Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***The Old Man at the Bridge***

**Text Dependent Questions**

*With a partner, answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to cite evidence from the text to support your answers.*

1. Who is crossing the bridge? Why are they traveling? Cite evidence from the text to support your answers.
2. In the first paragraph of the story, why does the old man sit there “without moving”?
3. What is the narrator’s business? How did the old man’s problem affect the narrator’s “business”?
4. Describe the old man’s clothing. What was the old man’s occupation in San Carlos? What is the narrator’s initial response to the man’s clothing?
5. What was the author’s purpose in repeating “The Old man was still there” three times in the story?
6. What does the author mean by “that ever mysterious event called contact”? Why does the author state, “and the old man still sat there”?
7. What explanation did the old man mean when he states, “I am without politics”? Why does the old man mention his age?
8. Describe the tone in the beginning of the story and at the end of the story. How does the tone shift and what causes that shift?
9. Why does the narrator note that the old man spoke “dully, but no longer to me”?
10. What does the author mean by “There was nothing to do about him”?
11. Characterize the narrator’s attitude toward the old man. Cite evidence from the text to support your response.
12. What is “all the good luck that old man would ever have’? Why might the old man need good luck?