

**“Jabari Unmasked”**  
**Text-Dependent Questions**

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

1. In the first stanza, the speaker lies to...
  - A. Fit in
  - B. Be the most popular
  - C. Deceive their friends
  - D. Be unique
  
2. In the third stanza, the speaker describes the world as seeing them as...
  - A. A criminal
  - B. Unintelligent
  - C. A child
  - D. A student
  
3. In the last stanza, how does the speaker suggest responding to prejudice?
  - A. Pretend it doesn't bother you
  - B. Challenge it with violence
  - C. Be upfront about your anger
  - D. Express yourself through art
  
4. PART A: Which of the following best identifies a theme of the poem?
  - A. People of color often hide their identity due to the negative expectations of society.
  - B. Children are often shamed for characteristics that make them unique or stand out.
  - C. Society often judges a person's worth and promise by the color of their skin.
  - D. People often don't contribute their ideas because they're too afraid to speak up.
  
5. PART B: Which quote from the poem best supports the answer to Part A?
  - A. “anything to mask / the million insecurities that / pockmark our skin like acne.” (Lines 4-6)
  - B. “agile minds, the wit that sits behind our cheeks — / who'd guess that some of us are geeks” (Lines 12-13)
  - C. “One look, and we are neatly judged this / gang, these thugs, these dark delinquents” (Lines 17-18)
  - D. “we'd shrink our own hearts / down to nothing, and that we / would regret. Better to let our anger go, and smile.” (Lines 28-30)
  
6. What does the phrase “our color works to camouflage our / character and promise — at least, in certain eyes” mean as it is used in the poem (Lines 15-16)?
  - A. The speaker and their peers wear dark colors in hopes of blending him.
  - B. People judge the speaker, and people like them, because of the color of their skin.
  - C. The kids hide their capabilities out of fear of what others will think of them.
  - D. People don't expect as much from the kids because of their young age.

7. PART A: How does the word choice in the last two stanzas of the poem contribute to the tone (Lines 24-35)?
- A. It portrays the speaker's approach to the future as pessimistic.
  - B. It emphasizes the speaker's hope that things will improve.
  - C. It conveys the speaker's frustration at the injustice they experience.
  - D. It stresses the speaker's resigned tone towards the injustices described.
8. PART B: Which quote from the text best supports the answer to Part A?
- A. "Is such unfairness what the world is filled with? / The evidence is seen in spirits ripped and torn." (Lines 24-25)
  - B. "Still, the world needs the dreams we offer, and / should we leave those dreams bleeding" (Lines 26-27)
  - C. "we'd shrink our own hearts / down to nothing, and that we / would regret." (Lines 28-30)
  - D. "in the end, mask aside, freshen your mouth / with ferocious lines of potent poetry" (Lines 32-33)