

Study questions are to help you as you read the book. These questions will be used as the basis of discussion the first few days of school. A TEST on one of the books will be given Friday, August 10th. A TEST on the second book will be given Tuesday, August 14th.

Answer the following question. All of your work should be written, not typed. Your answers should be in complete sentences with correct spelling. You may write the questions and answers on notebook paper (not college ruled paper). Questions will be turned-in on August 9th - the first full day of class.

Study Questions for Pillow Academy:

Chapter One

1. Why does True Son object to being returned to his white family?

2. What aspects of white society repulse True Son during the stop at the army camp?

Chapter Two

1. Why does Richter shift the narration to Del's point of view in Chapter 2?

2. What arguments does True Son offer to show Del he is not white, but Indian?

Chapter Three

1. Why does True Son contemplate suicide?

2. What does the old sycamore at the forks of the Muskingum symbolize?

3. Why does True Son give up the idea of eating the May apple rot?
4. How does Half Arrow characterize the white men?

Chapter Four

1. Which of Little Crane's comments about white men seem most revealing?
2. Why does Half Arrow watch quietly while the guard binds True Son's arms?
3. What do the stories from Cuyloga teach True Son?
4. What does True Son's crossing of the river symbolize?

Chapter Five

1. What signs tell True Son he has entered the white man's territory?
2. In what ways does True Son find the wooden framed lodges of the whites symbolic of their values?

3. Compare and contrast the appearance and behavior of Cuyloga to that of True Son's white father?
4. Why does Del Hardy accompany Mr. Butler and his son to their home?

Chapter Six

1. Describe the significance of Richter's shift in point of view at the start of Chapter 6.
2. Describe True Son's reactions to the two names he isolates from Harry Butler's speech "Susqueganna" and "Paxton"?
3. Compare the reactions of Myra Butler, Aunt Kate, and Gordie to True Son on the first day of his return.

Chapter Seven

1. Why does True Son have difficulty falling asleep his first night in the Butler home?
2. What does True Son remember Cuyloga saying about the massacre?
3. What Indian ideas does Uncle Wilse Owens consider "heathen"?

4. How does True Son defend the Delaware language?
5. Compare the complaints against the Indians made by Uncle George to those made by Uncle Wilse.
6. Why does Uncle Wilse hit True Son?

Chapter Eight

1. What reason does True Son give for Aunt Kate's "theft" of his moccasins and Indian clothes?
2. How does True Son react to Del Hardy's departure?
3. What white practices does True Son despise most?
4. How do Kringas' remarks about the bounty of the Great Spirit help develop Richter's theory of energy?
5. What analogies does Bejance draw between his life and True Son's?

6. Why does the coming of February brighten True Son's mood?
7. Why do Uncle Wilse and Harry Butler misinterpret True Son's abortive adventure to Third Mountain?
8. Why is True Son unhappy to return home even though his father says Corn Blade is dead?

Chapter Nine

1. Why is Myra Butler bedridden?
2. What do Aunt Kate's remarks to Parson Elder indicate about her character?
3. What lessons does Parson Elder try to teach True Son?

Chapter Ten

1. What do Dr. Childsley's conjectures about True Son's unexplainable fever reveal about his attitude toward Indians?
2. Why does Mr. Butler gain little comfort from his visit to True Son's sickroom?

3. How does the scene of Harry Butler updating his account books let Richter criticize white civilization?

Chapter Eleven

1. How does True Son compare the value that whites and Indians place on messages they receive?
2. Why does the call of Memedhakemo, the turtle dove, make True Son so homesick?
3. How does Richter's use of point of view increase the reader's understanding of True Son's illness?
4. How does Richter use imagistic language to explain the contrast between True Son's Indian and white parents?
5. Why are Half Arrow's remarks about True Son's speech patterns significant?
6. Why does Half Arrow fail, but True Son succeed, in understanding Mr. Owen's and his friends' reaction to Little Crane's stories?
7. During the attempted scalping of Uncle Wilse, what clues show the impact of "civilizing" forces on True Son's character?

Chapter Twelve

1. What is True Son's only regret about leaving the Butler home?
2. Why does Richter carefully point out which Indian tribes used the mountain path that True Son and Half Arrow are following?
3. Why does Half Arrow's plan to steal the trader's two dugouts disturb True Son, and how do the boys resolve their difference of opinion?
4. What does True Son think about as he and Half Arrow float by Fort Pitt?

Chapter Thirteen

1. Why does Richter use most of Chapter 13 describing the idyllic days True Son and Half Arrow spend in the forest before returning to their village?
2. How does True Son's and Half Arrow's behavior toward their relatives change because of the experience in the forest?

Chapter Fourteen

1. What interrupts the village's celebration of True Son's return?
2. As the war party advances, why do the scalps taken by Thitpan's warriors upset True Son?

3. How does Thitpan angrily try to justify the scalping of the child?
4. How is True Son's Indian mother similar to the white woman on the riverboat who accuses the men of being cowards?
5. How does True Son's dream about the Butlers influence his decision to warn the riverboat passengers of the ambush?

Chapter Fifteen

1. How do memories of Be-Smoke and Heavy Belt help True Son during his trial for treason?
2. Why does Cuyloga blacken his face with charcoal?
3. Compare the explanations for True Son's "treason" made by True Son, Cuyloga, and the other warriors.
4. Why does Cuyloga refuse to say good-bye to True Son?
5. How does True Son's second crossing of the river into white territory differ from his first crossing with Colonel Bouquet and Del Hardy?