

Passage 4

During her New York days, Mabel Dodge had preached the gospel of Gertrude Stein and spread the fame of her new style. Like Miss Stein, Mabel Dodge had long planned to "upset" America with fatal disaster to the old order of things,

Gertrude Stein had no interest in anything that was not aggressively modern. She had conceived it as a part of her mission to "kill" the nineteenth century "dead," and she was convinced that her work was "really the beginning of modern writing." Her story "Melanctha" in *Three Lives*, privately printed in 1907, was the "first definite step," as she wrote later, "into the twentieth century". There was at least a grain of truth in this.

Just then the movement of modern art, so called for many years, was also beginning in Paris with Matisse and Picasso, and Gertrude Stein and her brother Leo were friends of these protagonists. The Steins had the means to buy their pictures. Gertrude shared, moreover, the point of view of these avant-garde artists, and she endeavored to parallel in words their effects in paint.

Gertrude Stein wrote her "Melanctha" while posing for Picasso's portrait of herself. Picasso had just discovered African sculpture, previously interesting only to curio hunters, and this may have set her mind running on the Black girl Melanctha, whose story was the longest and most moving of her *Three Lives*. It was not difficult to find in these a trace of the influence of African art, with the influence alike of Matisse and Picasso.

1. With what topic is the passage primarily concerned?
 - (A) Gertrude Stein's most important works
 - (B) The avant-garde community in New York
 - (C) Gertrude Stein's contribution to the development of modern literature
 - (D) The reactions of various critics to modern art and literature
2. In the first paragraph, the author uses the phrase "preached the gospel" in order to emphasize Mabel Dodge's
 - (A) intense devotion to Gertrude Stein
 - (B) wide popularity with religious groups
 - (C) competitive feelings toward Gertrude Stein
 - (D) deep admiration for nineteenth-century literature
3. According to the passage, Gertrude Stein was not interested in anything that was not
 - (A) controversial
 - (B) modern
 - (C) literary
 - (D) aggressive
4. According to the passage, Gertrude Stein planned to "kill" the nineteenth century by
 - (A) ridiculing the writers of that period
 - (B) creating a form of writing for the twentieth century
 - (C) destroying all the books written during that period
 - (D) printing booklets promoting the merits of twentieth-century literature
5. The story "Melanctha" first appeared in the
 - (A) mid-nineteenth century
 - (B) late nineteenth century
 - (C) early twentieth century
 - (D) mid-twentieth century
6. Which of the following statements about the relationship between Gertrude Stein and Henri Matisse's work can be inferred from the passage?
 - (A) Matisse and Stein had very different ways of depicting reality.
 - (B) Matisse's later paintings were influenced by Stein's work.
 - (C) Stein preferred Matisse's work to that of other artists because it was more abstract.

(D) Stein tried to recreate in her writing the effects in Matisse's paintings.

7. Which of the following is mentioned as one of Picasso's interests?

(A) African art

(B) Classical literature

(C) American art

(D) Modern literature

Passage 5

Nast played an important role in President Lincoln's reelection. In 1864 the war was not going well for the North. Many people blamed Lincoln. They were tired of the war. The Democratic candidate, General George B. McClellan, promised peace at any price. Lincoln didn't think he had a chance to be reelected. In August he wrote: "It seems exceedingly probable that this administration will not be reelected. But he had not counted on the support of Thomas Nast. Nast drew cartoons showing McClellan as a man who would compromise with the South. The cartoons were effective, and helped President Lincoln win reelection.

1. What is the author's main point?

(A) Lincoln asked Thomas Nast for help, but Nast refused.

(B) Voters wanted a compromise with the South.

(C) Lincoln thought the voters would blame him for not ending the war.

(D) Thomas Nast's cartoons helped to reelect Lincoln.

2. According to the passage, how did Lincoln feel about his chances for reelection?

(A) Doubtful

(B) Enthusiastic

(C) Indifferent

(D) President Lincoln's successor

3. It can be assumed that the paragraph preceding the passage most probably discussed

(A) the United States economy

(B) Thomas Nast

(C) General George B. McClellan

(D) President Lincoln's successor