Critical Reading Questions

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

1. Which character says the magic words in “The People Could Fly”?
   a. the Overseer
   b. Toby
   c. the Driver
   d. Sarah

2. “The People Could Fly” is said to have been a tale
   a. passed down by the ones who could not fly
   b. passed down by Sarah to her grandchildren
   c. passed down by the Master and the Driver
   d. written down by Toby

3. In “The Algonquin Cinderella,” the descriptions of the Invisible One’s sled string and bow string reflect the Algonquin people’s
   a. colorful imagination
   b. respect for loyalty
   c. fear of tricksters
   d. reverence for nature and the natural world

4. At the end of “The Algonquin Cinderella,” Oochigeaskw
   a. seeks revenge on her older sisters
   b. loses her father’s moccasins
   c. becomes the wife of the Invisible One
   d. acquires a new nickname

5. In “The Algonquin Cinderella,” the treatment of Oochigeaskw by the sister of the Invisible One emphasizes the importance of
   a. reaching decisions rapidly in a crisis
   b. looking beneath the surface to understand the real nature of people
   c. remaining loyal to one’s family, come what may
   d. remaining calm in unexpected situations

6. Which article of clothing plays an important part in “Yeh-Shen”?
   a. a straw hat
   b. a red cloak
   c. a golden slipper
   d. a golden parasol
7. One of the lessons in Yeh-Shen is that
   a. people should not befriend animals
   b. kings must be careful when they fall in love
   c. magic is a double-edged sword
   d. cruelty is likely to be punished

8. In "Yeh-Shen," the way the stepmother manages to kill the fish reveals her
   a. courage
   b. impulsiveness
   c. neediness
   d. craftiness

9. In "His Just Reward," the only animal to show cunning is
   a. the bear
   b. the wolf
   c. the snake
   d. the fox

10. In "His Just Reward," the man goes into the forest because he
    a. wants to cut some wood for the fire
    b. is looking for a runaway horse
    c. is being chased by a bear
    d. wants to enjoy the beauty of nature

11. In "Djuha Borrows a Pot," details such as the lamb stew with rice stuffing and the
    reference to the blessings of Allah refer to the story's cultural context in
    a. Syrian society
    b. Algonquin society
    c. Chinese society
    d. African American society

12. Why is Djuha's neighbor so eager to lend him the pot the second time?
    a. Djuha promises the pot will "give birth" a second time.
    b. The neighbor is probably hoping to get another "baby pot."
    c. He is afraid of Djuha's intellect and does not trust him.
    d. He hopes to get invited to a lamb dinner.

13. One reason for the frequent use of repetition in folk tales is that repetition
    a. creates pleasant sound effects
    b. increases the humorous effect of animal characters
    c. makes key events easy to remember
    d. clarifies the theme or overall message

14. Details about the time and place of the story and information about the customs and
    beliefs of the characters make up a folk tale's
    a. theme or overall message
    b. conflict between illusion and reality
    c. cultural context
    d. methods of indirect characterization

15. Most folk tales are
    a. extremely lengthy
    b. set in strange locations
    c. anonymous
    d. lacking in heroes