

GRADE 8 CUMULATIVE REVIEW KEY

Directions Read the following passage. Then answer the questions that follow.

from **“The Interlopers”** by **Saki**

- 1 The neighbor feud had grown into a personal one since Ulrich had come to be head of his family. If there was a man in the world whom he detested and wished ill to it was Georg Znaeym, the inheritor of the quarrel and the tireless game-snatcher and raider of the disputed border-forest. The feud might, perhaps, have died down if the personal ill will of the two men had not stood in the way. As boys, they had thirsted for one another's blood. As men, each prayed that misfortune might fall on the other. This wind-scourged winter night Ulrich had banded together his foresters¹ to watch the dark forest. They were not in quest of four-footed quarry², but to keep a look-out for the prowling thieves whom Ulrich suspected of being afoot from across the land boundary. The roebuck³, which usually kept in the sheltered hollows during a storm-wind, were running like driven things tonight. There was movement and unrest among the creatures that were wont⁴ to sleep through the dark hours. Assuredly there was a disturbing element in the forest, and Ulrich could guess the quarter from whence it came.
- 2 He strayed away by himself from the watchers whom he had placed in ambush on the crest of the hill. He wandered far down the steep slopes amid the wild tangle of undergrowth, peering through the tree trunks and listening through the whistling of the wind and the restless beating of the branches for sight and sound of the marauders⁵. If only on this wild night, in this dark, lone spot, he might come across Georg Znaeym, man to man, with none to witness - that was the wish that was uppermost in his thoughts. And, as he stepped round the trunk of a huge beech, he came face to face with the man he sought.

3 The two enemies stood glaring at one another for a long silent moment. Each had a rifle in his hand, each had hate in his heart and murder uppermost in his mind. The chance had come to give full play to the passions of a lifetime. But a man who has been brought up in a civilized way cannot easily get up the nerve to shoot down his neighbor in cold blood and without a word spoken, unless an offense against his hearth and honor has been made. Before the moment of hesitation had given way to action, a deed of Nature's own violence overwhelmed them both. A fierce shriek of the storm had been answered by a splitting crash over their heads. Before they could leap aside, a mass of falling beech tree had thundered down on them. Ulrich von Gradwitz found himself stretched on the ground, one arm numb beneath him and the other held almost as helplessly in a tight tangle of forked branches. Both legs were pinned beneath the fallen mass. His heavy shooting-boots had saved his feet from being crushed to pieces. If his fractures were not as serious as they might have been, at least it was evident that he could not move from his present position till some one came to release him. The descending twig had slashed the skin of his face. He had to wink away some drops of blood from his eyelashes before he could take in a general view of the disaster. At his side, so near that under ordinary circumstances he could almost have touched him, lay Georg Znaeym, alive and struggling, but obviously as helplessly pinned down as himself. All round them lay a thick-strewn wreckage of splintered branches and broken twigs. . . .

(Summary of missing part of the short story: At first, pinned under the huge tree, both men continue to be hateful towards each other, but then, Ulrich offers Goerg a drink of wine from his flask and that kind of breaks the ice. They end up deciding that their feud is fruitless and causing a lot of people problems, so they reconcile!)

4 For a while, both men were silent, turning over in their minds the wonderful changes that this dramatic reconciliation would bring about. In the cold, gloomy forest, with the wind tearing in fitful gusts through the naked branches and whistling round the tree-trunks, they lay and waited for the help that would now bring release and succor⁶ to both parties. And each prayed a private prayer that his men might be the first to arrive, so that he might be the first to show honorable attention to the enemy that had become a friend.

5 Presently, as the wind dropped for a moment, Ulrich broke silence.

6 "Let's shout for help," he said, "in this lull our voices may carry a little way."

7 "They won't carry far through the trees and undergrowth," said Georg, "but we can try. Together, then."

8 The two raised their voices in a prolonged hunting call⁷.

- 9 "Together again," said Ulrich a few minutes later, after listening in vain for an answering halloo.
- 10 "I heard nothing but the pestilential⁸ wind," said Georg hoarsely.
- 11 There was silence again for some minutes, and then Ulrich gave a joyful cry.
- 12 "I can see figures coming through the wood. They are following in the way I came down the hillside."
- 13 Both men raised their voices in as loud a shout as they could muster.
- 14 "They hear us! They've stopped. Now they see us. They're running down the hill towards us," cried Ulrich.
- 15 "How many of them are there?" asked Georg.
- 16 "I can't see distinctly," said Ulrich, "nine or ten."
- 17 "Then they are yours," said Georg, "I had only seven out with me."
- 18 "They are making all the speed they can, brave lads," said Ulrich gladly.
- 19 "Are they your men?" asked Georg. "Are they your men?" he repeated impatiently as Ulrich did not answer.
- 20 "No," said Ulrich with a laugh, the idiotic chattering laugh of a man unstrung with hideous fear.
- 21 "Who are they?" asked Georg quickly, straining his eyes to see what the other would gladly not have seen.
- 22 "*Wolves.*"

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- 1 **foresters:** people he is hired to patrol his land
- 2 **quarry:** prey
- 3 **roebuck:** the male roe deer
- 4 **wont:** were in the habit of
- 5 **marauders:** those who roam about or raid in search of plunder (things to steal)
- 6 **succor:** relief
- 7 **hunting call:** a call that attracts certain types animals when hunting
- 8 **pestilential:** giving rise to vexation or annoyance, irritating

1. Which inference about the feud between Ulrich and Georg is supported by information in paragraph 1?
- A** It began because of Ulrich and Georg's personal ill will toward each other.
- B** It has to do with an area of forest each family claims to own.
- C** It started when Ulrich became the head of his family.
- D** It will likely continue for generations to come.

ANS: B

DIF: DOK 2

NAT: RL.8.1

STA: 8.RL.1.1

2. Which sentence from paragraph 1 foreshadows the story's ending?
- A The neighbor feud had grown into a personal one since Ulrich had come to be head of his family.
 - B As boys they had thirsted for one another's blood.
 - C This wind-scourged winter night Ulrich had banded together his foresters to watch the dark forest.
 - D There was movement and unrest among the creatures that were wont to sleep through the dark hours.

ANS: D DIF: DOK 2 NAT: RL.8.6 STA: 8.RL.2.4

3. What inference can you make about Georg and Ulrich based on information in paragraph 3?
- A They are civilized men who would never actually shoot a neighbor.
 - B They do not have a chance to shoot each other before the tree falls.
 - C They do not want to shoot each other without a reason to do it.
 - D They do not consider honor an appropriate reason to kill someone.

ANS: C DIF: DOK 2 NAT: RL.8.1 STA: 8.RL.1.1

4. How is the reader's point of view about the characters' hesitation to shoot each other different from that of the characters themselves?
- A The reader views the characters' hesitation as impractical because it will only prolong the feud between the families.
 - B The reader views the characters' hesitation as ironic because it is uncivilized to consider shooting a neighbor in the first place.
 - C The reader views the characters' hesitation as unnecessary because it is acceptable to shoot a trespasser on one's property.
 - D The reader views the characters' hesitation as polite because it is rude to shoot someone before speaking to them first.

ANS: B DIF: DOK 3 NAT: RL.8.6 STA: 8.RL.2.6

5. Which statement is NOT true of the storm's impact on events in the story?
- A It explains why the roebuck and other animals in the forest are restless.
 - B It creates an opportunity for the characters to confront each other alone.
 - C It prevents Ulrich and Georg's men from hearing them call for help.

D It indirectly causes a change in the characters' relationship.

ANS: A DIF: DOK 1 NAT: RL.8.3 STA: 8.RL.1.3

6. How do Ulrich and Georg respond to the incident of the fallen beech tree?

- A** They plan to kill each other when they are freed.
- B** They see it as a chance for reconciliation.
- C** Each hopes the other dies from his injuries.
- D** They no longer feel the need to compete.

ANS: B DIF: DOK 1 NAT: RL.8.3 STA: 8.RL.1.3

7. What does the dialogue in paragraph 18 most likely reveal about Ulrich?

- A** Ulrich is proud of the fact that his men will arrive before Georg's.
- B** Ulrich is glad his men are coming quickly so he can have Georg killed.
- C** Ulrich realizes that there are wolves in the woods and is grateful to be saved.
- D** Ulrich is worried about Georg's injuries and is glad his men are on their way.

ANS: A DIF: DOK 2 NAT: RL.8.3 STA: 8.RL.1.3

8. Which quotation seems most ironic due to the difference between the characters' point of view as they seek help and the reader's knowledge of the story's ending?

- A** Presently, as the wind dropped for a moment, Ulrich broke silence.
- B** The two enemies stood glaring at one another for a long silent moment.
- C** The two raised their voices in a prolonged hunting call.
- D** There was silence for some minutes, and then Ulrich gave a joyful cry.

ANS: C DIF: DOK 3 NAT: RL.8.6 STA: 8.RL.2.6

9. Select the **three** elements that would be included in an objective summary of the text:

- A** Two men, who had been lifelong enemies, were hunting in the woods on a dark, stormy night.
- B** The animals in the forest were restless, reacting to something unseen.
- C** The two enemies came across each other and, being alone with no witnesses, knew

that they could get away with finally killing the other.

D Lightning strikes a tree and pins the two men underneath so that they are unable to move.

E Georg had seven men hunting with him and Ulrich had a few more.

F Their near-death experience causes the two men to reconcile and they wait anxiously for their friends to rescue them so that they can begin a new life as friends.

ANS: A, C, D, F

STA: 8.RL.1.2

A Poison Tree

BY WILLIAM BLAKE

I was angry with my friend:
I told my wrath¹, my wrath did end.
I was angry with my foe²:
I told it not, my wrath did grow.

And I waterd it in fears,
Night & morning with my tears:
And I sunned it with smiles,
And with soft deceitful wiles³.

And it grew both day and night.
Till it bore an apple bright.
And my foe beheld it shine,
And he knew that it was mine.

And into my garden stole,
When the night had veild⁴ the pole⁵;
In the morning glad I see;
My foe outstretched beneath the tree.

1 anger

2 enemy

3 schemes

4 hid

5 the North Star

10. How is the structure of the poem different than the structure of the short story?

Choose two.

A In the short story, the suspense is developed through dialogue, while in the poem it is developed through the confessions of the narrator.

- B** The short story is told in chronological order, while the poem is told in flashbacks.
- C** The poem chronicles the development of the feud, while the short story just begins with the two enemies hating each other already.
- D** The story has an ironic ending, while the poem has an expected ending.

ANS: A, C

11. PART A What does the poison tree symbolize?

- A love
- B greed
- C death
- D anger

PART B How does the selected symbol in **PART A** impact the meaning of the poem

- A** The symbol becomes an extended metaphor for how anger can change into love.
- B** The symbol becomes an extended metaphor for how greed can lead to death.
- C** The symbol becomes an extended metaphor for how anger can have different origins.
- D** The symbol becomes an extended metaphor for how we can cultivate our hatred to the point that it produces something toxic.

ANS: D,D

STA: 8.RL.2.4

12 “The Poison Tree” makes an allusion to the biblical story of the Garden of Eden, which depicts Adam and Eve disobeying God by eating fruit from the tree of knowledge, commonly thought to be an apple. This action caused sin and death to be brought into the world, according to Judeo-Christian beliefs. How does Blake transform this creation story in his poem? **Choose two.**

- A** Blake also uses an apple as a symbol, but turns it into a symbol of what unchecked anger can produce.
- B** Eating an apple causes death, as it does in the Adam and Eve story, but it is a specific person’s death (his enemy), not just death, in general.
- C** The poet also uses the idea of a garden, but transforms his garden into a place of renewal.
- D** The poet also has the action involving two people, but transforms these people into a father and son, instead of a man and woman.

ANS: A, B

STA: 8.RL.3.9

Directions Read the following passage. Then answer the questions that follow.



Endurance crushed to death by the icepacks of the Weddell Sea, the sinking ship, watched by the dogs, 1st November 1915.

**from *South: The Story of Shackleton's Last Expedition, 1914–1917*
by Ernest Shackleton**

Ernest Shackleton, a polar explorer, led several British expeditions to Antarctica during the early 20th century. After Shackleton's ship, the Endurance, was trapped in and destroyed by ice, Shackleton and his crew were forced to camp on ice floes as they tried to save themselves from the hazardous circumstances.

1 This has been an eventful day. The morning was fine, though somewhat overcast by stratus and cumulus clouds; moderate south-southwesterly and southeasterly breezes. We hoped that with this wind the ice would drift nearer to Clarence Island. At 7 a.m. lanes of water and leads could be seen on the horizon to the west. The ice separating us from the lanes was loose, but did not appear to be workable for the boats. The long swell¹ from the northwest was coming in more freely than on the previous day and was driving the floes² together in the utmost confusion. The loose brash between the masses of ice was being churned to mudlike consistency, and no boat could have lived in the channels that opened and closed around us. Our own floe was suffering in the general disturbance, and after breakfast I ordered the tents to be struck and everything prepared for an immediate start when the boats could be launched. I had decided to take the *James Caird* myself, with Wild and eleven men. This was the largest of our boats, and in addition to her human complement she carried the major portion of the stores. Worsley had charge of the *Dudley Docker* with nine men, and Hudson and Crean were the senior men on *the Stancomb Wills*.

2 Soon after breakfast the ice closed again. We were standing by, with our preparations as complete as they could be made, when at 11 a.m. our floe suddenly split right across under the boats. We rushed our gear on to the larger of the two pieces and watched with strained attention for the next development. The crack had cut through the site of my tent. I stood on the edge of the new fracture, and, looking across the widening channel of water, could see the spot where for many months my head and shoulders had rested when I was in my sleeping bag. The depression formed by my body and legs was on our side of the crack. The ice had sunk under my weight during the months of waiting in the tent, and I had many times put snow under the bag to fill the hollow. The lines of stratification showed clearly the different layers of snow. How fragile and precarious had been our resting place! Yet usage had dulled our sense of danger. The floe had become our home, and during the early months of the drift we had almost ceased to realize that it was but a sheet of ice floating on unfathomed³ seas. Now our home was being shattered under our feet, and we had a sense of loss and incompleteness hard to describe.

- 3 The fragments of our floe came together again a little later, and we had our lunch of seal meat, all hands eating their fill. I thought that a good meal would be the best possible preparation for the journey that now seemed imminent, and as we would not be able to take all our meat with us when we finally moved, we could regard every pound eaten as a pound rescued. The call to action came at 1 p.m. The pack ice opened well and the channels became navigable. The conditions were not all one could have desired, but it was best not to wait any longer. The *Dudley Docker* and the *Stancomb Wills* were launched quickly. Our supplies were thrown in, and the two boats were pulled clear of the immediate floes towards a pool of open water three miles broad, in which floated a lone and mighty berg. The *James Caird* was the last boat to leave, heavily loaded with stores and odds and ends of camp equipment. Many things regarded by us as essentials at that time were to be discarded a little later as the pressure of the primitive became more severe. Man can sustain life with very scanty means⁴. The trappings of civilization are soon cast aside in the face of stern realities, and given the barest opportunity of winning food and shelter, man can live and even find his laughter ringing true.
- 4 The three boats were a mile away from our floe home at 2 p.m. We had made our way through the channels and had entered the big pool when we saw a rush of foam-clad water and tossing ice approaching us, like the tidal bore⁵ of a river. The pack ice was being impelled to the east by a tide rip⁶, and two huge masses of ice were driving down upon us on converging courses. The *James Caird* was leading. Starboarding⁷ the helm⁸ and bending strongly to the oars, we managed to get clear. The two other boats followed us, though from their position astern at first they had not realized the immediate danger. The *Stancomb Wills* was the last boat and she was very nearly caught, but by great exertion she was kept just ahead of the driving ice. It was an unusual and startling experience. The effect of tidal action on ice is not often as marked as it was that day. The advancing ice, accompanied by a large wave, appeared to be travelling at about three knots, and if we had not succeeded in pulling clear we would certainly have been swamped.

1 **swell**: a long, unbroken wave or series of waves

2 **floes**: sheets of ice floating on a body of water's surface

3 **unfathomed**: not penetrated, measured, or understood

4 **means**: resources

5 **bore**: a sudden tidal flood that creates a high wave

6 **tide rip**: rough waters created by a strong, usually narrow current of water that flows away from a shore

7 **starboarding**: turning to the right

8 **helm**: steering device of a ship

13. Which sentence from paragraph 1 best supports the idea that Shackleton and his men are preparing for a potentially dangerous trip?

- A The morning was fine, though somewhat overcast by stratus and cumulus clouds; moderate south-southwesterly and southeasterly breezes.
- B We hoped that with this wind the ice would drift nearer to Clarence Island.
- C The long swell from the northwest was coming in more freely than on the previous day and was driving the floes together in the utmost confusion.
- D I had decided to take the *James Caird* myself, with Wild and eleven men.

ANS: C 8.RI.1.1

14. How does the following sentence from paragraph 1 contribute to the reader's understanding of the danger that Shackleton's crew faces?

The loose brash between the masses of ice was being churned to mudlike consistency, and no boat could have lived in the channels that opened and closed around us.

- A It helps the reader understand the force of floes' collisions and their potential danger to the boats.
- B It helps the reader understand how surprising it is that the crew had survived on the floes for months.
- C It helps the reader understand that Shackleton and his crew did not have the right boats to travel between the floes.
- D It helps the reader understand that the debris between the floes would slow down the boats' progress.

ANS: A 8.RI.2.5

15. What is one fact revealed by the photograph and caption that is not mentioned in this excerpt about Shackleton's expedition?

- A The *Endurance* becomes trapped and destroyed by the ice.
- B Ice and snow is a major hazard of Shackleton's expedition.
- C Sled dogs were a part of the Shackleton expedition.
- D The men were forced to live on an ice floe for a while.

ANS: C 8.RI.3.7

16. Which evidence from paragraph 2 does NOT support the idea that Shackleton and his men had grown fond of living on the floe?

- A The ice had sunk under my weight during the months of waiting in the tent, and I had many times put snow under the bag to fill the hollow.

- B** How fragile and precarious had been our resting place! Yet usage had dulled our sense of danger.
- C** The floe had become our home, and during the early months of the drift we had almost ceased to realize that it was but a sheet of ice floating on unfathomed seas.
- D** Now our home was being shattered under our feet, and we had a sense of loss and incompleteness hard to describe.

ANS: A 8.RI.1.1

17. Which statement best describes the structure paragraph 2 uses to develop the key event of the floe splitting?

- A** It uses chronology to describe the splitting of the floe.
- B** It describes the causes of the split and the split's effect on the crew's boats.
- C** It uses chronology to explain what happens and description to show the significance of the event to the crew.
- D** It uses chronology to explain what happens and comparison to show that the event is insignificant.

ANS: C 8.RI.2.5

18. Identify the sentence from paragraph 3 that best supports the inference that Shackleton wrote much of this account some time after the events occurred, despite the fact that it appears to be a diary entry.

- A** The fragments of our floe came together again a little later, and we had our lunch of seal meat, all hands eating their fill.
- B** The conditions were not all one could have desired, but it was best not to wait any longer.
- C** The *James Caird* was the last boat to leave, heavily loaded with stores and odds and ends of camp equipment.
- D** Many things regarded by us as essentials at that time were to be discarded a little later as the pressure of the primitive became more severe.

ANS: D 8.RI.1.3

19. Why does Shackleton use the following figurative expression at the end of paragraph 3?

The trappings of civilization are soon cast aside in the face of stern realities.

- A** to communicate that hardship forces people to give up unnecessary things
- B** to demonstrate the difference between being at sea and being on land
- C** to condemn the way "civilized" people behave in difficult situations
- D** to illustrate how civilized his men are despite the hardships they endure

ANS: A 8.RI.2.4

20. What is the meaning of the technical term *astern* in paragraph 4?

- A to the right of a boat
- B to the left of a boat
- C in front of a boat
- D behind a boat

ANS: D 8.RI.2.4

21. What was Shackleton's purpose in writing about all the boats in the expedition and not just his own?

- A To compare his boat to the others.
- B To explain how many men lost their lives in the expedition.
- C To show how his boat lead the expedition out of danger.
- D To illustrate how dangerous the ice floes are in Antarctica.

ANS: C 8.RI.2.6

22. Which two of the following sentences can be combined to create an accurate summary of the text?

- A During an expedition to Antarctica conditions on the ice worsened and caused Shackleton to make the decision to gather his crew, supplies, and boats up for launch out of the area.
- B Emotions were high as the crew watched their home on the ice crumble before their eyes and sink into the sea.
- C After waiting for an open channel the crew managed to flee the ice in safety just in time as the ice and waves pushed their way upon them.
- D The expedition lands home and the crew brings with them a supply of meat.

ANS: A, C 8.RI.1.2

23. What gives this account of the expedition credibility? **Choose three.**

- A It is an account of someone who experienced it first hand.
- B Shackleton was British and the British funded his expeditions, so they believed in him.
- C The account is given in a detailed, detached narration, despite the danger.
- D Shackleton exaggerated the danger by including tales of dangerous animals.
- E Photographs were taken of the expedition.

ANS: A, C, E 8.RI.3.8

24 Which sentence uses punctuation correctly?

- A** Sara Smith's new novel which is the first in a trilogy—comes out next week.
- B** Sara Smith's new novel, which is the first—in a trilogy—comes out next week.
- C** Sara Smith's new novel, which is the first in a trilogy, comes out next week.
- D** Sara Smith's new novel . . . which is the first in a trilogy, comes out next week.

ANS: C 8.L.1.2a

25 Which sentence below corrects the spelling error in the following sentence?

Despite many years of disapproval, the Nineteenth Ammendment was ratified in 1919, granting women the right to vote.

- A** Despite many years of disaproval, the Nineteenth Ammendment was ratified in 1919, granting women the right to vote.
- B** Despite many years of disapproval, the Nineteenth Amendment was ratified in 1919, granting women the right to vote.
- C** Despite many years of disapproval, the Ninetenth Ammendment was ratified in 1919, granting women the right to vote.
- D** Despite many years of disapproval, the Nineteenth Amendment was ratifed in 1919, granting women the right to vote.

ANS: B 8.L.1.2c

26. Which sentence correctly uses passive voice to emphasize the action rather than the people doing the action?

- A** The students line up to enter the auditorium.
- B** The principal introduces the candidates for student body president.
- C** A powerful speech is given by each candidate.
- D** The students are all given a chance to vote.

ANS: C 8.L.2.3a

27. Based on context clues, what is the meaning of the word *somber* in the following sentence?

The portrait showed a somber man wearing a dark brown suit, his thin lips tightly closed and his eyes stern.

- A** boring
- B** serious

- C important
- D anonymous

ANS: B 8.L.3.4a

28. The Latin root *sagac* means "wise." Based on this knowledge, what is the best meaning of the word *sagacious*?

- A foolish
- B elderly
- C saggy
- D smart

ANS: D 8.L.3.4b

29. Look at this dictionary entry for *heritage*. Then answer the question.

her•i•tage (her' ih tihj) *n.* **1** a property or quality that is passed from one generation to the next. **2** tradition. **3** a characteristic or quality that one has due to one's parents or family situation. **4** a right or privilege one is entitled to because he or she was born into a specific family, group, or situation. [Middle English, from Anglo-French, from *heriter* to inherit, from Late Latin *hereditare*, from Latin *hered*, *heres*]

Which meaning of *heritage* is used in the following sentence?

Born to a pair of successful alumni, Quinn assumed that admission into the preparatory school was part of her heritage.

- A a property or quality that is passed from one generation to the next
- B tradition
- C a characteristic or quality that one has due to one's parents or family situation
- D a right or privilege one is entitled to because he or she was born into a specific family, group, or situation

ANS: D

STA: 8.L.3.4.c

30. A reader might think that the word *lucrative* means "likely to make money." Which sentence would help the reader check this definition?

- A The charity raised money for the lucrative families affected by the earthquake.
- B The accountant lost his job after making the lucrative mistake.
- C The inventor became a millionaire after she had a lucrative idea.
- D The company lost a lot of money in the lucrative business deal.

ANS: C

STA: 8.L.3.4d