

## 1991, AP English Literature

### MULTIPLE CHOICE

Directions: This section consists of selections from literary works and questions on their content, form, and style. After reading each passage or poem, choose the best answer to each question and fill in the corresponding oval on the answer sheet.

Note: Pay particular attention to the requirement of questions that contain the words NOT, LEAST, or EXCEPT.

Questions 1-15. Read the following passage carefully before you choose your answers.

- The mountain paths stoop to these glens in forky zigzags, leading to some grey and narrow arch, all fringed under its shuddering curve with the ferns that
- Line*  
(5) fear the light; a cross of rough-hewn pine, iron-bound to its parapet, standing dark against the lurid fury of the foam. Far up the glen, as we pause beside the cross, the sky is seen through the openings in the pines, thin with excess of light; and, in its clear, consuming flame of white space, the summits of the rocky mountains are
- (10) gathered into solemn crowns and circlets. all flushed in that strange, faint silence of possession by the sunshine which has in it so deep a melancholy; full of power, yet as frail as shadows; lifeless, like the walls of a sepulcher, yet beautiful in tender fall of crimson folds, like the veil
- (15) of some sea spirit, that lives and dies as the foam flashes; fixed on a perpetual throne, stern against all strength, lifted above all sorrow, and yet effaced and melted utterly into the air by that last sunbeam that has crossed to them from between the two golden clouds.
- (20) High above all sorrow: yes; but not unwitnessing to it. The traveler on his happy journey, as his foot springs from the deep turf and strikes the pebbles gaily over the edge of the mountain road, sees with a glance of delight the clusters of nut-brown cottages that nestle among
- (25) those sloping orchards. and glow beneath the boughs of the pines. Here it may well seem to him, if there be sometimes hardship. there must be at least innocence and peace, and fellowship of the human soul with nature. It is not so. The wild goats that leap along those
- (30) rocks have as much passion of joy in all that fair work of God as the men that toil among them. Perhaps more. Enter the street of one of those villages, and you will find it foul with that gloomy foulness that is suffered only by torpor, or by anguish of soul. Here, it is

(35) torpor-not absolute suffering-not starvation or disease, but darkness of calm enduring; the spring known only as the time of the scythe, and the autumn as the time of the sickle. and the sun only as a warmth, the wind as a chill, and the mountains as a danger. They

(40) do not understand so much as the name of beauty, or of knowledge. They understand dimly that of virtue. Love, patience, hospitality, faith-these things they know. To glean their meadows side by side, so happier; to bear the burden up the breathless mountain flank,

(45) unmunneringly; to bid the stranger drink from their vessel of milk; to see at the foot of their low deathbeds a pale figure upon a cross, dying, also, patiently; in this they are different from the cattle and from the stones, but in all this unrewarded as far as concerns the present

(50) life. For them, there is neither hope nor passion of spirit; for them neither advance nor exultation. Black bread, rude roof, dark night, laborious day, weary an at sunset; and life ebbs away. No books, no thoughts. no attainments, no rest; except only sometimes a little

(55) sitting in the sun under the church wall, as the bell tolls thin and far in the mountain air; a pattering of a few prayers, not understood. by the altar rails of the dimly-gilded chapel, and so back to the somber home, with the cloud upon them still unbroken-that cloud of

(60) rocky gloom, born out of the wild torrents and ruinous stones, and unlightened, even in their religion, except by the vague promise of some better thing unknown, mingled with threatening, and obscured by an unspeakable horror-a smoke, as it were, of martyrdom, coiling

(65) up with the incense, and, amidst the images of tortured bodies and lamenting spirits in hurtling flames, the very cross. for them, dashed more deeply than for others, with gouts of blood.

1. The speaker characterizes the life of the mountain village as
  - A) simple but rewarding
  - B) severe but patiently endured
  - C) enlightened by religion
  - D) wild as the surrounding landscape
  - E) cursed by both God and nature
  
2. In line 8, "its" refers to
  - A) "a cross" (line 4)
  - B) "the glen" (line 6)
  - C) "the sky" (line 7)
  - D) "excess" (line 8)
  - E) "space" (line 9)
  
3. The first sentence (lines 1-6) of the passage is characterized by which of the following?
  - A) Conventional metrical patterns
  - B) Understatement and economy
  - C) Romantic diction and imagery
  - D) Periodic form and balance
  - E) Sardonic mood and atmosphere

4. The succession of phrases "all flushed ... golden clouds" in lines 10-19 emphasizes the
  - A) visible and friendly features of the landscape
  - B) sinister and monstrous effects of the sun and clouds
  - C) dramatic and melancholy quality of the mountains
  - D) contrast between the impressive setting and the depressed traveler
  - E) paradox that the mountains are both remote and oppressively present
  
5. The antecedent of the word "them" (line 19) is
  - A) "pines" (line 7)
  - B) "summits of the rocky mountains" (line 9)
  - C) "shadows" (line 13)
  - D) "walls of a sepulcher" (line 13)
  - E) "crimson folds" (line 14)
  
6. The chief effect of the diction in the sentence "Enter the street ... soul" (lines 32-34) is to provide
  - A) a vivid contrast to the description of the traveler's approach to the scene (lines 21-26)
  - B) a strong emphasis on the life of grinding hardship introduced in the sentence "Here it may ... nature" (lines 26-29)
  - C) an ironic commentary on the villagers who do not possess the virtues of "Love, patience, hospitality, faith" (lines 42)
  - D) an elevated romantic atmosphere that enhances the attitude of the speaker
  - E) a sense of the despair and defeat that is inflicted on the villagers by a vengeful deity
  
7. The predominant tone of the speaker toward the villagers is one of
  - A) Mean spiritedness and vengeance
  - B) amusement and cynicism
  - C) disinterestedness and detachment
  - D) condescension and pity
  - E) enthusiasm and hope
  
8. The function of the sentence beginning "To glean their meadows" (lines 43-50) is to
  - A) provide examples of "Love, patience, hospitality, faith" (line 42)
  - B) defend the villagers' lack of "advance" and "exultation" (line 51)
  - C) contradict the preceding observations about beauty and knowledge
  - D) illustrate the villagers' appreciation for the beauty of nature
  - E) enumerate the simple joys of village life
  
9. The description "except only ... mountain air" (lines 54-56) serves to
  - A) recall the necessity of learning and action
  - B) qualify a previous generalization about the villagers' lives
  - C) emphasize the complete hopelessness of religious worship
  - D) illustrate the self-confidence and optimism of the villagers
  - E) contradict earlier statements about village life in the passage

10. The description in the last sentence (lines 53-68) is characterized by all of the following EXCEPT
- A) multiple modifiers
  - B) parallel structures
  - C) oppressive atmosphere
  - D) religious imagery
  - E) ironic wit
11. Which of the following indicates the major shift in the development of the speaker's exposition?
- A) "Here it may well seem ... with nature" (lines 26-29)
  - B) "It is not so" (line 29)
  - C) "Perhaps more" (line 31)
  - D) "They understand dimly ... virtue" (line 41)
  - E) "No books ... no rest" (lines 53-54)
12. In the passage, the cross functions as
- A) a symbol of the villagers' plight
  - B) an image of the charm of the village
  - C) an emblem of the mountain's influence
  - D) a comparison of work with leisure
  - E) a metaphor for the traveler's weariness
13. Which of the following is the most logical deduction from the speaker's assertions?
- A) Traveling shatters an individual's illusions about ideal communities.
  - B) Mountain scenes are usually very charming.
  - C) Labor alone is not sufficient for a full life.
  - D) Animals enjoy more freedom than do human beings.
  - E) Happiness is fleeting, disappointing, and deceptive.
14. Which of the following are the most prominent images in the passage?
- A) Darkness, light, and the cross
  - B) Fellowship, prayer, and rebirth
  - C) Silence, nature, and music
  - D) Sowing, reaping, and animal husbandry
  - E) Movement, growth, and the rocky mountains
15. The central rhetorical strategy of the passage is to
- A) allow readers to form individual judgments
  - B) undercut the speaker's statements with irony
  - C) imitate the language of the villagers
  - D) begin and end on a note of uncertainty
  - E) contrast the setting and its inhabitants