

Theatre Studies Quiz

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Plot, Setting, and Characters, Oh My!

Multiple Choice (1 mark each)

1. Dialogue can be **best** described as...
 - a. talking.
 - b. giving a speech.
 - c. a conversation between two people.
 - d. a person talking to themselves.
2. Which one of these is **not** an example of setting?
 - a. Mood
 - b. Place
 - c. Weather
 - d. Time

Application Question (9 marks)

As you read the script below, please complete the following:

3. Underline at least **10** directions in the scene.
4.  each character.
5. Put  around any scene settings.

SCENE: ROCK, SWORD, FIRECRACKER!

Group of friends playing rock scissors paper at a local tournament. They all say:

ALL: Rock, scissors, paper!

They all do one of the above. One person gets rock and the rest get scissors and he/she pounds all their scissors. They all laugh and start another round. One person gets scissors and the rest paper and he/she cuts all their papers dramatically. There is Asian music and a person enters dressed in traditional Asian clothing. The players don't notice at first but the master shouts:

MASTER: Stop!

They all freeze.

KELLY: Who are you?

MASTER: I am the master of the Rock!

Master holds out a fist. Players all look at each other and then laugh.

MEL: Well, I've got paper.

Mel puts a flat hand over the Master's fist. Players laugh and then Master grabs Mel's hand and throw Mel on the table and sticks a finger to Mel's throat.

MASTER: And I have sword.

KELLY: There's no sword in Rock, Paper, Scissors.

MASTER: That is where you are mistaken.

Master helps Mel up.

MASTER (CONT.): I am here to tell you the story of... (dramatic pause) ROCK! (holds up a fist) SWORD! (holds up index finger) FIRECRACKER! (holds up thumb).

Players all look at each other confused.

MEL: I thought it was rock, scissors, paper.

MASTER: You are wrong! The ancient game has been dishonored by scissors and paper. It is a mockery of the true art of the challenge. Shall I tell you the story?

KELLY: Sure.

MASTER: If you wish to hear the story, you must say, "Yes, Master."

They all look at each other, some shrug, some make funny face but they all nod in agreement.

ALL: Yes, master.

MASTER: Say... "Pretty please."

They give each other looks and then say.

ALL: Pretty please.

MASTER: "Pretty please with a cherry blossom on top."

MEL: Come on!

MASTER: Fine. I will tell you the story.

The master can pull out a scroll or book to help with the story. This next part is flexible for staging. The master can act out his story, more actors can come in and act out the story or the players can act out the story.

MASTER (Cont.): It all began with the rock.

KELLY: You mean like the wrestler?

MASTER: No, the rock was a big fat lazy slob. But he was unmovable. He was a champion sumo wrestler because no one could move him. He won every match. And then he sent a challenge

out to all warriors that no one could defeat him. So samurai and ninja from all over Asia came to fight him, but even a sword could not pierce his rock-like skin. But then a magician from a distant land came with a mighty weapon. A firecracker! No one had seen such a huge firecracker before. The magician faced off against the Rock. He lit the fuse and placed it at the Rock's feet. The Rock did not care. He did not think anything could defeat him. Suddenly, there was a huge explosion. They were screams and cries of pain. And when the smoke cleared, the Rock had fallen. Everyone stood quietly and couldn't believe their eyes. A few began to cry. The magician's laugh broke the silence and he pulled another, even bigger firecracker from his robes. The magician yelled, "I shall rid this land of the Rock forever!" He placed the firecracker next to the Rock and lit it. But then a young one, who was a big fan and collected all the Rock memorabilia, sprang in to action. He snatched up a sword and "swish", cut the fuse, saving the rock from destruction.

The master bows to end his story and the players clap and cheer.

Mel: Amazing.

KELLY: Great story!

MASTER: So I ask that you no longer dishonor the game with scissors and paper.

MEL: Yes, Master!

KELLY: We will, Master.

Master bows and then leaves.

MEL: Ready?

ALL: Rock, sword, firecracker!

All except one do firecracker and one does sword and dramatically cuts their fuses with karate sounds.

KELLY: That is more fun.

ALL: Rock, sword, firecracker!

All except one do rock and one does dynamite and blows them up.

END OF PLAY

Read the following short scene and answer the questions that follow.

"Hipster Hobos" by D. M. Larson

(Mel and Nell enter the seating area of a restaurant with a tray filled with drinks, a number and dinner rolls. They are talking so they don't notice immediately that all the tables are taken by a person at each table with a laptop or tablet or some electronic device)

NELL: You think the kids are okay?

MEL: We have a good sitter.

NELL: Why do they have to act that way when I leave? They act like they are dying. Why do they have to be so over-dramatic? It's worse than watching Titanic.

MEL: No... Nothing is worse than watching Titanic.

(They realize they are wandering a bit too much)

NELL: All the tables are taken.

MEL: Oh no. It's the hipster hobos.

NELL: The what?

MEL: Hipster hobos... aka laptop hobos... they find hip places with free Wi-Fi and buy the cheapest thing possible and camp out for the entire day.

NELL: Don't they have anything better to do?

MEL: No... this is their life. Taking up space and trying to look cool while doing it.

NELL: Well... it's not cool. I am a tired mom who needs a night to relax... I just need to sit.

MEL: I think that one's asleep. Maybe if we sit with her really quiet.

NELL: I want our own table. I think that one ran out of battery... oh, wait, he has an extension cord.

MEL: You think with all the free refills they'd have to get up to go pee more.

NELL: Maybe if I find the Wi-Fi hub, I can unplug it.

MEL: And get us kicked out.

NELL: Why don't they kick them out?

MEL: It's a vicious cycle. This restaurant wants to appear hip. So they want the hipsters in here to draw in the rest of the hip crowd. But hipsters have to fit in their skinny jeans so they don't buy much food.

NELL: I have an idea.

(Nell speaks loudly)

NELL (CONT.): Did you hear about the sale at the Apple store?! It's a good one!

(Hipsters start to take interest)

NELL (CONT.): They have a sale on the new iPid!

HIPSTER 1: The iPid?

HIPSTER 2: What's an iPid?

(Hipsters start to stir and get excited)

NELL (CONT.): I don't know! But it's new!

HIPSTER 3: I need one!

HIPSTER 4: Me too!

(Hipsters start to pack up in a hurry and leave)

NELL (CONT.): And I hear they will give 100 iPids away to the first 100 people in line.

(Hipsters are leaving)

NELL (CONT.): They don't open until morning so you'll have to wait in line all night.

HIPSTER 1: I always stay in line the night before the launch of a new Apple product.

HIPSTER 2: Who doesn't?

(Hipster 3 calls out to a waitress off stage)

HIPSTER 3: I brought my extension cord. Is it okay if I leave it plugged in here?

HIPSTER 4: I have a power strip.

(All the Hipsters are gone. Nell smiles big)

NELL: Which table would you like?

(They sit down happily and Nell unplugs the long extension cord that was left behind by the hipsters. Blackout. Hipsters moan and groan in the darkness)

END OF SCENE

Matching (3 marks)

Classify each of the follow as either character, setting, or plot (these options may be used more than once).

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| 6. ____ Nell | A. Character |
| 7. ____ Seating Area | B. Setting |
| 8. ____ Hipster Hobos | C. Plot |
| 9. ____ Restaurant | |
| 10. ____ Unplugging Extension Cord | |
| 11. ____ Packing Up | |

Short Answer

12. Draw a plot graph for “Hipster Hobos” that outlines the initial incident, rising and falling action, and the climax of the plot. (5 marks)

13. Out of the four elements of the script that we've discussed previously (dialogue, directions, characters, and setting), which do you think contributes most to "Hipster Hobos"? Why? Give an example. (3 marks)

Answer Key

1. C

2. A

3. All sections below can be underlined:

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The master bows to end his story and the players clap and cheer.

Master bows and then leaves.

All except one do firecracker and one does sword and dramatically cuts their fuses with karate sounds.

All except one do rock and one does dynamite and blows them up.

4. Circle the names MASTER, MEL, and KELLY once each.

5. The following should be in a box:

Group of friends playing rock scissors paper at a local tournament.

6. A

7. B

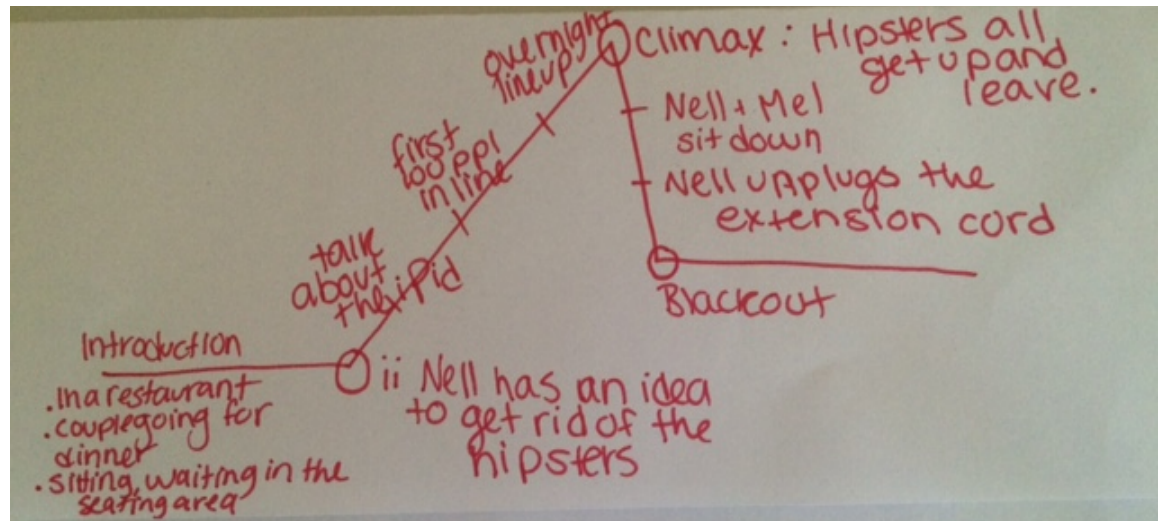
8. A

9. B

10. C

11. C

12.



13. They need to choose one of the elements outlined in the question for one mark. The second mark is for their defense (they get a mark is their argument is logical. The last mark is for their example, which has to align with their explanation.