

PERF, THE BLACK 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 – Low Check City - Questions

1. What happened in Chapter 1, Low Check City?
2. What kind of dragon lies did you notice in this chapter?
3. How does General Incisor compare to the officers in command of the earlier dragons?
4. The dragon soldiers actually function more like police than military. What ranks would they have had if they were police instead of soldiers? Why are there no admirals in these stories?
5. Can you think of another way the dragon hunters could have tried to get through to the locals? What other questions or tactics could they have used?
6. Were you surprised when Lucas Light tricked and trapped the dragon hunters? Why or why not?
7. What do eggplants, dark knight pumpkins, elderberries, mission figs, and even dark opal basil have in common?
8. Where do you suppose the name Nonestic Ocean came from?
9. What do you think happened at Vicious Circle? Is it possible that people were killed in fires started by the lava?
10. How do you think the dragon hunters will escape from the trap they are in?

Chapter 2 – Ebony - Questions

1. What happened in Chapter 2, Ebony?
2. What kind of dragon lies did you notice in this chapter?
3. What is interesting about the apposition "pitch black, black as tar"?
4. Can you think of some more examples of Orange Lies?
6. Can you think of some other kinds of lies besides Orange and Black that do not match one of the other dragons?
7. What do you think is going to happen next?

Chapter 3 – It All Comes Together - Questions

1. What happened in Chapter 3, It All Comes Together?
2. What examples of poor thinking did you notice in this chapter?
3. Ebony and Fibber were proud of their lies. What does that say about them?
4. Were you surprised when Perf, the black dragon, formed from all the others?
5. What do you think of Perf's argument that all magic is based on lies?
6. Since there were no Low Check people present with the Black Dragon when she was defeated, as was the case with all the others, does that mean their presence is not required? If that is so, why didn't their arguments with Captain Spit in Vicious Circle work?
7. What do you think is going to happen next? How are the dragon hunters going to free themselves from all the tar?

Chapter 4 – A Sticky Situation - Questions

1. What happened in Chapter 4, A Sticky Situation?
2. What kind of dragon lies did you notice in this chapter?
3. What do you think of what Lug said about the power behind magic, good, and evil?
4. What do you guess were Perf and Mal's motives for working together?
5. What do Queen of the Night tulips, Midnight poppies, Philodendron "Royal Queen", bat orchids, and widow's pincushion have in common?
6. What do you think is going to happen next? They have been gone for about a month. How are they going to explain it to their parents? Surely by now, friends, neighbors, and the police have become involved. What is to be said to all of them?

Chapter 5 – A Place of Invisible Dragons - Questions

1. What happened in Chapter 5, A Place of Invisible Dragons?
2. What kind of dragon lies did you notice in this chapter?
3. Trudy's and Jay's father regards the missing key as solid evidence of the reality of the children's story. Is this evidence as strong as he thinks it is?
4. Can you find examples of Black Dragon lies in books and websites you normally read?
5. What was your favorite part of this book? Why? Are there any sections you believe the author could have left out? Why?
6. Were any of the characters in this book like you? In what way?
7. What do you think is going to happen in the next series of books, "Wisdom's Quest"?
8. Trudy and Jay, and the three Keys, will be characters in the next five books. This chapter mentions that Trudy and Jay learn about Happy and the other Fire Mountain people at a later time. How is all that going to happen?
9. Is pretending to be someone you are not wrong? Both the Magician Key and Perf, the Black Dragon, magically break themselves into parts and interact as if each part is a complete person. Is it wrong for them to do this?