

A LONG WALK TO WATER

Name: _____ Date: _____

STUDENT GUIDE - CHAPTER 4

PART 1: VOCABULARY

Infer the meaning of each vocabulary word using context clues in the story. Then write a sentence of your own that uses the word.

1. **Lag (pg. 22)** _____

My sentence: _____

2. **Content (pg. 22)** _____

My sentence: _____

3. **Sluggishly (pg. 23)** _____

My sentence: _____

PART 2: READING QUESTIONS

1. Nya has to walk nearly half a day to find water. What can you infer about the place she lives? Why do you think she does this?

2. Whose struggles do you feel is worse – Salva’s or Nya’s? Why? Explain your answer.

3. Explain what happened when the woman in the group reaches out and touches the man’s arm, and he changes his mind about letting Salva go with them. Why does he change his mind? What does this tell us about the tribe’s culture?

Write a 1-2 sentence summary of this chapter.

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ANSWER KEY - CHAPTER 4

PART 1: VOCABULARY

Infer the meaning of each vocabulary word using context clues in the story. Then write a sentence of your own that uses the word.

1. **Lag (pg. 22)** Fall behind; be slower than the others

My sentence: Answers will vary.

2. **Content (pg. 22)** Satisfied

My sentence: Answers will vary.

3. **Sluggishly (pg. 23)** Slowly, lacking energy and clarity

My sentence: Answers will vary.

PART 2: READING QUESTIONS

1. Nya has to walk nearly half a day to find water. What can you infer about the place she lives? Why do you think she does this?

Students should infer that Nya lives in a very dry, desert region, in a very remote area. She is not nearby any type of modern civilization with modern amenities. She does this to keep her family alive and because likely her other family members have other tasks to accomplish each day.

2. Whose struggles do you feel is worse – Salva’s or Nya’s? Why? Explain your answer.

Answers will vary.

3. Explain what happened when the woman in the group reaches out and touches the man’s arm, and he changes his mind about letting Salva go with them. Why does he change his mind? What does this tell us about the tribe’s culture?

The woman is able to communicate with just a touch to the man. Likely, her touch simply reminded him of his duty to tribe members. This action shows that women and their opinions are respected, and it also shows that the tribe values every single member as if they were family. This is second nature to them; all they need is a simple reminder of their core beliefs. They all take care of one another.

Write a 1-2 sentence summary of this chapter.

Nya must return to the pond for a second trip that day, and she must show her younger sister how to make the journey as well. Salva joins a group of people from his tribe and they walk and walk.