"Lochinvar" by Sir Walter Scott (text page 727)
Ballad Poem

Critical Reading Questions
On the line to the left, write the letter of the best answer. Make sure your penmanship is legible.

1. A ballad is a poem that
   a. praises the gods
   b. records historical events
   c. tells a story
   d. expresses the emotions of the speaker

2. What can we assume about Lochinvar from these lines in the opening stanza of the poem?
   O, young Lochinvar is come out of the west, / Through all the wild Border
   his steed was the best, / And save his good broadsword he weapons had none; / He rode all unarmed, and he rode all alone. / So faithful in love, and so
dauntless in war, ...
   a. Lochinvar is preparing for battle.
   b. Lochinvar is worried about his horse.
   c. Lochinvar is lonely.
   d. Lochinvar is riding his horse.

3. The speaker in this ballad may be identified as
   a. the hero
   b. the bride’s father
   c. an imaginary voice assumed by the poet
   d. the bride

4. The only weapon that Lochinvar carries is
   a. a broadsword
   b. a spear
   c. a knife
   d. a rifle

5. What qualities of Lochinvar are described in these opening lines?
   He rode all unarmed, and he rode all alone. / So faithful in love, and so dauntless in
   war, / There never was a knight like the young Lochinvar.
   a. patience, wisdom, and humor
   b. faithfulness, courage, and strength
   c. intelligence, wit, and humor
   d. strength, nobility, and pride

6. What can we assume from these lines in the second stanza?
   The bride had consented, the gallant came late: / For a laggard in love, and a das-
tard in war, / Was to wed the fair Ellen of brave Lochinvar.
   a. The bridegroom is handsome.
   b. Lochinvar will fight the bridegroom.
   c. The bridegroom is not as brave as Lochinvar.
   d. The bride will marry Lochinvar.
7. Which of the following is the best paraphrase of these lines?
   While her mother did fret, and her father did fume, / And the bridegroom stood
   dangling his bonnet and plume;
   a. The bride’s parents were upset that the bridegroom did nothing.
   b. The mother cried, the father yelled, and the bridegroom sulked.
   c. The mother, the father, and the bridegroom all shouted at Lochinvar.
   d. The bride’s parents were upset but the bridegroom said nothing.

8. What is meant by these lines in the fourth stanza?
   "I long wóood your daughter, my suit you denied:—"
   a. Lochinvar wants to marry Ellen.
   b. Lochinvar denies that he wants to marry Ellen.
   c. Lochinvar was told that he could not marry Ellen.
   d. Lochinvar will sue Ellen’s parents in order to marry her.

9. What can we assume from the description of the bride’s actions in these lines in the
   fifth stanza?
   The bride kissed the goblet; the knight took it up, / . . . She looked down to blush,
   and she looked up to sigh, / With a smile on her lips and a tear in her eye.
   a. The bride wishes the wedding would end quickly.
   b. The bride is embarrassed.
   c. The bride is really in love with Lochinvar.
   d. The bride does not enjoy dancing.

10. All the following are typical of ballads except
   a. adventure and romance
   b. animal characters
   c. rhyming lines and a strong rhythm
   d. stanzas of four or six lines

11. When Lochinvar and Ellen begin to dance, the bride-maidens
   a. applaud
   b. leave the room
   c. whisper that Lochinvar is a better match for Ellen
   d. speak to the bridegroom

12. Lochinvar and Ellen escape from Netherby
   a. on Lochinvar’s horse
   b. with the assistance of the bride’s mother
   c. on foot
   d. in a carriage

13. What would be the best paraphrase of these lines from the final stanza?
   There was racing and chasing, on Cannobie Lee, / But the lost bride of Netherby
   ne’er did they see.
   a. Lochinvar and Ellen lived happily ever after.
   b. Despite her happiness with Lochinvar, Ellen missed her parents.
   c. Lochinvar showed how superior he was to the bridegroom.
   d. Although the clans pursued Lochinvar and Ellen on horseback, they could not
      catch them.

14. Almost every stanza of the poem ends with the phrase “young Lochinvar.” In a bal-
   lad, such a repeated phrase is called a
   a. rhyme
   b. refrain
   c. speaker
   d. code