COMPREHENSION
On the line provided, write the letter of the best answer to each of the following items.

1. According to this story, what two animals is a mongoose like?
   A A tailorbird and a rabbit
   B A cat and a weasel
   C A rabbit and a weasel
   D A muskrat and a cat

2. Which event directly leads up to Rikki-tikki’s living in the house with Teddy and his parents?
   F A snake attacks Teddy.
   G Rikki eats a banana on the veranda.
   H A summer flood washes Rikki out of his burrow.
   J Darzee tells Rikki about his lost baby.

3. Why is Rikki-tikki not afraid of fighting the snakes?
   A He instinctively knows how to fight them.
   B His mother taught him how to fight cobras.
   C Many of his childhood friends were snakes.
   D Darzee and his wife tell him how to fight.

4. Why does Nag hide in the bathroom?
   F He wants to surprise the mongoose by attacking him in the house.
   G He is angry at his wife and wants to get away from her.
   H He wants to kill Teddy’s father when he comes to the bathroom in the morning.
   J He is lost and wants to wait until daylight to find his way out of the house.

5. Which of the following events causes the war in this story?
   A The cobras want to kill Rikki-tikki before he kills them.
   B The cobras killed Darzee, and the other animals want revenge.
   C The family decides to rid the garden of all the snakes.
   D Nag and Nagaina fight with each other about their eggs.
6. The narrator makes the animal characters seem human by —
   F telling how the animals have strong loyalties and conflicts
   G explaining that Rikki-tikki’s eyes grow red when he is angry
   H explaining where the animals live in the garden
   J showing how Rikki-tikki lives in the bungalow

LITERARY RESPONSE AND ANALYSIS

7. If Teddy’s father had not used his _______________, Rikki-tikki might have _______________.
   A wits, laughed
   B gun, been killed
   C common sense, stayed inside
   D stick, given up

8. Why is it unwise for a mongoose to follow a cobra into a hole?
   F A mongoose is frightened of dark places.
   G The hole might open up or widen, allowing the cobra to turn and strike.
   H The red ants that live in the hole might attack the mongoose.
   J The earth in the hole is dark and moist.

9. Darzee’s wife and Nagaina are similar because they both —
   A stay in their nests and care for their young
   B plot with their husbands to kill Rikki-tikki
   C take action when their husbands fail
   D worry about the presence of humans in the bungalow

10. The birds and frogs in the garden rejoice at the end of the story because they are —
    F afraid that Rikki-tikki might be killed
    G overjoyed that the snakes are dead
    H trying to wake Rikki-tikki from his long nap
    J attempting to communicate with Teddy’s mother and father
LITERARY FOCUS
On the line provided, write the letter of the best answer to each of the following items.

_____ 11. Which of the following is not a conflict or source of conflict in the story?
A Teddy's parents argue about keeping Rikki-tikki.
B The cobras eat one of Darzee's eggs.
C The cobras plot to kill the family.
D Darzee builds his nest high up in the tree.

_____ 12. Which of the following statements about conflict is true about the story?
F Conflict cannot be avoided.
G Conflict is caused by lack of communication.
H Conflict is healthy for everyone.
J Conflict is caused by hurt feelings.

_____ 13. The climax of this story occurs when —
A Nag hides in the bathroom
B Teddy's parents praise Rikki-tikki for saving Teddy's life
C Rikki-tikki smashes two eggs
D Rikki-tikki follows Nagaina into the hole

_____ 14. All of the following events help resolve the conflicts in the story except—
F Darzee sings a mournful song when he thinks Rikki-tikki is dead
G Rikki-tikki kills Nagaina after he follows her into the hole
H Teddy's father shoots Nag in the bathroom
J Rikki-tikki destroys Nagaina's eggs

CONSTRUCTED RESPONSE
20. Rikki-tikki destroys all of the cobra eggs, save one. This last egg is important for Nagaina because it represents her family's survival. In the final conflict between Rikki-tikki and Nagaina, the cobra grabs the egg and carries it to her underground nest. How did Rikki-tikki's actions foreshadow his final conflict with Nagaina? On a separate piece of paper, write a paragraph that explains your answer. Support your ideas with details from the story.
Rikki-tikki-tavi
by Rudyard Kipling

Comprehension
1. B 6. F
2. H 7. B
3. A 8. G
4. H 9. C
5. A 10. G

Literary Focus
11. D
12. F
13. D
14. F

Constructed Response
20. Students' responses will vary. A sample response follows:
From the beginning of the story, Rikkitikki protects his human family through his courage and cleverness. When Nagaina threatens to kill Teddy, Rikki-tikki uses the cobra's egg to distract her. This diversion gives Teddy's father a chance to pull Teddy out of Nagaina's reach. This last egg represents the survival of Nagaina's family.
Rikki-tikki realizes that he and his human family will never be safe until Nagaina and her eggs are destroyed. When Nagaina flees down a hole with her egg, Rikki-tikki chases after her. Rikki-tikki drags himself out of the hole, the winner of the final battle.