

***Babbitt* (1926)**
By Sinclair Lewis (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 1-11 concern *Babbitt* by Sinclair Lewis.

1. The passage as a whole serves primarily to
 - (A) portray Babbitt's philosophy of work and leisure
 - (B) portray controversial characters sympathetically
 - (C) introduce Babbitt and his social and physical setting
 - (D) condemn snobbery
 - (E) illustrate class differences
2. The first two paragraphs (lines 1-12) suggest that, for Babbitt, his car was a
 - (A) substitute for human role models
 - (B) source of adventure and fascination
 - (C) means of escape from dealing with other people
 - (D) harrowing danger but also a necessity
 - (E) reward for hard work and self-sacrifice
3. In lines 3-4, "The office was his pirate ship" is an example of
 - (A) metaphor
 - (B) personification
 - (C) understatement
 - (D) oxymoron
 - (E) allusion
4. In the second paragraph (lines 5-12), the narrator characterizes Babbitt as
 - (A) superstitious
 - (B) pessimistic
 - (C) meticulous
 - (D) matter-of-fact
 - (E) idealistic
5. Why does Babbitt regret having greeted Doppelbrau "with more cordiality than he had intended" (lines 19-20)?
 - (A) He prefers not to show his emotions.
 - (B) He does not want to mislead his neighbor.
 - (C) He and Doppelbrau are competitors.
 - (D) He disapproves of his neighbor.
 - (E) He likes to be precise.
6. In context, the phrase "no architectural manners whatever" (line 26) suggests that the house
 - (A) is undistinguished in its features
 - (B) is conservative in its design
 - (C) breaks accepted rules of building
 - (D) has garish adornments
 - (E) seems particularly uninviting

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7. Babbitt uses the term "Bohemian" (line 29) to describe neighbors that he believes are
 - (A) wasteful
 - (B) unsophisticated
 - (C) intentionally malevolent
 - (D) refreshingly carefree
 - (E) morally lax
8. The capitalization of "Great Scholar" (line 44), "Public" (line 54), and "Widows and Orphans" (line 56) suggests that these terms
 - (A) are used only in reference to other terms
 - (B) have different meanings to Babbitt than to other people
 - (C) are meant to be read ironically
 - (D) have been translated from another language
 - (E) signal the pride state legislators take in their work
9. The narrator suggests that Howard Littlefield's presentations "before the board of aldermen or the state legislature" (line 51) are characterized by
 - (A) engaging, casual anecdotes
 - (B) subtle, malicious inconsistencies
 - (C) daring, idealistic proposals
 - (D) elaborate, slanted data
 - (E) earnest, irrefutable research
10. In lines 66-67, the phrase in parentheses implies that Littlefield is actually
 - (A) forgiving
 - (B) curious
 - (C) self-important
 - (D) witty
 - (E) erratic
11. The narrator suggests that Littlefield's acquaintances, including Babbitt, are characterized by
 - (A) jealous suspicion of Littlefield's accomplishments
 - (B) naive trust in Littlefield's expertise
 - (C) mild annoyance at Littlefield's intellectual snobbery
 - (D) envious respect for Littlefield's wealth
 - (E) perverse curiosity about Littlefield's background

END OF SECTION I.

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