A Resource Guide for The Perilous Road

Unit Created by Gay Miller
Introduction

When I began teaching in the Dark Ages, teaching standards were a dusty book on the shelf in the principal’s office. Few teachers knew they existed, and no one used them. At this time textbook companies determined what was taught and how the skills were taught. I decided to start creating book units because I simply wanted to teach my way.

As you well know, teaching standards are now the most important resource teachers have. The standards have been updated and revised repeatedly to become a valuable tool. Each time the standards were revised, I revised the book units to reflect the changes. I am currently updating the units once again to incorporate the Common Core Standards.

With each revision of the teaching standards, I only updated the books I was currently teaching. Because some books were moved to different grade levels by our school system and I dropped other books to make room for new, some of my book units were not revised and remain very basic. This is one of those units. I hope you will be able to use this as a supplemental resource.

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Vocabulary for The Perilous Road

pertness - inappropriate playfulness, sassiness, feistiness, mischief, liveliness
Page 4 - Then scraping off the hair, that was a job to take the pertness plumb out of a body.

bluff - A high, steep bank, as by a river or the sea, or beside a ravine or plain; a cliff with a broad face.
Page 8 - Shoot him and shove him right off the bluff and wouldn't nobody ever know, just me and Silas, and we wouldn't tell.

plunder - That which is taken by open force from an enemy; pillage; spoil; booty
Page 20 - They'll just hope to get back to camp with all that plunder.

retort - To reply, especially to answer in a quick, caustic, or witty manner.
Page 20 - "You know I ain't scared one bit." Chris retorted quickly.

dire - Warning of or having dreadful or terrible consequences; calamitous, awful, dreadful, horrible, grim
Page 29 - See example for peril.
Page 91 - But if she can't make out the dark figure, she'll die within a year of a dire disease.

peril - Imminent danger, threat, risk, hazard
Page 29 - Whoever it was would go on by and never know that under his feet Chris Brabson hung by his fingertips in the direst kind of peril.

scalawag - ne'er-do-well, good-for-nothing, troublemaker, rascal
Page 36 - Mammy and Pappy would speak out, would say nay to their oldest son joining up with such thieves and scalawags.

grabble - To feel around with the hands; grope, feel blindly, flounder
Page 36 - "You better hush up that kind of foolish talk and get to grabbling up them 'taters, Chris snarled at her.
sullen - Showing a brooding ill humor or silent resentment; morose or sulky, glowering, gloomy, grim
Page 48 - Chris slid his eyes around at his father and then stood there, sullen and silent.

meek - Easily imposed on; submissive, docile, compliant
Page 52 - A body oughtn't to stand there meek as Moses while the soldiers stole food and horses.

Special Note:
tarnal - regional (Chiefly New England & Upper Southern U.S.) slang for tarnation
Page 45 - This haul up the mountainside is tarnal hard on critters, and when they get to the pen, they leave the tired mules and get some fresh ones for the rest of the way to Chattanooga."

flounder - To make clumsy attempts to move or regain one's balance; struggle, thrash, wallow
Page 65 - Even the moonlight wasn't much help to him, and he floundered around like a three-legged cow.

sentry - A guard, especially a soldier posted at a given spot to prevent the passage of unauthorized persons; sentinel, patrol
Page 67 - Looking at the blade gleaming up over the sentry's head, Chris flinched and ran his tongue around inside his dry mouth.
Page 68 - The sentry passed, but still Chris lay there.
Page 70 "What's the matter with you boys? What's got you so stirred up?" asked the sentry suddenly, right at Chris's elbow.

counter - To meet or return (a blow) by another blow; respond to, set off, deal with, counteract
Page 77 - "What was you doing there, Chris Brabson?" countered Silas.

dogtrot - *Chiefly Southern U.S.* A roofed passage between two parts of a structure.
Page 78 - Chris walked down the dogtrot.

reprove - To voice or convey disapproval of; take to task, reprimand, scold, chide, reproach
Page 88 - "Oh, now, Sallie Jean," Mrs. Barbson reproved her.

boughs - A tree branch, especially a large or main branch
Page 94 -
Guess where I sat a long time last night,
Up in the boughs my heart did ache
To see the hole the fox did make.

addled - Muddled confused, befuddled, bewildered, mixed up, punchy, rattled, shook, shook up, unglued
Page 99 - His pappy must be addled just to stand idly by while somebody burned down the farm.

behoove - To be necessary or proper, be expected, be fitting, be right, necessitate
Page 99 - Them fellers is up to no good, and it would behoove us to lay low.

rouse - To excite, as to anger or action; stir up, provoke, stir up
Page 109 - Them fellers was truly roused up about Jethro and out to do any sort of meanness.

idle - Lacking substance, value, or basis; casual, hollow
Page 111 - It ain't a fit subject for idle talk.

slathers - To use or give great amounts of
Page 113 - "That ain't what you might call slathers of game." he said aloud in disgust.

fortify - To reinforce by adding material; strengthen, build up
Page 114 - They would begin to tell him how the Federal army was leaving Chattanooga and fortifying Walden's Ridge.

balk - To stop short and refuse to go on, shy away, drawl back
Page 123 - He'd seen a heap of Yankee soldiers on the mountaintop, but he balked at walking right smack in among them.

woeful - Deplorably bad or wretched, sorrowful, mournful
Page 134 - Chris noticed two or three of the group looked woeful enough to wring your heart.

cower - To cringe in fear, recoil, shy away
Page 138 - He cowered back inside the wagon, out of sight.

feebly - Lacking strength; weak
Page 139 - The beast kicked feebly and then was still.

rolled - To move forward along a surface by revolving on an axis or by repeatedly turning over

roiled - To make (a liquid) muddy or cloudy by stirring up sediment
Page 150 - The smoke and dust rolled and roiled among the trees.
Vocabulary Practice

pertness  bluff  plunder  retort  dire
peril  scalawag  grabble  sullen  meek

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1. Which word does not belong with the others?
   awful  dreadful  horrible  dire  retort  grim

2. Complete the following analogy:
   ocean : sea :: _____________ : cliff

3. Which of the following does not describe meek?
   the rebel with hatred in his heart
   the man who will always do as he is told
   a mother holding her newborn baby
   Mr. Barbson when the soldiers took the family's supplies

4. Which of the following does NOT describe peril?
   a high bluff
   a sharp axe
   stampeding cattle
   a soft bed

5. Which word from the list above best completes this sentence?
   Mammy and Pappy would speak out, would say nay to their oldest son joining up with such thieves and ______________.
6. Complete the word web.

mischief

feistiness

sassiness

inappropriate playfulness
7. What word means to reply, especially to answer in a quick, caustic, or witty manner?
______________________________________________

8. Pick a good replacement word for brooding in the following sentence.
Chris slid his eyes around at his father and then stood there, brooding and silent.
______________________________________________

9. What does the word plunder mean in the following sentence?
They'll just hope to get back to camp with all that plunder.

a. Inappropriate playfulness
b. A high, steep bank, as by a river or the sea
c. That which is taken by open force from an enemy
d. Ne'er-do-well, good-for-nothing, troublemaker, rascal

10. Complete the word web.

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flounder  feel blindly


grope

To feel around with the hands
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Vocabulary Practice

flounder  sentry  counter  dogtrot  reprove
boughs  addled  behoove  rouse  idle

1. What does **addled** mean in the following sentence?

His pappy must be **addled** just to stand idly by while somebody burned down the farm.

2. Give a synonym from the list above for **guard** as it is used in the following sentence.

The **guard** passed, but still Chris lay there.

3. Antonyms of the word **reprove** include approve, compliment, flatter, praise, and reward. Which of the following is a synonym of **reprove**?

   a. bewildered
   b. reprimand
   c. proper
   d. stir up

4. Choose the best word to complete the sentence from the vocabulary list above.

Chris walked down the __________.

5. Which word can replace the words **necessitate** in the following sentence? Use a word from the list above.

Them fellers is up to no good, and it would **necessitate** us to lay low.

6. Complete the following analogy:

Big is to little as put to sleep is to ________.

big : little :: put to sleep : __________.

7. Guess where I sat a long time last night,
   Up in the __________ my heart did ache
   To see the hole the fox did make. ------
   (A tree branch, especially a large or main branch)

   a. sky
   b. boughs
   c. air
   d. tree
8. Give a synonym for shallow in the following sentence from the list above.

It ain't a fit subject for shallow talk.

________________________

9. Complete the word web.

10. Choose the best word from the list above to complete the sentence.

His pappy must be __________ just to stand idly by while somebody burned down the farm.

11. What are the two meanings of flounder in the following sentences?

Even the moonlight wasn't much help to him, and he floundered around like a three-legged cow.

______________________________

The flounder hide deep in the water trying to keep out of the way of the fisherman's hook.

______________________________

12. Complete the word web.
Vocabulary Practice

slathers  fortify  balk  woeful
cover  feebly  rolled  roiled

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1. Which word does not belong with the others?
   woeful  wretched  sorrowful  feebly  grim

2. Complete the following analogy:
   ocean : sea :: cringe : ____________

3. Which of the following does not describe balk?
   a horse that refuses to go over a jump
   a knight that runs from a dragon
   General Wheeler leading the troops into battle
   Chris's feeling when he must leave the mountaintop and go into the Yankee camp

4. Which word from the list above best completes this sentence?
   The beast kicked ____________ and then was still.

5. Complete the word web.
   strengthen  build up
   To reinforce by adding material

6. Complete the word web.
   sorrowful  wretched
   mournful  unhappy
7. What word means to make (a liquid) muddy or cloudy by stirring up sediment?
_____________________________________________________

8. Pick a good replacement word for shrank in the following sentence.

He shrank back inside the wagon, out of sight..
_____________________________________________________

9. What does the word *rolled* mean in the following sentence?

The smoke and dust *rolled* and roiled among the trees.

a. to go by as the days rolled by  
b. to come again as summer has rolled around again  
c. repeatedly turning over as in the dust rolled  
d. gentle rises and falls as in the dunes rolled to the sea

10. Which word from the list above best completes this sentence?

"That ain't what you might call _________ of game." he said aloud in disgust.
Vocabulary Test

Matching: Write the number of the correct definition in front of the word it describes.

______pertainness 1. To make (a liquid) muddy or cloudy by stirring up sediment
______bluff 2. To be necessary or proper, be expected, be fitting, be right, necessitate
______plunder 3. A guard, especially a soldier posted at a given spot to prevent the passage of unauthorized persons; sentinel, patrol
______retort 4. To meet or return (a blow) by another blow; respond to, set off, deal with, counteract
______dire 5. Muddled confused, befuddled, bewildered, mixed up, punchy, rattled, shook, shook up, unglued
______peril 6. Easily imposed on; submissive, docile, compliant
______scalawag 7. To move forward along a surface by revolving on an axis or by repeatedly turning over
______grapple 8. Lacking strength; weak
______sullen 9. To use or give great amounts of
______meek 10. A roofed passage between two parts of a structure
______flounder 11. Lacking substance, value, or basis; casual, hollow
______sentry 12. Ne'er-do-well, good-for-nothing, troublemaker, rascal
______counter 13. To cringe in fear, recoil, shy away
______dogtrot 14. A tree branch, especially a large or main branch
______reprove 15. To reinforce by adding material; strengthen, build up
______boughs 16. Showing a brooding ill humor or silent resentment; morose or sulky, glowering, gloomy, grim
______addled 17. That which is taken by open force from an enemy; pillage; spoil; booty
______behoove 18. A high, steep bank, as by a river or the sea, or beside a ravine or plain; a cliff with a broad face
______rouse 19. To feel around with the hands; grope, feel blindly, flounder
______idle 20. To excite, as to anger or action; stir up, provoke, stir up
______slathers 21. Warning of or having dreadful or terrible consequences; calamitous, awful, dreadful, horrible, grim
______fortify 22. To voice or convey disapproval of; take to task, reprimand, scold, chide, reproach
______balk 23. Deplorably bad or wretched, sorrowful, mournful
______woeful 24. To reply, especially to answer in a quick, caustic, or witty manner
______cower 25. To make clumsy attempts to move or regain one's balance; struggle,thrash, wallow
______feebly 26. To stop short and refuse to go on, shy away, draw back
______rolled 27. An inappropriate playfulness, sassiness, feistiness, mischief, liveliness
______roiled 28. Imminent danger, threat, risk, hazard
Comprehension
The Perilous Road

Chapter 1 Pages 1 - 15

1. What kind of chores did Chris usually do?
   a) plant seeds, gather nuts, and tend the horses
   b) fetch water, slop the hogs, and clean out the barn
   c) shuck beans, whittle, and braid corn-shuck bridles

2. Chris lived  
   a) in Chattanooga, Tennessee
   b) in Bridgeport, Alabama
   c) in Caroliny
   d) on Walden's Ridge

3. Chris hated the  
   a) Northern
   b) Southern

4. Chris worked hard so he could have  
   a) a fringed buckskin shirt
   b) a hunting rifle
   c) a horse of his own
   d) a vegetable garden

5. Chris sat by the spring and waited for Silas so they could  
   a) go squirrel hunting
   b) fetch the cows
   c) go fishing

6. Jesse Webb was headed to Chattanooga to  
   a) get supplies for his farm
   b) buy rifles
   c) talk to his son in prison
   d) trade squirrels for powder and lead

7. General Bragg surrounded three sides of Chattanooga to  
   a) stop supplies from coming in
   b) kill all Feds leaving the town
   c) bargain with the Feds

8. The Feds had to get their supplies in Bridgeport  
   a) sixty miles away
   b) just on the other side of the Tennessee River
   c) a day's walk from Chattanooga

9. Silas said the Feds were eating  
   a) 'possum
   b) rats
   c) dogs
   d) ground hogs
10. What did the preacher mean when he said, “them that live to come home will have the mark of the beast upon them.”?
   a) The men will have scars.
   b) Many of the men coming home from war will be wounded.
   c) War changes men for the worst.

11. Chris and Silas each got ---- squirrels.
   a) 4
   b) 2
   c) 3
   d) 8

12. Silas wanted the squirrels that were -----.
   a) bushy tailed
   b) gray
   c) plump
   d) shot in the left eye

13. What did Chris see when he reached home?
   a) Yankee soldiers were in his yard.
   b) His house was on fire.
   c) His brother and father were hoeing the corn.
   d) His mother was fighting off a bear.

14. A good title for this chapter could be -------.
   a) The Battle of Chickamauga
   b) Chattanooga Raid
   c) Squirrel Hunting
   d) The Preacher Man
The Perilous Road

Chapter 2 Pages 16-25

1. The Yankee soldiers were -----.  
   a) setting fire to the Barbson’s house  
   b) stealing the Barbson’s cows  
   c) taking all the Barbson’s food

2. Why did Silas stop Chris from shooting the Yankees? 
   a) Silas was afraid Chris would shoot his parents.  
   b) Silas didn’t want the troop at the fort to hear the gunshots.  
   c) Silas was friends with one of the Yankee soldiers.

3. The Yankee troops even took the Barbson’s -----.  
   a) horse  
   b) cow  
   c) pig  
   d) chickens

4. Silas and Chris ran through the woods -----.  
   a) to catch the deer  
   b) to get help from the Southern army  
   c) to ambush the Yankee soldiers

5. Chris had a difficult time aiming his rifle because -----.  
   a) he was behind a rock  
   b) he was out of breath  
   c) he was standing on a steep hill

6. Chris hid from the soldiers -----.  
   a) by climbing a tree  
   b) in the laurel slick  
   c) behind a large boulder  
   d) in a great crack at the side of the bluff

7. Chris put his rifle -----.  
   a) in the bushes  
   b) down his pant leg  
   c) under a rock

8. At the end of Chapter 2 Chris -----.  
   a) shot a soldier  
   b) got caught by the soldiers  
   c) was falling

9. A good title for Chapter 2 could be -----.  
   a) The Enemy Gets Too Close  
   b) Hunting by the River  
   c) Best Friends
The Perilous Road
Chapter 3 Pages 26-34

1. While Chris was hanging onto the rock he heard the Yankee soldiers talking about ------.
   a) the soldier's sweetheart 
   b) secret military plans 
   c) the beautiful view 
   d) the fine meal they would have that night

2. What did Chris wish he could do as he was hanging on the bluff?
   a) die a quick death 
   b) join the army 
   c) call the Yankee soldiers back 
   d) say goodbye to his mammy

3. Who rescued Chris?
   a) Jethro 
   b) the Yankee soldiers 
   c) Silas

4. Jethro gave Chris ---- to make him feel better.
   a) pawpaws 
   b) water 
   c) a peach 
   d) lemonade

5. What is a pawpaw?
   a) a place for bears to hibernate 
   b) a type of rifle 
   c) a nickname for a granddad 
   d) small, fruit bearing tree

6. Jethro said he supported the ------.
   a) Union 
   b) Confederacy

7. The main idea of Chapter 3 is ------.
   a) Chris's rescue and talk with his brother 
   b) Chris challenges the Union soldiers 
   c) Silas's plan fails
The Perilous Road
Chapter 4 Pages 35 - 43

1. Leah's ring was made from ------.
   a) a gold coin
   b) a peach seed
   c) chicken wire
   d) braided silver cord

2. Where did Leah get the ring?
   a) her boyfriend
   b) her mammy and pappy
   c) Chris
   d) a Yankee soldier

3. Why did Chris wish to go to Bridgeport, Alabama?
   a) to steal Yankee supplies
   b) to live with his aunt and uncle
   c) to blow up the supply depot
   d) to learn military secrets

4. How would the Barbson family live through the winter?
   a) buy provisions from Chattanooga
   b) gather up what they could from their fields and nearby woods
   c) send Jethro to their cousins to bring back supplies

5. Mrs. Barbson wasn't upset that the soldiers took their food, but she couldn't understand why they ------.
   a) took the wild hog and her young ones
   b) took the beds from their home
   c) took Old Codger
   d) took their cow

6. How did Chris feel at the end of Chapter 4?
   a) hot and tired
   b) glad to be alive
   c) mean
   d) full of hate

7. The main idea of Chapter 4 was for the reader to ------.
   a) learn how to dig potatoes
   b) understand Chris's feelings
   c) understand that soldiers had to survive too
1. The army used mules to ______.
   a) move heavy logs from the road
   b) haul the supply wagons
   c) as pack animals

2. What chore did Chris and his father do?
   a) rounded up the wild hogs
   b) plow the field to make it ready for planting in the spring
   c) carried in logs for firewood
   d) carried in barrels of water

3. While Chris was pulling the third log ______.
   a) he twisted his ankle by stepping on a sharp rock
   b) he saw a snake on the path and fell down to keep from stepping on it
   c) he stepped on a thorn and the log rolled over his foot

4. Chris went too far when he ______.
   a) called Jethro a traitor
   b) called his pappy a Union lover
   c) stole their neighbor's mule
   d) told his mammy he was going to starve to death

5. Mr. Trantham came to see Mr. Barbson to ______.
   a) get his saw
   b) tell the news
   c) argue with him

6. Lukie called Chris a ______.
   a) traitor
   b) Union Sympathizer
   c) Federalist
   d) blue-belly

7. Chris plans to meet Lukie the next night to ______.
   a) plan an attack on the Yankees
   b) go deer hunting
   c) prove where his loyalties lie

8. Why did Mr. Trantham want his saw back?
   a) He wanted to show he was upset that Jethro joined the Union army
   b) He needed the saw to help cut up his firewood for winter.
   c) He was going to loan it to the Union army.
   d) He wanted to teach Lukie how to use it.

9. Several hints have been given as to what Chris plans to do to "prove" he is not a Yankee-lover. What do you think he will do?
   a) stop Jethro from joining the Union army
   b) plan an ambush on the Union army
   c) steal a mule from the Union army
The Perilous Road

Chapter 6 Pages 56-72

1. Why did Chris have a difficult time leaving the house?
   a) Leah wanted to know where he was going.
   b) Mammy wanted him to help her clear away the supper dishes.
   c) Pappy wanted him to help haul logs.

2. How did Chris feel as he was walking to meet Lukie?
   a) carefree
   b) lighthearted
   c) uneasy
   d) excited

3. Chris passed a ------- on the road.
   a) deer
   b) Yankee soldier
   c) dead mule
   d) wagon

4. The boys heard ------.
   a) bat
   b) an owl
   c) a bobcat
   d) dogs

5. Once an owl ------.
   a) hit Lukie in the face
   b) caught Nate by his hair
   c) screeched in Chris's ear

6. Chris brought along his -------.
   a) gun
   b) knife
   c) sword
   d) cane

7. After hearing Lukie talk about the mule pen, Chris just about decided to turn around and head back home. He was going to give up his plan because he had not planned on -------.
   a) the mules being heavily guarded
   b) the trip taking so long
   c) the night being so dark

8. How did Lukie feel about Chris's plan to free the mules?
   a) very excited - He couldn't wait to help
   b) scared - He wouldn't even go and watch.
   c) glad - He wanted the soldiers to suffer for what they had done to his family.
9. Chris didn't have to be quiet because -----.
   a) someone was playing a guitar
   b) the mules were braying
   c) the soldiers were singing
   d) the wind was blowing

10. Chris didn't like --------.
    a) that so many guards were around the pen
    b) that the pen was in the open
    c) many fires lighted the area all the way around the pen

11. What saved Chris from the sentry finding him in the mule pen?
    a) He ran to get out of the rain.
    b) Another sentry called him away for Chris.
    c) His coffee was ready.

12. How did Chris get the mules to leave the pen?
    a) Thunder scared them.
    b) He went in the pen, yelled, and hit them.
    c) He gently called to them.
The Perilous Road
Chapter 7 Pages 73-81

1. As the mules were stampeding one mule ------.
   a) bit Chris's leg
   b) hit Chris in the head
   c) jumped right over Chris

2. ------- saved Chris's life from the mules.
   a) Jethro
   b) Lukie
   c) a Yankee
   d) Silas

3. When Chris asked Silas why he was at the mule pen, Silas answered, ----.
   a) "I went to let the mules go myself."
   b) "I was there to see you did it proper."
   c) "I was trading with the Yankees."
   d) "I was setting a trap for the Yankees."

4. When Chris's mammy caught him sneaking into the house ------.
   a) she told him his pappy would whip him in the morning
   b) she told him he would have to do extra chores the next day for punishment
   c) Silas told her that Chris had been with him

5. Chris thought Silas ------.
   a) must be a spy
   b) must be a Yankee
   c) Must be a Confederate

6. A good title for Chapter 7 could be: ------.
   a) Chris's Mammy
   b) Spying
   c) The Narrow Escape
   d) Jethro Saves the Day
1. How did Chris feel the morning after he released the mules?
   a) excited and happy
   b) dull and tired
   c) angry and disgusted

2. Sallie Jean came over to the Barbsons to bring ------.
   a) meal
   b) clothes
   c) Thumb
   d) the baby

3. Chris's chore was to ------.
   a) weave the rope
   b) work on the shuttle
   c) crack nuts
   d) sharpen the axe blades

4. Betsy Poteet took ---- as payment for some weaving she did.
   a) meat
   b) meal
   c) a hoop skirt
   d) salt

5. The purpose of a dumb supper was to ------.
   a) see ghosts
   b) use up all the left overs
   c) see your future husband
   d) get rid of warts

6. Sam used ------ to stop Zilpah's leg from bleeding.
   a) rags
   b) sheets
   c) cobwebs
   d) ashes

7. When Chris went to bed he saw ------.
   a) old Codger had come home
   b) someone starting a fire
   c) a group of Yankee soldiers riding up

8. A good title for Chapter 8 could be ------.
   a) Dew Poisoning
   b) The Big Battle
   c) Just Like Old Times
   d) The Fall Roundup
1. Chris wanted to ------ the person who set the shed on fire.
   a) shoot
   b) hang
   c) take to jail
   d) fight

2. Mr. Barbson wanted to ------------ while someone burned down the shed.
   a) get help from the neighbors
   b) go get the sheriff
   c) stay out of the way
   d) shoot the people responsible

3. The fire was set because ------.
   a) Sallie Jean was at the Barbsons
   b) Chris set the mules loose
   c) Jethro joined the Northern army

4. The shed didn't matter to the Barbsons because ------.
   a) it was empty
   b) it was half rotten
   c) they no longer had any use for it

5. Of the three men that burned down the shed, Chris was surprised to see ------.
   a) Lukie Trantham's pap
   b) Hoke Edwin
   c) Silas Agee

6. The main idea of Chapter 9 was --------.
   a) Sallie Jean's visit
   b) the Yankees make life hard for the Barbsons
   c) the neighbors show their hatred of the Barbsons
   d) Thumb runs off
The Perilous Road
Chapter 10 Pages 104-112

1. What event related to the fire hurt Chris the most?
   a) losing the corn seed
   b) losing the hoes and chains
   c) losing his friend Silas
   d) losing Thumb

2. The pond Silas took a bath in was full of ------.
   a) toads
   b) iron ore
   c) mud

3. Silas was cooking --------.
   a) deer
   b) squirrel
   c) 'possum
   d) bear

4. Silas had a plan when he burned the Barbson's barn. What was this plan?
   a) Silas wanted the neighbors to hate the Barbsons.
   b) Silas wanted to signal the Yankee troops.
   c) Silas wanted to cover up a robbery.
   d) Silas wanted Chris to become a spy.

5. The Yankee soldiers blamed the mules getting loose on ------.
   a) a young boy
   b) lightning
   c) Confederate spies
   d) a Confederate attack

6. A good title for Chapter 10 could be ------.
   a) 'Possum Stew
   b) Home Again
   c) The Reason
The Perilous Road

Chapter 11 Pages 113-122

1. Chris had --------- to show for day of hunting.
   a) a deer
   b) a fat old bear
   c) two squirrels and a raccoon

2. While Chris was looking down in the valley he saw ------.
   a) a fire
   b) troops marching
   c) supply wagons

3. After seeing the wagons Chris ----.
   a) just daydreamed about what he should do
   b) went and told Silas what he had seen

4. Jethro's job in the Federal army was ------.
   a) fighting on the front lines
   b) spying
   c) wagon driving
   d) errand runner

5. When Chris first discovered his brother's job he ------.
   a) ran to stop Silas from reporting to the Confederates
   b) ran to warn Jethro
   c) ran to General Bragg

6. When Chris couldn't find Silas he decided to -------.
   a) stop the generals
   b) create an ambush
   c) go warn his brother

7. The main idea of Chapter 11 is ------.
   a) Chris's hunting day goes bad
   b) Chris daydreams about attacking the Union army
   c) Silas can't be found when he is needed
   d) Chris tells a spy where and how the Confederates can attack a Union wagon train, then discovers Jethro could be driving one of the wagons
The Perilous Road

Chapter 12 Pages 123-136

1. The boxes the supply wagon labeled bread had ------ inside of them
   a) guns
   b) hardtack
   c) ammunition
   d) uniforms

2. Chris walked from campfire to campfire ------.
   a) gaining information to report to Silas
   b) trying to set up traps
   c) listening for military secrets
   d) trying to find Jethro

3. Jethro played the ------.
   a) fiddle
   b) guitar
   c) harmonica

4. One soldier gave Chris ------ to eat.
   a) stew
   b) hardtack
   c) ginger snaps
   d) deer meat

5. After talking with the Yankee soldiers Chris discovered ------.
   a) how much he hated them
   b) they were not so bad after all

6. Chris awoke when ------.
   a) the sun hit his face in the morning
   b) the Confederate soldiers began their attack
   c) the man with the goatee gently carried him to the wagon

7. A good title for Chapter 12 could be ------.
   a) The Futile Search
   b) Ginger Snaps
   c) Yankee Songs
1. When Chris tried to tell the Confederate soldier not to shoot, the soldier ----.
a) helped him down from the wagon  
b) told him to get out of there  
c) shot twice at him  
d) called him a traitor  

2. When the Confederate soldier shot at Chris, ------.
a) he jumped from the wagon and ran across the open field  
b) the man with the goatee came and helped Chris  
c) the mules started running away with the wagon  

3. Chris watched the battle -----.
a) from the top of the bluff  
b) from behind a sack of potatoes  
c) crouched in the sumac  

4. Chris helped the man who had given him the apple by -----.
a) going after a medic  
b) giving him water  
c) tying a bandage over his wound  

5. Chris knew he wasn't at fault for this battle when -----.
a) he overheard General Wheeler talking  
b) he found Silas  
c) a soldier told him they had started out three days earlier  

6. The soldier told Chris his brother was safe because -----.
a) he was still in training  
b) he saw him in Bridgeport  
c) only men from the Northern States were in this wagon train  

7. The main idea of Chapter 13 was -----.
a) the supplies are destroyed  
b) Chris is angry at himself for causing such a terrible battle  
c) the battle takes place
The Perilous Road

Chapter 14 Pages 150-156

1. The first thing Chris wanted to do when he got home was -----. 
   a) tease Leah 
   b) hug his mammy 
   c) take a bath 
   d) help his pappy 

2. As Chris headed for home he saw ---- on the road. 
   a) Silas 
   b) Leah 
   c) his mammy 
   d) his pappy 

3. Chris told his pappy -----. 
   a) everything from the hunting shirt, to the mule pen, to trying to find Jethro 
   b) about looking for Jethro 
   c) about the hunting shirt 
   d) about opening the mule pen 

4. Silas -----. 
   a) never left the cabin to report about the supply wagon 
   b) couldn't find General Wheeler 
   c) was captured by the Federals and couldn't report to the army 

5. On the way to the cabin Chris spotted -----. 
   a) Silas 
   b) Jethro 
   c) 3 deer 
   d) a mule 

6. The events of the battle -----. 
   a) changed Chris's life forever 
   b) would soon be forgotten 
   c) made no difference to the way Chris felt about Yankees
Activity 1 Setting of the Book

The story is set on Walden's Ridge by Signal Mountain in Tennessee. Using a US map find the location of Signal Mountain. What is this area of Tennessee like? Find the elevation, climate, photos of the region.

Activity 2 Confederate Generals

Confederate General Joseph Wheeler was mentioned in the author's note at the beginning of the book and Confederate General Braxton Bragg was mentioned in this chapter. Learn more about each of these Confederate generals and the campaigns mentioned in the book.

Confederate General Joseph Wheeler
Author's Note "...there can be no doubt that Confederate General Joseph Wheeler led a devastating cavalry raid on the Federal wagon train in Sequatchie Valley, October 2, 1863." [http://www.arlingtoncemetery.net/jwheeler.htm](http://www.arlingtoncemetery.net/jwheeler.htm)

Confederate General Braxton Bragg
Page 10 "How come the Yankees are running around loose? Up at Grassy Cove we heared tell General Bragg had them sealed up inside Chattanooga like a frog in a bottle. Has Bragg got 'em or ain't he?" [http://ngeorgia.com/people/braggb.html](http://ngeorgia.com/people/braggb.html)

Activity 3 Pawpaws

In Chapter 3 Jethro gives Chris pawpaws to help him recover from his near death incident. What are pawpaws?


Activity 4 – Ginger Snaps

In Chapter 12 Chris is given ginger snaps to eat. Try making these wonderful cookies.
Answer Keys
Vocabulary Practice and Test

1. retort
2. bluff
3. the rebel with hatred in his heart
4. a soft bed
5. scalawags
6. pertness
7. retort
8. sullen
9. c. That which is taken by open force from an enemy
10. grabble

12. Possible answers:
   muddled confused, befuddled, bewildered, mixed up, punchy, rattled, shook, shook up, unglued
13. sentry
14. b. reprimand
15. dogtrot
16. behoove
17. rouse
18. b. boughs
19. idle
20. counter
21. addled
22. a. To make clumsy attempts to move or regain one's balance; struggle, thrash, wallow
   b. A flatfish
23. behoove

1. feebly
2. cower
3. General Wheeler leading the troops into battle
4. feebly
5. fortify
6. woeful
7. rolled
8. cowered
9. c. repeatedly turning over as in the dust rolled
10. slathers

Vocabulary Test

pertness - An inappropriate playfulness, sassiness, feistiness, mischief, liveliness
bluff - A high, steep bank, as by a river or the sea, or beside a ravine or plain; a cliff with a broad face.
plunder - That which is taken by open force from an enemy; pillage; spoil; booty
retort - To reply, especially to answer in a quick, caustic, or witty manner.
dire - Warning of or having dreadful or terrible consequences; calamitous, awful, dreadful, horrible, grim peril - Imminent danger, threat, risk, hazard
scalawag - ne'er-do-well, good-for-nothing, troublemaker, rascal
grumble - To feel around with the hands; grope, feel blindly, flounder
sullen - Showing a brooding ill humor or silent resentment; morose or sulky, glowering, gloomy, grim meek - Easily imposed on; submissive, docile, compliant
flounder - To make clumsy attempts to move or regain one's balance; struggle, thrash, wallow
sentry - A guard, especially a soldier posted at a given spot to prevent the passage of unauthorized persons;
sentinel, patrol
counter - To meet or return (a blow) by another blow; respond to, set off, deal with, counteract
dogtrot - A roofed passage between two parts of a structure.
reprove - To voice or convey disapproval of; take to task, reprimand, scold, chide, reproach
boughs - A tree branch, especially a large or main branch
addled - Muddled confused, befuddled, bewildered, mixed up, punchy, rattled, shook, shook up, unglued
behoove - To be necessary or proper, be expected, be fitting, be right, necessitate
rouse - To excite, as to anger or action; stir up, provoke, stir up
idle - Lacking substance, value, or basis; casual, hollow
slathers - To use or give great amounts of
fortify - To reinforce by adding material; strengthen, build up
balk - To stop short and refuse to go on, shy away, drawl back
woeful - Deplorably bad or wretched, sorrowful, mournful
cower - To cringe in fear, recoil, shy away
feebly - Lacking strength; weak
rolled - To move forward along a surface by revolving on an axis or by repeatedly turning over
roiled - To make (a liquid) muddy or cloudy by stirring up sediment

27 pertness
18 bluff
17 plunder
24 retort
21 dire
28 peril
12 scalawag
19 grabble
16 sullen
6 meek
25 flounder
3 sentry
4 counter
10 dogtrot
22 reprove
14 boughs
5 addled
2 behoove
20 rouse
11 idle
9 slathers
15 fortify
26 balk
23 woeful
13 cower
8 feebly
7 rolled
1 roiled
# Comprehension Quizzes

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<th>Chapter 2</th>
<th>Chapter 3</th>
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