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Gr. 7/A

Literature
"Icarus's Flight"

Worksheet (3)

According to the poem "Icarus's Flight", answer the following questions.

A- Choose the letter of the best answer.

1. What is most unusual about the structure of the poem?

- a) It does not have a consistent rhyme scheme.
- b) It is organized into five stanzas.
- c) Capitalization and punctuation are missing.
- d) Sentences extend from one stanza into the next.

2. in the first line, the poet asks, "What else could the boy have done?" What answer is the poet expecting?

- a) He could have flown lower.
- b) He could have flown farther.
- c) There is nothing else he could have done.
- d) He could have stayed in the garden.

3. What does the poet mean by "the exact point where freedom stopped" (lines 4-5)?

- a) The point at which Icarus could no longer fly.
- b) The point at which Icarus decided to fly.
- c) The point at which Icarus plunged into the sea.
- d) The point at which the shepherd and farmer could no longer see him.

4. What does the poet mean by “his anticipated plummeting” (line7)?

- a) Icarus knew that he would eventually fall.
- b) Icarus was surprised by his fall.
- c) Icarus regretted trying to fly.
- d) Icarus knew that people were watching him.

5. What is the best statement of the poem’s theme or message?

- a) Test your limits to learn what’s possible.
- b) Practice moderation in all things.
- c) Be content with what you have.
- d) Work hard to prepare for the future.

6. What language device or structure does the poet use to communicate his message?

- a) sentence fragments
- b) rhyme and repetition
- c) comparison and contrast
- d) question-and-answer

7. What does the poet suggest by the lines “to flutter ignorantly / from petal to petal within some garden” (lines 12–13)?

- a) a busy, fulfilled life
- b) a dull, boring life
- c) a life of peace and harmony
- d) a life of freedom and escape

8. Which phrase from the poem best expresses what Icarus gained from his flight?

- a) "downward plunge"
- b) "point of wisdom"
- c) "just far enough"
- d) "upward escape"

9. Which word best describes the poet's attitude toward Icarus?

- a) critical
- b) dismissive
- c) admiring
- d) questioning

10. What is the "cushion" referred to in line 20?

- a) The sea into which Icarus fell.
- b) The wings that disintegrated as Icarus fell.
- c) The disappointment Icarus felt when he fell.
- d) The knowledge Icarus gained from his flight.

B- Answer the following questions based on your knowledge of the poem.

1. What is meant by the lines, "He flew just far enough? He flew precisely / to the point of wisdom"?

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2. Unlike many retellings of the myth of Icarus, this poem suggests that Icarus did the right thing. Explain why, citing evidence from the poem.

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