CHAPTER 1

Vocabulary

Arbors- n. vines
Aristocrat- n. wealthy person
Array- n. an orderly arrangement
Artesian well- n. a well drilled through impermeable layer to reach water capable of rising to the surface by internal hydrostatic pressure
Calamity- n. disaster
Cayuses- n. small Western horses used by cowboys
Conciliated- v. made friends with
Conveyance- n. means of transportation
Culprit- n. a person guilty of a crime
Demesne- n. lands of an estate
Docilely- adv. Yieldingly to treatment or handling
Dominion- n. the exercise of control
Genial- adj. friendly
Impending- v. likely or due to happen
Imperiously- adv. urgently
Incurious- adj. not curious
Insular- adj. Isolated; detached
Kindred- n. family

Questions

1. How did Buck rule? hunted, carried children, guarded

2. Describe Buck. 140 lbs, half St. Bernard, half Scotch shepherd

3. Why did Manuel, the gardener, kidnap Buck? pay gambling debt

4. How did Buck react to the stranger’s rope? Buck fought, but lost

5. Why was Buck going to Frisco? dog-doctor

6. Why did the strange men want Buck? sled dog

7. How did the four men treat Buck? laughed at him

8. How did the man in the red sweater in Seattle train Buck? Do you think that is the way to train an animal? clubbed him; answers will vary

9. Explain this sentence, "He was beaten, but not broken." Physically, he had been beaten, but his spirit was not broken.
10. What happened to the one dog who didn’t obey? killed

11. How much did Perrault pay for Buck? $300

12. How did Buck and Curly, the Newfoundland get to Alaska? Narwhal=boat

13. How did Buck act in his first snow? sniffed, licked it

14. Why is this chapter called "Into the Primitive"? answers will vary

CHAPTER 2
Vocabulary
Appeasingly /appeasement- adv./n. trying to please
Cadence- n. beat or rhythm of movement
Disconsolate- adj. hopelessly sad
Draft animal- adj./n. an animal used for hauling heavy loads
Fastidiousness- n. carefulness in all details
Gaunt- adj. haggard and emaciated
Ignominiously- adv. shamefully
Introspective- adj. given to private thought
Malignant- adj. actively evil in nature
Malingering- n. one who pretends to be ill in order to escape work
Placatingly- adv. appeasingly giving in easily
Primordial- adj. primitive
Reproof- n. scold
Retrogression- n. the act of deteriorating
Vicarious- adj. substituted from one thing for another

1. Why was Buck's first day in Alaska like a nightmare? confusion, lawless

2. How did Curly die? attacked and killed by another dog

3. Why did Buck hate Spitz? leader

4. How did Francois and Perrault work Buck? sled dog

5. How were the dogs Dave and Sol-leks alike? both wanted to be left alone

6. How did Buck sleep in the snow? curled under the snow

7. What was Perrault's job? deliver dispatches

8. Why was Buck hitched between Dave and Sol-leks on the sled-dog team? to learn

9. When Francois guided the sled, how did Perrault help? webbed snowshoes

10. Why was Buck always hungry, even though he received a daily ration of 1-1/2 lbs. of salmon? bigger

11. Why was it okay to steal in "The Law of Club and Fang"? survival

12. Besides experience, how did Buck learn? instinct

13. Give examples of experience and instinct learning. experience=checking wind, instinct=fighting
14. Essay: Imagine and describe how Buck's life would have been if he would have stayed at Judge Miller's place. *Answers will vary*

**CHAPTER 3**

**Vocabulary**

*Adversary* - n. enemy; opponent  *Insidious* - adj. sly; crafty
*Apex* - n. the highest point of something  *Insubordination* - n. disobedience
*Climes* - n. poetic for climate  *Paradox* - n. a situation that seems to have contradictory or inconsistent qualities
*Covert* - adj. concealed; hidden; disguised  *Pre-eminently* - adv. dominantly
*Daunted* - adj. made afraid or discouraged  *Wraith* - n. ghost
*Dubiously* - adv. doubtfully
*Inexorable* - adj. unwilling to give in

**Questions**

1. How did Spitz treat Buck? *enemy*

2. Why was the fight between Spitz and Buck interrupted? *starving huskies*

3. How did the nine dogs from the team spend the night after the husky attack? *in woods*

4. Why was Perrault worried about making the 400 mile run to Dawson? *dogs wounded, 2 rations gone*

5. Why did Perrault build a fire a dozen times a day? *50 below, freezing water*

6. Why wouldn't Buck get his ration of fish? *dog tired, sore feet*

7. Why did Buck refuse to rise and lay on his back with four feet in the air? *wanted foot gear*

8. How did Francois save Buck from mad Dolly? *axed her*

9. Why did Francois whip Spitz? *attacked Buck*

10. Why was there war between Spitz and Buck? *Leader threatened*

11. Why did Francois whip Buck? *defending Pike*

12. Why did Buck howl in Dawson? *primordial*

13. Give examples of the rebellion against Spitz? *rob fish, Dub and Joe fought Spitz*

14. When was Buck joyful? *chasing rabbit*

15. How did Buck and Spitz's fight to the death happen? *Spitz killed the rabbit*

16. Why did Buck win the fight with Spitz? *imagination*
CHAPTER 4
Vocabulary
Lugubriously- adv. very sadly or mournfully
Obdurate- adj. unyielding; stubborn

Questions
1. Why wouldn’t Buck get into his old sled harness? *wanted leadership*
2. How did Buck behave as lead dog? *superior*
3. Why did Francois say that Buck was worth $1,000? *broke two sled dogs in*
4. Why was the 14-day trip a record run? *40 miles per day*
5. Who took over the team after Perrault and Francois? *Scott half-breedmail runner*
6. Why didn’t Buck like the mail run? *monotonous*
7. Why did Buck like laying by the fire? *dreaming*
8. Who was the hairy man in another world? *Neanderthal*
9. Why did snow slow the trip? *heavier pulling*
10. Why did Dave suffer most from the 1,800 mile run? *sick*
11. How did Dave die? *shot*

CHAPTER 5
Vocabulary
Amenities- n. pleasant qualities
Averred- v. declared
Callous- adj. unfeeling
Chaffering- v. haggling over terms or price
Callowness- n. youth and inexperience; immaturity
Copiously- adv. abundantly
Evinced- v. showed clearly
Fissures- n. narrow cracks
Fraught- adj. accompanied
Innocuously- adv. harmlessly
Irresolutely- adv. lacking a solution
Jaded- adj. worn-out
Manifestly- adv. obviously; revealingly
Perambulating- v. walking
Remonstrance- n. a gesture of protest or scold
Rending- v. violently tearing apart into pieces
Repugnance- n. extreme dislike
Rouse- v. to excite into anger or action
Salient- adj. noticeable; prominent
Slipshod- adj. poorly made; shabby
Slovenly- adv. carelessly
Superfluous- more than is necessary
Wayfarers- n. those who travel

Questions
1. In what ways was the team in a "wretched state" when it reached Skagway? *limping, weight loss, tired*
2. If they'd travelled 2,500 miles in 5 months, how many miles did they average per month, per week, and per day? *500, 125, 18*
3. Why didn't Buck get a rest after the run? *sold*

4. Describe Hal and Charles? *Hal=19 year old brother, Charles=moustached husband*

5. Describe Charle's wife Mercedes? *weak, lady, foolish*

6. How were Hal, Charles and Mercedes unfit for the North? *disorganized, unprepared*

7. Why shouldn't they take the tent on the trip? *overloaded sled*

8. Why couldn't the dogs pull the load? *tired, frozen*

9. How did the family take the advice, "Half the load, twice the dogs"? *discarded essentials*

10. Why was 14 dogs too many? *not enough rations*

11. Why was this family doomed from the start of the trip? *no order or discipline*

12. Why did Hal go from overfeeding to underfeeding the dogs? *1/4 trip food half gone*

13. How did Mercedes, Charles, and Hal treat each other? *quarreled*

14. Why did Mercedes ride on the sled? *lady*

15. Why did Hal trade his gun for horsehide? *dog food*

16. Why were the seven remaining dogs describe as a "bag of bones"? *starving*

17. Why did John Thornton advise them not to go on to Dawson? *ice unsafe*

19. What does the saying mean, "It was idle to get between a fool and his folly"? How did the family fit that description? *can't tell foolish people anything, because won't take advise*

20. Why didn't Buck get up no matter how much Hal beat him? *impending doom*

21. Why didn't Buck lead the family's dog sled? *Thornton intervened*

22. What finally happened to the family? *bottom dropped out of the trail*

**CHAPTER 6**

**Vocabulary**

*Conjuration*- n. making a magic spell

*Contagion*- n. a disease that can be transmitted

*Convalescence*- n. gradual return to good health

*Extremity*- n. dying stage

*Grubstaked*- v. bought supplies for

*Millrace*- n. the current of water that drives a mill wheel

*Peremptorily*- adv. absolutely; without question

*Plethoric*- adj. too full

*Wiliness*- n. trickiness

1. Why did Jim Thornton's friends leave him beside the river? *feet froze*

2. How did Skeet, the Irish setter, care for Buck? *licked wounds*
3. What did Jim Thornton arouse in Buck? *love*

4. How did the man and Buck express their love for each other? *man=roughed him, Buck=bit*

5. Why did Buck follow Thornton everywhere? *feared losing him*

6. Why was Buck called more often into the forest? *call of the wild*

7. How did Buck react to Thornton's command to jump? *jumped*

8. What happened when Burton struck Thornton? *Buck tore his throat*

9. How did Buck save Thornton from the river? *swam to him on a rope*

10. How did Buck prove Thornton's boast was true? *pulled 1,000 pound sled*

11. Why did the odds go from two-to-one to three-to-one against Buck? *sled frozen*

12. What words did Thornton use to command Buck to pull? *Gee! Haw! Mush!*

13. Why did an onlooker offer Thornton $1,200 for Buck? *Buck pulled the 1,000 lb. sled 100 yards*

**CHAPTER 7**

**Vocabulary**

*Ambuscade*- n. place of surprise attack

*Believe*- v. to tell lies about

*Certitude*- n. certainty

*Cessation*- v. ceasing or stopping

*Chaff*- n. husks of grain that are separated when the grain is beaten during threshing

*Commingled*- v. mixed together

*Excruciation*- n. natural outgrowth

*Imperiously*- adv. overbearing; arrogant; domineering

*Multitudinous*- adj. crowded, great numbers

*Obliterated*- v. wiped out

*Palmated*- adj. shaped like a hand with the fingers spread

*Palpitate*- adj. quivering; trembling

*Paroxysms*- n. outbursts or convulsions

*Pertinacity*- n. stubbornness; perseverance

*Pell-mell*- adv. jumbled or confused

*Placer*- n. a deposit of sand mixed with gold

*Ptarmigan*- n. a northern or alpine game bird

*Rampant*- adj. unrestrained; spreading unchecked

*Slake*- v. to satisfy

*Sluice boxes*- n. long channels through which water is run, leaving the gold

*Usurp*- v. takes control over

*Vigor*- n. active physical or mental strength

*Virility*- n. masculine mental or physical strength

*Wantonness*- n. lack of discipline

**Questions**

1. How did Thornton spend the $1,600? *lost mine*

2. How did Thornton, Pete, and Hans get to the lost mine? *travelled by land*

3. In spring, what did they find instead of the lost mine? *found a broad valley*

4. What dreams did Buck have of the hairy man? *following him*
5. How did Buck respond to these strange desires? *ran free*

6. Who was making the night call? *timber wolf*

7. How was Buck rewarded by the wolf? *wolf wanted him to follow*

8. Why was Buck happy running with the wolf? *answering the call*

9. Why did Buck leave the wolf? *return to Thornton*

10. How did Buck survive for weeks while looking for the wolf? *hunted*

11. How was Buck transformed when he was in the wild? *killer*

12. Why was Buck successful in killing the bull moose? *persistence*

13. Why did the Yeehats flee the camp? *Buck attached him*

14. How had John Thornton died? *Yeehat arrows*

15. Why was Buck ready to obey the calls from the wild? *John Thornton was dead*

16. When did Buck join the wolf pack? *after killing leaders*