

## THE RIGHTS TO THE STREETS OF MEMPHIS

**Selection Test B/C****Comprehension**

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

(6 points each)

1. What conflict does the narrator face?
  - A. He must walk through the streets begging for food.
  - B. His father has moved the family into a dangerous area.
  - C. His mother expects him to earn money for the family.
  - D. He is hungry but is afraid to go to the store.
2. The narrator's mother forces him to return to the streets because she
  - A. wants him to stay out of the house
  - B. knows that he must learn to defend himself
  - C. is afraid to go after the groceries herself
  - D. does not understand the danger he faces
3. To help the narrator protect himself, his mother gives him
  - A. money to give to the gang of boys
  - B. a stick to fight back against the boys in the gang
  - C. ideas about what to say to the gang of boys
  - D. a phone number to call for help
4. What causes the narrator to decide to fight the gang of boys?
  - A. He wants to prove to his family that he can take care of himself.
  - B. His brother goes with him and is willing to help him fight.
  - C. He cannot face his mother if he comes home without groceries again.
  - D. He wants to steal their money to buy groceries.
5. When the narrator fights back, what is the effect on the gang of boys?
  - A. They run home screaming.
  - B. They beat him up again.
  - C. They promise to quit fighting with him.
  - D. They decide to fight him at school.

## SELECTION TEST B/C, CONTINUED

**Vocabulary**

Choose the answer that best explains the meaning of each underlined word. (6 points each)

6. What does clamor mean?

- A. a long silence
- B. a constant murmur
- C. a loud outburst
- D. a quiet gurgle

7. Someone who is dispirited is

- A. dejected
- B. enthusiastic
- C. moody
- D. humble

8. Retaliate means

- A. to refuse help
- B. to seek payment
- C. to offer thanks
- D. to get revenge

9. What does flay mean?

- A. rip
- B. whip
- C. crush
- D. pound

10. What does stark mean?

- A. extreme
- B. unusual
- C. abrupt
- D. necessary

**Written Response**

**Short Response** Answer the following questions based on your knowledge of the selection. Write a sentence or two on a separate sheet of paper. (10 points each)

11. Why does the narrator's mother try to make him laugh when he is hungry, and what is the result? Include two details from the selection in your response.
12. Describe the causes and effects that led the narrator to shop for groceries. Include three events from the selection.

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

13. Provide details from the story to explain what lesson the narrator learns from his conflict on the street. Why do you think this will be important for him later in his life?
14. **Challenge** In this selection, the mother teaches her son several lessons. Identify three lessons and explain why they are necessary, considering the family's situation.