

## 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE WEDNESDAY INTERVENTION – ROTATION 2: PRE/POST ASSESSMENT

Name:	Date:	Teacher:
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**READING STANDARD: 8.RL3:** Analyze how particular lines of dialogue or incidents in a story or drama propel the action, reveal aspects of a character, or provoke a decision.

Read the passages. Then answer the questions.

A Haunted House by Virginia Woolf

1 Whatever hour you woke there was a door shutting. From room to room they went, hand in hand, lifting here, opening there, making sure—a ghostly couple.

2 “Here we left it,” she said. And he added, “Oh, but here too!” “It’s upstairs,” she murmured. “And in the garden,” he whispered. “Quietly,” they said, “or we shall wake them.”

3 But it wasn’t that you woke us. Oh, no. “They’re looking for it; they’re drawing the curtain,” one might say, and so read on a page or two. “Now they’ve found it,” one would be certain, stopping the pencil on the margin. And then, tired of leading, one might rise and see for oneself, the house all empty, the doors standing open, only the wood pigeons bubbling with content and the hum of the threshing machine sounding from the farm. “What did I come in here for? What did I want to find?” My hands were empty. “Perhaps it’s upstairs then?” The apples were in the loft. And so down again, the garden still as ever, only the book had slipped into the grass.

4 But they had found it in the drawing room. Not that one could ever see them. The windowpanes reflected apples, roses; all the leaves were green in the glass. If they moved in the drawing room, the apple only turned its yellow side. Yet, the moment after, if the door was opened, spread about the floor, hung upon the walls, pendant from the ceiling—what? My hands were empty. The shadow of a thrush crossed the carpet; from the deepest wells of silence the wood pigeon drew its bubble of sound. “Safe, safe, safe,” the pulse of the house beat softly. “The treasure buried; the room . . .” the pulse stopped short. Oh, was that the buried treasure?

5 A moment later the light had faded. Out in the garden then? But the trees spun darkness for a wandering beam of sun. So fine, so rare, coolly sunk beneath the surface the beam I sought always burnt behind the glass. Death was the glass; death was between us; coming to the woman first, hundreds of years ago, leaving the house, sealing all the windows; the rooms were darkened. He left it, left her, went North, went East, saw the stars turned in the Southern sky; sought the house, found it dropped beneath the Downs. “Safe, safe, safe,” the pulse of the house beat gladly. “The Treasure yours.”

6 The wind roars up the avenue. Trees stoop and bend this way and that. Moonbeams splash and spill wildly in the rain. But the beam of the lamp falls straight from the window. The candle burns stiff and still. Wandering through the house, opening the windows, whispering not to wake us, the ghostly couple seek their joy.

7 “Here we slept,” she says. And he adds, “Kisses without number.” “Waking in the morning—” “Silver between the trees—” “Upstairs—” “In the garden—” “When summer came—” “In winter snowtime—” The doors go shutting far in the distance, gently knocking like the pulse of a heart.

8 Nearer they come; cease at the doorway. The wind falls, the rain slides silver down the glass. Our eyes darken; we hear no steps beside us; we see no lady spread her ghostly cloak. His hands shield the lantern. “Look,” he breathes. “Sound asleep. Love upon their lips.”

9 Stooping, holding their silver lamp above us, long they look and deeply. Long they pause. The wind drives straightly; the flame stoops slightly. Wild beams of moonlight cross both floor and wall, and, meeting, stain the faces bent; the faces pondering; the faces that search the sleepers and seek their hidden joy.

10 "Safe, safe, safe," the heart of the house beats proudly. "Long years—" he sighs. "Again you found me." "Here," she murmurs, "sleeping; in the garden reading; laughing, rolling apples in the loft. Here we left our treasure—" Stooping, their light lifts the lids upon my eyes. "Safe! safe! safe!" the pulse of the house beats wildly. Waking, I cry "Oh, is this your buried treasure? The light in the heart."

1. Which of the following lines from the selection best reveals the ghostly couple's feelings for the living couple?

- A. "What did I want to come in here for? What did I want to find?"
- B. "Quietly," they said, "or we shall wake them."
- C. Wandering through the house, opening the windows . . .
- D. Nearer they come; cease at the doorway.

2. What do the final lines of the story - "Oh, is this your buried treasure? The light in the heart?" - reveal about the living couple?

- A. They feel love for each other and are comfortable with the ghosts.
- B. They want to thank the ghosts for the treasure and leave it untouched in the house.
- C. They had been searching for the treasure for a long time but were unsuccessful.
- D. They wish that they felt as much love for each other as the ghost couple did.

3. What does the house repeatedly saying "Safe, safe, safe" reveal about the character of the ghosts?

- A. It shows that they were careful about where they hid their treasure.
- B. It shows that they are now safe because they are dead.
- C. It shows that the ghost couple will not ever be able to find the treasure.
- D. It shows that the new couple does not have to fear the ghosts.

Excerpt from Tarzan of the Apes by Edgar Rice Burroughs

Context Statement: On the way to a post in Africa, John and Alice Clayton are left stranded in the jungle. They build a hut and try to survive until they can be rescued. Alice gives birth to a baby boy, but she dies when he is a year old. Soon after, John is killed by an ape named Kerchak. A female ape, Kala, takes the baby human as her own and names him Tarzan.

1 Tenderly Kala nursed her little waif, wondering silently why it did not gain strength and agility as did the little apes of other mothers. It was nearly a year from the time the little fellow came into her possession before he would walk alone, and as for climbing—my, but how stupid he was!

2 Kala sometimes talked with the older females about her young hopeful, but none of them could understand how a child could be so slow and backward in learning to care for itself. Why, it could not even find food alone, and more than twelve moons had passed since Kala had come upon it.

3 Had they known that the child had seen thirteen moons before it had come into Kala's possession they would have considered its case as absolutely hopeless, for the little apes of their own tribe were as far advanced in two or three moons as was this little stranger after twenty-five.

4 Tublat, Kala's husband, was sorely vexed, and but for the female's careful watching would have put the child out of the way.

5 “He will never be a great ape,” he argued. “Always will you have to carry him and protect him. What good will he be to the tribe? None; only a burden.

6 “Let us leave him quietly sleeping among the tall grasses, that you may bear other and stronger apes to guard us in our old age.”

7 “Never, Broken Nose,” replied Kala. “If I must carry him forever, so be it.”

8 And then Tublat went to Kerchak to urge him to use his authority with Kala, and force her to give up little Tarzan, which as the name they had given to the tiny Lord Greystoke, and which meant “White-Skin.”

9 But when Kerchak spoke to her about it Kala threatened to run away from the tribe if they did not leave her in peace with the child; and as this is one of the inalienable rights of the jungle folk, if they be dissatisfied among their own people, they bothered her no more, for Kala was a fine clean-limbed young female, and they did not wish to lose her.

10 As Tarzan grew he made more rapid strides, so that by the time he was ten years old he was an excellent climber, and on the ground could do many wonderful things which were beyond the powers of his little brothers and sisters. 11 In many ways did he differ from them, and they often marveled at his superior cunning, but in strength and size he was deficient; for at ten the great anthropoids were fully grown, some of them towering over six feet in height, while little Tarzan was still but a half-grown boy.

12 Yet such a boy!

13 From early childhood he had used his hands to swing from branch to branch after the manner of his giant mother, and as he grew older he spent hour upon hour daily speeding through the tree tops with his brothers and sisters.

14 He could spring twenty feet across space at the dizzy heights of the forest top, and grasp with unerring precision, and without apparent jar, a limb waving wildly in the path of an approaching tornado.

15 He could drop twenty feet at a stretch from limb to limb in rapid descent to the ground, or he could gain the utmost pinnacle of the loftiest tropical giant with the ease and swiftness of a squirrel. Though but ten years old he was fully as strong as the average man of thirty, and far more agile than the most practiced athlete ever becomes. And day by day his strength was increasing.

16 His life among these fierce apes had been happy; for his recollection held no other life, nor did he know that there existed within the universe aught else than his little forest and the wild jungle animals with which he was familiar.

17 He was nearly ten before he commenced to realize that a great difference existed between himself and his fellows. His little body, burned brown by exposure, suddenly caused him feelings of intense shame, for he realized that it was entirely hairless, like some low snake, or other reptile.

18 He attempted to obviate this by plastering himself from head to foot with mud, but this dried and fell off. Besides it felt so uncomfortable that he quickly decided that he preferred the shame to the discomfort.

19 In the higher land which his tribe frequented was a little lake, and it was here that Tarzan first saw his face in the clear, still waters of its bosom.

20 It was on a sultry day of the dry season that he and one of his cousins had gone down to the bank to drink. As they leaned over, both little faces were mirrored on the placid pool; the fierce and terrible features of the ape beside those of the aristocratic scion of an old English house.

21 Tarzan was appalled. It had been bad enough to be hairless, but to own such a countenance! He wondered that the other apes could look at him at all.

22 That tiny slit of a mouth and those puny white teeth! How they looked beside the mighty lips and powerful fangs of his more fortunate brothers!

23 And the little pinched nose of his; so thin was it that it looked half starved. He turned red as he compared it with the beautiful broad nostrils of his companion. Such a generous nose! Why it spread half across his face! It certainly must be fine to be so handsome, thought poor little Tarzan. But when he saw his own eyes; ah, that was the final blow—a brown spot, a gray circle and then blank whiteness! Frightful! not even the snakes had such hideous eyes as he.

4. What does the reader learn about Kala's character and Tublat's character when Tublat wants to abandon Tarzan, but Kala will not let him? Select all that apply.

- A. Kala is practical.
- B. Tublat is practical.
- C. Kala likes humans.
- D. Tublat likes humans.
- E. Kala has a caring personality.
- F. Tublat has a caring personality.

5. Which sentence from Tarzan of the Apes best shows the reason that provokes Tarzan's decision to plaster himself with mud?

- A. (Though but ten years old he was fully as strong as the average man of thirty, and far more agile than the most practiced athlete ever becomes.) (And day by day his strength was increasing.)
- B. (His life among these fierce apes had been happy; for his recollection held no other life, nor did he know that there existed within the universe aught else than his little forest and the wild jungle animals with which he was familiar.)
- C. (He was nearly ten before he commenced to realize that a great difference existed between himself and his fellows.)
- D. (His little body, burned brown by exposure, suddenly caused him feelings of intense shame, for he realized that it was entirely hairless, like some low snake, or other reptile.)