

Quoting Text Accurately to Support Inferences

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____ / 10



Quick Review

When you make an inference, do not just guess. Find the exact sentence in the text that proves it, and copy it word-for-word. The best evidence shows the inference directly — not almost, and not in a different scene.

PART 1 — READ

Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

The Cartographer's Apprentice

For three months, Imani had carried Master Okonjo's leather satchel from village to village without once being allowed to open it. The satchel held the brass instruments her teacher used to draw maps of the southern hill country, and Imani had been told only that the tools inside were older than her grandmother's grandmother. Master Okonjo did not speak much during their long walks, but every evening he sat on a flat stone outside whatever inn or barn they had found and asked her to describe, from memory, every river and ridge they had crossed that day.

On a rainy afternoon in the village of Kebi, the satchel slipped from Imani's shoulder and landed in a shallow puddle. She froze, certain that her months of training were about to end. Master Okonjo knelt beside the satchel without a word. He opened the buckle, lifted out a brass compass, and dried it with the inside hem of his coat. Only then did he look up. "You walked nine hours today and dropped it once," he said. "Tomorrow we will see whether you walk ten."

That night Imani could not sleep. She lay listening to the rain on the roof and went over the day's path in her head — the bend in the river, the three pale cliffs, the goat track that climbed and then doubled back. In the morning, before Master Okonjo had finished his tea, she was already standing by the door with the satchel slung carefully across her chest, the buckle turned toward her ribs so it could not slip again.

PART 2 — PRACTICE

Use the passage to answer each question. For each inference, find the sentence that proves it best.



1. Which sentence from the passage BEST supports the inference that Master Okonjo's tools are very valuable?
 - A. "For three months, Imani had carried Master Okonjo's leather satchel from village to village without once being allowed to open it."
 - B. "The satchel held the brass instruments her teacher used to draw maps of the southern hill country, and Imani had been told only that the tools inside were older than her grandmother's grandmother."
 - C. "Master Okonjo did not speak much during their long walks..."
 - D. "He opened the buckle, lifted out a brass compass, and dried it with the inside hem of his coat."
2. Which sentence BEST supports the inference that Master Okonjo is testing Imani's memory on purpose?
 - A. He carries brass instruments older than her grandmother's grandmother.
 - B. Every evening he asks her to describe, from memory, every river and ridge they crossed that day.
 - C. He sits on a flat stone outside the inn or barn each night.
 - D. He does not speak much during their long walks.
3. Read this sentence: "Imani froze, certain that her months of training were about to end." What does this BEST support about Imani?
 - A. She is angry at the puddle for being in her path.
 - B. She thinks Master Okonjo gives second chances easily.
 - C. She believes one mistake could cost her everything she has worked for.
 - D. She is more worried about the satchel than about her training.
4. Which sentence BEST supports the inference that Master Okonjo decides to give Imani another chance?
 - A. "He opened the buckle, lifted out a brass compass, and dried it with the inside hem of his coat."
 - B. "Master Okonjo did not speak much during their long walks."
 - C. "You walked nine hours today and dropped it once."
 - D. "Tomorrow we will see whether you walk ten."
5. Which detail from paragraph 3 BEST supports the inference that Imani has learned from the puddle incident?
 - A. She lies awake listening to the rain on the roof.
 - B. She turns the buckle of the satchel toward her ribs so it cannot slip again.
 - C. She goes over the day's path in her head before falling asleep.
 - D. She is standing by the door before Master Okonjo finishes his tea.



6. Read this sentence from paragraph 1: "...the tools inside were older than her grandmother's grandmother." The phrase "her grandmother's grandmother" is used MOST LIKELY to —
- A. help the reader picture how extremely old the tools are by comparing them to many generations.
 - B. show that Imani's family has worked with maps for many generations.
 - C. explain that Imani learned about the tools from her great-great-grandmother.
 - D. suggest that Master Okonjo is related to Imani's family.
7. Based on the WHOLE passage, the reader can BEST infer that Master Okonjo's training method is —
- A. gentle and full of praise, so that Imani never feels nervous.
 - B. based mostly on books Imani must read each evening.
 - C. designed to discourage students who are not naturally talented.
 - D. demanding and quiet, expecting Imani to learn from her own mistakes.
8. Which sentence BEST supports the inference that Imani takes her training seriously?
- A. "On a rainy afternoon in the village of Kebi, the satchel slipped from Imani's shoulder and landed in a shallow puddle."
 - B. "She lay listening to the rain on the roof and went over the day's path in her head — the bend in the river, the three pale cliffs, the goat track that climbed and then doubled back."
 - C. "She froze, certain that her months of training were about to end."
 - D. "In the morning, before Master Okonjo had finished his tea, she was already standing by the door with the satchel slung carefully across her chest..."
9. What can the reader infer about WHY Master Okonjo dried the compass before he spoke to Imani? Use one quoted detail from the passage to support your answer.

10. Find one sentence in the passage that BEST supports the inference that Imani is determined to keep going. Copy the sentence exactly, and in one sentence explain why it proves determination.



Answer Keys

- 1 A B C D
- 2 A B C D
- 3 A B C D
- 4 A B C D
- 5 A B C D

- 6 A B C D
- 7 A B C D
- 8 A B C D
- 9
- 10

Explanations

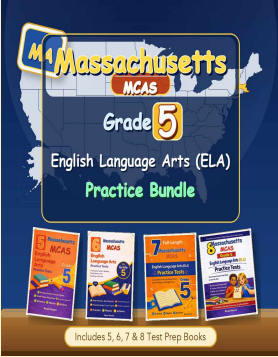
1. B	B names BOTH the rare material (brass) and the great age — two clues that together prove worth. A shows the satchel is restricted but not why; C describes the master's quiet manner, not the tools; D shows care after the fall but not original value.
2. B	Asking nightly for from-memory recall of specific landmarks is a deliberate test. A shows the tools are old, not that he tests her; C is a setting detail; D shows he is quiet, which could be many things — silence is not a test.
3. C	"Months of training were about to end" shows she expects total loss from one slip. A invents an emotion the text does not give; B is the OPPOSITE of what she fears; D mixes two ideas — the sentence focuses on her training ending, not on the satchel itself.
4. D	"Tomorrow" guarantees there IS a tomorrow with him — a second chance, stated indirectly. A shows kindness to the tool, not to her future; B is unrelated; C only NAMES today's mistake, without promising another day.
5. B	Turning the buckle inward is a NEW physical change made because of yesterday's slip — the clearest learned response. A only shows she is restless; C is good study habit but unrelated to the puddle; D shows eagerness, not a fix to the specific problem.
6. A	Stacking generations is a vivid way to say "very, very old" — comparison for scale. B reads family history into the line; C invents a teacher the text never names; D adds a relationship the text never hints at.
7. D	He says little, gives long walks, asks nightly recall, and lets the puddle speak for itself — demanding plus quiet. A misses his silence and rebuke; B invents books the text never mentions; C twists "demanding" into "trying to make her quit," which the text contradicts by giving her tomorrow.
8. C	Treating one slip as a possible end of training proves how seriously she values the work. A is just an accident; B shows good study habits but could be habit, not seriousness; D shows eagerness the next day — a real clue, but C shows the deeper feeling of how much it MATTERS to her.
9.	Answer: Strong answers explain that protecting the tool came first — feelings (his and hers) could wait — supported by a quote like "He opened the buckle, lifted out a brass compass, and dried it with the inside hem of his coat. Only then did he look up." Acceptable variations: he wanted to model that the work matters more than the moment; he was calming himself before speaking; he was checking the damage before deciding what to say. NOT acceptable: answers without any quote; answers that say he was angry and ignoring her (the text does not show anger); answers about his coat being old. Look for what he does FIRST in paragraph 2 and what "Only then did he look up" suggests.



10.	Answer: Strongest copy: "In the morning, before Master Okonjo had finished his tea, she was already standing by the door with the satchel slung carefully across her chest, the buckle turned toward her ribs so it could not slip again." Reason: she is up early, ready, AND has fixed the cause of yesterday's mistake — three signs of determination. Also acceptable: "She lay listening to the rain on the roof and went over the day's path in her head..." with reason that she is still working at the lesson even when she could be sleeping. NOT acceptable: any sentence that only describes the master, the satchel's contents, or the puddle. The best quote should show Imani DOING something that proves she is not giving up.
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