Communication Arts

Power Standard 8:5

Post-Formative Test

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Hour \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Read the following sentences from the opening paragraph of *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain. Think about Twain’s word choice and sentence structure.**

You don’t know about me without you have read a book by the name of *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*; but that ain’t no matter. That book was made by Mr. Mark Twain, and he told the truth, mainly. There was things which he stretched, but mainly he told the truth. That is nothing. I never seen anybody but lied one time or another, without it was Aunt Polly, or the widow, or maybe Mary. Aunt Polly - Tom’s Aunt Polly, she is - and Mary, and the Widow Douglas is all told about in that book, which is mostly a true book, with some stretchers, as I said before.

1. Why did Twain most likely choose to write *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* in dialect?
2. He and Huckleberry Finn were both uneducated.
3. He hoped his audience would understand Huckleberry.
4. He wanted readers to feel sorry for Huckleberry Finn.
5. He felt it was how Huckleberry would speak and write.

Read this sentence from the Twain passage and answer questions 2 and 3.

“Aunt Polly -Tom’s Aunt Polly, she is- and Mary, and the Widow Douglas is all told about in that book,

which is mostly a true book, with some stretchers, as I said before.”

1. What is the meaning of the word ***stretchers*** as it is used in this sentence?
2. cots for carrying people
3. lies or exaggerations
4. a mostly true book
5. a story told by Huck Finn
6. The meaning of the word ***stretchers***in the passage above is similar to the definition of which of the following words?
7. repetition
8. metaphor
9. hyperbole
10. onomatopoeia

Read the following passage and use the information to answer questions 4 and 5.

Mike’s stomach fluttered uncontrollably as he sat waiting for the doctor to enter the room. The clock ticked loudly on the wall as Mike’s eyes bulged, staring at his swollen and throbbing knee.   
 The door opened suddenly and in glided the doctor in his white coat.   
 The doctor held up a manila folder and said, “The results of your test are in. The deal is you have a torn Meniscus and a partial tear of your Patella Tendon. In addition, you have bone spurs. Minimally invasive Arthroscopic surgery could help.”   
 Mike stared at the doctor in confusion.   
 The doctor recognized the confusion in Mike’s eyes and said, “Oh sorry, let me explain. The pad cushion between your knee bones and the tendon right below your knee cap each have a small tear in them. Because of your injury, small pieces of bone are floating around in your knee causing the pain. We are going to make a small cut and go in and repair the tear. We are also going to take the bone spurs out. After surgery, you should be as good as new.”  
 Relief spread across Mike’s face as he shook the doctor’s hand.

1. “The clock ticked loudly on the wall as Mike’s eyes bulged…” is an example of which of the following?
2. metaphor
3. imagery
4. personification
5. simile
6. Which of the following quotes from the passage would be an example of jargon?
7. Minimally invasive Arthroscopic surgery could help.
8. The doctor held up a manila folder and said, “The results of your test are in.”
9. Mike’s stomach fluttered uncontrollably as he sat waiting…
10. Because of your injury, small pieces of bone are floating around in your knee…

**DIRECTIONS:** Read the following excerpt from “On Shaky Ground” by T. J. Ledbetter. Then answer questions 6 and 7.

I always thought that once it was built, a house was a solid thing. I believed that walls were sturdy and roofs secure. I thought that trees would stand upright until felled for lumber and that the Mississippi could flow only in one direction. On December 16, 1811, in my fifteenth year, my thinking changed.   
 It was in the darkest hours after midnight. We were asleep - my brothers Johnny and Bill, my parents, and me. Being the only girl in the family, I was alone in my own room. Everyone in New Madrid was sleeping. Through a dreamy haze I heard Jasper, our dog, whimpering, but I thought nothing of it. He has his own dreams sometimes, in which his paws twitch as if he is chasing wild hare. This time, his whimper wasn’t a dream; it was a warning signal.  
 Suddenly a noise like thunder, but much louder than any thunder I knew, woke us all in an instant. “What was tha-?” Johnny started to shout, but before the words were out, the house began shaking violently. Dishes, lamps, and pots crashed to the floor and became corn kernels on hot metal.   
 “Out the door!” my mother said in a sharp and urgent tone. We obeyed unthinkingly - there wasn’t room for thought- and clumsily made our way through the pitch-black room over the mess of fallen chairs and misplaced tables that jumped and moved as the earth shook again.   
 Outside, we heard the cries of our neighbors as their houses, too, were shaken, some to the ground. They had collapsed quickly into forlorn piles of wood and stone. Every dog, rooster, and crow added its frightened voice to the noisy night. Branches cracked and fell, then entire trees. Trees! If I had not seen it myself I would never had believed that such an event could occur.   
 “The river is running backwards!” one of our neighbors announced running past fast. I heard his words but didn’t understand what he meant until later. I was too overwhelmed with what I could see to picture something I couldn’t.   
 My family huddled together, holding tightly to each other without speaking. At the time, we weren’t so much frightened as awed. Even my father, who has a word of wisdom for every occasion, was silent.   
 The shaking lasted for several minutes, and then, as if the earth had decided to go back to sleep, it stopped.

1. Write a line from the passage that is an example of personification and explain why it is an example of personification.

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1. In the graphic organizer below, create three examples of figurative language **ABOUT AN EARTHQUAKE.**

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| --- |
| Metaphor: |
| Imagery: |
| Hyperbole: |