

## THE WORLD ON THE TURTLE'S BACK

**Selection Test B/C****Comprehension**

Read each of the following questions. Then choose the letter of the best answer. (6 points each)

1. When the wife insists on getting bark from the roots of the great tree, she shows that the gods
  - A. ignore the rules sometimes
  - B. know that the tree can heal
  - C. feast whenever they want
  - D. live in the center of the universe
2. When the woman falls from the Sky-World, the birds' actions show that animals
  - A. have the same strength as people
  - B. depend on them to take the lead
  - C. recognize the importance of women
  - D. have a special relationship with gods
3. What does the gods' reaction to the woman's fall tell you about the role of the gods in Iroquois culture?
  - A. More gods are needed to watch the humans.
  - B. The Iroquois do not respect their gods.
  - C. The gods are not concerned with human matters.
  - D. Humans need to get the gods' attention.
4. The diversity of plants on the Great Tree is important to the creation myths of the Iroquois because the tree's
  - A. roots bring many plants to earth
  - B. leaves provide the gods with food
  - C. bark provides the earth's only medicines
  - D. flowers decorate sacred ceremonies
5. What does the woman do to grow the earth?
  - A. makes the world out of clay
  - B. walks in the direction of the sun
  - C. asks the fish to bring her more dirt
  - D. prays over the muskrat
6. What does the twins' competition to make animals in this creation myth explain?
  - A. how the animals reflect their creators
  - B. why some animals burrow underground
  - C. how nature keeps each type of animal in check
  - D. why some animals eat both meat and plants
7. Why does the myth say the left-handed twin "died and he didn't die"?
  - A. It is impossible to totally destroy evil.
  - B. An individual should never kill his brother.
  - C. Anyone who is loved will never die.
  - D. Nothing on earth ever really dies.
8. The Iroquois call the right-handed twin the "Master of Life" because he
  - A. creates many items in the world
  - B. represents the sun, which is vital for all life
  - C. rules everything found on the earth
  - D. survives when his brother dies

## SELECTION TEST B/C, CONTINUED

9. The left-handed twin's choice of weapon suggests that he
- A. is too lazy to select a better weapon
  - B. knows that his brother is supposed to win
  - C. believes that his brother is weak
  - D. wishes to continue fighting with his brother
10. The Iroquois would be most likely to honor the left-handed twin when
- A. harvesting their crops
  - B. gambling on wild plum pits
  - C. getting ready to plant in the spring
  - D. preparing for war

**Written Response**

**Short Response** Answer the following questions based on your knowledge of the myth. Write a sentence or two on a separate sheet of paper. (10 points each)

11. Describe how the grandmother and the left-handed twin each disobey the rules.
12. How does the right-handed twin finally learn how to win the battle with his brother?

**Extended Response** Answer one of the following questions based on your knowledge of the myth. Write one or two paragraphs on a separate sheet of paper. (20 points)

13. What evidence in this myth supports the idea that there will always be mysteries about the world's creation? Use details from the myth in your response.
14. **Challenge** Choose either the left-handed twin or the right-handed twin and explain how the sharp arrow represents that twin. Use details from the myth to support your response.