

Name: _____ Date: _____

Globe-Trotter's Secret Satchel: 2nd Grade World Literature Quest

Symbolism, cultural motifs, and character motivation — embark on a journey through global folklore and tales that sharpen critical thinking skills.

1. In the story of 'The Empty Pot' from China, why does Ping bring an empty pot to the Emperor while other children bring beautiful flowers?

- A. He forgot to plant the seeds the Emperor gave him.
- B. He was lazy and didn't want to garden.
- C. He was honest because the seeds were cooked and couldn't grow.
- D. He thought the empty pot looked prettier than flowers.

2. In the French tale of 'Puss in Boots,' the clever cat uses his _____ to trick people into thinking his master is a rich Marquis.

- A. magic wand
- B. sharp claws
- C. quick wit
- D. loud bark

3. True or False: In many Anansi the Spider stories from Ghana, Anansi usually wins by being the strongest animal in the jungle.

- A. True
- B. False

4. In the Australian Aboriginal story 'Tiddalik the Frog,' why does the giant frog drink all the water in the world?

- A. He wanted to help the other animals.
- B. He was extremely greedy and thirsty.
- C. He was trying to put out a forest fire.
- D. He was hiding the water from a monster.

5. In Swedish literature, Pippi Longstocking is famous for being incredibly _____, which allows her to carry her horse onto the porch.

- A. strong
- B. scared
- C. quiet
- D. mean

6. True or False: In the Indian fable 'The Lion and the Rabbit,' the tiny rabbit defeats the lion by using a reflection in a well.

- A. True

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B. False

7. In the Mexican story of 'The Legend of the Poinsettia,' what happens to the weeds that the girl Pepita brings to the church?

- A. They wither and blow away in the wind.
- B. They are thrown away by the villagers.
- C. They turn into beautiful red flowers.
- D. They grow into a giant beanstalk.

8. The Japanese story of 'Momotaro' begins when an elderly couple finds a giant baby boy inside a large _____ floating down a river.

- A. watermelon
- B. peach
- C. coconut
- D. boat

9. True or False: In the Peruvian story of the 'Mice and the Elephants,' the mice are able to help the elephants by chewing through ropes.

- A. True
- B. False

10. Which of these characters from Norse Mythology (Norway/Sweden/Denmark) is known for being a 'shapeshifter' who often causes trouble for the other gods?

- A. Thor
- B. Odin
- C. Loki
- D. Freya