

English Language Arts

Museums contain many interesting objects. Read the two poems about museums. Then answer the questions that follow.

Read the poem about looking at pictures in a museum.

Museum

by Felice Holman



Pictures on the wall
look into lives
back when
I was not
5 anyone at all.
They smile
frown
play chess
walk to town
10 pat heads
of children
see them
to their beds.
They seem so real
15 and near
but they are fixed there
on the wall
and I am
here.

"Museum" by Felice Holman, from *Behind the Museum Door: Poems to Celebrate the Wonders of Museums*. Copyright © 2007 by Felice Holman. Reprinted by permission of the author. Photograph copyright © El Chapulin/Alamy.

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Read the poem about a mummy that is displayed in a museum.

Mummy

by Myra Cohn Livingston



So small a thing
This mummy lies,
Closed in death
Red-lidded eyes,
5 While, underneath
The swaddled clothes,
Brown arms, brown legs
Lie tight enclosed.
What miracle
10 If he could tell
Of other years
He knew so well;
What wonderment
To speak to me
15 The riddle of
His history.

"Mummy" by Myra Cohn Livingston, from *The Way Things Are and Other Poems*. Copyright © 1974 Myra Cohn Livingston. Reprinted by permission of Marian Reiner. Photograph copyright © Ashmolean Museum, University of Oxford, UK/Bridgeman Images.

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- 1 What do lines 1–5 of “Museum” **mainly** suggest about the subjects of the pictures?
- A. They were famous.
 - B. They lived long ago.
 - C. They had many children.
 - D. They were related to the speaker.
- 2 In line 6 of “Museum,” the word *they* refers to
- A. people in the pictures.
 - B. people in the museum.
 - C. people the speaker knows.
 - D. people the speaker imagines.
- 3 In line 16 of “Museum,” what does the word **fixed** mean?
- A. painted
 - B. repaired
 - C. made ready
 - D. placed securely

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- 4 In lines 9–16 of “Mummy,” what does the speaker wish?
- A. that she had lived in an earlier time
 - B. that she had learned more about the past
 - C. that she could have a conversation with the mummy
 - D. that she could see the details of the mummy more clearly
- 5 Lines 15 and 16 of “Mummy” suggest something that is
- A. precious.
 - B. depressing.
 - C. mysterious.
 - D. challenging.
- 6 What is **most likely** true about the speakers in both poems?
- A. They would like to visit other museums.
 - B. The idea of becoming artists excites them.
 - C. The objects they see capture their imaginations.
 - D. They think the museums should include modern objects.

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This question is a text-based essay question. Write your essay in the space provided in your Student Answer Booklet. Your essay should:

- Present and develop a central idea.
- Provide evidence/details from the passage(s).
- Include correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation.

7 Write an essay describing how the speakers in **both** poems feel as they visit the museums. Be sure to use information from **both** poems to develop your essay.