

Call of the Wild by Jack London Worksheets

Name: _____ Date: _____

Chapter One: Into the Primitive

Define:

nomadic: _____

chafing: _____

custom: _____

brumal: _____

ferine: _____

brewing: _____

veranda: _____

interlace: _____

spacious: _____

Why was trouble brewing for "every
tidewater
dog"?

How old is Buck?

What breed is Buck? (Hint: List the
breeds of his mother and
father)

Define:

artesian

well: _____

demesne: _____

sated: _____

aristocrat: _____

trifle: _____

egotistical: _____

insular: _____

In what year does this story begin?

Define:

besetting: _____

lap: _____

chinked: _____

unwonted: _____

intimated: _____

deft: _____

vilely: _____

ebbed: _____

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Why was Buck sold?

Define:

conveyance: _____

hoarse: _____

unbridled: _____

'Frisco: _____

eloquently: _____

mug: _____

sou: _____

How much total were the kidnappers paid for Buck?-

Define:

lacerated: _____

intolerable: _____

throttled: _____

filing: _____

wrath: _____

oppressed: _____

vague: _____

impending: _____

calamity: _____

tallow
candle: _____

savage: _____

tormentors: _____

unkempt: _____

sullenly: _____

taunted: _____

detestable: _____

waxed: _____

accumulated: _____

boded: _____

fell
foul: _____

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Name: _____ Date: _____

metamorphosed: _____

gingerly: _____

instantaneous: _____

perches: _____

checked: _____

slaver: _____

described: _____

Cayuses: _____

whale: _____

Why did Buck feel he was beaten?

Define:

revelation: _____

primitive: _____

fiercer: _____

uncowed: _____

latent: _____

aroused: _____

cunning: _____

docilely: _____

conciliated: _____

fawned: _____

wheeling: _____

weazened: _____

Who is Perrault? _____

Who is FranVois? _____

Who is Dave? _____

Who is Curly? _____

Who is Spitz? _____

Define:

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Name: _____ Date: _____

swarthy: _____

culprit: _____

estimation: _____

incurious: _____

throbbed: _____

Chapter Two: The Law of the Club and the Fang

What is "the law of the club and the fang"?

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Define:

primordial: _____

loaf: _____

imperative: _____

vicarious: _____

metallic: _____

intent: _____

Why does Buck hate Spitz?

Define:

antagonist: _____

regained: _____

aback: _____

swart: _____

fringed: _____

buckled

down: _____

Who are Billee and Joe?

Define:

introspective: _____

perpetual: _____

malignant: _____

comradely: _____

appeasingly: _____

avail: _____

incarnation: _____

belligerent: _____

discomfiture: _____

prowess: _____

unwittingly: _____

indiscretion: _____

bombarded: _____

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Name: _____ Date: _____

consternation: _____

ignominiously: _____

venom: _____

disconsolate: _____

unmolested: _____

astonishment: _____

forlorn: _____

ascended: _____

How does Buck discover how sled dogs sleep on the trail?

How does he spend the night? _____

Define:

trice: _____

arduous: _____

unduly: _____

spasmodically: _____

hailed: _____

Why does Francois think Buck is special?

Define:

despise: _____

irritable: _____

supreme: _____

apt: _____

retaliate: _____

trouncing: _____

forbiddingly: _____

gee

pole: _____

indispensable: _____

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Name: _____ Date: _____

_____ *ravenous:* _____

_____ *perpetual:* _____

_____ *fastidiousness:* _____

_____ *dainty:* _____

_____ *malingeringer:* _____

_____ *slyly:* _____

_____ *blunderer:* _____

_____ *misdeed:* _____

_____ *adaptability:* _____

_____ *decay:* _____

What was the law of the Southland?

What was the law of the Northland?

Define:

accommodated: _____

How was Buck de-civilized? (Hint: By whom?)

Define:

retrogression: _____

callous: _____

peril: _____

conspicuous: _____

What was the "old life" Buck began to remember?

Define:

heredity: _____

cadence: _____

surged: _____

divers: _____

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Why does the author refer back to Manuel the gardener in the last line of chapter two?

Chapter Three: The Dominant Primordial Beast

Define:

dominant: _____

primordial: _____

poise: _____

rashness: _____

precipitate: _____

betrayed: _____

shunned: _____

offensive: _____

perpendicular: _____

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Name: _____ Date: _____

compelled: _____

loath: _____

din: _____

frothing: _____

jugular: _____

goaded: _____

How does FranVois respond to Buck's attack on Spitz?

What did Spitz do to Buck during the fight with the starving dogs?

What stops the fight between the two dogs?

Define:

treacherously: _____

evident: _____

intention: _____

braced: _____

marauders: _____

contemplation: _____

Define:

pandemonium: _____

skulking: _____

crazed: _____

gaunt: _____

famished: _____

astonished: _____

irresistible: _____

Why does FranVois comment to the dogs "mebbe it mek you mad dog, dose many bites"?

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Define:

defied: _____

What does this sentence mean: "The
Thirty Mile River was wide open"?

Define:

eddies: _____

compelled: _____

daunted: _____

resolutely: _____

hoisted: _____

Why does FranVois make little shoes for
Buck?

Who thinks this is
funny? _____

What happens to Dolly?

Define:

conspicuous: _____

bristling: _____

desperation: _____

faith: _____

administered: _____

What does Perrault think Spitz will do
to Buck?

FranVois disagrees. What does he say
Buck will do
instead?

Define:

rejoinder: _____

endured: _____

prospered: _____

savagery: _____

pluck: _____

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Name: _____ Date: _____

pre-
eminently: _____

inevitable: _____

incomprehensible: _____

What is "the pride of the trail and trace"?

Define:

trace: _____

wheel
dog: _____

ambitious: _____

uncontent: _____

shrewdly: _____

abjectly: _____

mutiny: _____

incident: _____

unswervingly: _____

prostrate: _____

craftily: _____

covert: _____

insubordination: _____

unaffected: _____

bickering: _____

jangling: _____

apprehension: _____

quarreling: _____

strife: _____

ordained: _____

nocturnal: _____

weird: _____

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Name: _____ Date: _____

eerie: _____

aurora

borealis: _____

pall: _____

articulate: _____

travail: _____

woe: _____

plaint: _____

stirred: _____

harked: _____

The author says that Buck has "harked back through the ages of fire and roof to the raw beginnings of life in the howling ages." What does that mean?

Define:

recuperated: _____

splendid: _____

vexation: _____

solidarity: _____

petty: _____

misdemeanor: _____

awe: _____

menacingly: _____

swaggering: _____

How is the breakdown of discipline among the dog shown?

Define:

bedlam: _____

barbarous: _____

futile: _____

avail: _____

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What does the phrase "his lash was always singing among the dogs" mean?

Define:

red-
handed: _____

precipitate: _____

blundered: _____

whining: _____

wan: _____

wraith: _____

infinitely: _____

intimate: _____

ecstasy: _____

What is so joyful, exciting and forgetful about chasing a rabbit for Buck?

Define:

paradox: _____

quarter: _____

womb: _____

sinew: _____

aglow: _____

rampant: _____

exultantly: _____

calculating: _____

supreme: _____

apex: _____

writhed: _____

How could Buck "remember" a battle to the death if he had never been in such a battle?

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Name: _____ Date: _____

lolling: _____

antagonist: _____

Define:

expectant: _____

wonted: _____

rend: _____

How does Buck win the fight? (Hint: What injury does he give Spitz that makes it impossible for him to win?)

Where was Spitz from?

Define:

inexorable: _____

climes: _____

Define:

penetrate: _____

maneuvered: _____

Buck and Spitz fight, and all the dogs gather around them in a tight circle, waiting. What are they waiting for?

impending: _____

What does the phrase "made for greatness" mean?

Who is the "dominant primordial beast"?

What quality does Buck possess that "made for greatness"?

Why does the author call him this?

Define:

foreleg: _____

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Why does the author use the word
"primordial"?
