

Classics Quick Check

Analyze Plot • Lexile 1120 • Level Z2

Name	Date	
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Instructions: Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

- 1. In which area of the world is the **Klondike** region located?
 - (A) Central America
 - (B) Canada
 - © Russia
 - ① Australia
- **2.** Buck's actions suggest he is _____ when seeing snow for the first time.
 - (A) angry
 - (B) curious
 - (C) afraid
 - ① joyful
- **3.** What causes Manuel to wait until the judge is away to sell Buck?
 - (A) It is too hard for the judge to say goodbye to Buck.
 - ® Manuel doesn't want Buck to see the judge and be sad about leaving.
 - ① Manuel plans on selling Buck without the judge's permission.
 - D Buck is busy playing with the other dogs before the judge leaves.

- **4.** What happens right before the man in the red sweater fights Buck?
 - A Buck and Curly are sold to Perrault.
 - B Buck is sold by Manuel to the man at the train station.
 - © Buck sets foot on snow for the first time.
 - Buck is released from his crate in Seattle.
- **5.** How does the first setting in the story, Judge Miller's estate, impact Buck's character?
 - A Buck is a pet on the estate, so he never goes outside.
 - B Buck is well-loved on the estate, so he is not used to harsh treatment.
 - © Buck lives a wealthy life on the estate, so he is lazy.
 - D Buck lives with other dogs on the estate, so he only feels comfortable in groups.



Classics Quick Check (continued)

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- **6.** Which event marks the transition from the introduction to the rising action of the story?
 - (A) Buck is kidnapped and sold.
 - B Buck hunts outdoors with the judge.
 - © Buck is clubbed by the man with the red sweater.
 - ① A dog tries to steal Buck's food.
- **7.** What is the primary job of the man with the red sweater?
 - (A) to feed the dogs
 - **B** to ship the dogs north
 - © to sell the dogs
 - ① to break the dogs
- **8.** Which word best describes Buck at the beginning of the story?
 - (A) silly
 - (B) timid
 - © proud
 - ① vicious

- **9.** What does the word **conciliate** mean?
 - (A) to terrorize
 - ® to appease
 - (C) to insult
 - ① to love
- **10.** How are Ysabel and Toots different from Buck?
 - A They rarely go outside Judge Miller's house.
 - B They enjoy the outdoors, while Buck stays inside.
 - © Judge Miller loves them more than Buck.
 - ① They are large dogs, while Buck is a smaller breed.





Classics Quick Check (continued)

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- 11. Extended Response: Write a paragraph that describes how Buck has changed by the end of this part of the story and what causes this transformation to occur.
- 12. Extended Response: After Buck encounters the man in the red sweater, the narrator says that he learned "the reign of primitive law." Write a response that explains what this phrase means and how it could influence Buck's behavior in the future.

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Classics Quick Check Answer Key

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- 1. B Vocabulary
- 2. (B) Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions
- 3. (C) Cause and Effect
- 4. D Sequence Events
- 5. (B) Analyze Setting
- 6. (A) Analyze Plot
- 7. (D) Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions
- 8. (C) Analyze Character
- 9. (B) Vocabulary
- **10**. (A) Compare and Contrast
- 11. Answers will vary but should describe the transformation of Buck from a refined, aristocratic dog to a snarling and savage animal. Students should point out that the cruel treatment by the men who handle him causes him to lose his manners and learn survival skills in his own defense. He is confused and angry at his mistreatment and intent on surviving. He also is cowed by the superior force of his human handlers and loses his proud manner.

12. Answers will vary. Sample response: *The* phrase "primitive law" refers to the idea that the strong members of a community have power over the others. This law is sometimes expressed as "Might makes right." The men, such as the man in the red sweater, are the most powerful, and the dogs learn to submit to their rule or die as a result of their rebellion. Buck becomes more obedient; however, he refuses to befriend his master. Instead, he takes this lesson to heart and comes to accept his rank. He also asserts his authority over the dog who tries to steal his food by attacking him, and respects François for punishing the other dog. Buck is learning that the stronger a creature acts, the more power he can have. He has learned that he can't beat the men with whips and clubs, but he might try to have power over other animals by becoming stronger and asserting his own dominance.