1 Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?

_The Three Strangers_

a _T_ The first stranger was the prisoner.
b _T_ The third stranger to arrive was the hangman.
c _F_ The shepherd’s wife was happy for people to drink her mead.
d _F_ The prisoner had killed a man.
e _F_ The prisoner was never found.

_What the Shepherd Saw_

f _T_ Fred Ogbourne was the Duchess’s brother-in-law.
g _T_ The Duke killed Fred Ogbourne.
h _T_ Bill and the shepherd saw a murder.
i _F_ The Duchess died after the Duke.
j _F_ Bill told the police about the murder.

_A Moment of Madness_

k _T_ Baptista liked teaching.
l _T_ When it was time to go home for the wedding, Baptista missed the boat.
m _F_ Charles had wanted to marry Baptista for some time.

n _F_ Charles drowned before the wedding.
o _F_ Baptista gave the workman money.
p _T_ Baptista saw Charles’s hat in the hotel.
q _F_ One day Baptista met the vicar from the first wedding.

r _F_ David was angry when she told him about Charles.
s _F_ David had four daughters.
t _T_ In the end, Baptista was happy.

2 Which story are these words about? _The Three Strangers, What the Shepherd Saw, A Moment of Madness._

a _A_ clear, moonlit night. ........................
b _A_ cold, wet night. ........................
c _A_ warm summer day. ........................
d _A_ cousin who has travelled many miles. ........................
e _A_ man in grey who has an unusual job. ........................
f _A_ dead man in a hotel room. ........................
g _A_ boat that leaves early. ........................
h _A_ shepherd who nobody sees. ........................
i _A_ poor workman on an island. ........................
j _A_ businessman who was once a shepherd. ........................

3 Who said this in the stories? Who did they say it to? _the Duke, the Duchess, the first stranger, Baptista, Bill, Charles, David, Fred, Shepherd Fennel._

a ‘First you want one thing, then another.’ …………………….. to ……………………..
b ‘I’m going home, but I’ve missed the boat.’ …………………….. to ……………………..
c ‘I’ll never speak of it, your Grace.’ …………………….. to ……………………..
d ‘I’ll meet you tomorrow night or the night after.’ …………………….. to ……………………..
e ‘May I come in and rest here for a while?’ …………………….. to ……………………..

4 Match a number from A with a letter from B to make complete sentences.

A

1 _B_ They fire the gun . . .
2 _B_ The shepherds didn’t search carefully . . .
3 _B_ The Duke killed Fred . . .
4 _B_ Baptista missed the boat . . .
5 _B_ Baptista gave the workman money . . .

B

a . . . because the prisoner only stole a sheep.
b . . . because he knew her secret.
c . . . because a prisoner had escaped.
d . . . because he was jealous.
e . . . because it left early.
The Three Strangers and Other Stories

Thomas Hardy

Setting

Choose the best answer.

1. The stories happen in ______.
   a) London    b) the south-west of England  
   c) Scotland  d) the north of England
2. Shepherd Fennel invites his friends to a party because he has a new ______.
   a) wife    b) job    c) house    d) baby
3. It is _____ on the night of Shepherd Fennel’s party.
   a) cold    b) dry    c) snowing    d) warm
4. _____ strangers visit Shepherd Fennel’s house on the night of the party.
   a) Two    b) Five    c) Three    d) Four
5. The Devil’s Door is a group of ______.
   a) holes    b) stones    c) houses    d) trees
6. Fred Ogbourne _____ the Duchess.
   a) is in love with    b) wants to kill  
   c) is angry with    d) doesn’t like
7. The Duke kills _____.
   a) the shepherd boy  b) his wife  
   c) his housekeeper  d) Fred Ogbourne
8. Baptista Trewthen’s first job is as a ______.
   a) school inspector  b) shopkeeper  
   c) teacher  d) farmer
9. David Heddegan is _____ than Baptista.
   a) poorer    b) older    c) quieter  
   d) younger
10. Baptista’s parents live ______.
    a) in a big city    b) on a boat  
    c) on an island    d) in a forest

Characters

Choose the best answer.

11. Shepherd Fennel’s wife doesn’t like ______.
    a) spending money    b) parties  
    c) listening to music    d) children
12. The second visitor to Shepherd Fennel’s house is a ______.
    a) criminal    b) teacher    c) hangman  
    d) policeman
13. The man who escaped from Casterbridge prison had ______.
    a) killed a man    b) stolen a sheep  
    c) killed his wife    d) stolen some money
14. Fred Ogbourne is the Duchess’s ______.
    a) husband    b) brother    c) father  
    d) cousin
15. Most people _____ the Duke.
    a) laugh at    b) are friendly with  
    c) like    d) are afraid of
16. The Duke tells _____ never to talk about what happened at the Devil’s Door.
    a) Bill Mills    b) the Duchess  
    c) Fred Ogbourne    d) the old shepherd
17. Mrs Wace is Baptista Trewthen’s ______.
    a) neighbour    b) teacher    c) landlady  
    d) sister
18. Baptista and Charles first met ______.
    a) at school    b) at the training college  
    c) on a boat    d) at a hotel
19. _____ drowned in the sea.
    a) Baptista    b) David    c) Baptista’s father  
    d) Charles
20. Baptista ______.
    a) never married    b) married once  
    c) married twice    d) married three times

Dialogue

Who said this?

21. ‘Hot or cold, rain or snow, I must do my day’s work tomorrow.’
    a) the clockmaker    b) the hangman  
    c) Shepherd Fennel    d) Shepherd Fennel’s wife
22. ‘He’s drunk enough for ten men already!’
    a) Shepherd Fennel’s wife    b) the policeman  
    c) Shepherd Fennel    d) the hangman
23. ‘Your money or your life!’
    a) the hangman    b) Shepherd Fennel  
    c) the judge    d) the policeman
24. ‘I must accept it. I can never see you again.’
    a) the Duke    b) Bill Mills  
    c) Fred Ogbourne    d) the Duchess
25. ‘Sheep and lambs all safe and well?’
    a) Fred Ogbourne    b) the old shepherd  
    c) the Duke    d) Bill Mills
26. ‘You have dishonoured her, and for that you shall die!’
    a) the Duke    b) the old shepherd  
    c) Bill Mills    d) Fred Ogbourne
27. ‘Old times have come to life again, your Grace.’
    a) the Duchess    b) Fred Ogbourne  
    c) the Duke’s housekeeper    d) Bill Mills
28. ‘The children are awful little things, who make trouble all day long.’
    a) Charles    b) Baptista’s father    c) David  
    d) Baptista
29 'I knew you would never succeed as a teacher.'
   a Mrs Wace  b Baptista's father  
   c Charles   d David
30 'I'm sorry to say they haven't been to school at all.'
   a Baptista  b David  c Baptista's father  
   d Charles

Vocabulary
Choose the best answer.
31 looking happy and lively
   a cheerful  b passive  c easy  
   d clever
32 to look carefully for someone or something
   a run  b search  c expect  d find
33 the noise that a gun makes
   a bang  b crash  c shout  d hit
34 when something hurts your body or mind
   a angry  b difficult  c pleasant  
   d painful
35 a sweet sticky food made by bees
   a mead  b sugar  c honey  d wine
36 a small simple building, usually in a field
   a path  b college  c fence  d hut
37 the part around the middle of your body
   a knees  b waist  c neck  d chest
38 to tell the truth when you have done something wrong
   a confess  b engage  c realise  d beg
39 a large cup with a handle
   a bowl  b glass  c mug  d plate
40 your aunt's or uncle's child
   a grandchild  b nephew  c brother  
   d cousin

Plot
Choose the best answer.
41 The first visitor to Shepherd Fennel's house sits next to the _____.
   a fire  b door  c stairs  d window
42 The hangman knows that a prisoner has escaped because he hears ______.
   a a bell  b a shout  c a gun  
   d a knock
43 The third visitor to Shepherd Fennel's house is ______.
   a the hangman's friend  b a thief  
   c the prisoner's brother  d a policeman
44 The shepherd boy sees the Duchess and Fred Ogbourne ______.
   a at night  b in the morning  
   c in the evening  d in the afternoon
45 The Duke puts Fred Ogbourne's body in ______.
   a a hut  b a hole  c the sea  d a box
46 The Duke sends Bill Mills ______.
   a to prison  b to another country  
   c to a farm  d to school
47 The Duke dies when ______.
   a Mills kills him  b his house burns down  
   c he falls downstairs  d he shoots himself
48 A workman knows about Baptista's first wedding because he was ______.
   a the vicar  b a witness  
   c the photographer  d Charles's friend
49 When David hears that Baptista has been married before, he is ______.
   a happy  b not interested  c sad  
   d angry
50 David's four daughters are ______.
   a well-dressed  b good-looking  
   c intelligent  d kind