**Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Directions: For the following questions, choose the best answer or respond in complete sentences.**

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie is a Nigerian novelist, nonfiction writer, and short story writer. In her story *The Danger of a* Single Story Adichie discusses her experiences with literature and the influence stories can have on constructing one’s understanding of the world and people.

1. Which of the following identifies the main idea of the text?

A. By only exposing ourselves to a single story, we run the risk of constructing overly-simplistic understandings of other people and places.

B. By only reading a single story, we cheat ourselves of experiencing different cultures from different perspectives.

C. Literature is reflective of the stories that are most popular and that people are most likely to identify with.

D. Literature primarily shapes the understanding of children, while adults are less likely to construct their views of the world based on a single story.

2. Which quote from the text best supports the main idea of the text that you identified in question 1?

A. “What this demonstrates, I think, is how impressionable and vulnerable we are in the face of a story, particularly as children.” (Paragraph 8)

B. “Like our economic and political worlds, stories too are defined by the Principle of Nkali: How they are told, who tells them, when they're told, how many stories are told, are really dependent on power.” (Paragraph 26)

C. “The single story creates stereotypes, and the problem with stereotypes is not that they are untrue, but that they are incomplete. They make one story become the only story.” (Paragraph 38)

D. “What if my roommate knew about the female lawyer who recently went to court in Nigeria to challenge a ridiculous law that required women to get their husband's consent before renewing their passports?” (Paragraph 47)

3. What is the author’s purpose in the text?

A. Adichie wants to warn people that if they primarily consume stories of Western culture, they have likely been influenced by a single story.

B. Adichie wants to show how important it is to acknowledge more than a single story in order to fully understand what you are unfamiliar with. C. Adichie wants to prove how limited the United States’ understanding of other cultures is, as most of her experiences with single stories have been in the U.S.

D. Adichie wants to show people how she has managed to avoid being influenced by a single story, so that they can do the same.

4. Which detail from the text best supports the author’s purpose that you identified in question 3?

A. “My American roommate was shocked by me. She asked where I had learned to speak English so well, and was confused when I said that Nigeria happened to have English as its official language.”

B. “Now, I've laughed every time I've read this. And one must admire the imagination of John Lok. But what is important about his writing is that it represents the beginning of a tradition of telling African stories in the West:

A tradition of Sub-Saharan Africa as a place of negatives”

C. “But it would never have occurred to me to think that just because I had read a novel in which a character was a serial killer that he was somehow representative of all Americans.”

D. “Stories have been used to dispossess and to malign, but stories can also be used to empower and to humanize. Stories can break the dignity of a people, but stories can also repair that broken dignity.”

5. How do stories of the West compare to stories of Africa?

A. Stories of Western culture discuss a greater variety of experiences, while African stories are more limited.

B. Stories of Western culture are more readily available across the world, while there are fewer African writers and their stories are less accessible in other countries.

C. Stories of Western culture are more popular because more people can identify with them, while African stories provide limited identifiable experiences.

D. Stories of Western culture are more popular because most people are unaware of the current work of African writers.

6. Which quote from the text best supports the answer that you identified in question 5?

A. “All my characters were white and blue-eyed, they played in the snow, they ate apples, (Laughter) and they talked a lot about the weather, how lovely it was that the sun had come out.” (Paragraph 2)

B. “Now, things changed when I discovered African books. There weren't many of them available, and they weren't quite as easy to find as the foreign books.” (Paragraph 8)

C. “[I]f all I knew about Africa were from popular images, I too would think that Africa was a place of beautiful landscapes, beautiful animals, and incomprehensible people, fighting senseless wars, dying of poverty and AIDS” (Paragraph 19)

D. “I grew up under repressive military governments that devalued education, so that sometimes, my parents were not paid their salaries. And so, as a child, I saw jam disappear from the breakfast table, then margarine disappeared” (Paragraph 37) 8

7. How did Adichie allow a single story to construct her understanding of other people? **(RACE steps for answering Constructed Response: •Reword/restate the question**

**• Provide an Answer •Cite using evidence from text •Explain how the evidence supports your answer)**

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8. When was a time that you falsely judged someone, or a group, through the lens of a single story? How were you wrong in your judgements and what made you realize this? **(RACE steps for answering Constructed Response: •Reword/restate the question • Provide an Answer •Cite using evidence from text •Explain how the evidence supports your answer)**

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