Modern Stories and Traditional Patterns

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____ / 10

Quick Review

Modern works often borrow a pattern from myth, folklore, or traditional stories, then change the setting, conflict, or character choice to make new meaning.

PART 1 — READ

Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

A New Thread for Ari

Ari joined the city design contest with a problem no one wanted: the subway station under City Hall confused even lifelong residents. Hallways doubled back, signs pointed toward closed exits, and commuters joked that the station had swallowed whole afternoons.

Her brother called it a maze. Ari smiled because she had been reading the old myth of Ariadne, who gives Theseus a thread so he can escape the labyrinth. But Ari did not want to be the person waiting outside the maze. She wanted to redesign it.

For three weeks, she walked every route with colored yarn in her pocket, tying temporary lines from platform to exit until patterns appeared. Then she replaced the yarn with painted floor paths: blue to trains, green to street exits, gold to elevators.

The judges praised the design for being simple. Ari thought of the myth and disagreed. A thread was not simple if it helped people stop feeling lost.

PART 2 — PRACTICE

Use the passage to answer each question. Choose the best answer and support short responses with evidence.

1. Which sentence from the passage BEST supports the inference that Ari draws inspiration from a myth but changes the role she wants to play.?

A. Her brother called it a maze.

B. But Ari did not want to be the person waiting outside the maze. She wanted to redesign it.

C. The judges praised the design for being simple.

D. Commuters joked about swallowed afternoons.

2. Which statement BEST expresses the central idea or theme of the passage?

   A. A borrowed story pattern can become new when a character changes from helper outside the problem to designer inside it.

   B. Ancient myths should not be used in modern cities.

   C. Subway stations are impossible to improve.

   D. Winning contests matters more than helping people.

3. What does the word 'swallowed' most nearly mean as it is used in the passage?

   A. physically eaten

   B. spoken too softly

   C. made time seem lost or consumed

   D. measured carefully

4. How does the structure or key detail identified in the passage contribute to meaning?

   A. It proves Ari is actually living in ancient Greece.

   B. It makes the subway station magical.

   C. It removes the practical purpose of the design.

   D. The myth reference gives readers a pattern for understanding Ari's project, then highlights how her solution updates that pattern.

5. Which conclusion is BEST supported by the whole passage?

   A. They are modern because they hide exits from commuters.

   B. The painted paths are a modern version of Ariadne's thread because they guide people through a confusing maze-like place.

   C. They copy the myth exactly by requiring yarn forever.

   D. They prove Ari wants someone else to solve the station problem.

6. Which choice is the BEST objective summary of the passage?

   A. Ari uses the myth of Ariadne and the labyrinth as a starting point for redesigning a confusing subway station with painted paths.

   B. Ari writes a play about Theseus and wins a city contest.

   C. Ari gets lost in a subway station and decides never to return.

   D. Ari removes all signs so commuters can explore the station.

7. Which answer should be rejected because it goes beyond what the passage supports?

   A. A borrowed story pattern can become new when a character changes from helper outside the problem to designer inside it.

   B. The painted paths are a modern version of Ariadne's thread because they guide people through a confusing maze-like place.

   C. Ancient myths should not be used in modern cities.

   D. The myth reference gives readers a pattern for understanding Ari's project, then highlights how her solution updates that pattern.

8. Which detail would be MOST useful to quote in a written response about the passage?

A. Her brother called it a maze.

B. The judges praised the design for being simple.

C. Commuters joked about swallowed afternoons.

D. But Ari did not want to be the person waiting outside the maze. She wanted to redesign it.

9. In 2-3 sentences, explain how one quoted detail supports the idea that Ari draws inspiration from a myth but changes the role she wants to play..

_____

_____

10. Write a one-sentence analysis of the passage's message or main idea. Then name one detail that supports it.

_____

_____

Answer Keys

1	A	**B**	C	D	6	**A**	B	C	D
2	**A**	B	C	D	7	A	B	**C**	D
3	A	B	**C**	D	8	A	B	C	**D**
4	A	B	C	**D**	9	See below			
5	A	**B**	C	D	10	See below			

Explanations

1. B	The correct evidence directly proves the stated inference rather than merely mentioning the same topic.
2. A	The correct answer covers the whole passage, while the distractors are too narrow, too extreme, or unsupported.
3. C	The context around the word points to this meaning in this passage.
4. D	The correct answer explains the role the detail plays in the development of the text.
5. B	The correct conclusion follows from multiple details, not from a single isolated word.
6. A	A strong summary includes the main conflict or idea and the outcome without personal opinion.
7. C	This choice overstates or invents an idea that the passage does not prove.
8. D	This detail is specific enough to support analysis in a written response.
9.	**Answer:** A strong response quotes or closely paraphrases: But Ari did not want to be the person waiting outside the maze. She wanted to redesign it. Then it explains how that detail proves the inference instead of only repeating it. Use exact wording from the text or task, then explain your reasoning.
10.	**Answer:** A strong response states: A borrowed story pattern can become new when a character changes from helper outside the problem to designer inside it. It supports the statement with a precise detail such as: But Ari did not want to be the person waiting outside the maze. She wanted to redesign it. Use exact wording from the text or task, then explain your reasoning.

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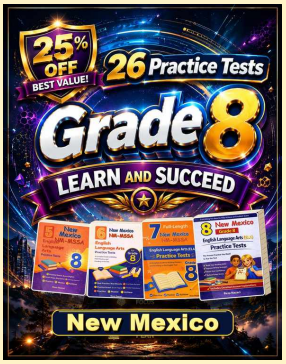

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