Touching Spirit Bear
Quiz Ch 1-6

1. As the novel begins, Cole is
   a. beating up a classmate.
   b. robbing a store.
   c. riding a skiff to an island.
   d. attending a Circle of Justice meeting.

2. What does the word **banishment** mean in the story?
   a. demands
   b. exclusion
   c. frustration
   d. patience

3. What two words best describe Cole Matthews at the beginning of the novel?
   a. angry, defiant
   b. fearful, gutless
   c. shamed, humble
   d. vicious, relaxed

4. Read the following quote from Chapter 2: “Nobody is going to baby-sit you here. If you eat you’ll live. If not, you’ll die. This land can provide for you or kill you.” What does the quote reveal about Edwin’s opinion of Cole’s position?
   a. Edwin thinks Cole is not taking his banishment seriously.
   b. Edwin thinks Cole will do well during his stay on the island.
   c. Edwin thinks Cole should baby-sit the animals on the island.
   d. Edwin thinks Cole is nuts to agree to live on the island for a year.

5. Why does Garvey give Cole the at.oow in Chapter 2?
   a. As a sign of trust.
   b. Cole’s mother sent it to him.
   c. It’s the warmest blanket for the cold nights ahead.
   d. It’s to remind Cole that he’s not alone.

6. Why does Cole burn his shelter at the end of Chapter 2?
   a. He needed to start a fire in order to stay warm.
   b. The shelter is part of a game that Cole does not want to play.
   c. The fire started accidentally, and Cole didn’t want to burn the shelter.
   d. None of the above

7. Which of the following is **NOT** one of the “ingredients” of Cole’s life, as described in Chapter 3?
   a. All Cole’s parents do is drink.
   b. Cole’s dad turns into a monster and abuses him.
   c. Cole thinks his parents hate him.
   d. Cole’s mom is annoying by being too involved in his life.
8. What is Cole’s plan to escape the island?
   a. Cole could build a boat from the trees on the island and paddle to the mainland.
   b. Cole could swim island to island and find a passing boat to take him to the back.
   c. Cole could burn the shelter and use the fire as a smoke signal to be rescued.
   d. Cole could use his supplies to build a radio to contact the mainland.

9. Why is it important for Peter to forgive Cole?
   a. Until Peter forgives Cole, Peter won’t heal.
   b. It is a requirement of the Circle.
   c. If Peter does not forgive Cole, Cole will be sentenced to prison.
   d. Peter must forgive Cole because he wants to forget.

10. How does Cole react to his victim during Circle Justice?
    a. Cole glares threateningly at Peter.
    b. Cole refuses to look Peter directly in the eye.
    c. Cole taps his shoe against the leg of his victim’s chair.
    d. Cole reluctantly holds his victim’s hand while sitting in Circle Justice.

11. What is the point of the Circle?
    a. The Circle is intended to embarrass the offender.
    b. The Circle seeks to punish the offender.
    c. The Circle brings the victim and offender together to get revenge.
    d. The Circle meets the needs of the offender and the victim, allowing them to heal.

12. What is the first mistake that Cole finally admits to?
    a. Cole admits that beating up Peter was a mistake during a Circle meeting.
    b. Trying to burn the at.oow was a mistake because Garvey trusted him.
    c. Cole’s anger clouded his thinking and he didn’t consider the tide when escaping.
    d. Burning his shelter and supplies was a bad idea.

13. When leaving the Circle, in reference to his father Cole asks Garvey, “Did you hear him lie tonight?” Garvey responds, “He wasn’t the only one.” To whom is Garvey referring?
    a. Peter
    b. Cole
    c. Peter’s lawyer
    d. Cole’s mom

14. Peter’s lawyer says that any solution found by Circle Justice must do two things. What two things was the lawyer referring to?
    a. Members of Circle Justice hold hands and pray.
    b. Cole must go to jail as well as pay for Peter’s medical care.
    c. Society should be protected from Cole and he should take responsibility.
    d. Peter should have the opportunity to hurt Cole in return as well as receive money for damages.

15. Which of the following is NOT a reason, according to Garvey, that isolation works to help heal a criminal?
    a. Isolation keeps a person away from all negative influences.
    b. Isolation allows a person to “walk the talk” of change.
    c. Isolation gives a person time to think about their actions.
    d. Isolation makes a person miss their family, so they will change their actions.
16. What factors influence Cole to behave as he does and become a violent juvenile offender? Use details and information from the novel to support your answer. (5 points)

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Touching Spirit Bear
Quiz Ch 7-13

1. How does Cole react to the white bear at the end of Chapter 7?
   a. Cole breathes in deeply and stands motionless.
   b. Cole returns to the cabin before the bear senses his fear.
   c. Cole tries to communicate with the bear to join him for a meal of fish.
   d. Cole’s anger is ignited and he becomes determined to challenge the bear.

2. What is Cole’s intention when he makes a spear for a weapon?
   a. Cole wants to kill the Spirit Bear.
   b. Cole will use the spear to hunt for food.
   c. Cole makes the spear as protection from predators.
   d. Cole wants to use the spear to frighten Spirit Bear.

3. Which of the following is NOT some of the damage that Cole endures from the bear attack?
   a. Broken ribs
   b. Cracked pelvis
   c. Concussion
   d. Broken arm

4. In Chapter 2, Edwin advises Cole about how to live in harmony with the other creatures on the island. How are Edwin’s words proven to be true?
   a. Cole ignores Edwin’s advice and is severely wounded because of his stubbornness.
   b. Cole is able to eat worms, fish and rodents to help him survive.
   c. Cole defies Edwin and has inflicted pain upon the bear.
   d. Cole realizes how animals survive in the wild.

5. What advantage do the baby birds have over Cole?
   a. The baby birds can leave the island while Cole is sentenced there for a year.
   b. The baby birds are never scolded while Cole is reprimanded by everyone.
   c. The baby birds have a warm, dry shelter to keep them safe from the harshest storms while Cole is living in the open.
   d. The baby birds have a mother who watches over her young while Cole has been left alone with no guidance from his mother.

6. What happens to the tree with the sparrow’s nest during the electrical storm?
   a. It is knocked down by a strong gust of wind.
   b. Cole takes the nest out of the tree to protect the birds.
   c. It is knocked over by a lightning strike.
   d. It is flooded with water from the rain.

7. What emotion does Cole feel toward the baby sparrows when they tried to return to their nest?
   a. Hatred
   b. Sadness
   c. Anger
   d. Envy
8. What does Cole catch to eat at the end of this chapter?
   a. Mouse
   b. Deer
   c. Bird
   d. Rabbit

9. Why does Cole spit at the bear?
   a. Cole wants to attract the bear’s attention.
   b. Cole wants to show the bear he is ready to die.
   c. Cole wants to clear his throat before he screams at the bear.
   d. Cole wants to bring closure to the bear attack and his life so far.

10. Which of the following is NOT something Cole does to survive?
    a. Cole eats a mouse, chunks of fish from his own vomit, and more worms.
    b. Cole places mud over his skin to keep the mosquitoes from biting and to soothe his skin.
    c. Cole uses the muddy hole to pool water to drink.
    d. Cole kills Spirit Bear to have food to eat.

11. Which of the following is NOT how Cole feels about death?
    a. Cole has accepted death.
    b. Cole is afraid to die.
    c. Cole is happy to have seen beauty in nature.
    d. Cole feels that he has trusted and been trusted with the Spirit Bear.

12. What was the buzzing sound Cole heard?
    a. Flies buzzing around his head.
    b. A chainsaw buzzing in the forest.
    c. Cole was imagining the buzzing because he was delirious.
    d. The motor of the boat containing Edwin and Garvey.

13. When Cole says that he’s okay, what does he mean by this?
    a. Cole does not hurt physically.
    b. Cole has forgiven his parents for treating him poorly.
    c. Cole has come to terms with his anger and understands his role in life’s circle.
    d. Cole has accepted that he will always be a bad person.

14. What is the most important advice Rosey gives Cole at the clinic?
    a. “Helping others will heal your spirit.”
    b. “Getting enough rest will help you heal.”
    c. “Try not to dream about the monsters.”
    d. “Things will get worse before they get better.”

15. Why does Cole throw out the hair he pulled from the Spirit Bear?
    a. He is allergic to the hair.
    b. He is done lying and wants his word to be enough.
    c. The hair makes him vulnerable to attack from other predators.
    d. It is illegal to keep hair from an endangered animal.
16. Edwin says that Cole will be okay if he ever finds a reason to live. Do you think Cole has found his reason to live? Explain. (5 points)
Touching Spirit Bear
Quiz Ch 14-19

1. “Your father carried too much baggage from his past – baggage he never dealt with.” What does the above quote reveal about Cole’s mom’s opinion of her husband?
   a. Cole’s father resents Cole’s mother and never explains his feelings.
   b. Cole’s father has difficulty carrying heavy luggage because of an injury in his childhood.
   c. Cole’s father has difficulty dealing with his son because of what happened in his own childhood.
   d. Cole’s father was given too many material things when he was younger and never appreciated them.

2. What action best demonstrates a change in Mrs. Matthews’ attitude toward Cole’s situation?
   a. She stands by Cole’s bed and wrings her hands on her visits to the hospital.
   b. She warns Cole that he is lucky to be alive and he might become crippled.
   c. She warns Cole not to burn his bridges and pay his debt to society.
   d. She breaks her silence and presses charges against her ex-husband.

3. When Cole returns to the circle, there are two people missing. Who are they?
   a. Edwin and Garvey
   b. Cole’s lawyer and Peter’s lawyer
   c. Cole’s father and Peter
   d. Cole’s mother and father

4. What do most members of the Circle believe should happen to Cole when he is released from the hospital?
   a. Most members believe that the attack was enough punishment and he should be set free.
   b. Most members believe since Cole is injured, he will be better off in the custody of his mother.
   c. The members believe Cole will succeed if they give him another chance on the island.
   d. The members believe it was appropriate to send Cole back into the traditional judicial system.

5. How does Edwin demonstrate the change in Cole’s life?
   a. Cole did not come out swinging when Edwin pushed him over.
   b. Edwin used a circle to demonstrate the path Cole is on.
   c. Edwin asks Cole to give a speech about how he has changed.
   d. Cole demonstrated he hasn’t changed by hitting Edwin after he pushed him over.

6. The Keeper says that they have no way of knowing if Cole is over his anger. What is his response?
   a. Cole gets angry and throws a chair at the Keeper.
   b. Cole agrees, and says that he is a weak person and they should not trust him.
   c. Cole stays silent and hopes that everyone will ignore him.
   d. Cole agrees that he is not over the anger, but is stronger because he can ask for help and tell the truth.
7. Why does the author compare the whole world to a hot dog?
   a. Life is what you put into it; it can be a simple meal or a celebration.
   b. Hot dogs are the main food during Cole’s banishment.
   c. A shared hot dog means the world to Edwin.
   d. Everyone loves to eat a hot dog at parties.

8. What does Edwin say Cole is supposed to imagine as he rolls the ancestor rock down the hill in Chapter Seventeen?
   a. The days on the island passing by.
   b. Everyone he doesn't like.
   c. All his past failures leaving him.
   d. His anger rolling away.

9. How did Edwin’s ritual at the pond affect Cole?
   a. Cole realized the frigid pond caused stiffness and pain in his joints.
   b. Cole realized happiness is a choice to be made one day at a time.
   c. Cole dreaded soaking because of the bitter cold water.
   d. Cole admitted that thinking makes him mad.

10. What does Cole begin building in Chapter 18?
    a. A new shelter/cabin
    b. A totem pole
    c. A raft to escape the island
    d. A trap for the spirit bear

11. What does Cole say he's learned from the whales?
    a. Whales migrate and don't have a home.
    b. Whales are graceful even though they're huge.
    c. Whales eat a lot.
    d. Whales depend on other whales for survival.

12. What activities do Cole and Edwin do to help Cole release his anger?
    a. Soak in the pond
    b. Roll the ancestor rock down the hill
    c. Both A and B
    d. None of the above

13. What is the main reason Edwin and Garvey become disgusted with Cole in Chapter 19?
    a. Cole’s resentful mind-set
    b. Cole’s constant clumsiness
    c. Cole’s loneliness and frustration
    d. Cole’s hesitance to participate in the dances

14. What lesson does Cole learn from the wolf dance?
    a. He learns that it is okay to hurt people, like he has in the past.
    b. He learns that it is best if you are selfish and don’t help anyone.
    c. He learns that it is better to be alone than in a group.
    d. He learns that you need the help of others.

15. When pushing the rock down the hill, Cole comes to a realization. What is it?
    a. He realizes that he will not be able to let go of his anger until he quits blaming others.
    b. He realizes that blaming others is the way to let go of his anger.
    c. He realizes that he cannot control his anger in any way.
    d. He realizes that taking his anger out on others is the only way to deal with it.
16. Is Cole changing? If so, what is causing the changes? If not, do you think he will ever change? (Use specific details from the novel) Please use CERS to answer the question and respond in 8-10 sentences. (5 points)

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Touching Spirit Bear
Quiz Ch 20-24

1. How is Cole demonstrating to Edwin and Garvey that his attitude is improving so that he can remain on the island?
   a. Cole diligently completes the construction of his cabin and makes preparation for his stay.
   b. Cole offers Edwin and Garvey an opportunity to carry the ancestor rock.
   c. Cole admits he is scared and does bad things.
   d. Cole volunteers to return to Minneapolis.

2. What realization does Cole have regarding his father?
   a. He has always hated Cole.
   b. He treats Cole poorly because he is scared and doesn’t know any better.
   c. He wants to get remarried to Cole’s mother.
   d. He committed a crime himself, so he doesn’t want to see Cole end up like him.

3. Edwin put the spark plugs back in the boat two days before he and Garvey left. What does this indicate?
   a. Edwin is having problems with the boat motor.
   b. Edwin wants to provide Cole with a way to escape the island.
   c. Edwin is planning to spy on Cole to see if he tries to escape.
   d. Edwin is starting to trust Cole.

4. What does Cole consider doing with the log he finds in Chapter Twenty-one before he begins working on it as a totem?
   a. Using it for firewood.
   b. Making it into a table.
   c. Making it into a chair.
   d. Making it into a canoe.

5. What is Cole’s routine for “healing” while he is on the island?
   a. Each day he washes his clothes and gathers food for the evening.
   b. Each day he gathers firewood and searches for proof of Spirit Bear.
   c. Each day he writes a letter to his mother, does his homework and gathers food.
   d. Each day he soaks, carries his ancestor rock, completes assignments and improves his cabin area.

6. Which of the following does Edwin NOT say about totem poles?
   a. Totem poles have no significance in Tlingit culture.
   b. Anyone can carve a totem pole.
   c. Each pole tells its own story.
   d. It is up to Cole to gain the life experiences to carve his story.

7. In Chapter Twenty-two, what does Cole decide he needs to do in order to see the Spirit Bear?
   a. Become invisible
   b. Use fish for bait
   c. Build a huge fire
   d. Sleep in the woods
8. How does Cole make himself invisible?
   a. Cole dresses up like the Spirit Bear.
   b. Cole puts on camouflage that Edwin and Garvey brought him.
   c. Cole casts a spell to make himself invisible.
   d. Cole rubs ash and boughs on himself.

9. Cole appears to have discovered why Spirit Bear came to visit him, and why the fish and beaver came so close to him. What is the reason for this?
   a. Cole wore camouflage so they couldn’t see him.
   b. Cole had a clear mind.
   c. Cole became a good hunter.
   d. Cole could speak to the animals with his mind.

10. What is the dance Cole performs after seeing the Spirit Bear in Chapter Twenty-three?
    a. The Spirit Bear dance
    b. The anger dance
    c. The lonely dance
    d. The wolf dance

11. The author wants the reader to think that during his dance of anger Cole is forgiving
    ____________.
    a. Peter Driscal’s lawyer
    b. Garvey and Edwin
    c. Cole’s father
    d. Spirit Bear

12. What does Cole see after allowing his mind to clear and letting himself become one with nature?
    a. A vision of Peter forgiving him
    b. Garvey and Edwin smiling at him for the change in his personality
    c. Spirit Bear
    d. His parents hugging him tightly

13. Why does Cole sometimes cry himself to sleep over the winter months, as revealed in Chapter Twenty-four?
    a. He’s scared
    b. He’s hungry
    c. He’s lonely
    d. He’s cold

14. Which statement best supports the idea that Cole’s healing process is successful?
    a. Because of the bitter winds that winter brought, Cole spent more and more time holed up inside the warm cabin.
    b. Being confined allowed Cole more time for schoolwork, but also more time to think about being alone.
    c. The Tlingit elder’s quiet presence was better than the endless hours alone.
    d. It isn’t enough to be sorry and forgive, Peter has to be helped.

15. Cole learns that if he cannot help the person he has wronged, he should then help somebody else. What does he correctly speculate about Edwin and Garvey?
    a. They are helping him because they are nice people.
    b. They are helping him because they need to right past wrongs.
    c. They are helping him because they were ordered to by the court.
    d. They are helping him because they are getting paid by Cole’s parents.
16. Now that Cole has returned to the island, he is beginning to change for the better. Who or what is most responsible for Cole's transformation? Explain how these changes are helping Cole deal with his problems. Please use CERS to answer the question and respond in 8-10 sentences. (5 points)

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Touching Spirit Bear
Quiz Ch 25-28

1. What is Cole’s idea to cure Peter’s depression?
   a. Peter should see a therapist to discuss his feelings of depression.
   b. Peter should be allowed to beat up Cole so he can recover from his pain.
   c. Peter should just forget about the situation and move on with his life.
   d. Peter should stay on the island to learn what Cole learned during his time there.

2. About two weeks after Cole’s suggestion, some people arrive on the island. Who is NOT one of the people that arrives?
   a. Peter
   b. Peter’s lawyer
   c. Peter’s mother
   d. Peter’s father

3. How long is Peter on the island before he invites Cole to sleep in the cabin in Chapter Twenty-six?
   a. Almost a year
   b. About three months
   c. About a week
   d. About a month

4. Peter shows some signs of embracing Cole’s island practices. Which of the following does he NOT do?
   a. Touch the Spirit Bear
   b. Soak in the pond
   c. Roll the ancestor rock down the hill
   d. Carve a totem pole

5. What does Cole say about the quality of carvings on the two boys’ totem poles?
   a. Cole says his carvings are better and that Peter isn’t good at anything.
   b. The quality doesn’t matter; that’s like saying my feelings are more important.
   c. Cole says Peter’s carvings are better and that he is jealous of him for that.
   d. Both carvings are so good that they should be in a museum.
6. What does Peter say he learned from performing that mouse dance?
   a. The mouse is a hairy rodent.
   b. The mouse is a nimble creature.
   c. The mouse is a cute creature.
   d. He looks like a stupid dork.

7. What does Peter do to Cole’s totem pole at the end of Chapter Twenty-seven?
   a. He puts the totem pole in the fire while Cole and Garvey are gone.
   b. He finishes destroying the entire totem pole.
   c. He carves a new bear where he destroyed the old one.
   d. He fixed all of Cole’s carvings, since Peter is better at carving than Cole.

8. Peter asks Garvey to not accompany Cole to the pond. Why does he do this?
   a. He wants to tell Cole he forgives him.
   b. He wants to start a fight with Cole.
   c. He is planning on killing Cole to get revenge.
   d. He has a plan for them to escape the island.

9. What is Peter’s opinion of Cole at the end of the novel?
   a. Cole is being a trusted friend.
   b. Cole is forgiving Peter for attacking him.
   c. Peter considers Cole to be perpetual jerk.
   d. Cole is just trying to find a way to get off the island.

10. What does Cole carve at the bottom of his totem?
    a. A Spirit Bear
    b. A mouse
    c. A circle
    d. A whale
11. In Ben Mikaelsen’s novel *Touching Spirit Bear* Edwin says, “A person is never done being mad. Anger is a memory never forgotten. You only tame it” (Mikaelsen 110). In an essay, explain how Cole is a dynamic character who learns to tame his anger. Please use CERS to answer the question and respond in at least two paragraphs. (10 points)

**Hint:** First explain Cole’s actions as a result of his anger in the beginning of the novel. Then, show how Cole’s actions toward the end display how he has learned to channel his anger in a more positive manner.

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