

Name _____

Desert Justice

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. A specific moment testing Tom's determination and quick draw skills was during the showdown in the abandoned ghost town when he confronted Blackjack Slim and his gang. Tom had to rely on his courage and quick draw to prevail.
2. The theme of justice is evident in Tom's pursuit of Blackjack Slim and his capture, which represents the triumph of law and order over lawlessness.
3. Jeb's wisdom and warning influenced Tom's decisions by making him reflect on the true cost of a life of crime and the value of honor and courage.
4. Tom's character development is marked by his transformation from a teenager driven by dreams of riches to a young man who values honor, courage, and the law as the most important treasures of the Old West.

