

Read the selection in your Student Edition and choose the best answer to each question.

from The Breadwinner

by Deborah Ellis

1 Which of the following is a theme of the story?

- A** Enduring love of family
- B** Courage in face of adversity
- C** Continual search for meaning
- D** Struggle for personal identity

2 What is Parvana's primary concern about assuming the role of a boy?

- F** She is worried about being responsible.
- G** She believes what she is doing is wrong.
- H** She is afraid that she will be recognized.
- J** She resents having to do her sister's job.

3 Read these sentences about the selection.

Parvana dresses up as a boy and pretends she is a cousin from jalalabad. Her mother and sister tell people she has gone to stay with an aunt in kunduz.

What is the correct way to write these sentences?

- A** Parvana dresses up as a boy and pretends she is a cousin from Jalalabad. Her Mother and Sister tell people she has gone to stay with an Aunt in Kunduz.
- B** Parvana dresses up as a boy and pretends she is a cousin from Jalalabad. Her mother and sister tell people she has gone to stay with an aunt in Kunduz.
- C** Parvana dresses up as a boy and pretends she is a cousin from jalalabad. Her Mother and Sister tell people she has gone to stay with an Aunt in kunduz.
- D** The sentences are correct as is.

4 How do paragraphs 21–24 mark a turning point in the story? Support your answer with evidence from the story.

5 In paragraph 30, why does Mother most likely ask Parvana if she wants to watch while she cuts her hair?

- A** She wants to punish Parvana for resisting the idea.
- B** She wants to force Parvana to demonstrate her obedience.
- C** She wants to help Parvana to accept the idea.
- D** She wants to reassure Parvana that the haircut will look nice.

- 6 The description of Mother's behavior while she was cutting Parvana's hair helps the reader understand that she —
- F favors Nooria over Parvana
 - G resents the interference of others
 - H misunderstands Parvana's resistance
 - J never cared about Parvana's hair

- 7 Read the dictionary entry.

gingerly ȳĭn'-jər-lē *adv* 1. warily 2. guardedly 3. carefully 4. hesitantly

Which definition best matches the use of gingerly as it is used in paragraph 43?

- A Definition 1, because Parvana felt unfamiliar with her hair
 - B Definition 2, because Parvana felt protective of her hair
 - C Definition 3, because Parvana did not want to mess up her hair
 - D Definition 4, because Parvana did not want to see her hair
- 8 In the last paragraph of the story, why does Mother say, "Go to sleep, my son"?
- F She is missing Hossain and confuses Ali with him.
 - G She is wishing the day would end.
 - H She is worried about all her children.
 - J She is accepting Parvana's new role.
- 9 Which **two** words best describe how Parvana feels while living under Taliban rule?
- A Angry
 - B Invisible
 - C Defeated
 - D Ashamed
 - E Unimportant
- 10 In the story, Parvana's haircut represents —
- F a happier time
 - G new responsibilities
 - H abandoned beliefs
 - J cultural traditions

Name _____ Date _____

**Selection
Test**

- 11 The character traits describe two characters in the story. Mark the box or boxes that correctly describe the character.

Character	Traits		
	Conflicted	Exposed	Courageous
Mother			
Parvana			

- 12 How do Parvana's feelings change after she goes to the store for the first time? Support your answer with evidence from the story.

Answer Key: *from The Breadwinner*

Item Number	Correct Answer	Depth of Knowledge
1	B	2
2	H	1
3	B	1
4	Parvana realizes that she is not forced into the decision. She recognizes that even though she does not want to do it, it really is her choice whether or not she makes this sacrifice for her family, and that makes it “easier to agree.” From that point on, she is determined to fulfill her new role.	3
5	C	2
6	H	2
7	A	3
8	F	2
9	B, E	2
10	G	2
11	Mother: Conflicted Parvana: Conflicted, Exposed, Courageous	2
12	Parvana gains confidence in her ability to convince others that she is a boy and in her ability to help her family. She is proud to go home. She “burst through the door” to tell her family that she succeeded in getting the things they needed. She agrees to living like a boy all the time to make sure she is successful.	3