

“Sweet Betsy from Pike” Test

1. **The journey in the song is most likely from**
 - a. Eastern America
 - b. Mexico
 - c. Canada
 - d. Western America
2. **A prairie is**
 - a. A swamp
 - b. A grassland
 - c. A mountainous area
 - d. A seashore area
3. **A county is probably a/an _____ area.**
 - a. Urban
 - b. Suburban
 - c. Rural
 - d. Unattractive
4. **A yoke of oxen is most likely**
 - a. A group of horses
 - b. A group of roosters
 - c. A group of cows
 - d. A group of workers
5. **The phrase “lay down to repose” means**
 - a. To be active
 - b. To go to sleep
 - c. To make a meal
 - d. To go hunting
6. **Betsy was probably _____ on the journey.**
 - a. Sailing
 - b. Running
 - c. Walking
 - d. Driving
7. **A horde is . . .**
 - a. A well-behaved group
 - b. A violent group
 - c. A troop of soldiers
 - d. A wealthy group
8. **Betsy fought the Indians with**
 - a. Knives
 - b. A bat
 - c. Firearms
 - d. A bow and arrow
9. **When they came to the desert, Betsy**
 - a. Gave out
 - b. Gave in
 - c. Ran out
 - d. Trotted in
10. **Betsy “got up in a great deal of pain” from**
 - a. The mountains
 - b. The prairie
 - c. The desert
 - d. The rivers
11. **The phrase “While Brigham stood pawing the ground like a steer” is**
 - a. A simile
 - b. A metaphor
 - c. Personification
 - d. Hyperbole
12. **When Betsy showed her bare legs to the train it means**
 - a. She was on a locomotive
 - b. She was driving a car
 - c. She lifted the bottom of her dress
 - d. She rolled up her trousers
13. **The journey in the song is**
 - a. Across the Mississippi River
 - b. Across Virginia
 - c. Across the American west
 - d. Only in California
14. **In the song, Betsy**
 - a. Gives up
 - b. Overcomes obstacles
 - c. Gets stuck
 - d. Runs out of money
15. **In the marriage in the last stanza, the most forceful character is**
 - a. Ike
 - b. Betsy
 - c. The yoke of oxen
 - d. Brigham
16. **The phrase “she ran like a deer” is**
 - a. Hyperbole
 - b. Personification
 - c. Not a comparison
 - d. A metaphor

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Short Answer: Write a complete answer to each question on the paper

17. Explain why the journey was difficult.

18. Explain how the song is humorous and list at least three examples of funny events it,

- a. ---
- b. ---
- c. ---

19. What does Betsy mean when she says to the miner “don’t get too free?”

20. List at least three traits that Betsy has.

- a.
- b.
- c.

21. Explain how Betsy is unlike the normal woman in the year 1847 in at least three sentences using exact examples from the song.

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Sweet Betsy from Pike

Have you heard tell of sweet Betsy from Pike
She cross the wide prairie with her lover, Ike
With two yoke of Oxen, a big yellow dog,
A tall Shanghai rooster and one spotted hog

One evening quite early they camped on the Platte
‘Twas nearby the road on a green, shady flat
Betsy, sore-footed, lay down to repose
In wonder Ike gazed on his Pike County rose

The Indians came down in a wild yelling horde
And Betsy got scared they would scalp her adored
Under the wagon wheel Betsy did crawl
She fought off them Indians with musket and ball

Out on the prairie one bright starry night
They broke out the whiskey and Betsy got tight
She sang and she shouted, she danced on the plain.
She made a great show for that whole wagon train

The Shanghai ran off and the cattle all died
The last piece of bacon that morning was fried
Ike got discouraged and Betsy got made
The dog wagged his tail and looked wondrously sad

They soon reached the desert where Betsy gave out
And down in the sand she lay rolling about
Ike in great terror looked on in surprise
Saying, Betsy get up, you’ll get sand in your eyes

Sweet Betsy got up in a great deal of pain
Declared she’d go back to Pike County again
Ike, he just sighed, and they fondly embraced
And she traveled along with her arm round his waist