

Classics Quick Check

Analyze Plot • Lexile 1120 • Level Z2

Name	Date	

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

- 1. Why did Buck get upset when Sol-leks took Spitz's place?
 - A Buck felt he deserved Spitz's role as leader.
 - B Buck did not want Spitz to be disrespected.
 - © Buck doubted Sol-leks's leadership ability.
 - Buck felt François was playing favorites.
- 2. What does the word **obdurate** mean?
 - (A) angry
 - (B) stubborn
 - (C) cheerful
 - (I) obvious
- **3.** Which of the following words best describes Buck's leadership style?
 - (A) lazy
 - (B) vindictive
 - © kind
 - ① rigorous

- **4.** Which of Buck's actions reveals a character trait of pride?
 - A his dedication to the work required of sled dogs
 - B his judgment and quick thinking while in the harness
 - (c) his dreaming of primitive men around the campfire
 - his insistence on leading the team after the removal of Spitz
- **5.** What important event happens before their arrival in Skaguay?
 - (A) Dave suffers a strange illness.
 - (B) The dogs get new owners.
 - (C) Buck gets to lead the dogs.
 - ① François cries over Buck.



Classics Quick Check (continued)

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- **6.** Which of the following causes the dogs' exhaustion?
 - A the heavy loads and long distances
 - B running through the day and night
 - © the cruel treatment of their new owners
 - a sickness affecting all the dogs
- 7. How did the drivers respond to the problem of Dave's illness?
 - A They carried him when he got too weak.
 - B They allowed him to keep pulling.
 - ① They fed him more often.
 - ① They purchased medicine for him.

- **8.** How is Buck different from his fellow dogs?
 - A He complains more than the other dogs.
 - B He takes pride in his work, while the other dogs don't.
 - (1) He has a higher tolerance for tough conditions.
 - ① He gets into fights more often than the other dogs.
- **9.** Which of the following is a strategy the author uses to create tension near the end of this part?
 - (A) He shows the inner thoughts of all the sled dogs.
 - B He adds details about Dave's endurance in spite of his pain.
 - © He describes Dave's thoughts and feelings as he struggles on.
 - ① He shows in detail the scene where the driver shoots Dave.





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- **10.** What is the resolution of Dave's conflict?
 - (A) He dies.
 - B He is left behind.
 - © He chews through Sol-leks's traces.
 - ① He runs beside the sled.
- 11. Extended Response: When Buck is lying by the fire, he sees a different man than the cook in front of him. What kind of man does he envision, and why does he imagine this man? Write a paragraph that explains your answer with supporting details from the text.
- 12. Extended Response: Write a paragraph that explains how the author creates a feeling of pity for Dave in the last few pages of this part. Then explain why you think the author wanted to evoke this feeling for Dave.

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Classics Quick Check Answer Key

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- 1. (A) Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions
- 2. B Vocabulary
- 3. D Analyze Character
- **4.** D Analyze Character
- **5.** © Sequence Events
- **6.** (A) Cause and Effect
- 7. (B) Problem and Solution
- 8. (C) Compare and Contrast
- 9. B Analyze Plot
- **10.** (A) Problem and Solution

- 11. Students should infer that the man Buck sees is a primitive version of a human— a caveman of sorts. He imagines this man because his instincts hark back to the beginning of time when dogs first worked in partnership with humans. He is exploring the source of his newly-discovered instincts and how they are wired into his being.
- 12. Answers will vary but may include some mention of the way the author uses words with negative connotations, such as cried, bite, mournfully, and *lugubriously*; or the way in which he describes Dave's actions, such as floundering in the snow, whimpering broken-heartedly, and crying out from pain. Answers will conclude with the student's ideas on why the author makes the reader feel sympathy for Dave, such as wanting to emphasize the danger and rough life facing these dogs, or desiring to raise the suspense of the story and draw readers in by making them relate to the dogs and the life they live.

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