Name _____   Date _____

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

1. Who is telling the story?

Ⓐ the man from the East

Ⓑ Simon Wheeler

Ⓒ Jim Smiley

Ⓓ both the narrator and Simon Wheeler

2. Which of the following events does Jim Smiley NOT gamble on in the story?

Ⓐ frog jumping contests

Ⓑ dogfights

Ⓒ horse races

Ⓓ boxing matches

3. What causes Simon Wheeler to tell the story about Jim Smiley?

Ⓐ The man from the East asks him about Jim Smiley.

Ⓑ The man from the East asks him about Leonidas W. Smiley.

Ⓒ Simon Wheeler is old and confused.

Ⓓ Simon Wheeler is hard of hearing.

4. How was the stranger initially able to cheat at the frog jumping contest?

Ⓐ He didn't tell Smiley the rules of the contest.

Ⓑ He had possession of Dan'l for several minutes.

Ⓒ He put something on the floor that made it difficult for Dan'l to jump.

Ⓓ He had already been told that Dan'l didn't know how to jump.

5. Aside from gambling, what does Jim Smiley really enjoy?

Ⓐ reverends

Ⓑ animals

Ⓒ telling stories

Ⓓ helping people

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6. What happens after Jim Smiley's dog, Andrew Jackson, loses a fight and dies?

   Ⓐ Jim Smiley bets on whether Parson Walker's wife will survive.

   Ⓑ Jim Smiley gets a pup with no hind legs.

   Ⓒ Jim Smiley catches his, Daniel Webster.

   Ⓓ Jim Smiley wins money from racing his mare.

7. Read this sentence: *Jumping on a dead level was his strong suit, you understand; and when it come to that, Smiley would **ante up** money on him as long as he had a red.* What is the meaning of **ante up**?

   Ⓐ win money from a bet

   Ⓑ lose money from a bet

   Ⓒ put up money as part of a bet

   Ⓓ cheat to win a bet

8. What words best describe Jim Smiley after his frog, Daniel Webster, does not jump?

   Ⓐ angry and embarrassed

   Ⓑ happy and satisfied

   Ⓒ surprised and disgusted

   Ⓓ anxious and upset

9. Why wasn't Daniel Webster able to jump?

   Ⓐ He was sick.

   Ⓑ He was asleep.

   Ⓒ He hurt his back legs.

   Ⓓ He was full of quail shot.

10. What evidence is there that the narrator does not enjoy Simon Wheeler's story?

   Ⓐ He doesn't stick around to hear the story about the cow.

   Ⓑ He falls asleep during the story.

   Ⓒ He keeps interrupting Wheeler.

   Ⓓ He tells Wheeler that he is not interested.

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11. **Extended Response:** Compare Jim Smiley to the man who outwitted him in the bet on the jumping frog. Use details from the text to support your answer.

12. **Extended Response:** Describe how Simon Wheeler presents Jim Smiley in both his good and bad qualities. Then, explain your opinion of Smiley's character. Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

1. (D) *Narrative Point of View*

2. (D) *Story Elements*

3. (B) *Cause and Effect*

4. (B) *Cause and Effect*

5. (B) *Analyze Character*

6. (C) *Sequence Events*

7. (C) *Vocabulary*

8. (D) *Cause and Effect*

9. (D) *Cause and Effect*

10. (A) *Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions*

11. Answers will vary but will draw details from the story to compare Jim Smiley to the man he bet on Daniel Webster with. For example: *Jim and the other man both like to gamble and rely on the other person's gullibility and naivety to win their way. They both use distraction and their wits and are clever deceivers. However, Jim is a part of his town and seems to still get along with his peers, while the other man is a stranger. Also, Jim never personally harms his opponents' animals, while the stranger is willing to fill Jim's frog with buckshot.*

12. Answers will vary. Example: *Wheeler certainly admires and seems to value Smiley and his devious ways. While Smiley likes to bet, he doesn't cheat people. The animals that he cultivates are probably of no use to anyone else until Smiley finds a use for them. The animals seem to have an uncanny way of coming through in the end. They are the underdogs. Smiley's luck mostly comes from the fact that he knows that people will underestimate these animals.* Answers will conclude with the student's own opinion of Smiley. Students may agree with Wheeler's interpretation of Smiley as clever and admirable, or may disagree and view Smiley as dishonest.