

“The Blood-Red Night” Quiz

Directions: Read the article “The Blood-Red Night” in the January 2015 issue of *Storyworks*. Then fill in the bubble next to the best answer for each question below.

1. “The Blood-Red Night” is mainly about _____.

- (A) why the Peshtigo Fire was largely forgotten
- (B) how the Chicago Fire started
- (C) why Chicago grew so rapidly in the 1800s
- (D) the causes and results of the Peshtigo Fire

2. In what way were the forests described in the article “like no other on Earth”?

- (A) They covered an enormous area with a seemingly endless number of trees.
- (B) They were home to bears found only in Wisconsin.
- (C) They were extremely dark at night.
- (D) Humans left the forests untouched for centuries.

3. Which line from the story supports the answer to question 2?

- (A) “These were the forests of fairy tales . . .”
- (B) “One early Wisconsin settler was Laura Ingalls Wilder, author of the Little House series.”
- (C) “. . . billions and billions of trees covering thousands of square miles of land.”
- (D) “Beginning in the 1860s, lumber companies bought up huge chunks of the northern woods.”

4. You can infer that during the early fall of 1871, residents of Peshtigo felt _____.

- (A) confident
- (B) unmotivated
- (C) very nervous
- (D) angry at each other

5. What does *parched* mean in the sentence “Little rain had fallen during the summer, and the entire Midwest of the United States was parched.”

- (A) extremely hot
- (B) very dry
- (C) muddy
- (D) windy

6. The Kramers’ decision to stay in Peshtigo after the fire was most likely because of _____.

- (A) hopelessness
- (B) laziness
- (C) loyalty
- (D) poverty

7. Which sentence from the article supports the answer to question 6?

- (A) “They knew their house would be destroyed.”
- (B) “They did not expect to survive the night.”
- (C) “Their town was gone, as were most of their friends.”
- (D) “But the Kramers decided to stay and help rebuild.”

8. The sidebar calls the Great Chicago Fire the _____ fire in U.S. history.

- (A) deadliest
- (B) first
- (C) hottest
- (D) most famous

Constructed Response

Directions: On a separate piece of paper, write your answer to each question in a well-organized paragraph. Make sure you support your answers with information and details from the articles.

9. How is a firestorm different from other fires? Explain in your own words.

10. What effect did Chicago’s growth in the mid-1800s have on Peshtigo?