

Hoot

by Carl Hiaasen

A Novel Study by:

Vocabulary Study

Chapters 1 - 3

Match Up

Match the words in the left column to their definitions in the right column.

- consternation •
- juvenile •
- malicious •
- deciphered •
- heedlessly •
- methodically •

- without paying close attention
- working carefully and with organization
- a strong sense of disappointment that causes confusion
- meaning to cause harm
- young; relating to youth
- decoded or figured out

Fill in the Blank

Complete each sentence by filling in the blanks with the provided vocabulary.

consternation juvenile deciphered malicious methodically heedlessly

1. Alex _____ placed his socks in the drawer, arranging them by color.
2. Mrs. Jacobs tore up the rude and _____ note she found on the floor.
3. Julie's mother could not hide her _____ at Julie's embarrassingly poor manners at the family gathering.
4. The _____ was asked to leave the candy shop when he tried to eat one of the candies.
5. The young child _____ crossed the busy intersection.
6. Reading by firelight, the explorer _____ the code on the map.

A Little Extra!

Roy's vice-principal, Miss Hennepin, asks him to write a note of apology to Dana Matherson. Pretend you are Dana and write an apology note to Roy. Be sure to use two vocabulary words in your note.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Understanding the Story

Chapters 1 - 3

Multiple Choice

1. Roy Eberhardt is new at Trace Middle School. He last lived in:

- (a) Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- (b) Bozeman, Montana.
- (c) Coconut Cove, Florida.
- (d) Washington, D.C.

2. What does Officer Delinko find in the port-a-potties at the Mother Paula All-American Pancake House construction site?

- (a) Boys' clothing.
- (b) Survey stakes.
- (c) Alligators.
- (d) Burrowing owls.

Short Answer

3. Describe the main character, Roy Eberhardt.

Long Answer

4. What strange thing has been happening at the Mother Paula's All-American Pancake House construction site? Describe the two ideas from the novel about who might be causing these events.

A Little Extra!

In Chapter 2, Roy encounters the girl with the red-framed glasses. When Roy mentions the mysterious running boy to her, she tells Roy to mind his own business. What does this scene tell us about the girl?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Vocabulary Study

Chapters 4 - 6

Which Word?

On the provided lines, write the matching vocabulary word for each definition.

formidable involuntary seething commendable despondently ominously

1. Sadly; done without hope.

2. In a way that suggests something bad will happen.

3. Not on purpose; reflexive.

4. Worthy of notice or praise.

5. Big or impressive in size.

6. Very angry, furious, enraged.

Making Sentences

Make a sentence for each word below.

1. Involuntary: _____

2. Despondently: _____

3. Formidable: _____

4. Seething: _____

5. Ominously: _____

6. Commendable: _____

A Little Extra!

An adjective is a word that describes a person, place, or thing.
Make a list of at least three adjectives that describe Beatrice Leep.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Understanding the Story

Chapters 4 - 6

Multiple Choice

1. What happens to Officer Delinko's squad car as he stakes out the construction site?

- (a) Someone paints the entire car blue.
- (b) Someone smashes in the hood.
- (c) Someone slits all the tires.
- (d) Someone paints all the windows black.

2. In Chapter 6, Beatrice steals Roy's:

- (a) Bicycle.
- (b) Golf balls.
- (c) Pet snake.
- (d) Backpack.

Short Answer

3. In Chapter 5, Roy returns to the woods near the golf course where he followed the running boy. What does he find there?

Long Answer

4. After Roy's scary encounter with the cottonmouth moccasin snakes, Roy is "more excited than ever." Why is this? What does this passage tell you about Roy?

A Little Extra!

Pretend you are the mysterious running boy. How would you react when you discovered Roy invading your secret camp in the woods? Why would you react this way?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Vocabulary Study

Chapters 7 - 9

Match Up

A synonym is a word that means the same as another word. For example, happy and joyful are synonyms. Match the vocabulary words with their synonyms!

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| stupendous • | • cruelly |
| caustically • | • mockery |
| pungently • | • kindly |
| travesty • | • strongly |
| nonchalantly • | • astonishing |
| amiably • | • casually |

Best Word

Circle the word which works best in each sentence.

1. Trevor tried to enter the classroom and sit down (pungently / nonchalantly) so he would not be noticed by his teacher.
2. The charity event turned out to be a (travesty / caustically) when the money it collected mysteriously disappeared.
3. The new president of the company (amiably / travesty) smiled as she met her employees.
4. When Regina replied to Madison's question (stupendous / caustically), Madison knew that Regina was angry with her.
5. Joey's gym locker smelled (nonchalantly / pungently) of dirty socks and sweat.
6. Trina could only stare in wonder at the (stupendous / amiably) display of fireworks.

**A Little
Extra!**

Write a short description of Dana Matherson. Include at least two vocabulary words in your description.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Understanding the Story

Chapters 7 - 9

Multiple Choice

1. In Chapter 7, Beatrice reveals that the barefoot boy is:

- (a) Her boyfriend.
- (b) Her brother.
- (c) Her cousin.
- (d) Her nephew.

2. In Chapter 8, what does Curly, the foreman of the construction site, rent in order to deter the vandals?

- (a) Four vicious dogs.
- (b) Seven poisonous snakes.
- (c) Three trained guards.
- (d) Two empty police cars.

Short Answer

3. In Chapter 9, Garrett tells Roy to go home from school sick. Why? When Roy attempts to leave school at the end of the day, what happens to him?

Long Answer

4. In Chapter 7, Beatrice tells Roy more about the running boy. List at least three new things that Roy learns about the boy.

**A Little
Extra!**

In Chapter 9, why does Curly call the reptile wrangler to the construction site for a second time? What does this event tell us about who might be targeting the construction site?

Vocabulary Study

Chapters 10 - 12

Match Up

Match the words in the left column to their definitions in the right column.

- | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------|
| excursion • | • judging or measuring |
| appraising • | • uncertain or suspicious of |
| bleakly • | • a trip or outing |
| enticed • | • very angry, upset, or excited |
| ballistic • | • hopelessly, miserably |
| leery • | • lured or attracted |

Fill in the Blank

Complete each sentence by filling in the blanks with the provided vocabulary.

bleakly enticed excursion leery ballistic appraising

1. Because of his fear of drowning, Doug was _____ of the ocean.
2. My mother became _____ when I lost her cell phone.
3. _____ by the scent of bacon frying, the dog headed for the kitchen.
4. Jon _____ handed in his incomplete test when the bell rang.
5. For our summer vacation, our family planned an _____ to the beach.
6. After the shopping trip, Annabelle swept an _____ look over her new purchases.

A Little Extra!

In Chapter 12, Roy and Beatrice are at the emergency room. Make a list of four words that describe how Roy is feeling when his parents show up there. Why does he feel that way?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Understanding the Story

Chapters 10 - 12

Multiple Choice

1. In Chapter 10, Roy discovers that _____ saved him from Dana's wrath in the janitor's closet.

- (a) Garrett.
- (b) Mullet Fingers.
- (c) Beatrice.
- (d) Mr. Ryan.

2. Why do Beatrice and Roy need ground beef in Chapter 10?

- (a) To use in a science experiment.
- (b) To poison the guard dogs.
- (c) To feed the burrowing owls.
- (d) To soothe Roy's wounds.

Short Answer

3. In Chapter 10, Beatrice tells Roy to collect bandages, tape, and antibiotic ointment from his house. Why do they need these supplies?

Long Answer

4. In what two ways does Mullet Fingers ensure that the poisonous snakes he releases at the construction site will not hurt anyone? Explain why his ideas work.

A Little Extra!

In this section, we learn more about Mullet Fingers's home life. Does this new information change your opinion of him? If so, how? If not, why not?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Vocabulary Study

Chapters 13 - 15

Which Word?

On the provided lines, write the matching vocabulary word for each definition.

perilous dilapidated patronizing reconnaissance apprehension derelict

1. Exploration for the purpose of getting information. _____

2. Very dangerous. _____

3. Hesitation due to fear or suspicion. _____

4. In very bad shape. _____

5. Abandoned or neglected. _____

6. Condescending; treating someone as though you are better or smarter. _____

Making Sentences

Make a sentence for each word below.

1. Apprehension: _____

2. Reconnaissance: _____

3. Dilapidated: _____

4. Perilous: _____

5. Derelict: _____

6. Patronizing: _____

A Little Extra!

What are two adjectives that describe Mullet Fingers's mother, Mrs. Leep? What are two adjectives that describe Roy's mother? How do the pairs of adjectives differ from one another?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Understanding the Story

Chapters 13 - 15

Multiple Choice

1. According to Mullet Fingers in Chapter 14, which of the following is most important to him?

- (a) Protecting the environment.
- (b) Constructing new, modern buildings.
- (c) Building tourist attractions.
- (d) Obeying the laws.

2. When attempting to break into Curly's trailer, how does Dana get injured?

- (a) He breaks a window and cuts his hand.
- (b) He steps on two rat traps.
- (c) He scratches himself on the screen door.
- (d) He falls and twists his ankle.

Short Answer

3. In Chapter 15, how does Roy trick Dana Matherson into breaking into Curly's trailer at the construction site? What happens to Dana as a result?

Long Answer

4. Explain why Mullet Fingers is causing trouble at the construction site. Do you agree or disagree with what he is doing? Why?

**A Little
Extra!**

At the end of Chapter 13, Roy decides that he needs to "settle the argument between his heart and his brain." What do you think he means by this?

Vocabulary Study

Chapters 16 - 18

Match Up

Match the vocabulary words with their synonyms!

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| inquisitive • | • stole |
| pilfered • | • boldly |
| lustrous • | • muscular |
| accomplice • | • questioning |
| defiantly • | • glossy |
| brawny • | • assistant |

Best Word

Circle the word which works best in each sentence.

1. Taylor is very (inquisitive / defiantly) and always asks many questions.
2. Grandpa (brawny / pilfered) an extra piece of cake from the table.
3. The thief and her (accomplice / inquisitive) sped away in a black van.
4. Mark stood (defiantly / lustrous) in front of the bullies, protecting the boy behind him.
5. Andi could tell by the man's (pilfered / brawny) arms that he often lifted weights.
6. Her long and (lustrous / accomplice) hair glimmered in the sunlight.

A Little Extra!

In Chapter 18, Officer Delinko discovers a baby burrowing owl on the construction site property. Make a list of three words that describe how Officer Delinko feels when he realizes that the owls are in danger.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Understanding the Story

Chapters 16 - 18

Multiple Choice

1. In Chapter 16, where does Curly finally locate his missing gun?

- (a) Inside his trailer.
- (b) Inside a bulldozer.
- (c) Inside a portable latrine.
- (d) Inside an owl burrow.

2. In Chapter 17, what does Roy buy at the bait shop to feed the owls?

- (a) Earthworms.
- (b) Crickets.
- (c) Chicken feed.
- (d) Grubs.

Short Answer

3. In Chapter 16, when Curly is searching for his missing gun, he notices that a new act of vandalism has been committed. What is the act? Why is it a problem?

Long Answer

4. In Chapter 17, what convinces Officer Delinko that Dana Matherson cannot possibly be the vandal behind the pranks at the construction site?

**A Little
Extra!**

In Chapter 18, Roy borrows his mother's digital camera. What does he plan to do with it? Why?

Vocabulary Study

Chapters 19 - Epilogue

Match Up

Match the words in the left column to their definitions in the right column.

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| futile • | • rude; without respect |
| forlorn • | • suspiciously or doubtfully |
| elation • | • not safely; unsteadily |
| dubiously • | • sad, lonely, or hopeless |
| precariously • | • pointless or useless |
| impertinent • | • extreme happiness or excitement |

Fill in the Blank

Complete each sentence by filling in the blanks with the provided vocabulary.

elation precariously impertinent dubiously futile forlorn

1. The soccer players deemed it _____ to attempt to score with only two seconds left in the game.
2. The _____ child stuck out his tongue rudely at the babysitter.
3. David's beaming face showed his _____ at winning the class election.
4. Shivering in the cold, the hungry, scared puppy looked _____.
5. The thick, heavy icicle dangled _____ from the edge of the porch roof.
6. Charlie's mother narrowed her eyes _____ when Charlie denied sneaking a cookie before dinner.

A Little Extra!

Pretend that you are present at the groundbreaking ceremony at the Mother Paula's construction site. Write 1-2 sentences about the event, using at least one vocabulary word.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Understanding the Story

Chapters 19 - Epilogue

Multiple Choice

1. Where does Mullet Fingers hide during the groundbreaking ceremony at the construction site?

- (a) In an owl burrow.
- (b) In the construction trailer.
- (c) In the bulldozer.
- (d) In a tree.

2. At the groundbreaking ceremony, which adult joins the kids' human barricade around Mullet Fingers?

- (a) Officer Delinko.
- (b) Mr. Eberhardt.
- (c) Kimberly Lou Dixon.
- (d) Lonna Leep.

Short Answer

3. In Chapter 21, Roy discovers that his father is the one who checked out the construction company's permits file from City Hall. What does this tell you about Roy's father?

Long Answer

4. In Chapter 21, Roy discovers that an important piece of paperwork, the Environmental Impact Statement, is missing from the construction company's permits file. Why is this important?

A Little Extra!

What is one lesson that you learned from reading *Hoot*? Describe the parts of the novel that relate to this lesson.
