**Is Survival Selfish? – STUDY GUIDE**

pgs. 317-320

**Vocabulary**

*Define the following words using your Collections textbook:*

1. social stricture -

2. belay -

3. edict -

\_\_\_\_ 4. To berate someone means to…

A. argue. B. scold. C. compliment. D. adjust.

\_\_\_\_ 5. If a spectacle is guaranteed to transfix viewers, it will…

A. disgust them. C. require their participation.

B. be new to them. D. hold their attention.

\_\_\_\_ 6. To laud an actor’s performance means to…

A. mimic it. C. watch it.

B. criticize it. D. praise it.

\_\_\_\_ 7. The author’s tone in this selection is…

A. critical. B. passionate. C. thoughtful. D. biased.

8. Explain what happened to J. Bruce Ismay after he survived the sinking of the Titanic.

9. (lines 38-44) What does the survival trainer say about the predictability of people?

10. (lines 45-55) Describe the story of the airplane crash survivor and why she feels guilty:

11. What is the author claiming in this essay; what is her point?

12. What is most likely to determine whether a person is a survivor?

13. In line 92, the author suggests that survival might come down to the a basic animal instinct called “ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. “

14. In the final paragraph, what evidence (or source) did she cite to prove to the reader that her claim was correct?

\_\_\_\_ 15. The author says that J. Bruce Ismay “was savaged by the media and the general public for climbing into a lifeboat and saving himself.” She uses the word savaged to convey

A. Ismay’s luck at being saved.

B. Ismay’s selfishness in taking a spot in the lifeboat.

C. the tragedy of the sinking of the Titanic.

D. the fierceness of the media attack.

\_\_\_\_ 16. The author’s overall purpose is to argue that

A. survival is selfish.

B. saving others is always the right thing to do.

C. many factors influence a person’s behavior in a crisis.

D. those who survive a disaster should not be criticized.

\_\_\_\_ 17. In lines 22–37, the author describes how people reacted to an explosion near Grand Central Station. Her description supports her point that

A. people’s instinct for self-preservation does not always take over.

B. dangerous situations can occur anytime and anywhere.

C. people are attracted to scenes of disaster.

D. a person must be determined to get to safety.

\_\_\_\_ 18. According to the survival training expert cited in lines 39–40, what is the reason that some people do not survive life-threatening situations?

A. They are in poor physical shape.

B. They lose their ability to think clearly.

C. They do not have survival training.

D. They believe fate will determine the outcome.

\_\_\_\_ 19. What does the author believe is the basis for survivor guilt?

A. knowledge of others’ suffering

B. post-traumatic stress

C. society’s double standards

D. fear of media criticism

\_\_\_\_ 20. With which statement would the author most likely agree?

A. It is easier to judge the wisdom of a person’s actions after the fact.

B. In a crisis, everyone makes deliberate decisions about what to do.

C. Survivors are usually those who have been in similar situations before.

D. Those who do not survive often lack the will to live.

**Is Survival Selfish? – STUDY GUIDE (KEY)**

pgs. 317-320

**Vocabulary**

*Define the following words using your Collections textbook:*

1. social stricture – *behavioral restriction placed on society*

2. belay – *the securing of a rope to a cleat or other object*

3. edict – *and official rule or proclamation*

\_\_\_\_ 4. To berate someone means to…

A. argue. *B. scold.* C. compliment. D. adjust.

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**Text Analysis**

8. Explain what happened to J. Bruce Ismay after he survived the sinking of the Titanic.

*He was “savaged” by the media, reputation was ruined and a year later resigns from his position as chairman and director of the White Star company that owned the Titantic.*

9. (lines 38-44) What does the survival trainer say about the predictability of people?

*“it’s impossible to predict ahead of time who’s going to hold it together, and who’s going to fall apart.”*

10. (lines 45-55) Describe the story of the airplane crash survivor and why she feels guilty:

*A woman took “direct action” to crawl from the back of a burning plane but did not truly stop to help anyone else try to survive. She felt great guilt afterwards.*

11. What is the author claiming in this essay; what is her point?

*Her point is: “Survivors cannot be labeled as either selfish or not selfish there are many factors that influence human behavior and because every situation is unique.”*

12. What is most likely to determine whether a person is a survivor?

*Survival in life & death situations is dependent upon quick, clear-headed action; but training and experience does not guarantee success. It is impossible to know if survival was brave or foolish; smart or selfish.*

13. In line 92, the author suggests that survival might come down to the a basic animal instinct called “ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. “

*fight or flight*

14. In the final paragraph, what evidence (or source) did she cite to prove to the reader that her claim was correct?

*A friend who served in the military for 27 years*

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