Contents

Assessment Rubric

The Tale of Despereaux

Student's Name: _____   Assignment: _____   Level: _____

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Comprehension of the Novel	• Demonstrates a limited understanding of the novel	• Demonstrates a basic understanding of the novel	• Demonstrates a good understanding of the novel	• Demonstrates a thorough understanding of the novel
Content	• Information incomplete; key details missing	• Some information complete; details missing	• All required information complete; key details contain some description	• All required information complete; enough description for clarity
Style	• Little variety in word choice; language vague and imprecise	• Some variety in word choice; language somewhat vague and imprecise	• Good variety in word choice; language precise and quite descriptive	• Writer's voice is apparent throughout. Excellent choice of words; precise language.
Conventions	• Errors seriously interfere with the writer's purpose	• Repeated errors in mechanics and usage	• Some errors in convention	• Few errors in convention

STRENGTHS:

WEAKNESSES:

NEXT STEPS:

Chapters Eleven to Fifteen

Part A

1. Circle **T** if the statement is **TRUE** or **F** if it is **FALSE**.

    T   F   a) The threadmaster told Despereaux to be brave for the princess.

    T   F   b) Despereaux fainted a second time during the council meeting.

    T   F   c) Antoinette's last words to Despereaux were "so long".

    T   F   d) One of the hoods who brought Despereaux to the dungeon was his own sister.

    T   F   e) Despereaux asked if he could see the princess one last time.

    T   F   f) Gregory, the jailer, would save Despereaux if Despereaux read him a story.

SAMPLE

2. **Number the events from 1 to 6 in the order they occurred in the chapters.**

    _____ **a)** Antoinette was worried about what was going to happen to her baby.

    _____ **b)** Despereaux wanted to be brave so he started to recite the story about the knight and his armor.

    _____ **c)** Despereaux met Gregory, the jailer, when Gregory lit the match.

    _____ **d)** *Perfidy* and *Pea* were the two words Despereaux retained during his flight.

    _____ **e)** Two mice wearing black hoods brought Despereaux to the dungeon.

    _____ **f)** Despereaux was threaded in red thread by the threadmaster.

Chapters Forty-one to Forty-six

Answer the questions in complete sentences.

1. How do you think the Head Mouse will react when he finds out that Despereaux is still alive? What will the new plan be?

_____

_____

2. Using a dictionary, find the meaning of the word **quest**. Have you ever been on a quest? Where and when did this happen? Explain.
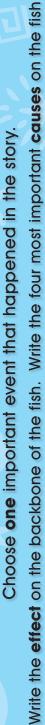
_____

_____

Vocabulary

Use a dictionary to find the meaning of each of the following words. Write each word next to its definition. In the boxes, write each word's part of speech (noun, verb, adjective, etc.).

audible	cascade	lair	perspective	tapestry	waft

	Word	Part of Speech	Meaning
1			point of view
2			float gently and easily
3			a rush of water
4			heavy hand-worked fabric
5			to be able to be heard
6			hideaway

Causes and Effect

Choose **one** important event that happened in the story. Write the **effect** on the backbone of the fish. Write the four most important **causes** on the fish bones. (If there are more than four important causes, add more bones to the fish! In the fish's tail, record the names of the **characters** who were touched by these causes and effect.

SAMPLE

Effect