



# GRADE TEN

## WEEK OF MARCH 14-18 READING

Below are passage sets with questions that you can use for the Problem of the Day initiative.

### Day One

Read the excerpt from *The Metamorphoses* by Ovid. Answer the questions that follow.

#### Passage 1: from *The Metamorphoses* by Ovid

- 1 Pyramus and Thisbe, the one the most beautiful of youths, the other preferred before all the damsels that the East contained, lived in adjoining houses; where Semiramis is said to have surrounded her lofty city with walls of brick. The nearness caused their first acquaintance, and their first advances in love; with time their affection increased. They would have united themselves, too, by the tie of marriage, but their fathers forbade it. A thing which they could not forbid, they were both inflamed, with minds equally captivated. There is no one acquainted with it; by nods and signs, they hold converse. And the more the fire is smothered, the more, when so smothered, does it burn. The party-wall, common to the two houses, was cleft by a small chink, which it had got formerly, when it was built. This defect, remarked by no one for so many ages, you lovers (what does not love perceive?) first found one, and you made it a passage for your voices, and the accents of love used to pass through it in safety, with the gentlest murmur. Often times, after they had taken their stations, Thisbe on one side, and Pyramus on the other, and the breath of their mouths had been mutually caught by turns, they used to say, "Envious wall, why dost thou stand in the way of lovers? what great matter were it, for thee to suffer us to be joined with our entire bodies? Or if that is too much, that, at least, thou shouldst open, for the exchange of kisses. Nor are we ungrateful; we confess that we are indebted to thee, that a passage has been given for our words to our loving ears." Having said this much, in vain, on their respective sides, about night they said, "Farewell"; and gave those kisses each on their own side, which did not reach the other side.

Excerpt from *The Metamorphoses* by Ovid. In the public domain.

**1. Fill in a circle before two phrases Ovid uses in Passage 1 to show that Pyramus and Thisbe experience a shared love.**

“ A A thing which they could not forbid,  B they were both inflamed, with minds equally captivated.  C There is no one acquainted with it;  D by nods and signs, they hold converse.  E And the more the fire is smothered,  F the more, when so smothered, does it burn.  G The party-wall, common to the two houses,  H was cleft by a small chink, which it had got formerly, when it was built.  I This defect, remarked by no one for so many ages,  J you lovers (what does not love perceive?) first found one,  K and you made it a passage for your voices,  L and the accents of love used to pass through it in safety, with the gentlest murmur.  M Often times, after they had taken their stations, Thisbe on one side, and Pyramus on the other,  N and the breath of their mouths had been mutually caught by turns, . . .”  
(paragraph 1)

**2. Part A: Based on Pyramus and Thisbe’s situation, what is a theme of Passage 1?**

- A. Lasting relationships depend upon affection.
- B. True love finds ways to overcome any obstacle.
- C. The smallest defect can cause love to deteriorate.
- D. Family disapproval can lead to desperate measures.

**3. Part B: Which detail from Passage 1 helps develop the theme in Part A (#2)?**

- A. the setting of the city
- B. the structure of the wall
- C. the beauty of the characters
- D. the fathers of the characters

## Day Two

Read the excerpt from *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare. Using it and the Day One reading from *The Metamorphoses* by Ovid, answer the questions that follow.

### Passage 2: from *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare

Romeo and Juliet meet and fall in love, but their families have an old rivalry and will not allow them to be together. In this scene, Romeo sneaks into the orchard of Juliet's family to talk with Juliet, who is at her bedroom window balcony.

**2 Juliet**

What man art thou that, thus bescreen'd in night,  
So stumblest on my counsel?

**3 Romeo**

By a name  
I know not how to tell thee who I am:  
My name, dear saint, is hateful to myself  
Because it is an enemy to thee.  
Had I it written, I would tear the word.

**4 Juliet**

My ears have yet not drunk a hundred words  
Of that tongue's utterance, yet I know the sound;  
Art thou not Romeo, and a Montague?

**5 Romeo**

Neither, fair saint, if either thee dislike.

**6 Juliet**

How can'st thou hither, tell me, and wherefore?  
The orchard walls are high and hard to climb;  
And the place death, considering who thou art,  
If any of my kinsmen find thee here.

**7 Romeo**

With love's light wings did I o'erperch these walls;  
For stony limits cannot hold love out:  
And what love can do, that dares love attempt;  
Therefore thy kinsmen are no let to me.

**8 Juliet**

If they do see thee, they will murder thee.

**9 Romeo**

Alack, there lies more peril in thine eye  
Than twenty of their swords: look thou but sweet,  
And I am proof against their enmity.

- 10 Juliet**  
I would not for the world they saw thee here.
- 11 Romeo**  
I have night's cloak to hide me from their sight;  
And, but thou love me, let them find me here.  
My life were better ended by their hate  
Than death prorogued, wanting of thy love.
- 12 Juliet**  
By whose direction found'st thou out this place?
- 13 Romeo**  
By love, that first did prompt me to enquire;  
He lent me counsel, and I lent him eyes.  
I am no pilot; yet, wert thou as far  
As that vast shore wash'd with the furthest sea,  
I would adventure for such merchandise.
- 14 Juliet**  
Thou knowest the mask of night is on my face;  
Else would a maiden blush bepaint my cheek  
For that which thou hast heard me speak to-night.  
Fain would I dwell on form, fain, fain deny  
What I have spoke; but farewell compliment!  
Dost thou love me, I know thou wilt say Ay;  
And I will take thy word: yet, if thou swear'st,  
Thou mayst prove false; at lovers' perjuries,  
They say Jove laughs. O gentle Romeo,  
If thou dost love, pronounce it faithfully:  
Or if thou thinkest I am too quickly won,  
  
I'll frown, and be perverse, and say thee nay,  
So thou wilt woo: but else, not for the world.  
In truth, fair Montague, I am too fond;  
And therefore thou mayst think my 'haviour light:  
But trust me, gentleman, I'll prove more true  
Than those that have more cunning to be strange.  
I should have been more strange, I must confess,  
But that thou overheard'st, ere I was 'ware,  
My true-love passion: therefore pardon me;  
And not impute this yielding to light love,  
Which the dark night hath so discovered.
- 15 Romeo**  
Lady, by yonder blessed moon I swear,  
That tips with silver all these fruit-tree tops,—

**16 Juliet**

O, swear not by the moon, the inconstant moon,  
That monthly changes in her circled orb,  
Lest that thy love prove likewise variable.

**17 Romeo**

What shall I swear by?

**18 Juliet**

Do not swear at all;  
Or if thou wilt, swear by thy gracious self,  
Which is the god of my idolatry,  
And I'll believe thee.

**19 Romeo**

If my heart's dear love,—

**20 Juliet**

Well, do not swear: although I joy in thee,  
I have no joy of this contract to-night;  
It is too rash, too unadvis'd, too sudden;  
Too like the lightning, which doth cease to be  
Ere one can say It lightens. Sweet, good night!  
This bud of love, by summer's ripening breath,  
May prove a beauteous flower when next we meet.  
Good night, good night! as sweet repose and rest  
Come to thy heart as that within my breast!

Excerpt from *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare. In the public domain.

**4. In Passage 2, how do sections 6–10 increase the tension of the passage as a whole?**

- A. They show that Romeo is questioning his identity.
- B. They show that Juliet misinterprets Romeo's motives.
- C. They raise the possibility that Juliet may reject Romeo.
- D. They emphasize the danger that Romeo faces if caught.

**5. At the end of Passage 1, why does Ovid use the word “envious” to describe the wall?**

- A. It is immune to the pain that Pyramus and Thisbe experience.
- B. It has a flaw that Pyramus and Thisbe associate with their love.
- C. It hears the opinions Pyramus and Thisbe have about each other.
- D. It experiences the physical contact that Pyramus and Thisbe desire.

## Day Three

Using the the Day One reading from **The Metamorphoses by Ovid** and the Day Two excerpt from **Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare**, answer the following questions.

### 6. Part A: Which quotation from Passage 2 summarizes a theme of both passages?

- A. “The orchard walls are high and hard to climb; . . .” (section 6)
- B. “For stony limits cannot hold love out: . . .” (section 7)
- C. “Thou knowest the mask of night is on my face; . . .” (section 14)
- D. “I have no joy of this contract to-night; . . .” (section 20)

### 7. Part B: How does Shakespeare dramatize this theme differently than Ovid does in Passage 1?

- A. by placing the characters in a definite setting
- B. by increasing the conflict between the characters
- C. by changing the type of obstacle the characters face
- D. by allowing the characters to engage in conversation

### 8. *Romeo and Juliet* retells the Pyramus and Thisbe myth in the form of a play. In the excerpt provided in Passage 2, what does the play format help Shakespeare to emphasize about his characters? Select two options.

- A. the various threats they face
- B. the physical obstacles separating them
- C. the conflicting feelings they experience
- D. the way society views their relationship
- E. the reasons for their families’ disapproval
- F. the reasons they are drawn to each other

## Day Four

Read the passage from the speech **"The Sinews of Peace"** by **Winston Churchill** and answer the questions that follow.

### from **"The Sinews of Peace"** by **Winston Churchill**

**1** A shadow has fallen upon the scenes so lately lighted by the Allied victory. Nobody knows what Soviet Russia and its Communist international organization intends to do in the immediate future, or what are the limits, if any, to their expansive and proselytizing tendencies. I have a strong admiration and regard for the valiant Russian people and for my wartime comrade, Marshal Stalin. There is deep sympathy and goodwill in Britain—and I doubt not here also—towards the peoples of all the Russias and a resolve to persevere through many differences and rebuffs in establishing lasting friendships. We understand the Russian need to be secure on her western frontiers by the removal of all possibility of German aggression. We welcome Russia to her rightful place among the leading nations of the world. We welcome her flag upon the seas. Above all, we welcome, or should welcome, constant, frequent and growing contacts between the Russian people and our own peoples on both sides of the Atlantic. It is my duty, however, for I am sure you would not wish me to not state the facts as I see them to you, it is my duty to place before you certain facts about the present position in Europe.

**2** From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic, an iron curtain has descended across the Continent. Behind that line lie all the capitals of the ancient states of Central and Eastern Europe. Warsaw, Berlin, Prague, Vienna, Budapest, Belgrade, Bucharest and Sofia, all these famous cities and the populations around them lie in what I must call the Soviet sphere, and all are subject in one form or another, not only to Soviet influence but to a very high and, in some cases, increasing measure of control from Moscow. Athens alone—Greece with its immortal glories—is free to decide its future at an election under British, American, and French observation. The Russian-dominated Polish Government has been encouraged to make enormous and wrongful inroads upon Germany, and mass expulsions of millions of Germans on a scale grievous and undreamed-of are now taking place. The Communist parties, which were very small in all these Eastern States of Europe, have been raised to pre-eminence and power far beyond their numbers and are seeking everywhere to obtain totalitarian control. Police governments are prevailing in nearly every case, and so far, except in Czechoslovakia, there is no true democracy.

**3** Turkey and Persia are both profoundly alarmed and disturbed at the claims which are being made upon them and at the pressure being exerted by the Moscow Government. An attempt is being made by the Russians in Berlin to build up a quasi<sup>1</sup>-Communist party in their zone of Occupied Germany by showing special favours to groups of left-wing German leaders. At the end of the fighting last June, the American and British Armies withdrew westwards, in accordance with an earlier agreement, to a depth at some points of 150 miles upon a front of nearly four hundred miles, in order to allow our Russian allies to occupy this vast expanse of territory which the Western Democracies had conquered.

<sup>1</sup>quasi-almost

**4** If now the Soviet Government tries, by separate action, to build up a pro-Communist Germany in their areas, this will cause new serious difficulties in the American and British zones, and will give the defeated Germans the power of putting themselves up

to auction between the Soviets and the Western Democracies. Whatever conclusions may be drawn from these facts-and facts they are-this is certainly not the Liberated Europe we fought to build up. Nor is it one which contains the essentials of permanent peace.

5 The safety of the world, ladies and gentlemen, requires a new unity in Europe, from which no nation should be permanently outcast. It is from the quarrels of the strong parent races in Europe that the world wars we have witnessed, or which occurred in former times, have sprung. Twice in our own lifetime we have seen the United States, against their wishes and their traditions, against arguments, the force of which it is impossible not to comprehend, twice we have seen them drawn by irresistible forces into these wars in time to secure the victory of the good cause, but only after frightful slaughter and devastation have occurred. Twice the United States has had to send several millions of its young men across the Atlantic to find the war; but now war can find any nation, wherever it may dwell, between dusk and dawn. Surely we should work with conscious purpose for a grand pacification<sup>2</sup> of Europe, within the structure of the United Nations in accordance with our Charter. That I feel is a—opens a course of policy of very great importance.

<sup>2</sup>pacification-ending of war

Excerpt from "The Sinews of Peace" by Winston Churchill. In the public domain.

**9. Part A: What is the meaning of the word totalitarian as it is used in paragraph 2 of the passage?**

- A. disciplined
- B. calculating
- C. extraordinary
- D. absolute

**10. Part B: Which phrase from paragraph 2 helps clarify the meaning of totalitarian?**

- A. ". . . which were very small . . ."
- B. ". . . these Eastern States of Europe . . ."
- C. ". . . pre-eminence and power . . ."
- D. ". . . seeking everywhere . . ."

## Day Five

Using the Day Four reading from the speech "The Sinews of Peace" by Winston Churchill, answer the following questions.

### 11. Part A: How does Churchill use references to the United States of America in paragraph 5 to advance his argument?

- A. Using the United States as an example, Churchill provides a model for the behavior of European nations.
- B. By listing American sacrifices, Churchill makes a plea for similar sacrifices from other governments.
- C. By highlighting American involvement in world wars, Churchill emphasizes to Americans that their nation is affected by the situation he describes.
- D. Describing the power of the United States, Churchill threatens other countries with military action.

### 12. Part B: Which sentence from paragraph 5 supports the answer to Part A (#11)?

- A. "The safety of the world, ladies and gentlemen, requires a new unity in Europe, from which no nation should be permanently outcast."
- B. "It is from the quarrels of the strong parent races in Europe that the world wars we have witnessed, or which occurred in former times, have sprung."
- C. "Twice the United States has had to send several millions of its young men across the Atlantic to find the war; but now war can find any nation, wherever it may dwell, between dusk and dawn."
- D. "That feel is a—opens a course of policy of very great importance."

**13. What is Churchill's primary purpose in his speech?**

- A. to express his admiration for those who sacrificed so much in recent world events
- B. to convey his perception of a growing threat and to suggest a course of action
- C. to present an objective assessment of a problem and to convince his listeners that they have exaggerated its severity
- D. to describe a widely held attitude and to demonstrate why he believes it is mistaken

**14. How does Churchill build his claim that the countries of Europe should share a democratic ideology?**

- A. by contrasting the actions of Russia as an ally during World War II with the actions of Soviet Russia after the war
- B. by comparing the Russian expansion to the tyranny of Germany during World War II
- C. by using figurative language to exaggerate the roles of the United States, European nations, and Soviet Russia
- D. by proposing an alliance with Russia that would help protect all nations from further aggression



# GRADE TEN

## ANSWERS FOR WEEK OF MARCH 14-18 READING

1. **B and N** (RL.9-10.1)
2. **B** (RL.9-10.2)
3. **B** (RL.9-10.2)
4. **D** (RL.9-10.5)
5. **D** (RL.9-10.4; L.9-10.4)
6. **B** (RL.9-10.2)
7. **C** (RL.9-10.2)
8. **A and C** (RL.9-10.9)
9. **D** (RI.9-10.4; L.9-10.4)
10. **C** (RI.9-10.4; L.9-10.4)
11. **C** (RI.9-10.6)
12. **C** (RI.9-10.1)
13. **B** (RI.9-10.6)
14. **A** (RI.9-10.8)