

Name _____

Answer Key - The Spirit That Lasts Forever

Part A: Theme & Symbolism

1. The bell symbolizes belief, hope, imagination, wonder, and the spirit of Christmas (any two are acceptable).
2. As a child, the bell was magical proof of Santa. As an adult, it became a reminder of faith, joy, and keeping wonder alive.

Part B: Author's Craft

3. To leave the reader with a message of lasting belief and hope; it emphasizes that the magic doesn't have to fade.
4. It shows how rare belief becomes with age, which makes the boy's continued faith more meaningful.

Part C: Connections

5. That growing up doesn't have to mean losing imagination, joy, and wonder.
6. Answers may vary — examples: believing in dreams, holding onto hope during hard times, keeping faith in things you cannot see.