Before Reading

BEFORE READING ACTIVITIES (PAGE 60)

ACTIVITY 1 BEFORE READING
1 T 2 F 3 T 4 T 5 T 6 F 7 T

ACTIVITY 2 BEFORE READING
Do not give the answers at this stage, but encourage students to speculate and to make guesses. The 'yes' answers are 3, 5 and 6.

While Reading

CHAPTER 1 WHILE READING
1 In Mr Miller’s big house in the Santa Clara valley in California.
2 Because he needed money for his large family.
3 He hit him with a club.
4 A man called Perrault.
5 By ship.
6 Three.
7 Snow.

CHAPTER 2 WHILE READING
1 How . . . ? She had a fight with another dog and when she fell down, a pack of dogs jumped on her.
2 How . . . ? By watching Spitz and Dave.
3 What . . . ? Important letters and official papers.
4 How . . . ? They dug holes.
5 What . . . ? He bit his leg.
6 What . . . ? Fish.
7 How . . . ? He stole it.

CHAPTER 3 WHILE READING
1 T
2 F The Indian dogs fought because they were hungry.
3 T
4 F Buck had soft feet.
5 F François saved Buck when Dolly tried to kill him.
6 T
7 F Buck broke Spitz’s front legs.
8 T

BEFORE READING CHAPTER 4
Do not give the answers now but encourage students to speculate and to make guesses. Let them check their guesses when they read the chapter. The ‘yes’ answers are 1, 2, 3 and 5.

CHAPTER 5 WHILE READING
1 Mercedes to one of the men watching them
2 Hal to Mercedes
3 Mercedes to Hal
4 Mercedes to the dogs
5 John Thornton to Hal
6 Hal to Thornton

CHAPTER 6 WHILE READING
1+10 Buck liked to take Thornton’s hand in his mouth when Thornton talked to him.
2+9 Buck wanted to answer the call of the wild animals, but every time he went into the forest, he came back.
3+12 One day, Thornton told Buck to jump, and Buck tried to jump 100 metres down into the river.
4+11 Buck attacked a man called Burton because he saw Thornton in danger.
5+7 When Thornton was thrown out of his boat into the river, Buck jumped into the river with a rope and saved him.
6+8 Buck pulled a sledge with 350 kilos on it to win money for Thornton.

BEFORE READING CHAPTER 7
Do not give the answers now but encourage students to speculate and to make guesses. Let them check their guesses when they read the chapter. The ‘yes’ answers are 1, 3, 4 and 6.

After Reading

ACTIVITY 1 AFTER READING
Buck learnt to . . .
• wear a harness to pull a sledge.
• dig a hole in the snow to sleep in.
• eat his fish quickly before the other dogs stole it.
• steal food because he was always hungry.
• fight like a wolf because it was in his blood.
• wear little shoes because his feet were still soft.

ACTIVITY 2 AFTER READING
2+11 6+16 4+15 7+10 8+13 5+9 1+14 3+12
Spitz hated Buck because he knew that Buck wanted to be lead dog. Buck hated Spitz too, because he remembered him laughing when Curly died. He started to help the other dogs when Spitz punished them. Then one night Spitz caught a rabbit and the two dogs started to fight. Each time Buck attacked, Spitz moved and then bit him on the side. After a few minutes, Buck bit Spitz’s left front leg and the bone broke. After that, he broke Spitz’s right front leg, and then he made his final attack. The fight finished when Spitz disappeared under the waiting pack of dogs.
Dear Mary

I am sorry that I cannot send you any more money yet, and all because of a dog! This is what happened. I was in a bar with some men when we started to talk about dogs. A man called Thornton said that his dog could pull a sledge with three hundred and fifty kilos on it, and I said that I would give him a thousand dollars if his dog could do that, but first the dog must break the sledge out when it was frozen to the ice, and then pull it a hundred metres over the snow. If Thornton lost, he was going to give me a thousand dollars. I was sure that I was going to win, so in the end we made it fourteen hundred dollars. We harnessed Buck, Thornton’s dog, to my sledge. He looked intelligent, healthy and as strong as a horse. But it was 50˚ below zero and the sledge was frozen to the ice, so I thought that my money was safe. But there is something very strange about that man and his dog. Thornton spoke quietly to Buck; the dog took Thornton’s hand between his teeth, and then let go and started to pull. He pulled harder and harder, and suddenly, I saw the sledge start to move. That dog pulled it a hundred metres, and so I lost my money!