

Read the text and answer the questions.

Excerpt from Mockingjay

by Suzanne Collins

I stare down at my shoes, watching as a fine layer of ash settles on the worn leather. This is where the bed I shared with my sister, Prim, stood. Over there was the kitchen table. The bricks of the chimney, which collapsed in a charred heap, provide a point of reference for the rest of the house. How else could I orient myself in this sea of gray?

Almost nothing remains of District 12. A month ago, the Capitol's firebombs obliterated the poor coal miner's house in the seam, the shops in the town, even the Justice Building. The only area that escaped incineration was the Victor's Village. I don't know why exactly. Perhaps so anyone forced to come here on capital business would have somewhere decent to stay. The odd reporter. A committee assessing the condition of the coal mines. A squad of peacekeepers checking for returning refugees.

But no one is returning except me. And that's only for a brief visit. The authorities in District 13 were against my coming back. They viewed it as a costly and pointless venture given that at least a dozen hovercrafts are circling overhead for my protection and there's no intelligence to be gained. I had to see it, though. So much so that I made it a condition of my cooperating with any of their plans.

Finally, Plutarch Heavensbee, the Head Gamemaker who had organized the rebels in the Capital, threw up his hands. "Let her go. Better to waste a day than another month. Maybe a little tour of Twelve is just what she needs to convince her we're on the same side."

The same side. A pain stabs my left temple and I press my hand against it. Right on the spot where Johanna Mason hit me with a coil of wire. The memories swirl as I try to sort out what is true and what is false. What series of events led me to be standing in the ruins of my city? This is hard because the effects of the concussion she gave me haven't completely subsided and my thoughts still have a tendency to jumble together. Also, the drugs used to control my pain and mood sometimes make me see things. I guess. I'm still not entirely convinced that I was hallucinating the night the floor of my hospital room transformed into a carpet of writhing snakes.

I use a technique one of the doctors suggested. I start with the simplest things I know to be true and work toward the more complicated. The list begins to roll in my head....

My name is Katniss Everdeen. I am seventeen years old. My home is District 12. I was in the Hunger Games. I escaped. The Capital hates me. Peeta was taken prisoner.

1

Read the sentence from the text.

“The only area that escaped incineration was the Victor’s Village.”

What does the word incineration **most likely** mean?

- Ⓐ place to escape
- Ⓑ layer of coal
- Ⓒ reduce to ashes
- Ⓓ safe from harm

2

From what point of view is the story told?

- Ⓐ first person
- Ⓑ second person
- Ⓒ third person limited
- Ⓓ third person omniscient

3

What inference can be made about what happened to Katniss’ home? Support your answer with details from the text.

4

Read the paragraph from the text.

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Which words does the author use to show the narrator's confusion? Select **two** options.

- A concussion
- B pain
- C ruin
- D hallucinating
- E control
- F memories

5

This question has two parts. First, answer part A. Then, answer part B.

Part A

Which **best** expresses the purpose of the memory flashback in this story?

- (A) It shows the reader that she is in present time.
- (B) It suggests that the author is looking for the family she loves.
- (C) It explains the narrator's own confusion as she pieces together what has happened.
- (D) It tells what the narrator is going to do about the bombing.

Part B

Underline a sentence in the text that best supports your answer in part A?

6

Which of these best describes Katniss' internal conflict in the excerpt?

- (A) She is unhappy about the bombing of her home.
- (B) She is not prepared for the sight of District 12.
- (C) Her choice of how to handle the present situation.
- (D) Her struggle to piece together what is true and what is false.

7

How does the setting influence the plot of the story?

- (A) The hospital introduces where Katniss came from.
- (B) The ruins of District 12, her home, contribute to the conflict Katniss is experiencing.
- (C) The Capitol provides the explanation of what is happening.
- (D) The Victor's Village introduces the supporting characters.

8

Read the sentence from the text.

Almost nothing remains of District 12. A month ago, the Capitol's firebombs obliterated the poor coal miner's house in the seam, the shops in the town, even the Justice Building.

What does the word obliterated suggest? Select **two** options.

- A utterly destroyed
- B washed away
- C blown up
- D got rid of all
- E changed
- F memories

9

Summarize what happens while Katniss returns to District 12. Use key events from the text to support your summary.

10

A theme expressed in the story centers on -

- Ⓐ helping those who are in need.
- Ⓑ making the best of a bad situation.
- Ⓒ hiding your anger from others.
- Ⓓ forget the past and move on.