

Where the Red Fern Grows
Chapters XI, XII, XIII, XIV

BEFORE READING

Part 1: Below are the sentences in which the vocabulary words appear in the text. Read the sentence. Use context clues, combined with your prior knowledge, and write what you think the underlined words mean on the lines provided. (1 point each)

1. The next morning I hung around the house for a while, and then nonchalantly whistled my way out to the barn.

2. He strutted around with a belligerent and tough attitude. _____

3. I came to a point where a slough of crystal-clear water ran into the river. _____

4. I had often wondered what Old Dan would do if Little Ann got into some kind of a predicament.

5. "No, you won't," said Grandpa. "Come on, I'm going to lock up." Begrudgingly, they walked out.

6. Just then I heard growling, and a commotion off to one side. _____

7. Rainie had been so dazed when he got home, they couldn't make out what he was trying to tell them, but they knew it must have been something bad.

8. I was dumbfounded. I said, "All right with me? Why, Grandpa, you know it's all right with me, but what do I have to do with it?"

9. Back in her chair, she gloated over the others. "You just wait and see," she said. "It'll be all mine, nobody's but mine, and I'll put my banty eggs in it."

10. Knowing that Papa and I would be gone for several days, I did everything I could to make things convenient for Mama.

11. Just when I thought we were ready to leave, Grandma came bustling out.

Part 2: Match the vocabulary words to their dictionary definitions. (1 point each)

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| _____ 1. nonchalantly | A. hostile or aggressive; inclined to fight |
| _____ 2. belligerent | B. unpleasant or troublesome situation |
| _____ 3. slough | C. unconcernedly or indifferently |
| _____ 4. predicament | D. reluctantly |
| _____ 5. begrudgingly | E. a depression or hollow, usually filled with mud |
| _____ 6. commotion | F. stunned, stupefied |
| _____ 7. dazed | G. easy to reach; accessible |
| _____ 8. dumbfounded | H. moving energetically and busily |
| _____ 9. gloated | I. filled with astonishment and perplexity |
| _____ 10. convenient | J. expressed great pleasure or self-satisfaction |
| _____ 11. bustling | K. an agitated disturbance |

DURING READING: As you read chapter 11-114, complete the graphic organizer using details from the text.

Chapters 11-13 – Provide **text-based details** to explain each character, event, or setting.

Grandpa's warning (2 pts.)	1. 2.
Sharp, metallic sound (2 pts.)	1. 2.
"Thanks old lantern, more than you'll ever know" (1 pt.)	1. Billy thanked the lantern because it helped Little An 2.
The Pritchards (2 pts.)	1. 2. 3. Rubin and Rainie are disrespectful to Grandpa and Billy
Ghost coon (2 pts.)	1. 2.
"You might as well get your money out" (1 pt.)	1. Billy and the Pritchard boys make a \$2 bet 2.

Two one-dollar bills (1 pt.)	1. 2. Billy wanted it back but they refused
Large gate post (2 pts.)	1. 2.
Old Blue (2 pts.)	1. 2.
Small stick (1 pt.)	1. the stick whipped up from the ground 2.
Championship hunt (2 pts.)	1. Grandpa entered Billy and his dogs in the hunt 2. 3.
Billy's ax (2 pts.)	1. 2.
Jug of corn liquor (1pt.)	1. 2. Grandpa told Billy to hide it so Grandma wouldn't see it

STANDOUT QUOTATION: "I guess when a man gets old he doesn't think straight. I shouldn't have let those boys get under my skin."

Who said it? _____

What was going on at the time? _____

What do these words show about the speaker?

AFTER READING

PART 1: Reread the paragraphs that describe Rubin and Ranie on page 124. List 3 SPECIFIC DETAILS for each character in the chart below:

RUBIN	RANIE
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.

PART 2: CHARACTERS IMPACT PLOT- Write an extended response describing how Rubin and Rainie's behavior in Grandpa's store impacts the plot (keeps the action moving forward). Use 2 details from the story to support your response. (5 pts)

PART 3- Read each question. Write the letter of the correct answer on the line provided. HINT: Read over questions before reading. (1 point each)

_____ 1. How did Billy rescue Little Ann when she fell through the ice into the river?

- A. He put a piece of meat on a long pole and stretched it out to Little Ann. When she bit on the meat he pulled on the pole and dragged her in.
- B. He made a hook from his lantern handle and tied it to a pole. He waded out into the river, got the hook under her collar, and dragged her out of the water.
- C. The water was only waist deep on him. He waded out, breaking the ice with his axe. He put Little Ann under one arm and waded back to shore with her.
- D. He tied a rope around his waist and around a tree. He walked out as far as he could. Then he used another rope to lasso Little Ann and pull her out.

_____ 2. True or False: Billy told his parents all about his evening's adventure?

- A. True
- B. False

_____ 3. What happened to Billy after he returned home?

- A. He got pneumonia and stayed in bed for two weeks.
- B. He found out he had a broken arm and needed a cast.
- C. He got a cold and stayed home for three days.
- D. He had severe frostbite and lost two toes.

_____ 4. Billy asked his mother if God answered all prayers. What was her reply?

- A. She said He only answered the ones that were from the heart.
- B. She said He only answered prayers if the person praying helped himself first.
- C. She said He answered everyone's prayers all of the time.
- D. She said He didn't answer prayers, He did what He thought was best for the person.

_____ 5. What was the bet Billy's grandfather made with the Pritchard boys?

- A. He bet five dollars that Billy and his hounds could kill more coons in one night than they could with their hound.
- B. He bet two dollars that Billy's hounds could tree a certain old coon.
- C. He bet three dollars that Old Dan and Little Ann could follow a trail longer than the Pritchard boys' dogs could.
- D. He bet four dollars that Billy's hounds could tree a coon faster than the Pritchard boys' hounds could.

_____ 6. True or False: The Pritchard boys refer to the coon as "the ghost coon" because it was all white.

- A. True
- B. False

_____ 7. At one point while the boys were watching the dogs chase the coon, Billy said he felt good all over. What did he feel good about?

- A. He felt good because his hounds were very obedient. The Pritchard boys' hounds would not listen to them.
- B. He felt good that was going through with his bet and acting like a man.
- C. He felt good because he had never seen Rainie looked so excited.
- D. He felt good because he thought his hounds would win the bet and his grandfather would be proud of him.

_____ 8. What caused Little Ann to throw up her head and whine?

- A. She caught the coon's scent when a breeze began stirring.
- B. She could sense that Billy was in danger.
- C. She smelled another dog coming near them.
- D. She was sad because she thought Billy was giving up.

_____ 9. Where was the coon?

- A. It was in the hayloft of a nearby barn.
- B. It was at the very top of an oak tree.
- C. It was hiding in a hollow gatepost.
- D. It was in a hole under an old stump.

_____ 10. True or False: Billy decided he didn't want to kill the old coon because it had lived there such along time.

- A. True
- B. False

_____ 11. Which of the following did not happen when Billy asked Rubin to give his money back?

- A. Rubin refused to give the money back.
- B. Billy threatened to tell his grandfather what had happened.
- C. Rubin knocked Billy down and started whipping him in the face with his hat.
- D. Rainie took the money and ran home.

_____ 12. What were the dogs doing while the boys were fighting?

- A. They were still looking for the coon.
- B. Old Dan and Little Ann were helping Billy fight off the Pritchard boys.
- C. The Pritchard boys' dog, Old Blue, was fighting with Old Dan and Little Ann.
- D. Billy had sent them home to get help from his father.

_____ 13. What happened to Rubin?

- A. The coon bit him and he later died of rabies.
- B. He tripped on a small stick, fell on the axe blade, and died.
- C. He accidentally killed his dog during the fight.
- D. He fell into the river and drowned. Billy didn't know Rubin could not swim.

_____ 14. What did Billy do to show his sorrow for the incident?

- A. He named the coon after Rubin.
- B. He planted a red fern near where the accident happened.
- C. He took four coon skins to the Pritchard family.
- D. He put flowers on the grave.

_____ 15. What news did Billy's grandfather tell him a few days after the accident?

- A. He told Billy the coats being made from Billy's skins were selling very well. He had been invited to St. Louis to meet the man who bought all of his coon skins.
- B. He told Billy the kennel in Kentucky had invited him to bring the dogs back for a dog show.
- C. He told Billy he was traveling to Talequah for supplies. He wanted Billy to go with him.
- D. He told Billy he had entered Old Dan and Little Ann in a championship coon hunting contest.

_____ 16. Who went on the trip?

- A. Grandpa, Papa, Billy, and the dogs went.
- B. Only Grandpa and Billy went.
- C. Only Billy and the dogs went.
- D. Papa, Billy, and the dogs went.