

QUIVER, THE BROWN DRAGON

CHAPTER QUESTIONS

All questions will seldom be appropriate for all young readers. Please choose the ones that will most likely help them stay interested and will dovetail best with your teaching goals.

Chapter 1 "The Magic Key" – Questions

1. What happened in Chapter 1 "The Magic Key"?
2. One of the things the Magician Key says to the children is "Don't be frightened." Does this remind you of anything?
3. Trudy and Jay regard their being grounded because they are behind in their schoolwork as unfair or unjustified. Do you think they are right?
4. The Magician Key reads from a "prophecy scroll." Do such things actually exist?
5. What did Trudy mean when telling their real given names? She says, "Our parents gave us weird names as a sort of a first birthday present?"
6. When the Magician Key says, "The stars say the time is now," what does he mean?
7. What characters did we meet in Chapter 1? Which is your favorite so far? Why?
8. What did we learn about Trudy and Jay's parents in this chapter?
9. How would you feel, and what would you think, if you were suddenly in a different place?
10. The next chapter is titled "Into the Swamp." What do you think is going to happen?
11. Can you find a Figure of Speech in Chapter 1, "The Magic Key"?

Chapter 2 "Into the Swamp" – Questions

1. What happened in Chapter 2 "Into the Swamp"?
2. What logical fallacies can you find in Chapter 2?
3. Several plants and animals are mentioned in describing the swamp. Is it reasonable that they would all appear in the same swamp?
4. What characters did we meet in Chapter 2? Which is your favorite so far? Why?
5. Many of the characters seem to have more than one name, and some have nicknames as well. What are all your names? Where did they come from? Do they have any special meaning?
6. What do you think you would do if a person you were talking with suddenly changed into three talking animals?
7. The next chapter is called "Lost in the Fog." What do you think is going to happen next?

Chapter 3 "Lost in the Fog" - Questions

1. What happened in Chapter 3, Lost in the Fog?
2. What logical fallacies can you find in Chapter 3?
3. Have you ever been lost? If so, what happened? If not, how do you think you would feel and act if you were lost?
4. Have you ever been in a real swamp? If so, what was it like? If not, what do you think it would be like?
5. What do you think is making the mysterious sounds on the island? The next chapter is called "Nonsense Island." Does that give us a hint about what they will find there? What do you think is going to happen next?

Chapter 4 "Nonsense Island" – Questions

1. What happened in Chapter 4, "Nonsense Island"?
2. Why do you suppose New Zealand Sea Snails would live on an island of dark green, glassy rock?
3. There is no electricity in the swamp. How do the kitchen appliances work?
4. Can you guess where the snails got their names?
5. Did anything the snails said make any sense at all? What could they have done or said to prevent their many misunderstandings?
6. If they had horns small enough mounted on a stand, the right height could snails blow a horn?
7. We find out in a later story that when the children and the parts of Key were having the conversation about talking animals and non-talking animals, they were completely misunderstanding each other. Can you see how they misunderstood?
8. The next chapter is called "Man in a Boat." What could happen next?

Chapter 5 "Man in a Boat" - Questions

1. What happened in Chapter 4 "Man in a Boat"?
2. Are there any examples of poor thinking in this chapter?
3. Can Rusty Gold be trusted?
4. Rusty Gold is aware he is under a spell of some kind, but doesn't know how the curse works. Have you ever believed a lie and done or said something embarrassing because of it?
5. Jay disturbed a brown thrasher, a type of bird. Do they live in swamps?
6. What did we learn about the dragon's soldiers in this chapter?
7. M. Fee apologized for the mess, saying the snails couldn't see to keep things tidy. Are snails blind?
8. What do you think will happen in the next chapter? What could "Hot Dogs and Rolls" possibly have to do with this story?

Chapter 6 "Hot Dogs and Rolls" - Questions

1. What happens in Chapter 6, "Hot Dogs and Rolls."
2. Where do you guess Quiver gets her name?
3. Why would you guess people's clothing changed colors?
4. When the dragon soldiers are shrinking, and the clothes and flags are changing from brown to other colors, how many shades of brown did you already know, and which ones were new to you?
5. What did we learn about the dragon's soldiers in this chapter that we did not know before?
6. What do you think is going to happen when they get to the dragon's lair to face the Brown dragon? The title of the next chapter is "Fire in the Swamp." Is that a hint of a coming battle or what?

Chapter 7 "Fire in the Swamp" - Questions

1. What happens in Chapter 7, "Fire in the Swamp"?
2. Were there any examples of fallacies in this chapter?
3. Why do the dragon hunters trust Rook?
4. Why do you think Rook did not want to answer their questions right away?
5. Can you find examples of Brown dragon lies/fallacies in books and websites you normally read?
6. What was your favorite part of this book? Why? Are there any sections you believe the author could have left out? Why? If you had written this story, what would you have added?
7. Do you think you would be able to defeat the Brown Dragon's lies? How?
8. What do you think is going to happen in the next book? The name of the first chapter is "Trudy Town."
9. The brown flags changed into a white flag with a red cross, the flag of St. George. So what?