBJ: 9.1.5 (point of view) |
| 13. ANS: C | PTS: 1 | OBJ: 9.1.5 (point of view) |
| 14. ANS: D | PTS: 1 | OBJ: 9.1.7.19 (tone) |

COMPLETION

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| 15. ANS: precluded | | |
| | PTS: 1 | OBJ: 9.3.9 (literal meanings of words) |
| 16. ANS: impunity | | |
| | PTS: 1 | OBJ: 9.3.9 (literal meanings of words) |
| 17. ANS: retribution | | |
| | PTS: 1 | OBJ: 9.3.9 (literal meanings of words) |
| 18. ANS: impose | | |
| | PTS: 1 | OBJ: 9.3.9 (literal meanings of words) |
| 19. ANS: recoiling | | |
| | PTS: 1 | OBJ: 9.3.9 (literal meanings of words) |

SHORT ANSWER

20. ANS:
Students' responses will vary. A sample response follows:

At the beginning of the story, Montresor explains that Fortunato has wronged him, but he never says how or why. The narrator calmly plots Fortunato's murder, surely the act of a madman. Later, Montresor describes his reaction to Fortunato's mounting panic very matter-of-factly. His calm tone is out of place and reveals that he is insane and thus unreliable as a narrator.

PTS: 1

OBJ: 9.1.5 (point of view) | 9.2.1.7 (reading for details)