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CHECKING COMPREHENSION

DIRECTIONS

Test your understanding of what you have read by writing *T* next to the statements that are true and *F* next to the statements that are false.

- _____ 1. Both Summer and Franklin warn Rashad not to go to the Palace Theater.
- _____ 2. Rashad is saving money for a new car.
- _____ 3. The Palace Theater had never been a very successful business.
- _____ 4. *A Deadly Obsession* was the name of a movie that played at the Palace Theater years ago.
- _____ 5. When Rashad gets to the Palace Theater, he finds out that Mrs. Robinson has forgotten to have the electricity turned back on.
- _____ 6. Rashad sees a prop on the stage of the Palace that reminds him of an electric chair.
- _____ 7. After Rashad wakes up from being knocked out, he finds his hands and legs are tied.
- _____ 8. Rashad finds a phone and calls the police.
- _____ 9. The police tell Rashad that he was probably attacked by a couple of weirdos sleeping at the Palace.
- _____ 10. Franklin suggests that someone is after Rashad with the intention of capturing Rashad's youth.





PREDICTING

Chapters 1 and 2 of *A Deadly Obsession* introduce the reader to the main character, the setting, and the plot. By reading carefully, the audience can make predictions about what may happen later in the book.

DIRECTIONS

Read the following excerpts from chapters 1 and 2. Then write a sentence addressing the statement or question that follows each excerpt. The sentence you write should realistically predict events in the plot.

Excerpt 1

“Oh no, not you too,” Rashad groaned. “I already got this lecture from Summer. Ghosts, goblins, and things that go bump in the night, all lurking in the shadows of the Palace Theater. Give me a break.”

Franklin looked serious. “You should listen to your lady, Rash. There’s been some strange rumors about that place for years.”

“It’s in the middle of downtown, for crying out loud!” Rashad scoffed. “Most of the people who hang out in that area are winos. They’d see strange things in Mister Rogers’ neighborhood. Hey, I’ve got to get going. You coming along or not?”

Predict what role Rashad will have in the book. _____

Excerpt 2

Summer looked slightly offended. “Well, it’s true,” she protested. “People say that the ghosts of actors who once performed at the Palace still haunt the place. Nobody I know will go near it.” She shook her head again. “Nope, I’m not going, and I wish you wouldn’t either.”

Rashad put an arm around her shoulders and gave her a squeeze. “Now, don’t worry about me. I’m tougher than any ghost. Tell you what. After Mrs. Robinson pays me, I’ll take you to dinner—any place you want, okay?”

Predict where you think most of the story will take place. What will happen there? _____

continued





RECOGNIZING SUFFIXES

A good way to enlarge your vocabulary is to learn to recognize suffixes. A *suffix* is one or more syllables added to the end of a root word to form a new word. Knowing the meaning of a suffix helps you figure out the definition of many words.

The following chart contains words with suffixes from chapters 1 and 2 of *A Deadly Obsession*. Read the meaning of each suffix. Then note the meaning of the new word formed by using this suffix.

| Word | Suffix | Meaning of Suffix | Meaning of Word |
|--------------|--------|--|---|
| firmly | ly | in a certain manner | in a firm manner |
| question | ion | result of an act or process | result of a quest |
| neighborhood | hood | individuals sharing a certain state | people sharing the state of being neighbors |
| wino | o | one who has the qualities of or is associated with | one who is associated with wine |
| musty | y | characterized by | characterized by must |
| scientist | ist | one who specializes in a specific subject | one who specializes in science |
| homeless | less | without | without a home |
| dangerous | ous | full of | full of danger |
| darkness | ness | state or quality | state of being dark |
| criminal | al | characterized by | one who is characterized by crime |

DIRECTIONS

Using the chart above, add a suffix to each of the words below. Each new word you write should match the definition that follows it. *Note: When adding suffixes, you may have to change the spelling or drop an ending off the root word.*

- | | <u>Definition</u> |
|------------------------|--|
| 1. wasteful + _____ | state of being wasteful |
| 2. weird + _____ | one who has the qualities of being weird |
| 3. brother + _____ | people sharing the state of being brothers |
| 4. chemical + _____ | one who specializes in chemistry |
| 5. craze + _____ | characterized by craze |
| 6. mystery + _____ | full of mystery |
| 7. final + _____ | in a final manner |
| 8. penny + _____ | without money |
| 9. motivate + _____ | result of motivating |
| 10. profession + _____ | one who is characterized by a profession |

