

Name _____ Date _____

Instructions: Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

1. What text from the story reveals how Zach feels about the vacation at the beginning of the story?
 - Ⓐ *"To relax! To experience nature!"*
 - Ⓑ *"Why are we on a vacation in the middle of nowhere?"*
 - Ⓒ *Through the bug-speckled windshield, he could see a man sitting in a rocking chair, wearing a cowboy hat.*
 - Ⓓ *"To take a break from all that!"*
2. When Zach first rides Gizmo, _____.
 - Ⓐ he is able to get Gizmo to trot on the first try
 - Ⓑ he learns he is a natural horseback rider and helps other guests
 - Ⓒ he struggles to control Gizmo and is nervous about his size
 - Ⓓ he falls off Gizmo and refuses to get back on him
3. Why does Mitch fix Zach's posture when he's riding Gizmo?
 - Ⓐ Zach is not holding the reins correctly.
 - Ⓑ The way Zach is directing Gizmo is wrong.
 - Ⓒ The way Zach is sitting is incorrect.
 - Ⓓ Zach's saddle is too large for his body.
4. Why is Zach embarrassed to be lumped in with the "Little Wranglers"?
 - Ⓐ He is the only one at the ranch who has never ridden a horse before.
 - Ⓑ The Little Wranglers are not allowed to ride horses at the ranch.
 - Ⓒ The Little Wranglers look for scat at the ranch.
 - Ⓓ He is older than the other members of the group at the ranch.

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5. The setting impacts the dialogue between characters. Which of the following quotes is appropriate only because of the setting of the book?
 - Ⓐ *"Now the rest is up to you."*
 - Ⓑ *"Pleasure to meet you, Zach. Now hop to it!"*
 - Ⓒ *"I'll see you here after lunch, bud."*
 - Ⓓ *"That's a load of manure."*
4. What surprises Zach the most when he meets Mitch?
 - Ⓐ Mitch knows a lot about history.
 - Ⓑ Mitch is African-American.
 - Ⓒ Mitch can ride a horse.
 - Ⓓ Mitch is friends with lots of cowboys.
7. What is the setting of the story?
 - Ⓐ Utah
 - Ⓑ Arizona
 - Ⓒ New Mexico
 - Ⓓ Nevada
8. What inspires Zach to set a goal to learn to ride a horse confidently?
 - Ⓐ Zach's mother gives him a pep talk.
 - Ⓑ Mitch tells Zach a story about African-American cowboys.
 - Ⓒ Zach sees the other kids riding more confidently than him.
 - Ⓓ Mitch promises Zach a monetary reward if he does well.
9. Why does Zach want to ride in the cattle drive?
 - Ⓐ He wants to work on the ranch when he grows up, just like Mitch.
 - Ⓑ He wants to ride Gizmo as fast as possible through a course of barrels.
 - Ⓒ He wants to help round up and guide cattle from one location to another.
 - Ⓓ He wants to ride Gizmo while throwing a rope loop around cattle.

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10. Why does Zach put his phone away at the end of the story?

- Ⓐ He wants to enjoy the campfire without being distracted.
- Ⓑ He wants to save the battery to text his friends tomorrow.
- Ⓒ He has decided to give up his cell phone to live a simpler life.
- Ⓓ He doesn't want his mom to be upset with him.

11. **Extended Response:** What role does Mitch play in the story?

12. **Extended Response:** How does Zach change from the beginning to the end of the story?

Quick Check Answer Sheet

The Guest Ranch

Main Comprehension Skill: Analyze Setting

1. Ⓑ *Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions*
2. Ⓒ *Sequence Events*
3. Ⓒ *Cause and Effect*
4. Ⓓ *Analyze Character*
5. Ⓓ *Analyze Setting*
6. Ⓑ *Cause and Effect*
7. Ⓒ *Story Elements*
8. Ⓑ *Cause and Effect*
9. Ⓒ *Main Idea and Details*
10. Ⓐ *Cause and Effect*
11. Answers will vary but should include the following: *Mitch helps Zach feel comfortable in his new setting and helps him open up and learn to try new things.*
12. Answers will vary but should include the following ideas: *Zach started the trip feeling uneasy and out of place because he was African-American. However, through his interactions with Mitch and learning about the African-American cowboys from the past, he gained confidence in himself and learned how to ride a horse. He rode in the cattle drive and said it was the best day of his life!*