

Answer the questions about the excerpt from *White Fang*.

1. How does the author develop the gray cub's point of view?

- a. by sharing his relationship with his father
- b. by detailing his feelings and actions**
- c. by describing his physical characteristics
- d. by presenting his dialogue with other characters



2. How is the wolf cub different from his brothers and sisters, both physically and in his personality?

The wolf pup's siblings are reddish-brown, but he is gray. He is also described as the fiercest and most daring of the cubs. He causes his mother the most trouble trying to venture out of the cave.



3. Reread this part of the passage.

“And long before his eyes had opened, he had learned by touch, taste, and smell to know his mother—a fount of **tenderness**. She possessed a **gentle, caressing** tongue that **soothed** him when it passed over his soft little body, and that impelled him to **snuggle** close against her and to doze off to sleep.”

a. Select the tone created by these sentences.

- a. thrilled
- b. hopeful
- c. confident
- d. affectionate**

b. How do you know? Highlight the words above that helped you determine the tone.



4. What is the meaning of the word **irresistible** as it is used in paragraph 3? Use context clues and your knowledge of prefixes, roots, and suffixes to help you.

Impossible to resist, or unable to withstand an attraction

5. Why does the author compare the cubs to plants in paragraphs 3 and 4?

The cubs are instinctually drawn toward the sunlight as a source of life, just as plants are.



6. Why is the wall of light irresistible to the wolf cub? What do you think it represents? **Sample answer:**

The wall of light represents growth and knowledge of the wider world. It is irresistible to the wolf cub because, just like plants and all living things, it is in his nature to constantly seek growth and development.



7. What inference can be drawn from the information in paragraph 7?

The wolf cub's father was killed in a battle with a lynx.



8. Which sentence from the passage best embodies the theme of this selection?

- a. “He was different from his brothers and sisters.”
- b. “His world was very small and dim.”
- c. “Growth is life, and life is forever destined to make for light.”**
- d. “But the first man on Mars would have experienced less unfamiliarity than did he.”



9. What challenges do you think the gray cub might face outside the cave?

Answers will vary.

