Literary Theme

Choose one answer per question. Circle A, B, C, or D.

1. Which choice is a complete statement of a theme about friendship?
   A. A friendship can grow when both people learn to listen.
   B. Friendship
   C. Two friends share a bench after school.
   D. The story takes place beside a lake.

2. Lena hides her broken kite because she fears looking foolish. At the park she sees three people repairing theirs together. She finally asks to join them. Which theme fits?
   A. Public parks need more space.
   B. The most expensive supplies give the best results.
   C. Asking for help can make a setback easier to face.
   D. You can learn faster by staying alone.

3. A character repeatedly gives a new neighbor a turn to speak when the group ignores her. Which choice states a theme the story could develop from these actions?
   A. The character is the group’s newest member.
   B. Making room for others can help them belong.
   C. The neighbor is planning to move away.
   D. The story has three conversations.

4. Which sentence summarizes a plot event?
   A. Trust can grow from the way we handle mistakes.
   B. Small choices can show integrity.
   C. Honesty matters most when it costs something.
   D. Niko returns to the market and gives the shopkeeper the extra change he received.

5. Omar spends weeks learning one tune slowly. At the recital he plays steadily, though a faster player stumbles. Which theme is supported?
   A. The fastest performer always succeeds.
   B. Patient practice can build confidence and control.
   C. People should give up a hobby after a setback.
   D. A large audience causes every mistake.

6. Jae sees a flooded planting bed and builds a shallow drain. The water moves away and the seedlings recover. Which detail best supports the theme that a problem may become manageable after one practical step?

A. The water moves away after Jae adds the drain.
B. The planting bed holds seedlings.
C. Jae first sees water in the bed.
D. The bed is outdoors.

7. Mara always races her brother to the trail marker. One day she sees him stop to help someone read the map. They finish together, too late to claim a record. Which theme best fits?

A. Only the strongest runners can help others.
B. Good maps make every trip easy.
C. A crowd makes a trail too busy.
D. What you do along the way can matter more than winning.

8. Kira copies a teammate’s design to finish early. During the club demonstration she cannot explain a key part. She rebuilds the model using her own notes. Which theme is most supported?

A. The best design is the one with the most parts.
B. An exact copy is always easier to explain.
C. Doing the work yourself can build lasting understanding.
D. Club demonstrations should take less time.

9. Sam lifts a board from a narrow window in his studio each time a hesitant visitor enters. By the ending, the visitors are helping him finish a mural in full daylight. What idea does the repeated image help develop?

A. Welcoming others can make a private project a shared one.
B. A mural needs new paint whenever the weather changes.
C. People cooperate best when nobody speaks.
D. A painted wall always looks brighter from outside.

10. A narrator first describes a family’s crowded kitchen as a nuisance. Years later, the narrator finds an old recording of that clatter and plays it twice. Which detail best supports the theme that memory can transform how we value familiar things?

A. The event occurs years after the first scene.
B. The kitchen has room for several people.
C. The scene includes a recording.
D. The narrator chooses to replay a sound once considered annoying.

11. Story A: Inez reports a scoring error that cost the opposing team a point. Story B: Ben admits he cracked a borrowed bowl, though his sister is about to be blamed. What theme do both develop?

A. Leaders win by keeping decisions secret.
B. The best apology is always a gift.
C. Acting honestly can require giving up an advantage.
D. People make fewer mistakes when they hurry.

12. A story’s opening shows Ellis fixing every problem alone. In the final scene, Ellis thanks the neighbor who watered the garden during a family emergency. How does the ending develop a theme about independence?

A. It shows that garden work never requires cooperation.
B. It shows that accepting help can coexist with taking responsibility.
C. It proves that Ellis has stopped caring about the garden.
D. It introduces the novel’s setting for the first time.

13. In one story a sprinter loses and recognizes a friend’s progress. In another a sprinter loses and changes a flawed training plan. What distinguishes the themes?

A. Both argue that the way people train makes no difference.
B. The first values winning at all costs. The second discourages practice.
C. Both treat speed as more important than relationships.
D. The first values another person’s success. The second treats failure as feedback.

14. Tessa believes every tradition should stay the same. When fewer children attend a winter meal, she asks families what food they miss and adds their dishes. Attendance grows. Which theme accounts for both the change and the outcome?

A. A tradition can survive by making room for new voices.
B. A meal’s success depends only on the weather.
C. The oldest recipe always draws the largest crowd.
D. A tradition is meaningful only when its rules are fixed.

15. A child repairs a broken community clock to honor an uncle. Neighbors share memories while cleaning the clock case. Which theme is broad enough for both actions and specific enough to fit the story?

A. History always explains everything people do.
B. Everyone should learn to repair this particular clock.
C. Caring for something shared can help a community remember its past.
D. Children have more free time than adults.