

Quiz: Comprehending the Reading

Question 1a of 10 (1 Joseph Conrad's Heart of Darkness 304738)

Maximum Attempts: 1
 Question Type: Multiple Choice
 Maximum Score: 1

Question: Conrad's narrator describes going up the river as a(n) _____ journey in a _____ landscape.

Choice	Feedback
A. enlightening; primordial	
B. relaxing; peaceful	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C. frightening; forbidding	Correct!
D. peaceful; quiet	

Global Incorrect Feedback
 The correct answer is: frightening; forbidding

Question 1b of 10 (1 Joseph Conrad's Heart of Darkness 304782)

Maximum Attempts: 1
 Question Type: Multiple Choice
 Maximum Score: 1

Question: Which word best describes the feelings of the *Heart of Darkness* narrator as he travels up the river?

Choice	Feedback
A. Brave	
B. Ambitious	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C. Anxious	Correct!
D. Curious	

Global Incorrect Feedback
 The correct answer is: Anxious.

Question 1c of 10 (1 Joseph Conrad's Heart of Darkness 304783)

Maximum Attempts: 1
 Question Type: Multiple Choice
 Maximum Score: 1

Question: The narrator of *Heart of Darkness* describes going up the river almost as though he were:

Choice	Feedback
A. ascending into heaven.	
B. dying.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C. traveling back in time.	Correct!
D. having a party.	

Global Incorrect Feedback
 The correct answer is: traveling back in time.

Question 2a of 10 (2 Joseph Conrad's Heart of Darkness 304784)

Maximum Attempts: 1
 Question Type: Multiple Choice
 Maximum Score: 1

Question: Which word best describes the jungle scene as Marlow describes it at the beginning of the excerpt?

Choice	Feedback
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A. Silent	Correct!
B. Raucous	
C. Comforting	
D. Lively	

Global Incorrect Feedback
 The correct answer is: Silent.

Question 2b of 10 (2 Joseph Conrad's Heart of Darkness 304785)

Maximum Attempts: 1
 Question Type: Multiple Choice
 Maximum Score: 1

Question: Which of these words best captures the impression Marlow has of the river and the surrounding jungle in the opening paragraph?

Choice	Feedback
A. Violence	
B. Brutality	
C. Liveliness	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D. Stillness	Correct!

Global Incorrect Feedback
 The correct answer is: Stillness.

Question 2c of 10 (2 Joseph Conrad's Heart of Darkness 304786)

Maximum Attempts: 1
 Question Type: Multiple Choice
 Maximum Score: 1

Question: In the opening paragraph, Marlow describes the jungle as being _____ and _____.

Choice	Feedback
A. peaceful; comforting	
B. raucous; silent	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C. still; silent	Correct!
D. beautiful; violent	

Global Incorrect Feedback
 The correct answer is: still; silent.

Question 3a of 10 (2 Joseph Conrad's Heart of Darkness 304787)

Maximum Attempts: 1
 Question Type: Multiple Choice
 Maximum Score: 1

Question: We were wanderers on a primitive earth. We could have hunted ourselves the first men taking possession of an accused inheritance, to be subdued at the cost of profound anguish and of excessive toil."

This passage reveals that the narrator thinks that the river and surrounding jungle are _____.

Choice	Feedback
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A. primitive	Correct!
B. beautiful	
C. bountiful	
D. ugly	

Global Incorrect Feedback
 The correct answer is: primitive.

Question 3b of 10 (2 Joseph Conrad's Heart of Darkness 304788)

Maximum Attempts: 1
 Question Type: Multiple Choice
 Maximum Score: 1

Question: "The earth seemed unearthly. We are accustomed to look upon the snacking first men taking possession of an accused inheritance, but there if there you could look at a thing monstrous and free."

What can you infer about Marlow's attitude toward Africa based on this passage?

Choice	Feedback
A. He has mixed feelings about it.	
B. It reminds him of England.	
C. He thinks that it is a pleasant place to be.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D. He thinks of it as primitive and wild.	Correct!

Global Incorrect Feedback
 The correct answer is: He thinks of it as primitive and wild.

Question 3c of 10 (2 Joseph Conrad's Heart of Darkness 304789)

Maximum Attempts: 1
 Question Type: Multiple Choice
 Maximum Score: 1

Question: "[This] stillness of life did not in the least resemble a peace. It was the stillness of an implacable force brooding over an inscrutable intention."

What can you infer about the narrator based on this description he offers of the river and jungle?

Choice	Feedback
A. The narrator is at peace with the power of the landscape.	
B. He finds the landscape peaceful.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C. He feels as though the landscape is threatening.	Correct!
D. The narrator is unimpressed by the landscape.	

Global Incorrect Feedback
 The correct answer is: He feels as though the landscape is threatening.

Question 4a of 10 (3 Joseph Conrad's Heart of Darkness 304790)

Maximum Attempts: 1
 Question Type: Multiple Choice
 Maximum Score: 1

Question: "He had filed teeth, too, the poor devil, and the wool of his pate shaved into queer patterns, and three ornamental scars on each of his cheeks."

What can you say about the narrator's description of the "fireman" in this passage?

Choice	Feedback
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A. It avoids discussion of the cultural significance of the details of his physical appearance.	Correct!
B. It is sensitive to the cultural significance of the details of his physical appearance.	
C. It communicates a sense that the narrator respects him.	
D. It portrays his culture accurately and authentically.	

Global Incorrect Feedback
 The correct answer is: It avoids discussion of the cultural significance of the details of his physical appearance.

Question 4b of 10 (3 Joseph Conrad's Heart of Darkness 304791)

Maximum Attempts: 1
 Question Type: Multiple Choice
 Maximum Score: 1

Question: "He ought to have been clapping his hands and stamping his feet on the bank, instead of which he was hard at work, a thrall to strange witchcraft, full of improving knowledge."

What does this passage imply about the narrator's attitudes toward this "fireman," a native African?

Choice	Feedback
A. He fears him.	
B. He feels that he would make a good captain.	
C. He is respectful of his learning.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D. He thinks he doesn't belong on the boat.	Correct!

Global Incorrect Feedback
 The correct answer is: He thinks he doesn't belong on the boat.

Question 4c of 10 (3 Joseph Conrad's Heart of Darkness 304792)

Maximum Attempts: 1
 Question Type: Multiple Choice
 Maximum Score: 1

Question: "He was useful because he had been instructed; and what he knew was this that should the water in that transparent thing disappear, the evil spirit in side the boiler would get angry through the greatness of his thirst, and take a terrible vengeance."

Which word best describes the tone (the narrator's attitude toward the subject) in this passage?

Choice	Feedback
A. Viciously rude	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B. Patronizing	Correct!
D. Neutral	

Global Incorrect Feedback
 The correct answer is: Patronizing.

Question 5a of 10 (2 Chinua Achebe on Heart of Darkness 304793)

Maximum Attempts: 1
 Question Type: Multiple Choice
 Maximum Score: 1

Question: According to Chinua Achebe, what is the "image of Africa" that Conrad projects in *Heart of Darkness*?

Choice	Feedback
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A. That Africa is the "antithesis" of Europe	Correct!
B. That Africa is full of water and trees	
C. That Africa is virgin land, ready to be mined for resources	
D. That Africa is an unknown, new place full of potential	

Global Incorrect Feedback
 The correct answer is: That Africa is the "antithesis" of Europe.

Question 5b of 10 (2 Chinua Achebe on Heart of Darkness 304794)

Maximum Attempts: 1
 Question Type: Multiple Choice
 Maximum Score: 1

Question: According to Achebe, what is "the real point" behind Conrad's comparison of the Congo to the Thames?

Choice	Feedback
A. That Africa is ripe for colonization	
B. That the Thames is primarily used for commerce, whereas the Congo is relatively unused	
C. That they are completely different in every way	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D. That these rivers have a "lurking kinship"	Correct!

Global Incorrect Feedback
 The correct answer is: That these rivers have a "lurking kinship."

Question 5c of 10 (2 Chinua Achebe on Heart of Darkness 304795)

Maximum Attempts: 1
 Question Type: Multiple Choice
 Maximum Score: 1

Question: According to Achebe, what does Conrad mean when he writes in *Heart of Darkness* that the Thames was once "one of the best places of the earth"?

Choice	Feedback
A. He means that it was once relatively unused, unlike today.	
B. During the ice age, the Thames was completely covered by a mile-thick sheet of ice.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C. It indicates Conrad's fear that the Thames might someday revert to a state of "mindless frenzy."	Correct!
D. It indicates Conrad's intention to make the Thames the "hero" of the story.	

Global Incorrect Feedback
 The correct answer is: It indicates Conrad's fear that the Thames might someday revert to a state of "mindless frenzy."

Question 6a of 10 (2 Chinua Achebe on Heart of Darkness 304796)

Maximum Attempts: 1
 Question Type: Multiple Choice
 Maximum Score: 1

Question: How does Achebe respond to the argument that Conrad's narrator does not reflect the author's attitudes?

Choice	Feedback
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A. He dismisses this argument by pointing out that the story lacks an alternative worldview to that of the narrator.	Correct!
B. He acknowledges this argument and does not refute it.	
C. He dismisses this argument by saying that the main narrator, Marlow, is named after Conrad's younger brother.	
D. He acknowledges this argument but suggests that the reader look at the facts more closely.	

Global Incorrect Feedback
 The correct answer is: He dismisses this argument by pointing out that the story lacks an alternative worldview to that of the narrator.

Question 6b of 10 (2 Chinua Achebe on Heart of Darkness 304797)

Maximum Attempts: 1
 Question Type: Multiple Choice
 Maximum Score: 1

Question: To counter the argument that the narrator Marlow does not reflect Conrad's own attitudes, Achebe points out that the story lacks a(n) _____ by which we may judge the actions and opinions of the characters.

Choice	Feedback
A. standardized viewpoint	
B. foil	
C. satiric norm	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D. alternative frame of reference	Correct!

Global Incorrect Feedback
 The correct answer is: alternative frame of reference.

Question 6c of 10 (2 Chinua Achebe on Heart of Darkness 304798)

Maximum Attempts: 1
 Question Type: Multiple Choice
 Maximum Score: 1

Question: What does Achebe point to in order to suggest that Conrad "approves of" Marlow?

Choice	Feedback
A. Marlow's depiction of the jungle as frenzied and silent	
B. The way that Marlow satirizes the "fireman"	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C. The similarities between their two careers	Correct!
D. All of the above	

Global Incorrect Feedback
 The correct answer is: The similarities between their two careers.

Question 7a of 10 (2 Chinua Achebe on Heart of Darkness 304799)

Maximum Attempts: 1
 Question Type: Multiple Choice
 Maximum Score: 1

Question: What two words does Achebe offer to describe Conrad's "method" for describing the people and landscape of Africa?

Choice	Feedback
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A. Silence and frenzy	Correct!
B. Dirt and water	
C. War and peace	
D. Foul and hard	

Global Incorrect Feedback
 The correct answer is: Silence and frenzy.

Question 7b of 10 (2 Chinua Achebe on Heart of Darkness 304800)

Maximum Attempts: 1
 Question Type: Multiple Choice
 Maximum Score: 1

Question: Achebe says that Conrad's method for characterizing the people and places of Africa amounts to two words: _____ and _____.

Choice	Feedback
A. agony; ecstasy	
B. joy; pain	
C. largesse; evil	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D. silence; frenzy	Correct!

Global Incorrect Feedback
 The correct answer is: silence; frenzy

Question 7c of 10 (2 Chinua Achebe on Heart of Darkness 304801)

Maximum Attempts: 1
 Question Type: Multiple Choice
 Maximum Score: 1

Question: "Silence" and "frenzy" are subjects of sentences that Achebe says are used by Conrad to characterize _____.

Choice	Feedback
A. his critics.	
B. his acknowledgment of his own racism.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C. the people and places of Africa.	Correct!
D. his own feelings about Africa.	

Global Incorrect Feedback
 The correct answer is: the people and places of Africa.

Question 8a of 10 (2 Chinua Achebe on Heart of Darkness 304802)

Maximum Attempts: 1
 Question Type: Multiple Choice
 Maximum Score: 1

Question: According to Achebe, what is Conrad's issue or problem with the "fireman"?

Choice	Feedback
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A. He is not "in his place."	Correct!
B. His teeth are filed.	
C. He thinks the boiler contained an evil spirit.	
D. He does not stoke the fires fast enough.	

Global Incorrect Feedback
 The correct answer is: He is not "in his place."

Question 8b of 10 (2 Chinua Achebe on Heart of Darkness 304803)

Maximum Attempts: 1
 Question Type: Multiple Choice
 Maximum Score: 1

Question: According to Achebe, Conrad's issue or problem with the "fireman" is that he _____.

Choice	Feedback
A. watching the boiler gauges efficiently enough.	
B. respectful to the other passengers.	
C. "in his place" to help run the boat.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D. "in his place."	Correct!

Global Incorrect Feedback
 The correct answer is: "in his place."

Question 8c of 10 (2 Chinua Achebe on Heart of Darkness 304804)

Maximum Attempts: 1
 Question Type: Multiple Choice
 Maximum Score: 1

Question: According to Achebe, "For Conrad, things being _____ is of the utmost importance."

Choice	Feedback
A. under European control	
B. silent and frenzied	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C. in their place	Correct!
D. African or English	

Global Incorrect Feedback
 The correct answer is: in their place

Question 9a of 10 (2 Chinua Achebe on Heart of Darkness 304805)

Maximum Attempts: 1
 Question Type: Multiple Choice
 Maximum Score: 1

Question: According to Achebe, why does Conrad choose to describe Mr. Kurtz's _____ as _____?

Choice	Feedback
A. She is "in her place."	Correct!
B. She is a counterpart to a refined European woman who appears at the end of the story.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C. Both of the above	Correct!
D. None of the above	

Global Incorrect Feedback
 The correct answer is: Both of the above

Question 9b of 10 (2 Chinua Achebe on Heart of Darkness 304806)

Maximum Attempts: 1
 Question Type: Multiple Choice
 Maximum Score: 1

Question: In his discussion of Conrad's depiction of the African woman, what does Achebe say that the author withholds from her that he does not withhold from her European counterpart?

Choice	Feedback
A. Characterization	
B. physical description	
C. Savage dignity	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D. Human expression	Correct!

Global Incorrect Feedback
 The correct answer is: Human expression.

Question 9c of 10 (2 Chinua Achebe on Heart of Darkness 304807)

Maximum Attempts: 1
 Question Type: Multiple Choice
 Maximum Score: 1

Question: According to Achebe, what is Conrad's purpose in the rare instances in which he gives African characters the power of speech?

Choice	Feedback
A. To preserve a sense of the jungle as silent and still	
B. To bestow a more human quality to certain characters	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C. To have them convince the reader of their savagery through their own words.	Correct!
D. All of the above	

Global Incorrect Feedback
 The correct answer is: It cannot, because it dehumanizes Africa and Africans.

Question 10a of 10 (2 Chinua Achebe on Heart of Darkness 304808)

Maximum