

## THE OPEN WINDOW

**Selection Test A****Comprehension**

Read each of the following questions. Then choose the letter of the best answer.

(6 points each)

1. Nuttel uses letters of introduction to
  - A. calm his nerves
  - B. meet new people
  - C. flatter young Vera
  - D. find hunting partners
2. What does Vera say is Mrs. Sappleton's "great tragedy"?
  - A. Her husband and brothers died while hunting.
  - B. Her spaniel was lost while running in a bog.
  - C. She waits for a husband who has left her.
  - D. She has gone insane from grief.
3. You can predict that Vera's story is make-believe because Mrs. Sappleton
  - A. seems distracted
  - B. apologizes once
  - C. talks cheerfully
  - D. yawns often
4. Nuttel wants to change the topic of conversation because he
  - A. wants Vera to tell another story
  - B. feels uncomfortable and nervous
  - C. is worried about his health
  - D. fears he is boring Mrs. Sappleton
5. Why does Nuttel call the day he picked to visit an "unfortunate accident"?
  - A. The men and the dog are to return that day.
  - B. His nervous condition is worse than usual.
  - C. Mrs. Sappleton is late in greeting him.
  - D. It is the third anniversary of the tragedy.
6. Mrs. Sappleton almost yawns while Nuttel is talking because she is
  - A. bored
  - B. afraid
  - C. tired
  - D. insane
7. Mrs. Sappleton becomes excited because she
  - A. wants to drink tea with her family
  - B. hears an interesting story from Vera
  - C. sees her husband and brothers coming
  - D. is concerned about Nuttel's health
8. As Nuttel quickly leaves, he
  - A. runs into three ghosts on the lawn
  - B. forgets to take his belongings with him
  - C. almost collides with a person on a bicycle
  - D. is chased by a pack of wild dogs

## SELECTION TEST A, CONTINUED

9. What does Vera do after Nuttel leaves?
- A. starts a discussion about nearby cemeteries
  - B. stares outside with a look of dazed horror
  - C. asks the men about the success of their hunt
  - D. makes up a story about why Nuttel left
10. The author uses a formal tone to tell a silly story to show that
- A. wealthy people enjoy playing jokes
  - B. people who think only of themselves can be silly
  - C. a formal tone is important to literature
  - D. playing a joke on someone is serious

**Written Response**

**Short Response** Answer the following questions based on your knowledge of the story.

Write one to two sentences on a separate sheet of paper. (10 points each)

11. Why is Nuttel upset when Mrs. Sappleton talks about her husband going hunting? Use one detail from the story in your answer.
12. How does Vera convince Nuttel that she is afraid when she sees the men return from hunting?

**Extended Response** Answer the following question based on your knowledge of the story. Write one or two paragraphs on a separate sheet of paper. (20 points)

13. How do the details in Vera's story about the hunters make the story believable? Support your answer with three examples from Vera's story.