

Name: _____

Date: _____

Moving to a new home is sad if you have to leave a pet behind. Read this story about Faith and her pet, Josefina, and then answer the questions that follow.

from **The Josefina Story Quilt**

by Eleanor Coerr

It was May 1850. Faith was excited. They were going to California in a covered wagon. "Please," Faith asked Ma, "can I take Josefina?"

Josefina was her pet hen and Faith loved her. She liked the way Josefina snuggled in her arms. She liked the way Josefina followed her around. Ma was baking bread for the long journey. "Ask your Pa," she said.

Pa and Faith's brother, Adam, were loading the wagon. "Please, Pa," Faith said, "please can I take Josefina?"

"There is no room in the wagon for pets," Pa said.

"That isn't fair," said Faith. "Adam can bring his colt."

"A colt is not a pet," said Pa. "A colt can carry a load of corn. . . ."

Faith's eyes filled with tears. She ran back to the house. Ma sat down in the rocker and held Faith on her lap. "We all must leave things behind," she said gently. "I love this rocker, but there is no room for it in the wagon." Faith gulped down her sobs.

"I have looked after Josefina since she was a little chick," she said. "What will happen to her?"

"Perhaps a neighbor will take her," said Ma. . . .

Early in the morning the wagon was ready. It had blue trim and a white cloth roof. Ma stood back to admire it. "A big flowerpot on wheels!" she said. "Isn't it beautiful?"

Faith did not answer. She was worried about Josefina.

"Did you pack the food?" Ma asked Pa. "And my kitchen things?" Pa nodded. "Then that is everything except the bedding," said Ma. Faith thought sadly, "And Josefina."

1. Which kind of animal was Josefina?

- A. a cat
 - B. a hen
 - C. a dog
 - D. a colt
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2. Which did Ma have to leave behind?

- A. her colt
 - B. her rocker
 - C. her flowerpot
 - D. her kitchen things
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3. How did Faith feel when the wagon was ready?

- A. She was tired from loading the wagon.
 - B. She was scared of riding in the wagon.
 - C. She was worried about leaving Josefina.
 - D. She was excited about going to California.
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4. Why can Adam bring his colt to California?

- A. It is small.
 - B. It eats very little.
 - C. It is useful.
 - D. It is friendly.
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5. Faith was worried about Josefina because she thought

- A. no one would take care of her.
 - B. dogs would chase her.
 - C. there was not enough room on the wagon for her.
 - D. the neighbors would take her.
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Ferdinand is eager to reach the ocean in this story, "The Shell." Read the story to find out why, and then answer the questions that follow.

from **The Shell**

by Paul Koning

"Can you hear it?" asked Ferdinand, holding the huge conch shell up to his sister's ear. His eyes were wide with excitement.

"No," said Julia, leaning away from him on the long seat in the back of the minivan. "Leave me alone."

Big sisters can be a real pain. And Ferdinand ought to know, because he has two of them.

He put the shell to his own ear. He heard a mighty rushing sound and imagined huge waves breaking on a deserted beach.

The family was headed for the ocean right now, and Ferdinand could not wait to catch his first glimpse of the sea. He had read about it in so many stories and, of course, he'd seen pictures of it on TV. But this was his first chance to actually see it, jump in it, smell the salty air, and watch the seagulls bank and wheel in the sky. There aren't too many oceans in North Georgia, their father always says, and then he tells a long story about grandpa's fishing boat off the coast of Veracruz.

6. Which tells the reader that Julia is older than Ferdinand?

- A. She wants to be alone.
 - B. She is annoyed by Ferdinand.
 - C. She still remembers Veracruz.
 - D. She is called a "big sister."
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7. Which phrase from the passage tells the reader that Ferdinand was eager to see the ocean?

- A. "could not wait"
 - B. "ought to know"
 - C. "his first chance"
 - D. "can be a real pain"
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8. The story takes place

- A. on a boat ride.
 - B. during a picnic.
 - C. on a family trip.
 - D. at a family meeting.
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9. Who is this story MOSTLY about?

- A. Julia
 - B. the father
 - C. Ferdinand
 - D. the grandpa
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10. "The Shell" is an example of which kind of writing?

- A. poetry
- B. fiction
- C. folktale
- D. nonfiction

Answer Key

1. B) a hen
2. B) her rocker
3. C) She was worried about leaving Josefina.
4. C) It is useful.
5. A) no one would take care of her.
6. D) She is called a "big sister."
7. A) "could not wait"
8. C) on a family trip.
9. C) Ferdinand
10. B) fiction