

Practice Test One: Diagnostic Test

47. In the second paragraph, the author mentions Mandy Ringer in order to emphasize which point?
- (A) The novel displays Cather's mixed feelings about slavery.
 - (B) The characters are based on Cather's childhood friends.
 - (C) One of the novel's purposes was to paint a portrait of life in nineteenth-century rural Virginia.
 - (D) The novel's characters are shown in a positive light because Cather was a supporter of the Old South.
48. According to the author, why is Cather's attitude toward slavery somewhat ambiguous?
- (A) She was knowledgeable about the legal and political aspects of slavery.
 - (B) She did not denounce slavery directly, only in indirect ways.
 - (C) She identified equally with slaves and slaveholders.
 - (D) She was unable to fashion a firm opinion on the issue.
49. One can infer that the author would probably
- (A) like Cather if the author met her
 - (B) consider the character of Mandy Ringer irrelevant to the plot
 - (C) oppose the academic study of Cather's other novels
 - (D) have no appreciation of the novel's merits
50. Which of the following would be the best title for the passage?
- (A) *Sapphira and the Slave Girl: Fact Versus Fiction*
 - (B) Willa Cather: Racist or Abolitionist?
 - (C) Some Comments on the Final Novel of Willa Cather
 - (D) Willa Cather's Depiction of Nineteenth-Century Virginians

END OF TEST. Turn to Part Five, "Answer Keys" and "Score Conversion Chart," to find out how you did on this diagnostic test. Check the Listening Comprehension script on the pages that follow if there was anything in the Listening Comprehension section of this test that you could not understand.