

The Marble Champ

Directions: For items 1–18, fill in the circle in front of the correct answer. For items 19–20, write the answer.

Vocabulary

- Lucy _____ through the piles of books in hopes of finding one she hadn't read.
 (A) fumed
 (B) flexed
 (C) reluctantly
 (D) rummaged
- I admitted our error _____, only after I realized I had no other choice.
 (A) exhaustion
 (B) instinct
 (C) reluctantly
 (D) fumed
- The golfer _____ her arms before she teed off.
 (A) flexed
 (B) instinct
 (C) rummaged
 (D) fumed
- Maria _____ when she had to do her assignment again because she lost her homework.
 (A) rummaged
 (B) exhaustion
 (C) fumed
 (D) reluctantly
- After the puppy had chased the ball, it collapsed on the floor from _____.
 (A) flexed
 (B) rummaged
 (C) exhaustion
 (D) fumed
- Animals have a natural _____ that warns them when danger is near.
 (A) exhaustion
 (B) flexed
 (C) reluctantly
 (D) instinct

Comprehension

7. This selection can be described as a short story because of all the following reasons **except** that the story _____ .
- Ⓐ has a problem and solves it
 - Ⓑ has a theme and creates a mood
 - Ⓒ does not depend on illustrations
 - Ⓓ contains images and is like a poem
8. Why isn't Lupe Medrano good at sports?
- Ⓐ People can't be smart and good in sports.
 - Ⓑ She doesn't have good coordination.
 - Ⓒ She is a shy person.
 - Ⓓ She has a razor-sharp mind.
9. Why does Lupe want to be good at a sport?
- Ⓐ She likes to win awards but has no sports awards.
 - Ⓑ She doesn't like being smart.
 - Ⓒ She wants more trophies than anyone else.
 - Ⓓ She doesn't like playing sports.
10. Why does Lupe pick marbles for her sport?
- Ⓐ She can play with her brother's marbles.
 - Ⓑ No one else plays marbles.
 - Ⓒ She learns to aim a marble accurately.
 - Ⓓ It is the easiest sport.
11. How does Lupe's brother show that he is a good sport?
- Ⓐ by letting her beat him
 - Ⓑ by giving her tips on how to shoot
 - Ⓒ by showing her how to beat Alfonso
 - Ⓓ by letting her have his marbles

12. Alfonso says, "Man, she's bad! She can beat the other girls. . . ." He means that Lupe is _____ .

- (A) not a nice person
- (B) a very good marble player
- (C) not as good as her brother
- (D) not doing well in school

13. What does Mr. Medrano do to encourage his daughter's interest in sports?

- (A) makes jokes about her big thumb
- (B) tells Lupe that she is good at sports
- (C) helps Lupe beat her brother at marbles
- (D) goes to watch her play marbles

14. Mr. Medrano tells Lupe, "Just think of the marbles, not the girl, and let your thumb do the work." What does he mean?

- (A) Your opponent will not win, so pay no attention to her.
- (B) Don't talk to the girl about the game.
- (C) Don't worry about your opponent. Just concentrate on your game.
- (D) Your opponent doesn't have your thumb.

15. How does Lupe react after she beats the girl in the baseball cap?

- (A) Lupe shakes hands with her.
- (B) Lupe brags to everyone.
- (C) Lupe asks a photographer to take pictures of the two of them.
- (D) Lupe walks away quietly.

16. Why is the girl in the baseball cap Lupe's toughest opponent?

- (A) She looks very serious.
- (B) She is a very good player.
- (C) She is a poor loser.
- (D) She wins the first marble.

17. Which word best describes Lupe?

- (A) determined
- (B) show-off
- (C) kind
- (D) easily upset

18. Which word best describes how Lupe feels back home after winning the marble championship?

- (A) tired
- (B) proud
- (C) embarrassed
- (D) persistent

19. How does Lupe's family celebrate her victory?

20. How are Jerry's athletic goals in "Knots in my Yo-yo String" and Lupe's goals different?
