

5

Recall of Story Details

Recall of Story Details

The questions in this section prompt students to reflect on the text. There are three types of questions, Story Details, Moments in Time and Inferences from the Story. The text has been divided into seven scenes for ease of access to particular sequences in the story.

Recall of Story Details: The questions relate to specific actions or descriptions in the story. The questions are literal and require a surface level understanding of the text to comprehend. If students have difficulty at any point with these questions, it is recommended that the student reread the scene.

Moments in Time: As the title suggests, moments in time refers to an understanding of time and the sequence of events in the story. Students' understanding of story sequence is a critical factor in comprehending complex storylines. The questions prompt students to think of what happened first and next in a particular scene. The questions also probe whether an action happened before or after a related sequence of actions. If students struggle with this section, scaffold the questions by reading the scene again and commenting on the sequence.

Inferences from the Story: Inference questions stimulate students' higher order thinking skills and impel students to go beyond surface level skimming of text to explore an author's use of language. Inference questions prompt students to uncover hidden information that is hinted at in the text, but not stated explicitly.

Important note: Many of the questions are complex in nature, particularly the moments in time questions that require students to consider sequence of events in order, which can be a difficult task. With this in mind, repeat the questions as often as is needed, or reread the target scene several times so that students have the opportunity to accurately place the order of key scenes. Also, have a copy of the scene so that the student can scan the text for the correct information

Story Details

Scene 1

1. How close was Guff to his father as they lay in the dirt?

2. What pressed into Guff's leggings as he lay in the dirt?

3. What did the mammoths graze upon?

4. What did the mammoth's breath do to Guff's hair?

5. What did the bull mammoth suddenly do?

6. What were the bull mammoth's tusks described as being?

7. Who was Utha lying next to?

Moments in Time

Scene 1

1. Which happened first, Guff's heart flipped like a fish or Utha smiled?

2. Did Guff describe his forehead as being slick with sweat before or after he needed to be as quiet as a field mouse?

3. Did the mammoth approach the grass near Guff before or after Utha smiled to calm Guff?

4. Which happened first, Guff's heart thumped fierce or the stink of the mammoth's shaggy mane filled Guff's senses?

5. Did the mammoth tear out chunks of grass before or after its breath rippled Guff's hair?

Making Inferences from the Story

Scene 1

1. Why did Guff's father Utha smile at Guff as they lay in the grass?

2. Why did Guff need to be as quiet as a field mouse?

3. How do we know that the mammoth was very close to Guff as it tore chunks of grass?

4. Why did Guff's heart thump fierce when the mammoth walked close to where he lay?

5. Guff describes the day as being cool. Why do you think his forehead was slick with sweat?

Story Details

Scene 2

1. What was Utha doing above all the confusion?

2. What did Guff have no memory of?

3. What happened to Guff after he was hit in the side?

4. What did Guff describe as happening to him after he struck the hard dirt?

5. What did Guff fail to see because he was panicking?

6. What happened to Guff's legs as he ran?

7. Where was Guff at the end of scene 2?

Moments in Time

Scene 2

1. What happened first, the spears soared and buzzed or a force rigid and powerful hit Guff in the side?

2. Which happened first, Guff felt the air ripped from his chest or Guff could hear Utha above the confusion trying to find him?

3. When did Guff realize he had lost his father and uncle, *before* or *after* he fell down the steep hill?

4. Which happened first, Guff watched the last wisps of gold and warmth cling to the peaks or he poked his head above the ditch?

5. Which happened first, Guff's head cleared or he lay in a deep feint?

Making Inferences from the Story

Scene 2

1. What do you think hit Guff in the side that caused him to soar through the air?

2. Why do you think Guff was unable to form words when he tried to call to his father?

3. Why do you think Guff failed to see that the ground vanished from under him?

4. Why do you think Utha would be pleased with Guff for not losing his blade?

5. Why was Guff afraid?

Story Details

Scene 3

1. What did Guff first have to do before he could search for his tribe at dawn?

2. What was Guff fearful of making as he lay cold and alone in the ditch?

3. Who did Guff pray to for help?

4. What did Guff strain his ears *for* during the long dark?

5. Where did Guff have his head when dawn arrived?

6. What did the water taste like from the river?

7. What had Guff's father told him about rivers if he were ever lost?

Moments in Time

Scene 3

1. Did Guff drink water from the river before or after his recollection of his father's words about make no sound?

2. Which did Guff do first, wrap himself in his furs or listen for sounds of dangerous beasts?

3. Which happened first, short gusts of mist escaped from Guff's mouth or he scooped water into his hands to drink?

4. Did Guff drink the water before or after he left the ditch, where he had been sheltering?

5. Which happened first, Guff gripped his spear or walked to the river at the bottom of the ravine?

Making Inferences from the Story

Scene 3

1. How might Guff have felt to be alone in a strange place?

2. Why do you think Guff felt joy when the sun rose above the peaks?

3. Why did Guff pray to his ancestors that night?

4. What tells us that the night had been very cold?

5. What do you think the monster with teeth like long blades as Guff describes it could be?

6. Why was it so important that Guff listened for sounds of wild and dangerous animals that night?

Story Details

Scene 4

1. What did Guff watch for as he followed the curve of the river?

2. What did Guff see when he walked to the top of the cliff?

3. Where was Guff when the sun was directly above him?

4. What did Guff describe the lake's surface as being like?

5. What did Guff climb down into?

6. What did Guff see near to where he rested?

7. What did Guff do when he reached the shores of the lake?

Moments in Time

Scene 4

1. Did Guff watch for animals at the water's edge *before* or *after* he climbed to the top of the cliff?

2. Which happened first, Guff's leg throbbed or he lay his head upon a flat rock to rest?

3. Which did Guff do first, climb the cliff or see the lake?

4. When did Guff see the elk bones, *before* or *after* he found the lake?

5. When did Guff see the mountains reflected in the lake's icy water, *before* or *after* he saw the elk bones?

Making Inferences from the Story

Scene 4

1. Why did Guff feel like an ant when he climbed to the top of the cliff?

2. Was Guff concerned when the river ended and emptied into the lake?

3. When the sun was directly above Guff at what time of the day was it likely to have been?

4. Why do you think Guff described the lake as being soothing?

5. Why was Guff feeling uneasy when he first sat down to rest?

Story Details

Scene 5

1. What caused Guff to wake up?

2. What was making the little splashes in the lake?

3. What did Guff have to make?

4. What did Guff need to create to catch the fish?

5. What did Guff do to the fish once he had speared it?

6. What did Guff decide to do after he had caught the fish?

7. Where was the sun in the sky by the time Guff cleaned the fish?

Moments in Time

Scene 5

1. When did Guff make the water spear, *before* or *after* the splashing woke him up?

2. What did Guff do first, bind the sharpened elk bones to the spear shaft or step into the water?

3. Which happened first, Guff hauled the fish onto the stones near the water's edge or Guff decided to make a fire?

4. Which did Guff do first, clean the fish or make the water spear?

5. When did Guff's stomach grumble and groan, before he heard the fish splashing or after?

Making Inferences from the Story

Scene 5

1. Why did Guff's stomach grumble?

2. Why did Guff not wish to stay in the water for too long?

3. Why did Guff not wish to travel any more that day?

4. Was it late in the day by the time Guff had cleaned and scaled the fish? How do you know this?

5. Why was Guff confident he could make a water spear?

Story Details

Scene 6

1. What did Guff gather at the base of the old tree?

2. What did Guff describe as being shaped like a leaf?

3. What landed in the tufts of dried glass?

4. What appeared after much effort by Guff?

5. What did Guff layer on the flame to make it grow?

6. What did the fish taste like?

7. After eating the fish, what did Guff throw on the fire?

Moments in Time

Scene 6

1. When did Guff gather bark and leaves from the base of the old tree, *before* or *after* he struck the rock with the flat stone?

2. What did Guff do first, layer thin strips of bark and twigs onto the flame or skewer the fish onto a sharpened stick?

2. What did Guff do first, layer thin strips of bark and twigs onto the flame or skewer the fish onto a sharpened stick?

3. What did Guff do first, throw a large branch onto the fire or quickly blow on the small wisp of smoke?

4. Which did Guff do first, unwrap the blackened leaves or roast the fish over the flames?

5. When did Guff strike the flat rock with his dark stone, *before* or *after* he roasted the fish over the flames?

Making Inferences from the Story

Scene 6

1. What could happen if sparks land in tufts of dried grass?

2. Why did Guff quickly blow on the wisp of smoke?

3. What may have happened to the fire if Guff had thrown large branches on the tiny wisp of flame, instead of dried grass and thin strips of bark?

4. Why do you think Guff wrapped the fish in large green leaves?

5. It states in the text that Guff was excited. Why do you think Guff was excited to make the fire?

Story Details

Scene 7

1. What loomed from behind the smoke at the edge of the lake?

2. What happened to Guff's face when he recognized the beast?

3. What could Guff see when the creature opened its jaws?

4. What was the cat attempting to do near the fire?

5. What did Guff realize to his dismay?

6. What did Guff describe as being his only chance of survival against the big cat?

7. What did the big cat do when it could not reach Guff in the tree?

Moments in Time

Scene 7

1. When did Guff desperately climb the tree, *before* or *after* he threw the spear with all his strength?

2. What did the big cat do first, sniff the air or launch itself at Guff?

3. Which happened first, all the blood drained from Guff's face or the creature sniffed the air?

4. Which did Guff do first, sort his limbs and prepare his spear or throw the spear with all his strength?

5. When did Guff pray to his ancestors, *before* or *after* he threw the spear at the big cat?

Making Inferences from the Story

Scene 7

1. What does '*Guff felt the blood drain from his face*' mean?

2. Why did Guff not simply run for his life?

3. What may have happened to Guff if he did not think his way calmly through the situation and *not* distract the big cat?

4. Why do you think Guff described the distant voices calling his name as the most beautiful sound in the world?

5. Why did Guff's father watch over Guff as he slept that night?
