

PLAY: *Dr. Heidegger's Experiment* • SKILL: Reading Comprehension

# Dr. Heidegger Quiz

**Directions:** Read *Dr. Heidegger's Experiment* in this issue of *Scope*. Then answer the multiple-choice questions below.

1. What do Dr. Heidegger's four guests have in common?

- (A) They haven't seen each other in years and they all despise each other.
- (B) They have lived long lives and have no regrets.
- (C) They are all suffering the consequences of choices they made when they were young.
- (D) They are eager to forget the past.

2. Read this line spoken by James, the butler:

"Well, do be careful, sir. The human mind is fragile."

This line is an example of \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) irony
- (B) allusion
- (C) foreshadowing
- (D) flashback

3. What can you infer from the following line spoken by Clara in Scene 6?

"How I wish a coffin lid were covering me!"

- (A) Clara is upset because she doesn't know which man to choose.
- (B) Clara is embarrassed by her own behavior.
- (C) Clara would rather be dead than old again.
- (D) Clara feels she might die of thirst.

4. Complete the analogy.

Gascoigne : corruption ::

- (A) Killigrew : love
- (B) Wycherly : vanity
- (C) Heidegger : doctor
- (D) Medbourne : business

5. How do the guests behave after they drink the water from the Fountain of Youth?

- (A) They are thrilled by how young they feel and start to act foolishly.
- (B) They don't believe that the water is having an effect on them, so they drink more and more.
- (C) They are frightened by the transformations they are experiencing, so they spill the water.
- (D) They don't ever want to be old again, so they get angry at Dr. Heidegger.

6. Which word *best* describes the mood of the play?

- (A) playful
- (B) disturbing
- (C) optimistic
- (D) lonely

7. With which of the following statements would author Nathaniel Hawthorne most likely agree?

- (A) People usually learn from their mistakes.
- (B) You can't relive the past.
- (C) Young people can't be trusted.
- (D) People often repeat their mistakes.

8. In Scene 5, the moment when the men knock over the table and shatter the vase is called the \_\_\_\_\_ of the story.

- (A) resolution
- (B) rising action
- (C) conflict
- (D) climax

**Directions:** Answer the questions below on the back of this page or on another piece of paper.

9. Do you think Dr. Heidegger is a likable or unlikable character? Explain your answer with examples from the play.

10. Do Dr. Heidegger's four guests really become young again when they drink the water from the vase? What do the illustrations suggest?