

THE STORY OF AN HOUR / JOYAS VOLADORAS / CALVIN AND HOBBS

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

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

(6 points each)

1. Richards's reason for rushing to the Mallard house with the sad news is to
  - A. make sure Mrs. Mallard knows
  - B. keep Josephine from telling her
  - C. find out whether the news is true
  - D. prevent any shock to Mrs. Mallard
2. The narrator says that Mrs. Mallard is different from most other new widows because she
  - A. accepts the news instantly
  - B. wants to be left alone
  - C. weeps wildly
  - D. sits motionlessly
3. Which foreshadowing detail of the spring day helps you predict a change in Mrs. Mallard's sad mood?
  - A. the feel of rain in the air
  - B. trees full of new leaves
  - C. the shouts of the peddler
  - D. sparrows in the eaves
4. What detail helps you predict that Mrs. Mallard believes her life will improve?
  - A. Her wide armchair is comfortable.
  - B. Her face is calm but lined.
  - C. Blue sky appears between the clouds.
  - D. She stares and thinks about nothing.
5. What does Mrs. Mallard come to believe about imposing one's will on another person?
  - A. Making another obey is always cruel.
  - B. A woman should bend to her husband's will.
  - C. To do so is wrong, even if kindly intended.
  - D. Men and women impose their wills differently.
6. Her husband's death makes Mrs. Mallard free because she
  - A. lived with his unkindness
  - B. can now live her own life
  - C. wished that he were dead
  - D. never loved her husband
7. Mrs. Mallard's conclusion about love is that it
  - A. makes people want to be with others
  - B. brings grief when someone dies
  - C. makes men and women behave badly
  - D. is far less important than freedom
8. Which ironic detail helps you predict Mrs. Mallard's ultimate end?
  - A. She previously feared a long life.
  - B. She is sad at her husband's death.
  - C. She wishes for a very long life.
  - D. She cries in her room alone.

## SELECTION TEST B/C, CONTINUED

- 9.** Which event is the story’s climax?
- A.** Mr. Mallard’s death, which causes the other events
  - B.** the arrival of Mr. Mallard, because it is the turning point
  - C.** Mrs. Mallard’s new joy, because it shows that she has grown
  - D.** the appearance of blue sky that foreshadows change
- 10.** The message of both “The Story of an Hour” and “Joyas Voladoras” is
- A.** the human heart is easily broken
  - B.** life is shocking
  - C.** love is the root of all evil
  - D.** the heart can not be protected

## Written Response

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

Write a sentence or two on a separate sheet of paper. (10 points each)

- 11.** What does Mrs. Mallard come to realize about her life without her husband? Include two details from the story.
- 12.** Name one way that Mrs. Mallard seems to change physically when she realizes what her future will be without her husband.

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

- 13.** Do you agree or disagree that Mrs. Mallard would have been happier without her husband? Support your opinion with details from the story.
- 14. Challenge** The story describes Mrs. Mallard’s new freedom as “this possession of self-assertion.” How does the way the other characters treat her support the idea that Mrs. Mallard could not assert herself? Support your response with details from the story.