The Cay Chapter 3 - 5

One character, Timothy, speaks in a dialect. A dialect is a way of speaking that is common to a particular area or group of people. Timothy uses a dialect that is common among the black population of the Virgin Islands. His words are written as he would have said them. For example, the word "bahss" means "boss." Try to read the words as they are written to get the flavor of the dialect.

Name: ____________________________ date __________

The Cay Chapter 3 - 5

Chapter 3
1. When was the Hato torpedoed?
2. How did Phillip and his mother get separated?
3. What happened to Phillip as he went into the water?
4. Describe the man Phillip saw when he came to after being hit in the head going into the water.
5. Who was on the raft with Phillip?
6. What did the Negro man call Phillip?
7. What happened to Phillip’s mother?
8. Identify Stew.
9. What “rare good luck” did Phillip and Timothy have?
10. Identify Timothy.

Chapter 4
1. Where was Timothy’s home?
2. Timothy told Phillip they had something very important to do the next day. What was it?
3. The pain went away from Phillip’s head, but what happened that was worse?
4. What did Timothy say about Phillip’s condition?
5. How did Phillip feel he realized his condition? What did he do?

Chapter 5
1. What hopeful thing happened toward noon on the third day that Phillip and Timothy were on the raft?
2. What did Timothy say was bad luck?
3. What did Phillip ask Timothy to tell him? What did Timothy do?
4. What did Phillip wonder?

VOCABULARY The Cay Chapters 3-5
Below are the sentences in which the vocabulary words appear in the text. Read the sentence and write what you think the italicized words mean in the space provided.

1. We could hear the ship’s whistle blowing constantly, and there were sounds of metal wrenching and much shouting. The whole ship was shuddering.

2. His face couldn’t have been blacker, or his teeth whiter. They made an alabaster trench in his mouth, and his pink-purple lips peeled back over them like the meat of a conch shell.

3. Muscles rippled over the ebony of his arms and around his shoulders.
4. I asked him for a drink of water. He nodded agreeably, saying, “D’sun do **parch**.”

5. I woke up when there was a pale band of light to the east, and Timothy said, “You **fare** well, young bahss? How is d’ead?”

**ANSWER KEY: SHORT ANSWER STUDY GUIDE QUESTIONS - The Cay Chapter 3-5**

**Chapter 3**

1. When was the *Hato* torpedoed?
   - *It was torpedoed at 3 A.M. on April 6, 1942, two days after leaving Panama.*

2. How did Phillip and his mother get separated?
   - *The *Hato* lurched as they were getting into the lifeboat. The lifeboat tilted and the passengers ended up in the water.*

3. What happened to Phillip as he went into the water?
   - *Phillip got hit in the head and knocked unconscious as he went into the water.*

4. Describe the man Phillip saw when he came to after being hit in the head going into the water.
   - “I saw a huge, very old Negro sitting on the raft near me. He was ugly. His nose was flat and his face was broad; his head was a mass of wiry gray hair.”

5. Who was on the raft with Phillip?
   - *An old Negro man and a big black and gray cat were on the raft with him.*

6. What did the Negro man call Phillip?
   - *He called Phillip “young bahss.”*

7. What happened to Phillip’s mother?
   - *The Negro man thought she had gotten onto a raft or in a lifeboat.*

8. Identify Stew.
   - *Stew was the cook’s cat that climbed onto the raft.*

9. What “rare good luck” did Phillip and Timothy have?
   - *They had the raft and a keg with biscuits, chocolate, and dry matches.*

10. Identify Timothy.
    - *Timothy was the name of the Negro man who saved Phillip on the raft.*

**Chapter 4**

1. Where was Timothy’s home?
   - *Timothy was from Charlotte Amalie on St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands.*

2. Timothy told Phillip they had something very important to do the next day. What was it?
   - *Timothy said they had to stay alive.*

3. The pain went away from Phillip’s head, but what happened that was worse?
   - *He went blind.*

4. What did Timothy say about Phillip’s condition?
   - *He said that was “all natural temporary.”*

5. How did Phillip feel he realized his condition? What did he do?
He felt frightened and then angry. He hit Timothy.

Chapter 5
1. What hopeful thing happened toward noon on the third day that Phillip and Timothy were on the raft?
   A plane flew over.

2. What did Timothy say was bad luck?
   The cat was bad luck, but to cause the death of a cat would be very bad luck.

3. What did Phillip ask Timothy to tell him? What did Timothy do?
   Phillip asked Timothy to tell him what he saw. Timothy described the sky, the water, the fish, and the birds.

4. What did Phillip wonder?
   He wondered if he would ever see a bird again.
MULTIPLE CHOICE QUIZ The Cay Chapter 3-5

1. When was the Hato torpedoed?
   A. 2 P. M. on June 24, 1943
   B. 9 A. M. on May 19, 1944
   C. 12 P. M. on March 30, 1941
   D. 3 A. M. on April 6, 1942

2. How did Phillip and his mother get separated?
   A. The Hato lurched as they were getting into the lifeboat. The lifeboat tilted and the passengers landed in the water.
   B. Phillip ran back to the cabin to get something and was put in a different lifeboat.
   C. There was not enough room in the lifeboat for everyone so his mother put Phillip in and she stayed on the ship.
   D. Phillip's mother fainted on the deck of the Hato. The doctor kept her onboard to treat her. Then he put her in the lifeboat with him and the crew.

3. What happened to Phillip?
   A. He broke his right leg as he jumped from the Hato.
   B. He got hit on the head and knocked unconscious as he fell into the water.
   C. He sprained his shoulder from hanging onto the side of the lifeboat.
   D. His lifejacket got caught on a board, and broke three of his ribs.

4. Which of the following phrases does not describe the man Phillip saw?
   A. ugly
   B. flat nose and broad face
   C. short and fat
   D. wiry gray hair

5. Who was on the raft with Phillip?
   A. the Negro man and a big black and gray cat
   B. one Dutch sailor
   C. a dog and the ship's captain
   D. two other children who were also passengers on the ship

6. What did the Negro man call Phillip?
   A. Sir Phillip
   B. Your Lordship
   C. young bahss
   D. Mr. Enright's son

7. What happened to Phillip's mother?
   A. She drowned.
   B. She got on a raft or in a lifeboat.
   C. The Germans captured her.
   D. She was rescued by another ship.

8. What was the name of the cat?
   A. Cookie
B. Rascal
C. Anna
D. Stew

9. What items were on the raft that the man on the raft said was "rare good luck"?
A. There was a keg of water, biscuits, chocolate, and dry matches.
B. There were signal flares, two blankets, and several tea bags.
C. There was a knife, a can opener, and three cans of tuna.
D. There were two paddles, a lifejacket, and four oranges.

10. Who was Timothy?
A. The captain of the ship
B. The Negro man on the raft
C. The ship's cook
D. Phillip's father

11. Where was Timothy's original home?
A. Norfolk, Virginia
B. Charlotte Amalie on St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands
C. London, England
D. Aruba in the Dutch West Indies

12. Timothy told Phillip they had something very important to do. What was it?
A. stay alive
B. get some sleep
C. build a shelter
D. find land

13. The pain went away from Phillip’s head. What happened next that was worse?
A. He got a terrible sunburn.
B. He got violently seasick.
C. He went blind.
D. He lost the use of his legs.

14. What did Timothy say about Phillip's condition?
A. It was punishment because he was angry with his mother.
B. It was not as bad as it could have been.
C. It was terrible misfortune.
D. It was natural and temporary.

15. How did Phillip feel when he realized his condition?
A. frightened and then angry
B. glad it was not worse
C. optimistic that he would get better
D. confused

16. What did Phillip do when he realized his condition?
A. He jumped into the water.
B. He screamed and cried.
C. He hit Timothy.
D. He banged his head on the raft

17. What hopeful thing happened on the third day they were on the raft?
   A. A large fish jumped onto the raft, and they ate it.
   B. A plane flew over.
   C. They saw a ship on the horizon.
   D. It was cloudy so they were protected from the hot sun.

18. What did Timothy say was bad luck?
   A. Phillip was thirteen, and thirteen was an unlucky number.
   B. The wind was blowing them out to sea instead of towards land.
   C. The cat was bad luck, but to cause its death would be very bad luck.
   D. They had not seen any dolphins. Dolphins were good luck.

19. What did Phillip ask Timothy to tell him?
   A. Phillip asked Timothy to tell him what he saw.
   B. Phillip asked Timothy to tell him a story from his childhood.
   C. Phillip asked Timothy to tell him what had happened when the boat sank.
   D. Phillip asked Timothy to tell him how he thought they might get rescued.

20. What did Phillip wonder?
   A. He wondered if they would survive.
   B. He wondered if the headache would return.
   C. He wondered how long they had been on the raft.
   D. He wondered if he would ever see a bird again.

Part II: Determining the Meaning

Match the vocabulary words to their dictionary definitions.

21. wrenching: A. dry out

22. alabaster: B. pulling or twisting away

23. ebony: C. manage in doing something

24. parch: D. brownish black color

25. fare: E. type of gypsum (white mineral) usually used for decorative plaster work