

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Workshop One: My Furthest-Back Person—Lesson One

### Vocabulary Test

***Instructions:***

Circle the sentence in which the vocabulary word is used appropriately.

1. a. I would like to introduce the **eminent** scientist, Dr. Paul Winters.  
b. We must hurry! The enemy's arrival in town is **eminent**.
2. a. I prefer not to meet my **colleagues** while I am on vacation.  
b. Be sure to pack your **colleagues** so you can play in the tournament.
3. a. He was **steeped** in the history of Ancient Greece; modern history held little interest for him.  
b. Deep under the ground, the natives had **steeped** some of their most precious possessions.
4. a. Much history seemed lost until the writing on the wall of the cave was **deciphered**.  
b. He simply could not **decipher** between the two opinions; both seemed valid to him.
5. a. "Where is the nearest airport?" he **queried**.  
b. "The nearest airport is a day's journey from here," he **queried**.
6. a. The food, cooked over an open fire, was **uncanny**.  
b. It was **uncanny**, the way that man resembled my boss.
7. a. "I am furious with you!" he said, with a **dubious** look.  
b. "Are you sure you are right?" he said, with a **dubious** look.
8. a. This **document** proves I am a licensed electrician.  
b. This **document** was worn by the tribal chieftain at village meetings.
9. a. I look forward to your arrival with great **anticipation**.  
b. Studying for this exam is causing me great **anticipation**.
10. a. You mother **cherished** this book. Why not give it away?  
b. Your mother **cherished** this book. Why not put it in a safe place?
11. a. We **dubbed** the dog "Dusty."  
b. We **dubbed** the dog with soap and water.

## Teacher's Edition Answer Guide

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10. b. Your mother **cherished** this book. Why not put it in a safe place?
11. a. We **dubbed** the dog "Dusty."

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## Workshop One: My Furthest-Back Person—Lesson Two

### Vocabulary Test

***Instructions:***

How would you be more likely to use the vocabulary word? Circle the correct answer.

1. **acutely**
  - a. to describe a strong feeling
  - b. to describe a rather dull painting
  - c. to describe a very interesting book
  
2. **cacophony**
  - a. to describe a mixture of colors
  - b. to describe a mixture of sounds
  - c. to describe a mixture of feelings
  
3. **compulsion**
  - a. to describe a sense of confusion about how a problem should be solved
  - b. to describe a powerful medicine that has many side effects
  - c. to describe the strong feeling that one must do a certain thing
  
4. **cumulative**
  - a. in a discussion about fertilizers and soil quality
  - b. to describe a type of cloud that does not bring rain
  - c. to describe a job that was done over a long period of time
  
5. **exotic**
  - a. to describe a long, dull lecture
  - b. to describe how a nation was freed from slavery
  - c. to describe a rare plant
  
6. **hybrid**
  - a. to describe a flower that was produced by crossbreeding two other flowers
  - b. to describe a dog or other animal that is purebred
  - c. to describe a Greek island with ancient ruins
  
7. **predominantly**
  - a. in describing something that applies to only a few members of a group
  - b. in describing something that applies to most members of a group
  - c. in describing something that exists in about half of the group

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8. **projected**
  - a. in speaking about an event that has taken place
  - b. in speaking about an event that is now taking place
  - c. in speaking about an event that will take place in the future
  
9. **revered**
  - a. to describe an urgent message delivered just in time
  - b. to describe a copper-bottomed pot
  - c. to describe a respected person
  
10. **staccato**
  - a. to describe a very harsh, loud sound
  - b. to describe a very sweet, soft sound
  - c. to describe a very short, sharp sound
  
11. **wizened**
  - a. to describe long, flowing hair
  - b. to describe an old, wrinkled face
  - c. to describe a strong, muscular warrior

## Teacher's Edition Answer Guide

### Workshop One: My Furthest-Back Person—Lesson Two

#### Vocabulary Test

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  - a. to describe a strong feeling
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  - c. to describe a rare plant
6. **hybrid**
  - a. to describe a flower that was produced by crossbreeding two other flowers
7. **predominantly**
  - b. in describing something that applies to most members of a group
8. **projected**
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## Workshop One: My Furthest-Back Person

### Selection Test

#### Comprehension

1. *My Furthest-Back Person* is
  - a. autobiography.
  - b. biography.
  - c. historical fiction.
  - d. dramatic monologue.
  
2. Alex Haley's furthest-back person was
  - a. his grandmother, who had come from Africa to North Carolina, just after the Civil War.
  - b. Kamby Bolong, an African native.
  - c. Kunta Kinte, who was brought as a slave to Annapolis.
  - d. Mandinka, a tribal chief who had twelve sons.
  
3. A *griot* is
  - a. a very old man who knows the history of certain family clans.
  - b. a winding river deep in Africa, near which the Kintes lived.
  - c. an African word for "slave" that was given as a last name to all those taken into captivity to be sold into slavery.
  - d. an African word for "furthest-back person."
  
4. When Alex Haley told the villagers that he was a descendant of the sixteen-year-old boy who had disappeared, they
  - a. could not understand his dialect and stared at him rather blankly.
  - b. looked at him scornfully, because he was not a truly black person, and they did not wish to accept him as one of their family.
  - c. smiled joyfully and expressed their hope that their American cousin could find a way for some of their neediest to be transported to America.
  - d. formed a circle around him and began to dance and chant.
  
5. When Alex Haley returned home, he felt
  - a. exhausted from his trip and a strong desire to forget all the tragic stories he had heard in Africa.
  - b. that what he had to do was write the stories of the blacks who had been brought from Africa to America in slave ships.
  - c. driven to raise a large amount of money to fund schools and hospitals for the people he had met in Africa.
  - d. a deep sense of satisfaction that he had achieved his goal of returning to the place of his forefathers and meeting some of his own family.

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6. Doing further research, Alex Haley discovered a record of
  - a. the ship that had brought his ancestor, Kunta Kinte, from Africa to Annapolis.
  - b. Kunta Kinte's marriage to another slave from the same region of Africa.
  - c. how Kunta Kinte's grandson was freed in the early weeks of the Civil War.
  - d. the amount paid by Captain Thomas Davies to John Ridout, for a young slave, Kunta Kinte.

### **Primary Lesson in Literature: Autobiography**

1. The story is told
  - a. in the first-person voice.
  - b. by an unseen narrator.
  - c. through an exchange of letters.
  - d. by someone writing in a diary.
2. Because the story is nonfiction,
  - a. it has no plot or characterization.
  - b. the setting is real, but the plot is partially untrue.
  - c. the entire story is true and can be documented.
  - d. Mr. Haley could not get any publishers to be interested in it.

### **Theme**

1. If you had to choose one word or phrase to express the theme of *My Furthest-Back Person*, it would be
  - a. freedom.
  - b. slavery.
  - c. family roots.
  - d. mysterious Africa.
2. To Alex Haley, the suffering of the past generations
  - a. is very much a part of him and is painful to him.
  - b. should be put aside and a brighter future should be hoped for.
  - c. is reason to feel intense anger and a desire for revenge.
  - d. is something he cannot relate to. He views himself entirely as a free and educated American.

**Teacher's Edition Answer Guide**  
**Workshop One: My Furthest-Back Person**

**Selection Test**

**Comprehension**

1. *My Furthest-Back Person* is
  - a. autobiography.
2. Alex Haley's furthest-back person was
  - c. Kunta Kinte, who was brought as a slave to Annapolis.
3. A *griot* is
  - a. a very old man who knows the history of certain family clans.
4. When Alex Haley told the villagers that he was a descendant of the sixteen-year-old boy who had disappeared, they
  - d. formed a circle around him and began to dance and chant.
5. When Alex Haley returned home, he felt
  - b. that what he had to do was write the stories of the blacks who had been brought from Africa to America in slave ships.
6. Doing further research, Alex Haley discovered a record of
  - a. the ship that had brought his ancestor, Kunta Kinte, from Africa to Annapolis.

**Primary Lesson in Literature: Autobiography**

1. The story is told
  - a. in the first-person voice.
2. Because the story is nonfiction,
  - c. the entire story is true and can be documented.

**Theme**

1. If you had to choose one word or phrase to express the theme of *My Furthest-Back Person*, it would be
  - c. family roots.
2. To Alex Haley, the suffering of the past generations
  - a. is very much a part of him and is painful to him.