

Reading Questions: *Standing Strong*
from the Chapter Entitled
“The Church Festival”

1. **Page 1 is mostly about...**
 - A. introducing all of the characters in the novel.
 - B. Maribel laughing at people at the festival.
 - C. describing the scene where the first chapter begins.
 - D. understanding how Clarisa feels about the church.

2. **The details about Clarisa on page 2, paragraph 5, starting with “Clarisa had the...” support the key idea that she is -**
 - A. fragile and terrified.
 - B. questioning her former assuredness.
 - C. beautiful and takes advantage of others.
 - D. always confident and never questions herself.

3. **The action on page 3 indicates that -**
 - A. Maribel is taunting the patrons at the church festival.
 - B. the boy will attack Maribel before he leaves the event.
 - C. Maribel is upsetting the crowd and angering many.
 - D. Clarisa will definitely punish her sister later in the evening.

4. The information on page 5 emphasizes that -

- A. Maribel’s actions have caused a serious issue with regards to raising funds.
- B. Clarisa is extremely upset that Maribel has made a grave error.
- C. Clarisa cannot hear her sister talk from behind the glass.
- D. Maribel’s actions are actually having a positive effect raising money.

5. On page 6, we discover that Clarisa -

- A. has some unresolved issues because of a previous situation.
- B. was wrong about Maribel and the dunking booth is a disaster.
- C. has to beg the parishioners to participate at the dunking booth.
- D. takes over the situation and controls the events.

6. What do we learn about Padre Miguel in this chapter?

- A. He is a very strict priest and requires obedience at all times.
- B. He cares about Clarisa, her family, and the community.
- C. He is older now, and needs much assistance to navigate outside.
- D. He is very concerned about the amount of money the sisters have raised.

7. What are some of Ms. C’s most important character traits?

- A. She is bothersome and nosy.
- B. She is knowledgeable and wise.
- C. She is timid and shallow.
- D. She is argumentative and obstructive.

8. **Based on the information that is given to us on page 17, the reader can most likely assume that -**
- A. Clarisa and Israel do not like each other very much.
 - B. The protagonist will continue her relationship with her ex-boyfriend.
 - C. The protagonist is sad to see that Israel has no feelings for her.
 - D. Clarisa’s relationship with Israel may not be resolved yet.
9. **What conclusions can be drawn from pages 18 - 20?**
- A. The characters in this chapter react similarly to challenges.
 - B. Israel seems withdrawn and will not help the sisters.
 - C. Maribel and Clarisa always argue and never get along.
 - D. Clarisa and Israel are nervous, but try to be cordial to each other..
10. **On page 21, Maribel realizes that -**
- A. she has been a nuisance and is not liked by Israel.
 - B. Clarisa is very upset with her.
 - C. Israel and Clarisa have some “unfinished business” to discuss.
 - D. Sister Sonia has been waiting for her for hours in the church hall.
11. **The author’s reason for writing this chapter is to...**
- A. explain the entire plot of the novel.
 - B. introduce characters, setting, and conflict.
 - C. show how the author’s language predicts the climax of the story.
 - D. compare and contrast the setting of the chapter with church rules.

12. What is the author’s purpose on pages 22 and 23?

- A. The author’s purpose is to show how dangerous Israel is due to gang affiliation.
- B. The author’s purpose is to explain that Clarisa and Israel have had a deep and personal relationship over the past few years.
- C. The author’s purpose is to demonstrate how relationships can often be shallow and destructive.
- D. The author’s purpose is to inform the reader about all aspects of the Sanchez family’s pursuits.

13. What can the reader infer from the information presented in this chapter?

- A. The characters in the story have unhealthy relationships that are shallow and unpredictable.
- B. The action in the story demonstrates the complicated societal pressures that can exist for teens.
- C. The plot of the story indicates that family and community cannot coexist in the barrio.
- D. The mood of the story is too somber and vengeful, resulting in chaotic interactions between characters.