

Name: Answer Key

Date: _____

Story Analysis

1. **Title** Ramayana
2. **Author** Valmiki
3. **Hero or Heroine (Protagonist)** Rama
4. **Protagonist's Character Traits (What is he/she like?)** stoic, committed,
compassionate, righteous, loyal, dutiful, determined, courageous, honorable,
trustworthy, respectful, obedient, rational, invincible, valiant, moral, selfless,
virtuous, protective, proud, ethical.
5. **Other Main Characters and their Traits (For each one, list their name and one word that describes them. Instead of general descriptions like "nice" and "bad," try to find words that really describe the characters, such as "hardworking" or "disrespectful.")**
Sita: virtuous, loyal, faithful, steadfast, trustworthy, honorable, devout, (stubborn),
vulnerable, chaste, insistent, demure, (combative)
Lakshmana: faithful, loyal, steadfast, devoted, reliable, impulsive, honorable,
trustworthy, irrational, aggressive
Hanuman: loyal, faithful, reliable, honorable, invincible, trustworthy, powerful,
intimidating, resourceful, clever, indestructible, crafty
Ravana: obsessed, over-confident, cruel, sinister, violent, (licentious), demonic, vile,
bully, evil, boastful, notorious, seductive, arrogant
Dasaratha: protective, benevolent, tormented, gullible, respectful, compassionate
KaiKeyi: power hungry, covetous, greedy, domineering, deceitful, manipulative,
ambitious, sly, cruel, controlling, hypocritical, malicious, secretive, self-
centered
6. **Central Problem (What does the main character face?)** Rama needs to destroy
Ravana, find Sita, and restore dharma (social order) in the heavens. Ravana is
terrorizing the celestial heavens and he needs to be stopped.
7. **Obstacles (things to overcome in order to solve problem mentioned above).**
What prevents the main character from accomplishing his/her goal?
 1. Rama needs to overcome Ravana's magical powers.
 2. Rama needs helpers, potions, and magical weapons.
 3. Rama must kill Vali to get help from the monkeys.
 4. Rama needs to get over his own grief and despondency over Sita's kidnapping.
 5. Rama needs to stay within the confines of dharma.
 6. Rama has to pass the "tests" at the beginning of the story.

7. Rama needs to be initiated into the use of magical weapons. _____
8. Rama must find a way to cross the sea to Lanka. _____
9. Rama must overcome the demons and rakshasas. _____
10. Rama has to overcome the special weapons of Indrajit. _____

8. **Setting** Ayodhya, Lanka, Dandaka Forest (India), around 1500 BCE
9. **How does the protagonist solve the problem?** Rama destroys Ravana, finds Sita, and restores dharma.
10. **Plot Line (no more than 5 sentences)** Vishnu is reincarnated as Prince Rama to stop Ravana, a demon King who has been creating chaos in the heavens. Kaikeyi, one of emperor Dasaratha's wives, has Rama exiled to Dandaka forest, and her son Bharata installed on the throne. While in the forest, Sita is kidnapped by Ravana, and Rama raises an army of monkeys to storm Ravana's city of Lanka. Ravana is killed, Sita is returned, and order is restored in both kingdoms.
11. **Major theme (author's message). Why does the author write the story?**
 - Whatever the cost, no matter how hard it is, you must be righteous and follow your dharma (duty)
 - Importance of being selfless