

Reading Comprehension

All Gold Canyon

By Jack London

The red-coated, many-antlered buck acknowledged the lordship of the spirit of the place and dozed knee-deep in the cool, shaded pool. There seemed no flies to vex him and he was languid with rest. Sometimes his ears moved when the stream awoke and whispered; but they moved lazily, with foreknowledge that it was merely the stream grown garrulous at discovery that it had slept.

But there came a time when the buck's ears lifted and tensed with swift eagerness for sound. His head was turned down the canyon. His sensitive, quivering nostrils scented the air. His eyes could not pierce the green screen through which the stream rippled away, but to his ears came the voice of a man. It was a steady, monotonous, singsong voice. Once the buck heard the harsh clash of metal upon rock. At the sound he snorted with a sudden start that jerked him through the air from water to meadow, and his feet sank into the young velvet, while he pricked his ears and again scented the air. Then he stole across the tiny meadow, pausing once and again to listen, and faded away out of the canyon like a wraith, soft-footed and without sound. 🦌

VOCABULARY

Circle the word that has a similar meaning to a word in "All Gold Canyon."

buck

- A. buffalo
- B. fox
- C. deer
- D. dog

acknowledged

- A. recognized
- B. denied
- C. claimed
- D. destroyed

vex

- A. guide
- B. hear
- C. see
- D. annoy; irritate

languid

- A. energetic and busy
- B. peaceful and relaxed
- C. scared and trembling
- D. hungry and thirsty

foreknowledge

- A. fear
- B. laughter
- C. painful movement
- D. knowing ahead of time

garrulous

- A. noisy or talkative
- B. mean and hateful
- C. slow and steady
- D. dry and dusty

quivering

- A. ugly-colored
- B. quickly moving
- C. large and flat
- D. tired and useless

scented

- A. licked
- B. shook
- C. smelled
- D. blew into

monotonous

- A. boring; one note
- B. excited
- C. far away
- D. loud

singsong

- A. rough
- B. sharp
- C. sound with rhythm
- D. giggly

velvet

- A. dry grass
- B. coarse leaves
- C. sticky mud
- D. soft material

wraith

- A. bird
- B. bear
- C. ghost
- D. cloud

WHY?

Circle the correct answer.

Why was the buck standing in the water?

- A. He was taking a bath.
- B. He was resting.
- C. It was hot.
- D. A wolf chased him there.

Why did the buck jump out of the water?

- A. The wolf was gone.
- B. He was hungry.
- C. He saw a man.
- D. He heard a man.

Why did the buck leave the meadow?

- A. He wanted to find food.
- B. He wanted to see the man.
- C. He wanted to get away from the man.
- D. He wanted to find his family.

