STUDENT ACTIVITY WORKBOOK



JACK LONDON

iLONDON

FEATURING:

MOON FACE • THE STORY OF KEESH
THE LAW OF LIFE

Character Analysis

Fill in the table below about some of the characters in the story. Summarise their role in the story and their relationship with the other characters. Then choose the relevant character descriptions from the list below (remember, each description may apply to more than one character!). Finally, provide evidence from the story to show how each of the character descriptions relates to the character.

Brave	Crafty	Accusatory	Fair
Clever	Wise	Loving	

Name(s)	Relationship to other characters	What is their role in the story?	Character description(s)	Evidence for character description
KEESH				
IKEEGA				
UGH-GLUK				
KOSH-KWAN				
BIM & BAWN				

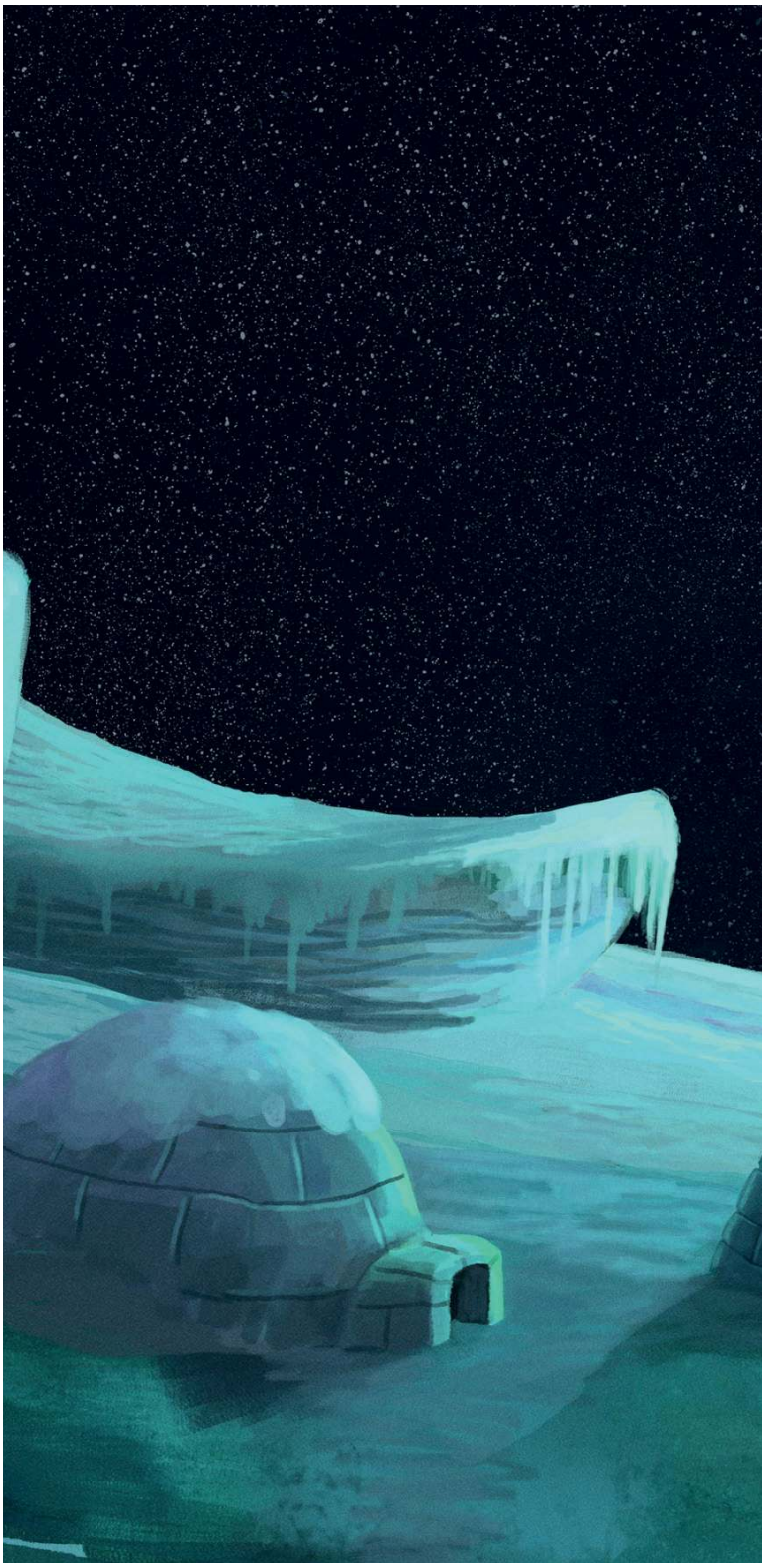


Matching exercise

Match each phrase from the story with an image.

The father of Keesh had been a brave man, but he had met his death in a time of famine, when he sought to save the lives of his people by taking the life of a great polar bear.	1	A	
Across his shoulders he bore a burden of fresh-killed meat. And there was importance in his step and arrogance in his speech.	2	B	
Then did the bear grow angry, and rise up on his hind legs, and growl. But Keesh walked right up to the bear.	3	C	
But as he ran he dropped a little round ball on the ice. And the bear stopped and smelled of it, then swallowed it up.	4	D	
The bear wandered, now this way and now that, doubling back and forth and crossing his trail in circles, so that at the end he was near where Keesh had first come upon him. By this time he was quite sick, the bear, and could crawl no further.	5	E	
"I have but devised a mean whereby I may kill the ice-bear with ease, that is all. It be headcraft, not witchcraft."	6	F	
Because he exercised headcraft and not witchcraft, he rose from the meanest igloo to be head man of his village.	7	G	

Glossary



Gale (n) a very strong wind
Venture (v) to set off on a risky or daring journey
Famine (n) extreme scarcity of food
Deed (n) an intentional action
Ere (preposition) before (in time)
Mean (adj) small and of poor quality
Ofttimes (adv) often
Aghast (adj) filled with horror
Thou (pronoun) you
Hast (v) old-fashioned second person singular of have
Dost (v) old-fashioned second personal singular of do
Wherefore (adv) as a result of which
Indignation (n) anger or annoyance at unfair treatment
Presumption (n) behaviour perceived as disrespectful and inappropriate
Unprecedented (adj) never done before
Assail (v) come upon someone suddenly and strongly
Abate (v) become less intense
Thrice (adv) three times
Entrails (n) internal organs
Tax (v) to confront someone with an accusation of wrong-doing
Thy (determiner) your
Discomfited (adj) uneasy or embarrassed
Corroborate (v) confirm or provide evidence to support a theory
Behold (v) see or observe

Please choose the best option for each of the following questions:

1. Where did Keesh live?
a. The depths of Antarctica
b. The rim of the polar sea
c. Lapland
d. Hull

2. What colour are Keesh's eyes? *
a. Green
b. Blue
c. Amber
d. Darkest brown

3. How did Keesh's father die?
a. He was eaten by a pack of wolves
b. He died bravely in battle
c. His bones were crushed by a polar bear
d. He drowned beneath the ice

4. What is the name of the chief of Keesh's village?
a. Klosh-Kwan
b. Aklaq-Anik
c. Osha-Opik
d. Pakak-Nuvua

5. What complaint does Keesh have about the meat given to him and his family? Select all that apply.
a. It is old
b. It is tough
c. They are never given any
d. It has an unusual quantity of bones
e. They are vegetarian
f. It is the meat of the polar bear

6. What promise does Keesh make before leaving the council room?
a. That he will kill all that laugh at him
b. That he will be the chief of the village one day
c. That he will never touch meat again
d. That the meat he hunts will always be divided fairly

7. What does Keesh bring with him along the shore-line the next day? Select all that apply.
a. His bow
b. Lots of arrows
c. A great sword
d. Half of the village's supply of meat
e. His father's hunting spear

8. What does Ikeega put on her face in token of her grief?
a. Black paint
b. The soot of seal-oil
c. The blood of the polar bear
d. A dark veil

9. How many days passed while Keesh was away from the village?
a. 10
b. 7
c. 1
d. 3

10. Keesh sends the men to collect the meat of what animals?
a. Three bears
b. Five penguins
c. One bear
d. A pack of wolves

*For these questions, refer to the App: "Jack London"

11. How many times more dangerous is it to kill a mother bear and cubs as opposed to an ordinary polar bear?
a. 9 times more dangerous
b. It is less dangerous
c. 3 times more dangerous
d. 100 times more dangerous



12. Why is it so important to cut up the carcass of a kill in the north?
a. Otherwise the whole carcass freezes solid
b. So that scavengers won't steal the whole kill
c. Because it is an important spiritual tradition

13. Why does Keesh say to Klosh-Kwan that he only hunts bears?
a. Because his father was killed by a bear
b. Because bears are the most dangerous prey
c. Because there is more meat on a bear
d. Because he finds it so easy



14. What does Keesh ask the men and women of the village to build for him?
a. A giant ice palace
b. A bigger igloo
c. The biggest hunting sled in the north

15. Other than the big igloo, what other prosperity does Keesh's mother come to enjoy?
a. She was respected as the first woman in the village
b. She was given more meat than everyone else
c. She received all the gold her heart desired
d. She never had to do another day's work

16. What happens when you tap Keesh's unfinished new igloo? *
a. All the villagers quickly rush in to finish it off
b. It melts
c. Keesh and his mother come to the door, smiling
d. A young igloo builder struggles to place a block of ice

17. What accusation does Ugh-Gluk eventually make to Keesh's face?
a. That he deals with evil spirits
b. That he is not diving the meat fairly
c. That he is plotting to overthrow the chief
d. That he is trying to steal Ugh-Gluk's wife

*For these questions, refer to the App: "Jack London"

18. What does the council decide one night after long deliberation?
a. To take away Keesh's igloo
b. To ban the hunting of polar bears
c. To spy on Keesh hunting
d. To banish Ugh-Gluk

19. What happens when you tap the he-bear Keesh comes across? *
a. He gives a mighty roar
b. He turns and walks away
c. Keesh cuts of his head
d. He curls in a ball and falls asleep

20. What does Keesh drop on the floor as he runs away from the bear?
a. An oddly shaped pebble
b. A little round ball
c. His hunting spear
d. His arrows

21. What do the little round balls do to the bear?
a. They cause him to fall into a deep slumber
b. They cause him to squeal and cry in pain
c. They have no effect
d. They make him even angrier

22. Where does Keesh finally kill the bear?
a. On the shore-line
b. Near to where he first came across him
c. 10 leagues from the village

23. What are the little round balls that Keesh uses to help kill the bears?
a. Rocks enchanted with magical properties
b. Poisoned pellets of meat
c. Ordinary snow balls
d. Strips of whalebone frozen in blubber

24. What happens when you run your finger over Keesh's face on the last page?
a. He turns into a polar bear
b. He becomes an old man
c. He laughs enigmatically
d. He turns and disappears into the snow storm



*For these questions, refer to the App: "Jack London"

For each of the scenarios below, explain what you think each of the characters would do in this situation. Explain why they would do this, based on the personality descriptions and evidence you completed in the Character Activity.

a. A group of mysterious but weary wanderers arrive at the village, asking for food and shelter. They look completely different to the villagers and some are concerned that they may be dangerous.

b. The ice around the village begins to melt, threatening to leave the village stranded without access to the rest of the world (including their food supply).

c. A young woman comes to the council and asks to be allowed to train as a hunter, because she is as brave and strong as any man.

Extension: now, choose one of the scenarios and write it out in full as a short story, including your characters reaction. Give it a beginning, a middle, and an ending. Try to mimic the style of writing used by London in The Story of Keesh.



Character Analysis

Fill in the table below about some of the characters in the story. Summarise their role in the story and their relationship with the other characters. Then choose the relevant character descriptions from the list below (remember, each description may apply to more than one character!). Finally, provide evidence from the story to show how each of the character descriptions relates to the character.

Optimistic	Trusting
Irritable	Cunning
Vindictive	Friendly

Name(s)	Relationship to other characters	What is their role in the story?	Character description(s)	Evidence for character description
JOHN CLAVERHOUSE				
NARRATOR				



Matching exercise

Match each phrase from the story with an image.

But I bided my time, and one day, when opportunity was ripe, lured the animal away and settled for him with strychnine and beefsteak.	1	A	
And yet, in the face of famine and the rigorous winter, he went out gaily in quest of a mess of trout, forsooth, because he 'doted' on them!	2	B	
I followed the crest along for a couple of miles to a natural amphitheatre in the hills, where a little river raced down out of a gorge and stopped for breath in a large and placid rock-bound pool.	3	C	
Arrived at the pool, he threw down the dip-net and sack, and drew from his hip-pocket what looked like a large, fat candle.	4	D	
I could never have believed that such an ungainly could run so fast.	5	E	
No more does his infernal laugh go echoing up the hills, and no more does his fat moon-face rise up to vex me.	6	F	

Glossary

Circumference (n) the outside border of a circle
Cumbered (adj) hampered or hindered
Elusive (adj) difficult to catch, find or acheive
Intangible (adj) lacking physical presence; vague or abstract
Gargantuan (adj) enormous
Revery (n) a state of being lost in your thoughts
Plaguey (adj) troublesome or annoying
Cachinnations (n) loud laughs
Privily (adv) secretly
Strychnine (n) a poisonous pesticide
Dote (v) to be extremely fond of
Gayly (adv) cheerfully
A mess off (n) a large quantity of
Forsooth (adv) indeed
Bovine (adj) relating to cattle; sluggish or stupid
Countenance (n) face
Judas (n) an Apostle who is said to have betrayed Christ for 30 pieces of silver
Shrewd (adj) sharp, astute
Foreclosure (n) when a mortgaged property is taken possession of due to failure to meet repayments
Chattels (n) personal possessions
Tike (n) a small child
Bungling (v) to do something clumsily or incompletely
Inveterately (adv) doing something in a habitual way that is unlikely to change
Paroxysm (n) a sudden outburst of activity or emotion
Dip-net (n) a small fishing net with a long handle
Gunnysack (n) a coarse sack
Amphitheatre (n) an open, circular building with a central space for dramatic sporting events
Avail (n) help or benefit
Coroner (n) an official who investigates violent or suspicious deaths



Please choose the best option for each of the following questions:

1. What facial features makes John Claverhouse moon-faced? Select all that apply.
a. Large, expressive lips
b. Wide apart cheekbones
c. Chin and forehead melting into the cheeks
d. Sprouting bushy tufts of pale hair
e. Broad, pudgy, flat nose
f. Big round eyes
g. Nose at the centre of the face

2. What does John Claverhouse man do when you tap him on page 2? *
a. Floats up into the sky
b. Pushes the narrator to the ground
c. Begins to cry hysterically
d. Waves a cheerful greeting

3. Why does the narrator hate John Claverhouse?
a. He killed his mother
b. He stole his wife
c. He constantly makes rude remarks
d. He can't put into words exactly why

4. What drives the narrator particularly crazy about John Claverhouse?
a. His laugh
b. The fact that he owns the largest house in town
c. His children
d. The fact that he has more cattle than the narrator

5. What is the first thing the narrator does to John Claverhouse, privily in the night-time?
a. Murders his cat
b. Steals his gold
c. Let's his cattle out into his fields
d. Hides all his favourite belongings

6. How does the narrator kill John Claverhouse's dog?
a. He shoots him with a rifle
b. He doesn't kill him, merely steals him
c. He poisons him
d. He chops of his head with an axe

7. What appears on screen after the narrator drops the steak for Mars the dog? *
a. John Claverhouse's smiling face
b. A puff of green smoke
c. Mars' ghost
d. An angry herd of cattle

8. What does John Claverhouse do after discovering his barn has been burned down?
a. Falls to his knees, weeping in despair
b. He pulls out a gun, puts it to his head, and pulls the trigger
c. He laughs and runs around in the smouldering remains
d. He goes fishing for trout



*For these questions, refer to the App: "Jack London"

9. What does the narrator say may have allowed him to forgive Claverhouse for existing?
a. If he had given him his barn
b. If he had been his brother
c. If he had apologised for his actions
d. If he had seemed less cheerful in his misfortune

10. How does the narrator arrange for Claverhouse to be forced out of his home?
a. He burns his house to the ground
b. He releases a plague of insects into his house
c. He gets Claverhouse's mortgage transferred to a tight-fisted moneylender
d. His previous actions cause Claverhouse such grief that he can't stand to live there anymore

11. What does the narrator decide to do after John Claverhouse tells him the story of his son playing down by the river?
a. To move away and never return
b. To try and be more tolerant of his neighbours
c. To murder John Claverhouse
d. To buy earplugs to block out Claverhouse's infernal laugh

12. What happens when the John Claverhouse Show wheel of fortune lands on the rocket? *
a. Claverhouse is fired into space on a rocket
b. Claverhouse is stabbed in the eye with a rocket
c. Claverhouse is clubbed round the head with a rocket
d. Nothing happens

13. Why doesn't the narrator want to simply shoot, stab or club Claverhouse?
a. He doesn't have a gun, knife or club
b. He hates bungling and brutality
c. He wants him to suffer before dying
d. He doesn't want to harm him



*For these questions, refer to the App: "Jack London"

14. How long does it take the narrator to come up with his murderous plan?
a. 2 months
b. Less than a day
c. 1 week
d. 10 years

15. Which animal does the narrator buy and train?
a. A female water spaniel
b. A large black cat
c. A male bloodhound
d. A yellow budgie

16. What does the narrator focus the animal's training on?
a. Killing large animals
b. Retrieving sticks from the water without playing with them
c. Waiting for long periods of time behind a tree and then running back suddenly
d. Rolling over on command



17. What day of the week does Claverhouse go out to try and catch a final mess of trout?
a. Monday
b. Sunday
c. Saturday
d. Thursday

18. What is Claverhouse's trick for catching trout?
a. He dynamites them
b. He shoots them
c. He uses a dip-net and sack
d. He gets Bellona to catch them and bring them to him

19. What can you do by tapping Claverhouse's stick of "giant"? *
a. Make it immediately explode
b. Cause Claverhouse to drop it in the river
c. Light and put out the fuse
d. Change it's colour

20. What lands at the narrator's feet after the explosion?
a. A dog's collar
b. An eyeball
c. Claverhouse's head
d. A whole mess of trout

21. How does the narrator kill John Claverhouse?
a. He trains Bellona so that she trips Claverhouse up into the river, just as he throws a stick of dynamite into it.
b. He trains Bellona so that she chases Claverhouse with a stick of dynamite he throws in the river.
c. He trains Bellona to attack and kill Claverhouse.
d. He poisons a bottle of whiskey which Bellona fetches from the forest and brings to Claverhouse.

22. What appears in the Moon at the very end of the story? *
a. John Claverhouse's winking face
b. A stick of dynamite
c. The John Claverhouse Show wheel of fortune
d. A skull and crossbones

*For these questions, refer to the App: "Jack London"

For each of the scenarios below, explain what you think each of the characters would do in this situation. Explain why they would do this, based on the personality descriptions and evidence you completed in the Character Activity.

a. Some people from the local government come knocking on people's doors, letting them know that a big new road is going to be built that will require the demolition of their properties.

b. They receive a phone-call claiming to be from their bank, asking them for their name, address, all of their bank details, and their top-secret password.

Extension: now, choose one of the scenarios and write it out in full as a short story, including your characters reaction. Give it a beginning, a middle, and an ending. Write it from the first person perspective of one of the characters, and try to mimic the style of writing used by London in Moon Face.



Character Analysis

Fill in the table below about some of the characters in the story. Summarise their role in the story and their relationship with the other characters. Then choose the relevant character descriptions from the list below (remember, each description may apply to more than one character!). Finally, provide evidence from the story to show how each of the character descriptions relates to the character.

Unsentimental	Kind
Accepting	Passive
Brave	

Name(s)	Relationship to other characters	What is their role in the story?	Character description(s)	Evidence for character description
KOSKOOSH				
THE CHIEF OF THE TRIBE				
SIT-CUM-TO-HA				



Matching exercise

Match each phrase from the story with an image.

Camp must be broken. The long trail waited while the short day refused to linger. Life called her, and the duties of life, not death.	1	A	
Hear them whine! How they hated the work and the trail! They were off! Sled after sled churned slowly away into the silence.	2	B	
One by one they would go to feed the fire, and just so, step by step, death would creep upon him.	3	C	
"An old one," Zing-ha, who was quicker at reading the sign, said – "an old one who cannot keep up with the herd. The wolves have cut him out from his brothers, and they will never leave him."	4	D	
One wolf had been caught in a wild lunge of the maddened victim and trampled to death. A few bones, well picked, bore witness.	5	E	
The picture, like all of youth's impressions, was still strong with him, and his dim eyes watched the end played out as vividly as in that far-off time.	6	F	
A cold muzzle thrust against his cheek, and at its touch his soul leaped back to the present.	7	G	
He waved his brand wildly, and sniffs turned to snarls; but the panting brutes refused to scatter.	8	H	

Glossary

Abode (v) past tense of 'abide' (to live or dwell)
Anathematizing (v) cursing or condemning
Palsied (adj) affected with tremors or paralysis
Compass (n) the enclosing limits of an area
Stalwart (adj) loyal, reliable and hardworking
Chiding (v) scolding or rebuking
Shaman (n) a spiritual leader
Gutturals (n) harsh sounds produced in the throat
Tundra (n) a vast, flat treeless Arctic region
Thong (n) a narrow strip of leather
Moccasin (n) a soft leather shoe
Fagot (n) a bundle of sticks used for fuel
Perpetuate (v) to carry on
Squaw (n) woman or wife
Caribou (n) reindeer
Slovenly (adj) careless, slow
Spruce (n) a coniferous tree
Void (n) a completely empty space
For the nonce (phrase) for the moment



Please choose the best option for each of the following questions:

1. What is Sit-cum-to-ha doing at the beginning of the story?
a. Extinguishing the fires and breaking down camp
b. Harnessing the dogs up ready for the trail ahead
c. Cooking a hearty breakfast for her grandfather
d. Practicing to fight with a gnarled club

2. What thought makes Kiskoosh panicky for a moment?
a. That his tribe may leave without him
b. That he is close to death
c. That camp may not be broken quickly enough to make the most of the short day ahead
d. That he may have lost his favourite fur

3. Who is Koskoosh? Circle all that apply.
a. An old blind man
b. Chief of the tribe
c. Father of the chief of his tribe
d. Grandfather of Sit-cum-to-ha
e. A skilled hunter
f. A deaf man

4. What happens when you tap the silhouettes of Koskoosh's tribe on the hill? *
a. They turn and walk back towards you
b. They walk out of sight
c. They jump on their sleds and crack the whips
d. They do the splits



5. Who approaches Koskoosh as the rest of the tribe travel away?
a. The chief of the tribe
b. Sit-cum-to-ha
c. The shaman
d. His favourite dog

6. What simile does Koskoosh use to describe himself?
a. As a last year's leaf, clinging lightly to the stem.
b. Like a snowflake, drifting to another existence.
c. A ghost trapped in human form.
d. As a bird with wings broken

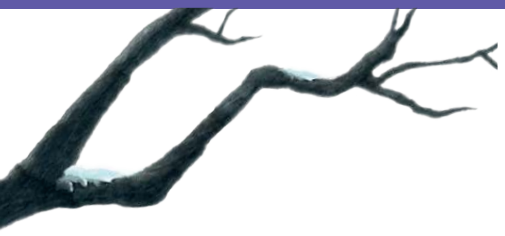
7. What happens if you don't read quickly enough while Koskoosh sits alone by his fire? *
a. The screen freezes over
b. Kiskoosh dies
c. The snow gets stronger and stronger
d. The fire grows to fill the screen

8. Why is the wood the only thing standing between Kiskoosh and the eternity that yawned in upon him?
a. Because he will have to use them to defend himself from wolves
b. Because once there is no wood to burn, he will freeze to death
c. Because he needs them to cook his meals, or he will starve
d. Because he must used them to build himself a shelter

9. What does Koskoosh think nature is interested in?
a. The concrete thing called the individual
b. The species
c. Nothing but eternity
d. All things equally

10. What is the task of life set down by nature?
a. To perpetuate
b. Death
c. To kill
d. To climb trees

*For these questions, refer to the App: "Jack London"



11. What is the law of life set down by nature?
a. Death
b. To perpetuate
c. That everything is connected
d. That you must never steal

12. What metaphor does Koskoosh compare the members of the tribe to?
a. Episodes
b. Like a last year's leaf
c. Slaves of nature
d. Lambs to the slaughter

13. Where did Koskoosh abandon his own father?
a. In a valley gripped by unforgiving frost
b. In the very same spot he where he himself now sat
c. On the bank of the Kaskawulsh glacier
d. On an upper reach of the Klondike

14. What happened to Koskoosh during the Great Famine?
a. He was gravely injured by a caribou
b. He lost his mother
c. He met his wife
d. He was born

15. How many members of the tribe survived the Great Famine?
a. Less than one in ten
b. Only 15
c. None survived
d. All of them

16. How did Zing-ha die?
a. He was killed be a pack of wolves
b. He grew to an old age and was left behind
c. He fell through an air-hole on the Yukon
d. He was killed by the Pellys

17. What animals can you see in the sky behind young Koskoosh and Zing-ha as they examine the tracks? *
a. Two wolves and a moose
b. An entire pack of wolves
c. A herd of caribou
d. A flock of birds

18. What does Zing-ha say is strange about the moose and the wolves?
a. For wolves to chase such a large animal
b. For a moose to free itself once taken down
c. For a moose to be alone and separated from the herd
d. For wolves to die during a hunt

19. What makes a chill pass over Koskoosh's body?
a. His last piece of wood extinguishing upon the fire
b. The sound of his son returning with the dogs
c. A long-drawn howl, coming from close by
d. The sound of the wind echoing around the void



20. What makes the wolf initially retreat?
a. His hereditary fear of man
b. A call from his brothers
c. Koskoosh sets him on fire with a burning fagot
d. Koskoosh doesn't know

21. How many wolves surround Koskoosh? *
a. 10
b. 3
c. 8
d. Hundreds

22. What happens at the end of the story?
a. Koskoosh fights the pack of wolves off and sits back down by the fire
b. Koskoosh drops the stick in the snow and accepts his fate
c. The ghost of the old moose appears and spirits Koskoosh away
d. Koskoosh's son returns and fights off the wolves

*For these questions, refer to the App: "Jack London"

For each of the scenarios below, explain what you think each of the characters would do in this situation. Explain why they would do this, based on the personality descriptions and evidence you completed in the Character Activity.

a. The tribe finds a hidden ice cave full of gold, jewellery and other riches beyond their wildest imaginings. They divide the gold amongst each other. Some tribe members decide to give up their nomadic lifestyle and to go off and discover what the world has to offer them with their riches.

b. The tribe stumble across a strange device, which suddenly erupts in a green flash. They find that they have been teleported to the future (to the time you, the reader, are currently living in).

Extension: now, choose one of the scenarios and write it out in full as a short story, including your characters reaction. Give it a beginning, a middle, and an ending. Try to mimic the style of writing used by London in The Law of Life.





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