

THE HOBBIT, CHAPTER 11: ON THE DOORSTEP

READING COMPREHENSION

Look in the text for the answer to the following questions and underline it.

1. Why do the bodyguards leave the company?
2. Bilbo and his friends arrive in a territory called "Desolation of the Dragon" (p. 235): why is it called that?
3. What were the "gloomy thoughts" (p. 238) the dwarves were having? What were Bilbo's feelings, instead?
4. Where should the secret door be according to the map?
5. Who makes an unexpected discovery? What do they find?
6. How do the dwarves behave in front of the smooth wall where the secret door was supposed to be? How does Bilbo behave, instead?
7. What happens at sunset?

Name: _____

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

INTERPRETATION

Answer the following questions.

1. Why do the men return to the city while the dwarves and Bilbo continue the adventure?

2. Bilbo sits on the doorstep and thinks, but it doesn't seem like there's a solution to his dilemma. Do you think it's his reasoning that solves the situation or something else? To answer this question, try to reflect on the following quote by the physician and Nobel Prize winner Alexis Carrel: "A few observations and much reasoning lead to error; many observations and a little reasoning to truth".

Name: _____

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

VOCABULARY

PART ONE

The landscape, as in other parts of the text, reflects the morale of the protagonists and influences it. Report the elements that explain why the morale of the group suddenly dropped (from p. 234 to p. 238), as in the example.

The land ...	... was desolate and empty
The night ...	
The land about them ...	
The Mountain ...	
The river ...	
The riverbanks ...	

The morale of the group suddenly dropped because _____

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Now it's your turn! Try to describe a place of your choice that reflects the feelings you have when you are there.

[illegible]

Name: _____

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

TEXT-TO-SELF CONNECTION

When it comes to waiting, people have varying attitudes: some are impatient and seek immediate gratification, while others display patience. Some are confident in receiving what they desire, while some try to convince themselves otherwise. What category do you fall into? Can you handle waiting? Share some examples to answer convincingly.
