The drawers • original fiction

Suggested time for the entire exam: 75–100 min; divide across two periods if needed.

Name _____ **Date** _____

When the repair shop closed, Lena carried home the little drawers that had stood behind the counter. Each brass handle held a slip in her father's narrow handwriting: springs, washers, things to try. She sorted the first two into jars. The third drawer contained a bent key, a spool with no thread and a bus ticket punched clear through the printed number. “Junk,” her brother said, and reached past her. Lena pulled the drawer onto her lap. For years customers had come to that counter with radios that hissed or clocks that struck thirteen. Her father would open this drawer before admitting defeat. Now the shop window wore brown paper. Across the street, a child wrestled with the latch on a red lunchbox. Lena took the bent key out to the curb. She had no idea whether it would fit beneath the catch. Behind her, through the open kitchen window, she could see the empty drawer waiting.

1. Which detail most strongly establishes the father’s attitude toward uncertain repairs?

- ○ A The label “things to try”
- ○ B The shop window’s location
- ○ C The ticket’s missing number alone
- ○ D The jars holding sorted washers

2. What is the effect of “wore brown paper”?

- ○ A The paper suggests that someone has repaired the glass.
- ○ B The shop seems marked by its closure like a person in changed clothing.
- ○ C The phrase introduces a change in narrator.
- ○ D The shop is described as newly decorated for customers.

3. Explain how Lena’s response to the drawer changes. Use an early and a late detail, then explain the connection.

The absent number • original informational text

Use the stimulus and your course knowledge.

Name _____ **Date** _____

A city once reported an impressive library figure: every day that June, all available study rooms had been reserved. The figure said something real about the rooms. It said much less about the people outside them. The booking system recorded a success when a reader secured a room. A reader who found no openings simply closed the calendar, leaving no trace. When staff put a paper request box near the entrance, they collected thirty requests for unavailable times in a week. Even this count had a blind spot: a commuter looking from home could never see the box. Improving a public service sometimes begins by asking which experience its records are built to preserve.

4. Why does the writer introduce the request box?

- ○ A To show that remote readers rarely need rooms
- ○ B To establish the exact number of readers turned away citywide
- ○ C To show that a new measure can reveal missing demand yet still omit some readers
- ○ D To argue that reservations should be abolished

5. What does “blind spot” refer to in context?

- ○ A An inconvenient room location
- ○ B A booking entered for the wrong time
- ○ C A reader’s deliberate refusal to answer
- ○ D An experience the method cannot register

6. Compare how the writers use an absence in “The drawers” and “The absent number.” Support a claim about purpose in each text.

Text analysis • return to the fiction

Use the stimulus and your course knowledge.

Name _____ **Date** _____

Use “The drawers” on the first page. Read the ending alongside the early sorting scene.

7. Which inference about the ending is best supported?

- ○ A Lena has proved the key opens the lunchbox.
- ○ B Lena can continue a practice even without certainty about the outcome.
- ○ C The brother has decided to learn repair.
- ○ D Lena plans to reopen the shop that afternoon.

8. How does the final image of the waiting drawer contribute to the passage?

- ○ A It identifies a new physical obstacle at the curb.
- ○ B It resolves the mechanical problem with the latch.
- ○ C It gives an ordinary object an ongoing role beyond storing the past.
- ○ D It reveals that Lena regrets giving up the key.

9. Write a developed text analysis. Establish a central idea and analyze how one writing strategy develops it. Use at least two precise details. Explain their effect rather than retelling the plot.

Use this space to plan. Continue your response on the next page.

Written response

Question 9 • Text analysis • return to the fiction. Use additional paper as needed.

Name _____ **Date** _____

Source-based argument • a town archive

Use the stimulus and your course knowledge.

Name _____ **Date** _____

Four original simulated sources about a proposed local archive. A / Survey: 96 of 120 respondents want photographs searchable online. The survey link appeared only on the archive website. B / Budget: the same grant could digitize 600 photographs or staff twelve neighborhood scanning days. It cannot fully fund both proposals. C / Pilot: four scanning days at two neighborhood sites collected 78 photographs from 19 households. Eleven households had never donated before. D / Donor interview: one donor welcomed preservation but wanted relatives consulted before family photographs appeared online. The archive has no current procedure for obtaining separate display permission.

10. Which question does Source C answer most directly?

- ○ A Did the pilot reach households new to the collection?
- ○ B Did all donors authorize online display?
- ○ C What is the cost per photograph under both proposals?
- ○ D Would all town residents prefer scanning days?

11. Which evidence most directly qualifies the survey's reach?

- ○ A Its report included the number of participants.
- ○ B Its respondents answered a question about photographs.
- ○ C Some residents may own paper photographs.
- ○ D Its recruitment was limited to archive website users.

12. Write an argument recommending how the archive should use the grant. Use evidence from at least three sources, identify each source by letter, and address a counterclaim. Explain the limits of one source. Either proposal or a justified scaled combination is defensible.

Use this space to plan. Continue your response on the next page.

Written response

Question 12 • Source-based argument • a town archive. Use additional paper as needed.

Name _____ **Date** _____