COMPREHENSION (40 points; 4 points each)
On the line provided, write the letter of the best answer to each of the following items.

1. Where is Pa’s family going?
   A They are moving west to prospect for gold.
   B They are returning home.
   C They are going to Pa’s uncle’s sawmill.
   D They are going to join a Conestoga wagon train.

2. What reasons does Pa give for not wanting Mary to travel with them?
   F He doesn’t like Mary’s attitude.
   G He thinks she may be a thief.
   H He is out of food and money.
   J He doesn’t think Mary can help with his children.

3. What is the condition of the homesteaders that Pa’s family meets along the way?
   A They have staked their claims and are content.
   B They are hospitable to the family.
   C The homesteaders are scared because their crops are spoiled.
   D They are optimistic and preparing to plant crops.

4. Why does Pa leave his children and Mary alone for four days in the cabin?
   F He is going hunting.
   G He is going to find food in town.
   H He is going to a creek to fish.
   J He is going to claim a homestead of their own.

5. The reason Pa gives his son for obeying Mary when he’s gone is that —
   A his son isn’t responsible
   B Mary is older
   C Mary is like a mother
   D Mary may have more brains

6. How is Pa feeling when he leaves the children and Mary alone?
   F Disillusioned
   G Confident
   H Happy
   J Ill
7. When Pa is away, the narrator —
   A almost gets lost trying to find their horse
   B almost succeeds in catching some fish
   C has a close encounter with a bear
   D finds a few berries in the woods

8. When the narrator says he’d be willing to kill Mary if he had Pa’s rifle, he is showing that —
   F he is brave and protective of his sisters
   G he doesn’t understand Mary’s reason for eating the mushroom first
   H his father was wrong about trusting Mary with the children
   J he would have been willing to shoot their horse

9. By eating the mushroom first, Mary shows that she is really —
   A cruel
   B selfish
   C brave
   D sweet

10. At the end of the story, the narrator reveals that —
    F Mary became a wonderful woman
    G Pa later marries Mary
    H Mary is actually his mother
    J Mary dies of food poisoning

**LITERARY FOCUS** (20 points; 5 points each)

On the line provided, write the letter of the best answer to each of the following items.

11. What has probably motivated Mary to “run away from somewhere” and travel with a wagon out west?
    A She didn’t like her previous job.
    B She doesn’t have a family of her own.
    C She has been whipped by her former employer.
    D She has been hungry for a long time.

12. Which of the following statements about Mary’s character is not true?
    F Mary is protective.
    G Mary is sure of herself.
    H Mary is quarrelsome.
    J Mary is responsible.
13. What is the narrator’s motivation for sitting with Mary by the fire all night?
   A. He wants to find out as soon as he can if he can eat the mushroom.
   B. He understands the risk Mary has taken and is sympathetic toward her.
   C. He wants to make sure she doesn’t eat any more of the mushroom.
   D. He is afraid that if she is left alone, Mary will die.

14. Which of the following phrases best describes a person’s character?
   F. A person in a story, play, or poem
   G. A cast in a play
   H. A person’s essential qualities
   J. A person’s internal reasons for taking an action

VOCABULARY DEVELOPMENT (20 points; 4 points each)
Match the definition on the left with the Vocabulary word on the right. On the line provided, write the letter of the Vocabulary word.

15. thin and bony
   A. savoring
16. enjoying with great delight
   B. skimpy
17. reluctant
   C. rummaged
18. less than enough
   D. gaunt
19. searched through the contents of a box, a drawer, and so on
   E. grudging

CONSTRUCTED RESPONSE (20 points)
20. What do you think Pa’s motivation was for allowing Mary to travel with them? As you write your response, use examples from the story to support your opinion. Include some information about how the story’s time and place may have contributed to Pa’s decision. On a separate sheet of paper, write a paragraph that explains your answer. Support your ideas with details from the story.
Too Soon a Woman
by Dorothy M. Johnson
Selection Test, page 47
Comprehension
1. C   6. F
2. H   7. A
3. C   8. G
5. D   10. G

Literary Focus
11. C
12. H
13. B
14. H

Vocabulary Development
15. d
16. a
17. e
18. b
19. c

Union Pacific Railroad Poster
Home, Sweet Soddie
by Flo Ota De Lange
Selection Test, page 50
Comprehension
1. A   6. J
2. H   7. C
3. B   8. F
4. F   9. A

Mrs. Flowers
by Maya Angelou
Selection Test, page 52
Comprehension
1. B   6. F
2. H   7. C
3. D   8. G

Literary Focus
11. D
12. G
13. B
14. H

Answer Key