

COMPREHENSION ANSWERS (50M)

FROM PASSAGE B

1. “the audience will get to see some real fun” [1] and “a Gamemaker sits at a set of controls monitoring me” [1]
2. She is relying on instinct. [1] She has forgotten about her logical plan to retreat to the pond and is instead focusing on moving quickly and instinctively to avoid the fireballs. [1]
3. She knows that certain areas of the arena are rigged for certain attacks [1]. Therefore, she knows that she should get away from this section of the arena to move out of reach of the launchers. [1]

4.	It is filled with danger.	✓
	It is filled with snakes.	
	It is full of holes.	

5. She vomits. [1]
6. “singed” and “seared” [2]
7. The writer means that even though Katniss moves to avoid the fireball [1], she is too slow [1] and gets hit by it. [1]
8. She did it to stifle the fire on her pants leg. [1]
9. Her leg is hurting too much that she cannot move. [1]
 She is shaking too hard to move. [1]
 She is too scared to move. [1]
 She is too tired to move. [1]
 She has given up on the game. [1]

10.	relief	frustration	fear	resignation	shock	captivation	determination
	Paragraph 1-3:		Paragraphs 4:		Paragraph 5:		Paragraph 6:
	(i) Determination [1]		(ii) Shock [1]		(iii) Fear [1]		(iv) Resignation [1]

INVICTUS

1. The quatrain gives the impression of darkness in the first two lines and therefore depicts a gloomy atmosphere. The second line further paints an atmosphere of despair and unhappiness as darkness is depicted to “cover” the speaker from “pole to pole”, effectively highlighting the magnitude of the darkness and how he is engulfed by it.
2. He believes that he has the power to be in control, even when he is experiencing extremely difficult moments and intense suffering. Despite being a victim, he is ready to face and overcome whatever adversities or obstacles he encounters. In the second quatrain, the speaker comes “under the bludgeoning” by life’s circumstances. Instead of giving up, his reaction is to suffer in silence and continues to hold his head up despite his “bloody” head. In the third quatrain, he says that he will continue to be “unafraid” in the “Horror” beyond “this place of wrath and tears”, which further highlights his indomitable attitude.
3. The main message that the poem conveys to us is the idea that we control our fate more than anyone else ever will. Regardless of whatever adversities we experience in life, we can overcome all odds and be victorious because we alone, are “masters of our own fate.”

The overarching theme of the poem is relevant to everyone because all of us at some point in our lives go through certain trials and tribulations. Instead of giving up and becoming victims of circumstances, we should instead be inspired by the words of the speaker, allow our heads to be “unbowed” during our darkest moments and like the “captains” of our lives and souls, steer ourselves towards a better future.