

Name _____ Date _____

“The Courage That My Mother Had” by Edna St. Vincent Millay

Selection Test

Critical Reading

On the line, write the letter of the best answer.

- _____ 1. What two symbols does the speaker use to represent her mother in “The Courage That My Mother Had”?
- a. carpet and boards
 - b. honey and earth
 - c. crystal and splinters
 - d. granite and a golden brooch
- _____ 2. Which of the following best describes the following lines from “The Courage That My Mother Had”?
- Oh’ if instead she’d left to me / The thing she took into the grave! -
- a. a question
 - b. a demand
 - c. a wish
 - d. a suggestion
- _____ 3. Which of the following best captures the meaning of the following lines about the golden brooch from “The Courage That My Mother Had”?
- I have no thing I treasure more: / Yet, it is something I could spare.
- a. There are so many things I treasure more than the brooch.
 - b. As much as I treasure the brooch, it is not the most valuable thing to me.
 - c. Courage, as important as it is, can never match the value of a golden brooch.
 - d. I don’t attach much value to the brooch, so I could easily do without it.
- _____ 4. Which of the following does granite symbolize in the following lines from “The Courage That My Mother Had”?
- Rock from New England quarried; / Now granite in a granite hill
- a. courage
 - b. stubbornness
 - c. will
 - d. love

_____ 5. In “The Courage That My Mother Had”, what do the following lines say about the mother’s courage?

That courage like a rock, which she
Has no more need of, and I have.

- a. Rocks display courage.
- b. The mother’s courage was strong and the daughter needs it.
- c. The mother had a rock she would hold for courage.
- d. The mother thought her daughter was weak.

_____ 6. Which of the following terms best describes this passage from the poem “The Courage That My Mother Had” by Edna St. Vincent Millay?

Rock from New England quarried; / Now granite in a granite hill.

- a. symbol
- b. rhyme
- c. moral
- d. question

_____ 7. What does the speaker in “The Courage That My Mother Had” want?

- a. her mother’s golden brooch
- b. her mother’s courage
- c. granite from New England
- d. to be with her mother