

**Facing It (1988)**  
**By Yusef Komunyakaa (United States)**

**Directions:** This part consists of selections from prose works and questions on their content form and style. After reading each passage, choose the best answer to each question.

**Note:** Pay particular attention to the requirement of questions that contain the words NOT, LEAST, or EXCEPT.

Questions 1-9 concern “Facing It” by Yusef Komunyakaa

1. The poem is best described as
  - (A) a series of interrelated impressions
  - (B) an exposition on a universal symbol
  - (C) a political analysis
  - (D) a wartime anecdote
  - (E) a sentimental reminiscence
2. Line 5 suggests which of the following?
  - I. The speaker’s attempt to resist emotion
  - II. The speaker’s sense of oneness with the memorial
  - III. The speaker’s philosophical conflict with the government
  - (A) I only
  - (B) II only
  - (C) I and II only
  - (D) II and III only
  - (E) I, II and III
3. Line 9 presents an example of
  - (A) allegory
  - (B) personification
  - (C) antithesis
  - (D) oxymoron
  - (E) understatement
4. Lines 20 – 21 most strongly convey the speaker’s
  - (A) condemnation of the woman’s detachment
  - (B) realization of his own mortality
  - (C) regret that he cannot forget the past
  - (D) sense of how permanent is the fate of those named
  - (E) awareness of the fallibility of human beings
5. What does the speaker convey in lines 29-31?
  - (A) A memory of his own childhood
  - (B) A desire to recapture innocence
  - (C) An impulse to accuse
  - (D) A feeling of confusion and guilt
  - (E) An uncertainty about the meaning of a gesture
6. The mirrorlike quality of the granite walls allows the speaker to experience all of the following in the poem EXCEPT
  - (A) self-effacement
  - (B) self-awareness
  - (C) self-respect
  - (D) the illusion of having been transformed
  - (E) identification with the memorialized veterans

**Facing It (1988)**  
**By Yusef Komunyakaa (United States)**

7. All of the following contrasts are integral to the poem EXCEPT

- (A) happiness and sorrow
- (B) past and present
- (C) light and dark
- (D) illusion and reality
- (E) fusion and separation

8. The imagery of the poem is characterized by

- (A) religious and historical allusions
- (B) auditory and tactile qualities
- (C) transformation and duality
- (D) repetition and contrast
- (E) passivity and objectivity

9. The title suggests which of the following?

- I. Affirming one's innocence
- II. Viewing an evocative object
- III. Acknowledging one's identity

- (A) III only
- (B) I and II only
- (C) I and III only
- (D) II, and III only
- (E) I, II and II

**END OF SECTION I.**

**IF FINISHED BEFORE TIME IS CALLED, YOU MAY  
CHECK YOUR WORK ON THIS SECTION.**