A. The plot of this story centers on conflicts between and within Mrs. Jones and Roger. In the chart below, list two examples of external conflict and two examples of internal conflict in the story. (10 points each)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. External Conflicts</th>
<th>2. Internal Conflicts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. Write the letter of the best answer. This exercise is continued on the next page. (6 points each)

_____ 1. At the beginning of the story, Roger runs up behind Mrs. Jones because he wants to
   a. scare her.
   b. steal from her.
   c. help her.
   d. hurt her.

_____ 2. In her first encounter with the boy, you can tell that Mrs. Jones is very
   a. nervous.
   b. mean.
   c. young.
   d. strong.

_____ 3. Mrs. Jones takes Roger to her home because she wants to
   a. punish him.
   b. learn about his family.
   c. give him a reward.
   d. help him.
4. Roger tries to take Mrs. Jones’s pocketbook because he
   a. wants to buy a pair of suede shoes.
   b. knows that she carries a lot of money with her.
   c. is hungry and has no money for food.
   d. needs money to support his family.

C. Words to Know. Write the letter of the best answer. (4 points each)

   1. A person who is frail looks
      a. mean.  b. weak.  c. frightened.

   2. If you mistrust something, you have no
      a. love for it.  b. interest in it.  c. confidence in it.

   3. A place is barren if it is
      a. lovely.  b. empty.  c. familiar.

   4. If you are presentable, you are
      a. fit to look at.  b. fun to be with.  c. ready to speak.

   5. Shoes made of suede look
      a. shiny.  b. hard.  c. soft.

D. Answer one of the following questions based on your understanding of the story.
Write your answer on a separate sheet of paper. (20 points)

1. Why do you think Mrs. Jones left her door open as she fixed supper? What effect did the open door have on the boy?

2. What advice does Mrs. Jones give the boy at the end of the story? Do you think he will follow this advice? Use evidence from the story to explain why or why not.

E. Linking Literature to Life. Answer the following question based on your own experience and knowledge. Write your answer on a separate sheet of paper. (16 points)

Do you think it is more effective to punish young people when they have done something wrong, or is it more effective to help them with kindness? Does one approach work better than the other? Explain your views.
Zebra

Selection Test

A. Use the diagram below to describe the two main characters in this story. In the first circle write two words or phrases that describe Zebra. In the second circle write two words or phrases that describe John Wilson. Where the two circles overlap, write a word or phrase that describes both characters. (8 points each)

B. Write the letter of the best answer. This exercise is continued on the next page. (5 points each)

1. Why was Zebra standing near the schoolyard fence when John Wilson first walked by?
   a. He didn't like playing with the other students.
   b. His hand was hurting very badly.
   c. No one wanted him around.
   d. He enjoyed watching the activity on the street.

2. Why was John Wilson carrying a plastic bag?
   a. He was cleaning litter off the street.
   b. He had been shopping in the neighborhood.
   c. He was collecting things for his art work.
   d. He was carrying his personal belongings.

3. The helicopter that Zebra made for his art class showed his
   a. feelings about John Wilson's lost arm.
   b. fascination with mechanical things.
   c. wish to fly.
   d. clumsiness in making things.
4. Why was Leon’s name inscribed on the wall that John Wilson visited?
   a. He had carved it there.
   b. He was a war hero.
   c. He was a famous artist.
   d. He was killed in Vietnam.

C. Words to Know. Write the letter of the best answer. (4 points each)

   1. A gaunt person is
      a. brave. b. dishonest. c. thin.
   2. Something that is menacing is
      a. tricky. b. threatening. c. unimportant.
   3. A person who does something exuberantly is feeling
      a. joyful. b. afraid. c. bored.
   4. You are most likely to wince from
      a. sorrow. b. pain. c. love.
   5. An intricate design is
      a. balanced. b. bold. c. complex.

D. Answer one of the following questions based on your understanding of the story. Write your answer on a separate sheet of paper. (20 points)

   1. In his class on “imagination,” Zebra tells a story about a bird with a broken wing. How is the bird in the story like Zebra? What does the story tell you about Zebra’s feelings?

   2. What did Zebra gain from the summer art class? Describe at least three ways in which Zebra’s life changed as a result of being in the class.

E. Linking Literature to Life. Answer the following question based on your own experience and knowledge. Write your answer on a separate sheet of paper. (16 points)

   Many people who suffer from illness or an accident discover new interests, skills, and strengths that they didn’t know they had. Imagine that you, like Zebra, lost the use of your hand or leg, or both. What things that you now enjoy do you think you would miss most? What new activities might you pursue?
A. In this personal essay about her childhood, Julia Alvarez focuses on particular facts about her life and how she felt about herself at different times. In the diagram below, write three facts and three feelings that the author reveals about herself in this essay. (12 points each)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Facts About Her Life</th>
<th>2. Feelings About Herself</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. Write the letter of the best answer. This exercise is continued on the next page. (5 points each)

1. When she first came back to America, the author had a problem with her name because
   a. it was the same as her mother’s.
   b. it was too long to write.
   c. she was embarrassed by it.
   d. no one pronounced it correctly.

2. Julia did not like telling her classmates she was from the Dominican Republic because
   a. everyone thought it was part of Puerto Rico.
   b. the name of the country was hard to pronounce.
   c. it made her feel like a foreigner.
   d. she could not remember anything about the country.
3. When Julia was in high school, she
   a. wished her friends would use her correct Dominican name.
   b. liked having a complicated foreign name.
   c. no longer spoke Spanish with anyone.
   d. preferred to be known by her American nicknames.

4. How did Julia feel when her family attended school events?
   a. embarrassed              c. surprised
   b. proud                   d. angry

C. Words to Know. Write the letter of the best answer. (4 points each)

   1. The initial step in a process is the
      a. hardest.               b. first.          c. last.

   2. When things merge, they
      a. blend together.        b. crash.         c. grow apart.

   3. If something is convoluted, it is
      a. graceful.              b. complicated.    c. embarrassing.

   4. A chaotic situation is one that is
      a. funny.                 b. lengthy         c. confused.

   5. Something that happens inevitably is something you
      a. try to hide.           b. prepare for.    c. cannot prevent.

D. Answer one of the following questions based on your understanding of the story.
Write your answer on a separate sheet of paper. (20 points)

1. What does the graduation gift of a typewriter tell you about the relationship
   between Julia Alvarez and her parents? What do her parents expect her to
   become? Give details from the story to support your answer.

2. Think about the title of this personal essay: "Names/Nombres." Why is the title in two languages? How does this
   title support the main ideas expressed in the piece?

E. Linking Literature to Life. Answer the following question based on your own
   experience and knowledge. Write your answer on a separate sheet of paper. (16 points)

   How do people in your school react to foreign-sounding names, or how do you
   think they would react? Do you think that using your real name and making people
   pronounce it correctly is important, or not? Tell why.
After Twenty Years

Selection Test

A. In a good surprise ending, the reader discovers that what the characters in the story say and do can be interpreted in more than one way. The narrator has led the reader to make assumptions that turn out not to be true. For each situation listed in the chart below, note what the reader at first supposes to be true and what the reader later finds out. (8 points each)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Situation</th>
<th>What You Suppose at First</th>
<th>What Is Actually True</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. A police officer goes over to a man in a doorway.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Bob tells the officer about his old friend.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. A man approaches Bob and says he is Jimmy Wells.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. Write the letter of the best answer. This exercise is continued on the next page. (5 points each)

1. The man standing in the doorway of the hardware store seems out of place in the neighborhood because
   a. he appears to be a wealthy man.
   b. no one there knows him.
   c. the businesses are all closed for the night.
   d. it is a dangerous place to be.

2. As the police officer approaches, what does the man in the doorway do?
   a. shrinks back c. begins to walk away
   b. stares at him intently d. speaks to him immediately
3. It is clear that as young men, Bob and Jimmy
   a. had very similar personalities.
   b. had been very close friends.
   c. wanted the same things out of life.
   d. didn’t actually care much about each other.

4. Bob’s hand most likely trembles at the end of the story because
   of his feelings of
   a. fear. c. hatred.
   b. anger. d. regret.

C. Words to Know. Write the letter of the best answer. (4 points each)

1. Something in the vicinity is
   a. hidden away. b. in the past. c. nearby.

2. Your staunchest friend is probably the one who is
   a. most loyal. b. unreliable. c. lots of fun.

3. If something is habitual, you probably don’t
   a. think about it. b. do it often. c. admit to it.

4. Things that happen simultaneously are
   a. accidental. b. at the same time. c. later regretted.

5. You would speak dismally if you were feeling
   a. cheerful. b. angry. c. depressed.

D. Answer one of the following questions based on your understanding of the story.
Write your answer on a separate sheet of paper. (20 points)

1. Why did the police officer decide to have someone else make the arrest when he
   recognized Bob as a criminal wanted in Chicago?

2. Both Bob and Jimmy have changed in the 20 years since they last met. For each
   character, describe how he has changed and how he has stayed the same.

E. Linking Literature to Life. Answer the following question based on your own
experience and knowledge. Write your answer on a separate sheet of paper. (16 points)

   When a friend does something you think is wrong, it creates an awkward situation.
   Think about different ways of handling the problem. What is likely to happen if you
   confront your friend directly and say what you think? What is likely to happen if you
   act as if nothing is wrong? Would you ever tell a parent or another adult about your
   friend? Why or why not?
The Scholarship Jacket

Selection Test

A. Think about the theme of this story. In the first box, write a sentence that states a major theme of “The Scholarship Jacket.” In the boxes below, note three details from the story that build your understanding of that theme. (6 points each)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major Theme</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Details That Build Toward Theme</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. Write the letter of the best answer. This exercise is continued on the next page. (5 points each)

_____ 1. Martha lives with her grandparents because her parents
   a. are too poor to feed all their children.
   b. do not live near a school.
   c. died when she was six years old.
   d. live with her grandparents.

_____ 2. In the past, the scholarship jacket has always gone to a student
   a. with demonstrated financial need.
   b. who is popular with all the teachers.
   c. who has earned the highest grades for eight years.
   d. whose parents are well respected in the community.
3. The most likely reason for the Board’s change of policy concerning the scholarship jacket is that the members
   a. think the jacket costs too much to give away free.
   b. want everyone to have an equal chance to get it.
   c. hold a grudge against Martha’s grandfather.
   d. want the daughter of a powerful Board member to get it.

4. What finally triumphs in this story?
   a. power
   b. justice
   c. greed
   d. compromise

C. Words to Know. Write the letter of the best answer. (4 points each)

   1. A person who is agile is good in activities that require
      a. careful analysis.  b. quick movements.  c. strength.

   2. You are most likely to fidget when you are feeling
      a. angry.  b. enthusiastic.  c. nervous.

   3. If you muster your courage, you
      a. call it forth.  b. lose it.  c. strengthen it.

   4. Something that is vile is
      a. sharp.  b. disgusting.  c. cruel.

   5. People who falsify official records are
      a. finding information.  b. correcting errors.  c. acting dishonestly.

D. Answer one of the following questions based on your understanding of the story. Write your answer on a separate sheet of paper. (20 points)

   1. Do you think that Martha’s grandfather did the right thing when he refused to pay for the jacket? Explain your answer.

   2. Look at the situation described in this story through the eyes of the principal. How did he feel when he first spoke with Martha about paying for the jacket? Why did he later tell her that he would make an exception in her case?

E. Linking Literature to Life. Answer the following question based on your own experience and knowledge. Write your answer on a separate sheet of paper. (16 points)

   Do you think students should be expected to pay money for the school honors or awards they earn? If so, in what situations would this seem appropriate? If not, why not? Explain your answer.
The Pasture/A Time to Talk

Selection Test

A. For each poem, chart the pattern of end rhyme by assigning letters of the alphabet to each line. Begin with the letter a, then b, and so forth. Give lines that rhyme with each other the same letter. (15 points each)

1. **The Pasture** by Robert Frost
   
   I’m going out to clean the pasture spring;  
   I’ll only stop to rake the leaves away  
   (And wait to watch the water clear, I may):  
   I shan’t be gone long.—You come too.  

   I’m going out to fetch the little calf  
   That’s standing by the mother. It’s so young  
   It totters when she licks it with her tongue.  
   I shan’t be gone long.—You come too.

2. **A Time to Talk** by Robert Frost
   
   When a friend calls to me from the road  
   And slows his horse to a meaning walk,  
   I don’t stand still and look around  
   On all the hills I haven’t hoed,  
   And shout from where I am, “What is it?”  
   No, not as there is a time to talk.  
   I thrust my hoe in the mellow ground,  
   Blade-end up and five feet tall,  
   And plod: I go up to the stone wall  
   For a friendly visit.


B. Write the letter of the best answer. This exercise is continued on the next page. (8 points each)

____ 1. The speakers in both “The Pasture” and “A Time to Talk” welcome  
   a. solitude. c. companionship.  
   b. help with their work. d. a chance to stop working.

____ 2. The speaker in “The Pasture” seems  
   a. overworked.  
   b. demanding.  
   c. nervous.  
   d. unhurried.
3. Which word best expresses the mood of the poem “A Time to Talk”?
   a. relaxed
   b. lively
   c. sad
   d. irritable

4. In “A Time to Talk,” the speaker believes that the friend calling from the road
   a. needs help.
   b. wants to have a friendly chat.
   c. is offering help.
   d. wants to do business.

C. Answer one of the following questions based on your understanding of the poems.
   Write your answer on a separate sheet of paper. (20 points)

   1. What is the speaker’s attitude toward the tasks described in “The Pasture?” How can you tell? What generalization can the reader draw from these examples?

   2. In “A Time to Talk,” how does the speaker feel about the interruption of his work? Support your answer with evidence from the poem.

D. Linking Literature to Life. Answer the following question based on your own experience and knowledge. Write your answer on a separate sheet of paper. (18 points)

   In what circumstances would you ask a friend to join you as you take care of your daily tasks? What tasks or activities do you prefer to do alone, without interruption? In what circumstances might you welcome an interruption from a friend? Explain your answers.
The Scholarship Jacket

Words to Know SkillBuilder

**Words to Know**

agile      despair      falsify      muster      valedictorian
coincidence  dismay      fidget      resign      vile

**A.** Complete each analogy with one of the words from the list. In an analogy, the last two words must be related in the same way that the first two are related.

1. FULL : EMPTY : : clumsy :

2. WONDERFUL : TERRIFIC : : disgusting :

3. ENJOYMENT : DELIGHT : : lie :

4. TIRED : YAWN : : nervous :

5. TEAM : STAR PLAYER : : class :

**B.** Complete each sentence with one of the words from the word list.

1. A look of __________________ crossed Martha’s face when she looked in the mirror and felt hopeless about ever growing up.

2. Although Martha was __________________, she didn’t play sports.

3. Martha deserved the jacket, since she was the class __________________.

4. Martha didn’t plan to overhear the teachers; it was just a __________________ that she arrived during their argument.

5. Mr. Schmidt refused to __________________ records.

6. Mr. Schmidt would rather __________________ from his job than lie.

7. When Martha overheard Mr. Boone’s comment, she was afraid the jacket was beyond her reach and she felt __________________.

8. It was hard for Martha to __________________ the courage to talk so frankly to the principal.

9. The attitude of Mr. Boone and the principal was truly __________________.

10. He began to __________________ from discomfort.
**Zebra**

**Words to Know SkillBuilder**

**Words to Know**
- disciplinarian
- exuberantly
- intricate
- menacing
- tensing
- encrusted
- gaunt
- jauntily
- poised
- wince

A. Complete each analogy with one of the words from the word list above. In an analogy, the last two words must be related in the same way that the first two are related.

1. SADLY : SORROWFULLY : : dynamically : 
2. SMILE : GRIN : : cringe :
3. CASUAL : FORMAL : : portly :
4. LAWS : POLICE OFFICER : : rules :
5. SIMPLE : PLAIN : : complex :

B. Fill in each set of blanks with a word from the list. Then use the boxed letters to complete the sentence.

1. If you like to sculpt with clay, your hands might be in this condition. __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __
2. This is the way you might walk when you are happy and satisfied with life. __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __
3. This word describes a person with bad intentions. __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __
4. You are ready at the starting line, but the race has not yet begun. __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __
5. When you exercise, you alternate relaxing your muscles with doing this to them. __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __

Complete the following sentence with the words the boxed letters spell out.

______________________ was a joyous part of Zebra’s life before his accident.
After Twenty Years

Words to Know SkillBuilder

Words to Know

absurdity  dismally  habitual  simultaneously  staunchest
destiny  egotism  intricate  stalwart  vicinity

A. Read the following news headlines. Replace each underlined word or phrase with the vocabulary word that is most like it in meaning.

1. EVENING ENDS BADLY FOR WESTERNER
   ____________________________

2. REGULAR WALKER FINGERS FRIEND
   ____________________________

3. TRUEST FRIEND TURNS TRAITOR
   ____________________________

4. NEIGHBORHOOD OF “BIG JOE” BRADY’S RESTAURANT:
   ____________________________

5. SHOCKED AT THE SAME INSTANT: “YOU’RE NOT JIMMY!”
   ____________________________

B. Write a newspaper article describing the events of the story. You may choose one of the corrected headlines or write your own. Use the rest of the Words to Know in your article.
Thank You, M’am

Words to Know SkillBuilder

Words to Know
barren  frail  mistrust  presentable  suede

A. Synonyms  Choose the synonym that best expresses the meaning of the underlined Word to Know. Write the answer on the line.

1. A frail railing was all that separated us from the edge of the cliff.
   (unsubstantial, in poor health, delicate)

2. He tried to make his stained T-shirt presentable presentable by bleaching it. (respectable, fit to be seen, suitable)

3. Mistrust of the water led the hiker to boil it before she put it in her canteen. (doubt, suspicion, wariness)

4. We saw only rocks as we surveyed the barren desert landscape—not a single plant or animal. (infertile, unprofitable, desolate)

B. On each blank line, write the word from the word list that the rhyme describes.

   This would describe a tree if all
   Its leaves had tumbled in the fall. (1)

   If they order coffee, but I bring them tea,
   My customers surely might do this to me. (2)

   If you go on a television show,
   You must be this (but not on radio). (3)

   This might describe the year’s last rose
   When the fierce wind of autumn blows. (4)

   You might use this for shoes and vests and such
   To make them warm to wear and soft to touch. (5)

C. Describe what Roger looks like and feels like as he leaves Mrs. Jones’s house. Use at least two of the Words to Know.