

Chapters 10–15

Vocabulary:

Define each of the following words, then use it in a sentence to demonstrate your knowledge of its meaning.

1. **arced**

Definition:

Sentence:

2. **fossilized**

Definition:

Sentence:

3. **metallic**

Definition:

Sentence:

4. **engraved**

Definition:

Sentence:

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5. **excavated**

Definition:

Sentence:

6. **paranoid**

Definition:

Sentence:

Questions:

1. In Chapter 10, what does Stanley find while digging?
2. What happens when Stanley reports his find to Mr. Pendanski?
3. Describe the object that Stanley digs up in Chapter 13. What letters are inscribed on it? What do you think the object is and what do you think the letters mean?
4. Describe the Warden's physical appearance. Describe the Warden's behavior and mannerisms.

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5. What does the Warden order the boys to do?

6. What do you think the Warden is looking for? How did Stanley know that they wouldn't find what the Warden was looking for?

Thinking About the Story:

7. Why does Stanley agree to give anything he might find to X-Ray? Do you think this was wise?

8. What did it mean to Stanley to be given a nickname like the other boys?

9. At the end of Chapter 13, X-Ray tells Stanley to move up one place in line. What might this indicate?

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10. An author will use *repetition*—the repeated use of a word or phrase—to emphasize an idea. What sentence is repeated three times in the first six paragraphs of Chapter 13? What is being emphasized through this repetition?
11. *Personification* is the assigning of human characteristics or behavior to inanimate or abstract things. Identify the personification in the following passage from the novel:

A cloud had appeared earlier in the day. It was the first cloud he could remember seeing since coming to Camp Green Lake. He and the other boys had been watching it all day, hoping it would move in front of the sun. Occasionally it got close, but it was just teasing them.

Dig Deeper:

12. Use a dictionary to define *fatalism*. How does it differ from the concept of *self-determination*? Does Mr. Pendanski's advice to the boys in Chapter 12 express a belief in self-determination or fatalism? Explain your answer with examples from the book.

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13. Does Stanley express a belief in self-determination or fatalism? Explain your answer with examples from the book.

14. Do you, personally, believe that you control your own destiny, or is your destiny controlled by some outside force? Briefly explain why you believe as you do.

Class Discussions:

1. The concepts of fatalism and self-determination have been discussed by philosophers for centuries. Many Christians believe that the course of a person's life is completely directed by God (rather than the more vague notion of "fate"). They believe in the concept of "predestination," or the notion that God sets the eternal destiny for each person's life. Others believe that people have free will to make their own choices apart from the will of God and are therefore responsible for their own eternal fate. There is a great deal of middle ground between these extremes, taking into account both God's sovereignty and mankind's free will.

After considering your response to question 14, participate in a class discussion on the question of whether the course of a person's life is "predestined" or whether each person freely chooses his or her own fate. Here are some verses that may help direct your discussion.

- A few verses that support predestination: Psalm 139:1–4, 13–16; Proverbs 16:4, 9; Proverbs 19:21; Jeremiah 1:4–5; John 15:16; Romans 8:28–30; Ephesians 1:4–12; Ephesians 2:8–10.
- A few verses that support free will and personal responsibility: Proverbs 1:29–33; Matthew 7:21–23; Romans 10:9–13; Romans 11:20–23.

Students are encouraged to do their own research.

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2. In Chapter 12, Mr. Pendanski talks to the boys about the day they will leave Camp Green Lake. He asks them what they enjoy doing and what they want to do with their lives. Discuss what you like and what you want to do in the future. What careers would correspond to the things you enjoy doing?

Optional Activity:

Pig Latin:

In Chapter 11, X-Ray reveals that his nickname is just pig latin for “Rex,” his real name. Pig latin is a pretend language created by the transposition of letters in a word. To change a word into pig latin, remove all the letters up to the first vowel in a word. Place the removed consonants at the end of the word. Then add the suffix “ay.”

For example:

$$\textcircled{R}EX = EX + \textcircled{R} + AY$$
$$= \text{Exray}$$

Remember that *all* letters up to the first vowel in a word are removed and placed at the end of that word. Sometimes that may be one letter, as above. Sometimes it may be more than one letter:

$$\textcircled{ST}ANLEY = ANLEY + \textcircled{ST} + AY$$
$$= \text{Anleystay}$$

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If a word already begins with a vowel, some people will add “way” to the end of a word instead of just “ay”:

ELYA + WAY = Elyaway

Using the rules described here, write down the “pig latin” names of the rest of the boys in Group D.

- a. Theodore
- b. José
- c. Ricky
- d. Alan
- e. Zero

The following secret message is written in pig latin. See if you can decode it.

**“Ifway ouyay indfay omethingsay
interestingway ilewhay iggingday,
easeplay eportray itway otay
ethay ardenway.”**