

Name _____ Date _____

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

1. What is the climax of the fight between Spitz and Buck?
 - Ⓐ Buck defends Pike from Spitz's discipline.
 - Ⓑ Spitz defeats Buck.
 - Ⓒ Buck defeats Spitz.
 - Ⓓ The circle of dogs rush Spitz.
2. How does Spitz solve problems with other dogs on his team?
 - Ⓐ by relying on François or Perrault to fix the problem
 - Ⓑ by aggressively attacking any dog that gets out of line
 - Ⓒ by sneakily stirring up trouble and letting another dog take the blame
 - Ⓓ by waiting patiently until the problem is gone
3. Which of the following is a result of Buck's rivalry with Spitz?
 - Ⓐ The team makes Sixty Mile on the first day.
 - Ⓑ Spitz gets the rabbit first.
 - Ⓒ Buck feels the pride of trail and trace.
 - Ⓓ Other dogs begin to act out against Spitz.
4. How does Buck finally gain the upper hand in the fight against Spitz?
 - Ⓐ Buck rushes Spitz until Spitz is tired.
 - Ⓑ Buck goes for Spitz's throat until he is successful.
 - Ⓒ Buck drives his shoulder into Spitz and knocks him over.
 - Ⓓ Buck tricks Spitz into expecting one attack and bites his leg instead.

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5. Why is François concerned about the rivalry between Buck and Spitz?

- Ⓐ He wants to see the fight when it finally happens.
- Ⓑ He wants to maintain order among his dogs for safe travel.
- Ⓒ He loves Spitz and doesn't want him to be hurt.
- Ⓓ He doesn't want Perrault to scold him for the dogs' misbehavior.

6. How does the author build tension during the fight scene?

- Ⓐ He describes all the different dogs watching the fight.
- Ⓑ He only briefly and indirectly describes the fight.
- Ⓒ He describes the actions in the fight in vivid and quick details.
- Ⓓ He avoids mentioning the actual combatants in the fight.

7. Which town does the dog team stop in?

- Ⓐ Dawson
- Ⓑ Santa Clara Valley
- Ⓒ Tahkeena
- Ⓓ Sixty Mile

8. Which of the following examples best demonstrates the word **insidious**?

- Ⓐ Buck sneakily causing trouble among the dogs
- Ⓑ François whipping Buck for defending Pike
- Ⓒ Spitz dodging Buck's attacks
- Ⓓ Dub and Joe fighting Spitz

9. What does the narrator describe as the dogs' motivation for working?

- Ⓐ fear
- Ⓑ pride
- Ⓒ anger
- Ⓓ love

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10. What detail from the text shows that Spitz is no longer regarded as a leader by his team?

- Ⓐ Spitz thrashes any dog that makes a mistake.
- Ⓑ Pike robs Spitz of a fish one night.
- Ⓒ Buck wants to be the leader of the team.
- Ⓓ Spitz thoroughly punishes Pike for avoiding work.

11. Extended Response: How does the picture on the cover of the book add to our understanding of the conflict between Buck and Spitz? Write a paragraph that refers to specific elements of the picture and details from the text.

12. Extended Response: In a paragraph, explain the importance of the nocturnal songs in Dawson that Buck joins in on every night. Then explain how this scene relates to a bigger theme in the story.

1. Ⓒ *Analyze Plot*
2. Ⓑ *Problem and Solution*
3. Ⓓ *Cause and Effect*
4. Ⓓ *Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions*
5. Ⓑ *Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions*
6. Ⓒ *Analyze Plot*
7. Ⓐ *Story Elements: Identify Setting*
8. Ⓐ *Vocabulary*
9. Ⓑ *Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions*
10. Ⓑ *Analyze Character*
11. Answers will vary but may mention some of the following: Buck's bared teeth and angry expression show how aggressive the conflict between them is; Buck's size in the picture as well as his position in relation to Spitz show his dominance; the other dogs watching shows how they observe the conflict.
12. Answers will vary, but the explanation should pull details from the text to show that the nocturnal howling is a primitive pleasure, something that connects the dogs to ancient roots, and is a way for the dogs to express their woe and their defiance. Answers will then connect these ideas to an ongoing theme from the story, such as Buck's transformation to a wild dog or Buck's awakening of a more primitive nature.