“The Medicine Bag”

Respond and Think Critically

Directions: Answer each question in a complete sentence. Some questions require more than one answer!

1. Why has Grandpa traveled to see his family?

2. What does Grandpa want to give Martin? Why?

3. What happens at the very end of the story?

4. What has Martin learned from his great-grandfather?

5. Why is Martin ashamed of Grandpa at first? How do Martin’s feelings change?
6. How might Martin have felt about Grandpa if his friends had not been impressed by him? Explain.

7. Analyze the credibility of Martin’s reactions to Grandpa. (Hint: Look at your notes or page 259 for the definition of generalization.) Use a specific example from the story, and connect your own experiences. (In other words, what did Martin do and have you ever done something similar or felt that way before?)

8. What does Martin come to realize about his grandfather and about himself in the story? Turn that realization in a theme statement. (In other words, what is the theme of the story?)

9. List three different examples of indirect characterization of characters in the story. You can write about one character or multiple characters. (Hint: Indirect characterization is a review from Collection 2. There are five types of indirect characterization. Look at pages 150-151 if you need a reminder.)