Selection Test

The Monkey's Paw (page 172)

Recalling and Interpreting (56 points total; 8 points each)
Write the letter of the best answer.

_____ 1. The White family's initial response to Sergeant Major Morris's claims about the monkey's paw is mainly
   a. excited.  c. frightened.
   b. doubtful. d. uninterested.

_____ 2. Morris's own attitude toward the monkey's paw could best be described as
   a. angry.    c. respectful.
   b. terrified. d. disappointed.

_____ 3. People to whom Morris has offered to sell the monkey's paw have been unwilling to buy it because they
   a. feared its magical powers.
   b. doubted that it could grant their wishes.
   c. did not have enough money to pay the price he asked.
   d. were unwilling to limit themselves to sensible wishes.

_____ 4. What does the story suggest about Morris's personal experiences with the monkey's paw?
   a. His wishes had mixed results.
   b. All of his wishes had terrible results.
   c. All of his wishes had pleasant results.
   d. He, himself, never wished on the monkey's paw.

_____ 5. What attitude does Herbert display toward his father's wish on the monkey's paw?
   a. fearful    c. disgusted
   b. amazed     d. lighthearted

_____ 6. When the monkey's paw moves in his hand, Mr. White's response could best be described as
   a. reassured.
   b. fascinated.
   c. excited and hopeful.
   d. frightened and disgusted.

_____ 7. What is Mr. White's third wish?
   a. that Herbert is dead
   b. that the knocking stop
   c. that Herbert had never died
   d. that he had never wished on the monkey's paw
Selection Test

Using Vocabulary (15 points total; 3 points each)
Write the letter of the best answer.

8. An avaricious person finds it difficult to
   a. share.  
   b. stay awake.  
   c. feel confident.

9. A person who deals with a task doggedly demonstrates
   a. insecurity.  
   b. resentment.  
   c. persistence.

10. You are most likely to speak amiably to someone you
    a. like.  
    b. fear.  
    c. hate.

11. A presumptuous person is likely to be thought of as
    a. shy.  
    b. rude.  
    c. mysterious.

12. A word that means the opposite of **enthralled** is
    a. lively.  
    b. bored.  
    c. encouraged.

Interpreting and Evaluating (14 points total; 7 points each)
In each left-hand box below, identify ONE particularly suspenseful moment in the story, and in each right-hand box, explain what made that moment suspenseful.

13. A suspenseful moment was
    What made it suspenseful was

14. A suspenseful moment was
    What made it suspenseful was

Evaluating and Connecting (15 points)
Use a separate sheet of paper to answer the following essay question.

15. Do you think the Whites deserved what happened to them? Why or why not?
The Monkey’s Paw
Selection Test (page 29)

Recalling and Interpreting
(56 points total; 8 points each)
1. b 5. d
2. c 6. d
3. b 7. a
4. a

Using Vocabulary
(15 points total; 3 points each)
8. a 11. b
9. c 12. b
10. a

Interpreting and Evaluating
(14 points total; 7 points each)
13–14. Answers will vary. Possible answers could include when Mr. White makes the first wish, because
• magic is intriguing
• reader expects wish to be fulfilled
• Morris’s behavior has suggested the paw’s power
• paw moves, suggesting wish will be fulfilled
• wish isn’t immediately fulfilled, so reader wonders what will happen
when the nicely dressed stranger arrives, because
• no one knows who he is or what he wants
• seems his appearance is tied to wish
• his behavior suggests something isn’t right
when Mrs. White tries to open the door near end of story, because
• it isn’t certain what’s on other side
• reader doesn’t know if she’ll get it open before husband stops her
• reader expects her to be confronted by son
• reader is anxious about son’s arrival

Evaluating and Connecting (15 points)
15. Answers will vary. Most students will feel that the Whites did not deserve what happened to them because
• they had done nothing bad.
• no family member had exhibited greed, selfishness, cruelty, or any other serious character flaw in their interest in the monkey’s paw.
• Mr. White had followed Morris’s warning to wish only for something practical.
• even if it is bad to try to get something for nothing, no family member deserved to be punished so harshly and horribly for wishing for a moderate sum of money.
• Morris had not given the family any specific examples of horrible consequences resulting from wishing on the paw.
• Morris should have warned the family that one could not control how the wish was granted.
• Mr. White made a simple wish that he didn’t expect to have granted; almost anyone would believe this to be harmless.

Students who feel that the family deserved what happened to them could say that
• Morris clearly thought that they would regret using the paw, and he was in a position to know; the Whites should have heeded him.
• no one should get involved with magic; it is too dangerous.
• trying to get something for nothing often has bad consequences.

Tuesday Siesta
Selection Test (page 31)

Recalling and Interpreting
(60 points total; 10 points each)
1. a 4. c
2. b 5. a
3. a 6. c