

The Cricket in Times Square

Name: _____

Section 5 Test

Multiple Choice: Circle the correct answers.

1. In Chapter 13, Mama Bellini ran home to make Chester a “**midget** fruit salad”. The word **midget** can be used as a noun or an adjective. Read the dictionary meanings for the word **midget** below.

Midget *noun* 1. An extremely small person. 2. Any animal or thing that is small for its size.
adjective 1. Very small or below the usual size. 2. Being a miniature replica or model.

Which meaning of **midget** is best used in Chapter 13?

- Noun #1
 - Noun #2
 - Adjective #1
 - Adjective #2
2. Read the section below from page 107.

Mama Bellini had never seen such a crowd around the newsstand. But she wasn't one to be so **dazed** by good fortune that she missed out on such a chance. Take a bundle of the Times under one arm; she worked her way around ...

Which of the following words can replace the word **dazed** and change the meaning of the sentence?

- Assured
 - Stunned
 - Shocked
 - Startled
3. For dessert, Chester was given a **smidgen**. Which one of the words below is NOT a synonym for **smidgen**?
- Morsel
 - Speck
 - Glob
 - Trace
4. An antonym for the word **scornfully** on page 118 means-
- Disdain
 - Contempt
 - Sarcastic
 - Reverence
5. What sign did Mario use to **infer** that Chester was gone?
- The back space was empty – except for Mama's earring.
 - The bell was gone.
 - Chester sang Mario a special song.
 - Chester lifted his wings and put all his love and goodbye into one final chirp.
6. Chester Cricket **heaved** a big sigh on page 120. Using context clues, what does **heaved** mean?
- To throw
 - To raise or lift
 - To move in a certain direction
 - To utter with a lot of labor or pain

7. Before telling Tucker and Harry that he is about to retire, Chester pauses and begins to **fidget** nervously. What is the *best* meaning for the word **fidget** as it is used on page 117?
- To Glide
 - To Stutter
 - To Jolt
 - To Squirm

8. Read the section below.

In a few minutes Tucker came **bounding** into the newsstand and up to the stool and the shelf. Harry followed him, **ambling** silently along, as always.

Based on what you know about Tucker and Harry throughout the story, what does **bounding** and **ambling** mean? *HINT: Keep the definitions in order: Bounding first and Ambling second.*

- Jumping, Casually Walking
 - Strolling, Bounce
 - Running, Gliding
 - Hopping, Darting
9. Read the thesaurus entry for the word **boom** below.

Boomverb 1.Crash 2.Explode 3. Prosper 4. Echo

Business **boomed** at the newsstand (page 110). Which meaning of **boom** is best used in this sentence?

- Crash
- Explode
- Prosper
- Echo

Read the section below to answer questions 10 and 11.

Chester was still hiding in the matchbox. Mario **gently** pulled the Kleenex away and whispered, "Please come out." Chester **stirred** and chirped, but stayed where he was.

10. Using context clues, what does the word **stirred** mean in the section above?
- To move something around with the intention to mix
 - To move slightly or lightly
 - To be strongly affected
 - To instigate or start something
11. In the section above, the word **gently** is being used as which part of speech?
- Noun
 - Adjective
 - Adverb
 - Preposition

BONUS QUESTION!

1. As it is used on page 130, the word **gulpy** means?
- To sound mumbled
 - To gasp or choke
 - To whimper or cry
 - To sound sorrowful

Vocabulary: Fill in the blanks.

1. Give a synonym for the word **throng**: _____
2. Give a synonym for the word **intermission**: _____
3. What is an **encore**? _____.

Short Answer: Answer the following questions in complete sentences on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to use your book to help with your answers.

1. How does Mr. Smedley's letter to the New York Times help the Bellini family?
2. Why is it important for Chester to play "human" music?
3. How does Chester feel about all of the attention he receives while playing for the crowds in the subway station?
4. On page 109, Tucker says, "There's a fortune in this. I wish one of us was big enough to **pass the hat**." Why would he want to **pass the hat**?
5. What events occur that make Chester feel homesick for Connecticut? List all.
6. How does Harry know that Chester is upset?
7. On page 115, Mario tells his mother that Chester isn't "happy anymore". Mario inferred that Chester was unhappy. List at least two events that led Mario to make this inference.
8. On page 123, "Eyes that looked worried grew soft, and peaceful, tongues left off chattering, and ears full of the city's rustling were rested by the cricket's melody." What does that mean?
9. What curious effect does Chester's last concert have on the people passing by the newsstand?
10. Describe one of the games that Mario played with Chester?
11. Do you think the Bellini's newsstand will be successful without Chester's concerts? Explain in detail for full points.