

On the Road

Photocopiable

While reading

Chapters 1–4

- 1 Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?
Correct the false ones.
 - a *On the Road* is based on the experiences and friendships of Jack Kerouac, the author of the novel.
 - b Many companies were interested in publishing *On the Road* when it was first completed in 1951.
 - c Jack Kerouac, as part of a new group of writers (part of the “Beat Generation”), generally had a negative view of life.
 - d After *On the Road* was published, Kerouac became a popular author and went on to write many books.
 - e Few people thought about driving a car across the United States in the late 1940s.
- 2 Where does Sal visit on his first journey from New York? Put the names of these places in order (1–6).
 - a Cheyenne, Wyoming
 - b Davenport, Iowa
 - c Des Moines, Iowa
 - d Denver, Colorado
 - e Chicago, Illinois
 - f Gothenburg, Nebraska
- 3 Underline a mistake in each sentence and make it right.
 - a Dean is with his first wife when Sal sees him in Denver.
.....
 - b Roland Major is happy that Sal brings Dean and some other friends to the apartment for a party.
.....
 - c In Denver, Sal works in the markets every day to save money.
.....
 - d Sal asks Roland for money so he can buy a bus ticket to San Francisco.
.....
 - e In San Francisco, Sal gets a job as a cook.
.....
 - f Sal meets a Mexican girl named Terry when he is hitchhiking to Los Angeles.
.....

Chapters 5–8

- 4 Sal talks about things going wrong in Central City and in San Francisco. Write which things take place in Central City (CC) and which take place in San Francisco (SF).
 - a Remi loses all his money at the races.
 - b Lee Ann refuses to cook.
 - c There is only stale beer for breakfast.
 - d Roland Major and Sal get drunk and are very rude.
 - e A crowd of drunk boys spoil the party.
 - f Babe slips and falls flat on her face.
 - g Remi and Lee Ann have a fight.
- 5 Circle the correct name in each sentence.
 - a *Dean / Sal* finds himself in a house with an angry woman and wonders why he came to San Francisco.
 - b *Remi / Dean* borrows money to take his friends and his father out for dinner.
 - c *Lee Ann / Terry* leaves her husband and makes plans to hitchhike to New York with Sal.
 - d Sal's *aunt / brother* gives him a place to live when he returns to New York.
 - e *Rocco / Dean* earned lots of money working on the railroad and bought a new car.
 - f *Camille / Marylou* is the mother of Dean's daughter.

Chapters 9–12

- 6 Match the letters with the numbers below to make complete sentences.
 - a Dean talks all night on the trip from Sal's brother's home to New York because
 - b Old Bull Lee complains to Sal on the phone because
 - c Sal's aunt is not happy with Sal's decision to go to San Francisco because
 - d At New Year's, Lucille is not happy because
 - e Sal gives Dean eighteen dollars because
 - f Sal feels unhappy as they travel to San Francisco because
 - 1) she doesn't like the way Sal behaves when he is with Dean and the others.
 - 2) Ed's girlfriend is at his house in New Orleans.
 - 3) he is excited about everything he sees.

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- 4) he realizes that Marylou is going to stay with Dean.
 5) Dean's wife doesn't have any money.
 6) she thinks he is wasting his time.

7 Read the questions and circle YES or NO.

- a Does Sal tell Dean that he wants to marry a girl named Lucille? YES NO
 b Does Marylou tell Sal that she wants him to go to San Francisco with her? YES NO
 c Does Sal's aunt think Sal should spend time with Dean and his friends? YES NO
 d Does Dean tell Marylou he wants to spend time with her when they return to San Francisco? YES NO
 e Does Sal take gas from the gas station without paying near Macon, Georgia? YES NO
 f Does Galatea seem to forgive Ed for leaving her when he arrives in New Orleans? YES NO
 g Does Old Bull want Sal, Dean and Ed to stay longer? YES NO
 h Is Sal happy with Dean and Marylou when he is in San Francisco? YES NO

Chapters 13–15

8 Who performs the following actions? Write the names.

Sal Frankie Marylou Galatea Ed Wall
 Dean Camille

- a smokes some bad marijuana, has terrible dreams, and wakes up screaming.
 b marries a man who threatens to kill Dean.
 c is pregnant with Dean's second child.
 d tells Dean he has no sense of responsibility.
 e likes Dean and says he reminds her of her crazy husband.
 f talks about traveling with Dean to New York and Italy.
 g thinks that Dean stole the Cadillac that he is driving.

9 Put these events in the correct order (1–7).

- a Dean and Sal go to Denver and stay with Frankie.

- b Sal and Dean arrange to drive a Cadillac to Chicago.
 c A woman with a gun tells Dean to stay away or she will shoot him.
 d Dean drives too fast and puts the Cadillac in the ditch outside of Denver.
 e Camille throws Dean out of the house.
 f Dean gets drunk and steals several cars.
 g Galatea gets angry at Dean for how he has treated Marylou and Camille.

Chapters 16–19

10 Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?

Correct the false ones.

- a Sal leaves on a trip from New York without Dean.
 b Stan Shephard plans to go with Sal to Mexico and find work there.
 c Dean buys a bus ticket and joins Sal in Denver.
 d Stan goes to a hospital because he has an insect bite on his arm.
 e Dean gets a terrible fever in Mexico City.
 f Dean gets his divorce from Camille, marries Inez, and then goes to be with Marylou.

11 Where do these events happen? Write 1–6.

- a Dean and Sal have a wild night of parties with Ed and Galatea Dunkel, Tim Gray and others.
 b Stan feels better after going to the hospital.
 c Victor takes Dean, Stan and Sal to a house to meet some girls.
 d Sal gets sick with a fever and Dean says he needs to leave.
 e Dean writes a long letter to Sal that says he will buy a truck to drive Sal and Laura home.
 f Dean gets in a fight with Inez and sees Sal for the last time.
 1) Mexico City, Mexico
 2) San Antonio, Texas
 3) New York, New York
 4) Denver, Colorado
 5) San Francisco, California
 6) Gregoria, Mexico

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Chapters 1–4

1 Who are these people in the story? Choose the right name.

- a is a sweet girl who is stupid and can do horrible things.
- b quickly becomes good friends with Dean, so Sal doesn't see Dean as often as before.
- c is the girlfriend of Remi and is a wonderful cook.
- d is a writer and is the narrator of this story.
- e is a friend in San Francisco who wants Sal to go on a round-the-world trip.
- f lives in Denver and is Sal's writing friend from college.
- g is the "madman" who wants to learn to write.
- 1) Sal Paradise
 - 2) Dean Moriarty
 - 3) Marylou
 - 4) Lee Ann
 - 5) Carlo Marx
 - 6) Remi Boncoeur
 - 7) Roland Major

Chapters 5–8

2 Are these sentences true (T) or false (F). Correct the false ones.

- a Sal finished his book before he left on his first trip to the West Coast.
- b Sal says it's a good idea to get whiskey by following a man down a dark street and robbing him.
- c Sal decides to get off the truck at Cheyenne, Wyoming.
- d The brothers driving the truck from Minnesota to Los Angeles drink but don't smoke.
- e Sal thinks he has wasted his money on the girls in the bar in Cheyenne.
- f All of Sal's friends in Denver are having a good time together.

Chapters 9–12

3 Where do these events happen? Write the places, number 1–6.

- a Dean, Sal and Ed jump onto a moving train.
- b Sal borrows five dollars from an old friend so they can buy gas for the car and get to Los Angeles.

- c Dean gets a ticket for driving "too fast."
- d The car gets stuck in the mud on a rainy night.
- e Sal says goodbye to Dean and Marylou and thinks he might not see them again.
- f Marylou tells Sal she wants to go back east with him.
- 1) New Orleans, Louisiana
 - 2) near Houston, Texas
 - 3) San Francisco, California
 - 4) Washington, D.C.
 - 5) Tucson, Arizona
 - 6) El Paso, Texas

Chapters 13–15

4 Match the two parts of the sentences.

- a Sal thinks about living in Denver but
- b Dean hurt his thumb in a fight with Marylou, so
- c Sal feels sorry for Dean because
- d The tourists who drive to Denver with Sal and Dean are scared because
- e Dean throws stones at the window of a beautiful girl, so
- f Dean and Sal return the Cadillac to the owner's home in Chicago but
- 1) Dean is such a crazy driver.
 - 2) he can't work anymore.
 - 3) they don't get any complaints about the condition of the car.
 - 4) Galatea doesn't understand Dean's troubles.
 - 5) a mother comes after Dean with a gun.
 - 6) he feels very lonely there.

Chapters 16–19

5 Put these events from Mexico in the same order as in the story, number 1–8.

- a It's too hot for them to be able to sleep in the car.
- b Sal gets a fever.
- c They meet a young man called Victor.
- d Dean gets his divorce from Camille.
- e Victor takes them to a place with girls.
- f Dean goes back to New York.
- g They eat beautiful steaks.
- h They smoke marijuana.