

SLOPE, THE YELLOW 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 – Up, Up and Away! - Questions

1. What happens in Chapter 1, Up, Up and Away?
2. What examples of poor thinking do we encounter in Chapter 1?3. How does a hot air balloon work? It is at the mercy of the wind. How do they make it go where they want it to go?
4. The discussion about shooting an arrow at the buzzards might be a good trigger for talking about when it is appropriate to use deadly force.
5. What do you think the buzzards meant when they said, "That did not work very well, did it?"
6. Without looking, can you name the hint the dragon hunters use to remember the different colored lies – brown, blue, green, purple, and red?
7. The next chapter is titled "Adrift in the Wind." What would you do if you were trapped in a runaway hot air balloon? What do you think the dragon hunters will do? What is going to happen to them?
8. What Figures of Speech can you find in this chapter?

Chapter 2 – Adrift in the Wind - Questions

1. What happens in Chapter 2 – Adrift in the Wind?
2. What examples of poor thinking do we find in Chapter 2?3. Have you ever been in a place where it was so dark you could not see your hand when you held it in front of your face? What was it like, or what do you think it would be like?
4. Was Jay right or wrong when he said, "If anyone gets out, the balloon will go up and leave him behind"?
5. Sunflower and the dragon hunters are asleep in a crashed balloon basket in the middle of a desert. They have no supplies. What do you think will happen next?

Chapter 3 – The Mirage Desert - Questions

1. What happens in Chapter 3 – The Mirage Desert?
2. What examples of poor thinking do we find in Chapter 3?
3. Do you find anything interesting in Joshua being the son of Sheik Non in this story?
4. What do you suppose Lug meant when he said he could tell by their conversations that the desert people were too deep into the lies they believed to be persuaded?
4. Jay discovered for himself that Hai was right about trying to keep things more private. Have you ever realized you were wrong about something? What happened?
5. Clyde, the camel, was a gift from Slope. Could he be a spy for Slope? What is the evidence for and against Clyde being a spy for Slope?
6. The title of the next chapter is "Oasis Fake." What do you think is going to happen next?

Chapter 4 – Oasis Fake - Questions

1. What happens in Chapter 4 – Oasis Fake?
2. What fallacies did we encounter in Chapter 4?3. What is the best way to deal with people who behave badly but cannot be avoided, like co-workers or fellow students?
4. Do this story's tales of invisible dragons on Earth whispering lies in people's ears have any corresponding truth in reality?
5. Trudy said, "Some people just walk around looking for things to get mad at, so they can do something ridiculous. It is like they have a big red button on their chest that has a label on it that says, 'Press here to make me do or say something stupid. '" Do you know anyone like that?
6. What did you think about what Trudy said about sheep recognizing the sound of their own shepherd's voice?
7. Why do you suppose the inhabitants of Oasis Fake are so polite?
8. Hai asked, "How do we know it is not poison?" How did they know?
9. What do you think Slope has planned for the confrontation in the morning?

Chapter 5 – Under the Big Top - Questions

1. What happens in Chapter 5 – Under the Big Top?
2. What examples of poor thinking do we find in Chapter 5?
3. What can be learned from the argument with the Yellow Dragon?
4. Aloe vera, Joshua tree, and paloverde plants are mentioned, as well as an Egyptian vulture. These are all living things you might find in a desert. But would they all be found in the same desert?
5. The Yellow Dragon made some arguments that confused Jay and Trudy, and sometimes made them wonder if they were wrong or not. What is the best thing to do when someone confuses you? How do you know?
6. Jay asks, "I wonder if we could make a plan where it would not matter if they knew what it was?" Do you think it would be possible? Why or why not?
7. "They did not realize it then, but they would see Slippery again in a time of great danger." What do you suppose is the "great danger" mentioned here?
8. What do you think is going to happen in the next book?
9. Can you find examples of Yellow Dragon lies and fallacies in books and websites you normally read?
10. What was your favorite part of this book? Why? Are there any sections you believe the author could have left out? Why?
11. Were any of the characters in this book like you? In what way?
12. What do you think the significance is of the colors on flags? (Some versions of the Yellow Dragon book have this exercise at the end. The hardback and e-book do not.)