Name Date

**“Thank You, M’am”**  by Langston Hughes (text page 126)

**Selection Quiz**

1. How does Mrs. Jones meet Roger?

a. at a church social

b. at school career day

c. when he tries to steal her purse

2. Which best describes Mrs. Jones’s reaction to being surprised by Roger?

a. delight

b. anger

c. fear

3. What reason does Roger give for his action?

a. He wants a new bicycle.

b. He wants a new pair of blue suede shoes.

c. He needs lunch money for school.

4. What do these lines show about Roger?

“Ain’t you got nobody home to tell you to wash your fact?”

“No’m,” said the boy.

a. He is shy.

b. He is neglected at home.

c. He has trouble telling the truth.

5. What do these lines tell you about Mrs. Jones?

“Then it [Roger’s face] will get washed this evening,” said the large woman starting

up the street, dragging the frightened boy behind her.

a. She is a stickler for cleanliness.

b. She is a bossy woman.

c. She is concerned about Roger.

6. What does Mrs. Jones do when the boy struggles to get away?

a. She jerks him around in front of her, wrestles him with one arm, and drags him up the street.

b. She shouts very loudly for help, frightening the boy into staying at her side.

c. She warns him that she will call the police and that they will track him down.

7. After Mrs. Jones tells Roger that he could simply have asked her for the shoes, “the boy looked at

her. There was a long pause. A very long pause.” What does this pause show about Roger?

a. He is surprised, touched, and confused by her offer.

b. He is growing ever more suspicious of her.

c. He is so unused to washing his face that he forgets to dry it.

8. Which of the following best summarizes the meaning of this passage?

The boy wanted to say something else other than “Thank you m’am,” to Mrs. Luella

Bates Washington Jones, but he couldn’t do so as he turned at the barren stoop and

looked back at the large woman in the door.”

a. Roger realized how inadequate a mere thank-you was for all Mrs. Jones had done for him.

b. Roger wanted to say something nasty to Mrs. Jones, but he restrained himself.

c. Roger didn’t really want to thank Mrs. Jones because he felt that she had forced him to go

with her.

**Essay Question**

Choose one and answer in complete sentences.

9. Do you think that Mrs. Jones did Roger a favor by letting him get away with his mistake? Or do you

think Roger should have been punished?

10. Mrs. Jones tells Roger, “When I get through with you, you are going to remember Mrs. Lucilla Bates

Washington Jones.” What will Roger probably remember about Mrs. Jones in years to come? How will

she probably make a difference in his life?

Matching. Think about the plot outline.

11. exposition a. Roger decides to stay and wash his face instead of running away

12. rising action b. Roger says “Thank You” to Mrs. Jones

13. climax c. Mrs. Jones drags Roger to her apartment

14. falling action d. 11:00 at night, on the street, in Mrs. Jones’ apartment

15. resolution e. Mrs. Jones gives Roger $10

Match the vocabulary words.

latching mistrusted presentable barren

16. “You might run that comb through your hair so you look .”

17. He did not trust the woman not to trust him. And he did not want to be now.

18. “And next time, do not make the mistake of onto my pocketbook

nor nobody else’s…”

19. …he turned at the stoop and looked back at the large woman

in the door.