

7th Grade ELA Blizzard Bag Day 2

Name _____

Teacher _____

7th Grade ELA

BLIZZARD

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DAY 2

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Double Davids

"Hi David, I'm David."

It was quite possibly the weirdest conversation ever. I had been minding my own business, watching T.V. in the den, when the lights went out suddenly. I was home alone. The T.V went out, too. A moment later one lamp came back on, but it was flickering weakly. In the middle of the room stood a man who looked like my uncle, Norman.

"Hi David, I'm David," he said.

I didn't say anything. I thought that if I could reach my cell phone, I could call 911. My parents had taught me plenty of times what to do in an emergency. I thought that maybe I could jump out the half-open window, although it opened onto the roof on the second story.

"I know your parents taught you to call 911 in an emergency," said the guy. "And I know that you're wondering where your phone is."

This was getting scarier. Obviously this guy had been stalking me.

"I wouldn't recommend jumping out the half-open window," he said with a peculiar little smile. "It opens onto the roof on the second story."

"H-how are you doing this?" I asked. "Are you reading my mind?"

"Not really. Well, sort of."

"What does that mean?"

"I'm reading my own mind," he said.

"I don't understand you." Maybe if I told him that someone was coming home soon, he would get scared and leave.

"There's no point telling me that someone will come home soon," he said.

I shivered.

"Relax," he said. "That would be fatally ignorant. You're the absolute last person in the world I would hurt."

"Why me?"

"Because if I hurt you, I hurt me," he said. "I'll explain, but you'll have a hard time accepting it."

"I'll try."

"OK, I am David Seam Lamont."

"That's my name!"

"Don't interrupt. I was born January 11, 1992."

"That's when I was born! You're trying to mess with me!"

"I told you that you would have a hard time accepting my explanation. The fact is, I am you. An older you."

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"There's no way – "

"Just hear me out and stop interrupting. Man, I was obnoxious when I was young!" Shaking his head, he continued "I was 15 years old, sitting in this room, watching T.V. A guy came from the future and told me that he was me, and that he had invented a time machine in the future. He had come back to see himself. It was the exact same conversation you and I are having now."

"Time machine?" I asked weakly.

"Yes, a time machine. I'm you, David, I've just come back in time."

"Did you really invent a time machine?" I asked, half starting to believe it.

"We did, I did. Or, rather, we will, since it will happen in December of the year 2040."

"Where is this machine?"

"It doesn't go back and forth in time, the person does."

I could almost believe it. He seemed to know everything I was thinking.

"If you really came from the future," I said, "tell me something about it, so I can test you. Tell me who will win all the baseball games in the major leagues tomorrow."

"I can't remember that far back, and we never liked baseball that much. But more importantly, I can't tell you anything about the future. If I did, you would have knowledge you are not supposed to have, and that could mess with the time stream."

"So why are you here?" I asked.

"Just to say 'hello,' and look at me," he said. "Goodbye, David, take very good care of yourself."

"But I – " I began to say, and then the lights dimmed again. When they came back on, he was gone. The T.V. came back on. It was an old movie, called "Back to the Future."

That made me laugh nervously, but when the laughter passed, I had an idea. I sat down with a pencil and a pad of paper and started taking very close notes about the movie.

1. How is the older David able to know what the younger David is thinking?

- A. He has psychic powers that enable him to read minds.
- B. He has been stalking the house for a long time.
- C. He already had the thoughts when he was younger.
- D. He is using the time machine to pull out the younger David's thoughts.

2. What mood is established by the author's description of the setting in paragraph 2?

- A. Clinical and unemotional
- B. Exciting and adventurous
- C. Mysterious and frightening

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D. Celebratory and joyful

3. How does the younger David try to get the older David to prove he is from the future?

- A. He requests the outcomes of baseball games.
- B. He asks about the health of his parents.
- C. He demands to see the design of the time machine.
- D. He asks the older David to guess what he is thinking.

4. Why does David take notes about the movie?

- A. He wants to see how it comes out.
- B. He thinks it will tell him about his future.
- C. He knows he will forget if he doesn't take notes.
- D. He wants to start learning how time travel works.

5. What does the younger David mean when he says, "You're trying to mess with me?"

- A. He believes the older David is trying to get him into trouble.
- B. He believes the older David is trying to trick him.
- C. He believes the older David intends to hurt him.
- D. He believes the older David intends to steal from him.

6. Read the following sentence from the story: "That would be fatally ignorant." Which of the following is closest in meaning?

- A. "That would be ridiculously appealing."
- B. "That would be incredibly challenging."
- C. "That would be strongly inherent."
- D. "That would be foolish enough to kill."

7. Which of the following would be the BEST subtitle for this story?

- A. "A Visit from a Friend"
- B. "When an Emergency Strikes"
- C. "The Man Who Could Read Minds"

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D. "Traveling Through Time"

8. Which of the following lines from the passage includes a run-on sentence?

- A. I can't remember that far back, and we never liked baseball that much. But more importantly, I can't tell you anything about the future.
- B. "Yes, a time machine. I'm you, David, I've just come back in time."
- C. "Who was?"
- D. "I'll try," I said.

9. What is the main reason the older David visited the younger David?

- A. To encourage the younger David to become interested in time travel.
- B. To get a look at his younger self.
- C. To give the younger David information about the future.
- D. To keep the younger David from panicking, since he was home alone.

How do the writers of the two selections “Time Travel” and “Double Davids” present the topic of time travel? In your opinion, which method is more effective? Provide at least 2 specific details from each of the texts to support your answer.

[illegible]