

***Reading For Comprehension Series***  
***By Lee Ann Berg***

***The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane***

By Kate DiCamillo  
Illustrated by Bagram Ibatoulline  
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Candlewick Press

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The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane  
Reading For Comprehension Series Bundle  
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## *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*

By Kate DiCamillo

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The toy rabbit, Edward Tulane, who is cold-hearted and self centered, learned through a series of experiences that a creature does not really know about living until he learns to love someone other than himself.

### Teacher's Guide

**Please note:** The first number in parenthesis following a vocabulary word indicates the approximate grade level at which the student should know the definition of the word while the following number indicates the page on which the word was found. (Word grade placement is per *EDL Core Vocabularies in Reading, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies, 1989.*)

The page number of a vocabulary word or the range of page numbers may not correspond to the published text of the book you are using. If that is the case, you will find the vocabulary word and/or the basis for the comprehension questions and answers on pages that are approximately the same as those used in creating this study guide.

The answers to the comprehension questions are not always written in complete sentences. Sometimes they have been written into shortened phrases. This makes the answers easier to find as well as limiting the space needed to give the answers.

## Chapter One Pp. 1-9

### Vocabulary List with Definitions (grade appropriate #, page where word is found)

**torso** (10,3) the trunk of the human body

**jaunty** (8, 3) sprightly in manner or appearance; lively

**ennui** ( , 3) boredom

**penetrating** (7, 4) to enter into; pierce; to see into; understand

**initially** (6, 4) of or relating to the beginning; first

**unsavory** animal (11+, 4) tasteless

**preferred** (6, 6) to like better

**condescending** (11, 7) to assume an air of superiority

**commissioned** (6, 7) to order to be made

### Comprehension Questions

- 1. Describe the rabbit. Pp. 1-2** He was made mostly of china: arms, legs, paws, head, torso, nose. He had freedom of movement because of jointed arms and legs with wire. He was three feet tall. He was an exceptional specimen.
- 2. To whom did Edward belong? P. 4** He belonged to a 10 year old girl named Abilene Tulane. Each morning she dressed herself and Edward.
- 3. Where did Edward spend each day? P. 5** Abilene placed Edward on a chair in the dining room so that Edward, with his gold pocket watch ticking on his knee, could look out the window and watch for Abilene coming home from school.
- 4. Which adult in the household on Egypt Street treated Edward as an equal? Pp. 6-7** Abilene's grandmother, who had commissioned his making along with his exceptional wardrobe, treated Edward as an equal.
- 5. Why did Edward often stare at the stars all night? Pp. 8-9** He could not close his eyes because they were painted on. Therefore, on clear nights he could see the stars.

## Chapter Two Pp. 11-18

### Vocabulary List with Definitions (grade appropriate #, page where word is found)

**domestic drama** (7, 13) of or relating to the household or the family

**brindled boxer** ( , 13) dog having dark streaks or flecks on a gray or tawny fur

**inexplicably** (12, 13) incapable of being explained or accounted for

**implications** (11+, 13) imply; involve

**vigorously** (7, 13) having vigor; robust; done with force and energy

**diligence** (10+, 15) characterized by steady, earnest, and energetic effort; painstaking

**derogatory** ( , 15) intended to lower the reputation of a person or thing; disparaging

**brutality** (7+, 16) befitting a brute; unfeeling; cruel; harsh; severe

**efficiency** (8, 16) productive of desired effects especially without waste

**demented** (10, 17) mad; insane

**agitation** (9+, 17) to stir up; excite

**annoyance** (7, 17) nuisance

**inconvenienced** (8, 17) causing trouble or annoyance; inopportune

**cavalierly** ( , 18) debonair; disdainful, haughty

**inanimate** (11, 18) not animate or animated; lacking the qualities of living things

### Comprehension Questions

- 1. What happened when Rosie, the boxer, entered the room where Edward sat waiting for Abilene? Pp. 13-14** The dog grabbed the rabbit and shook him back and forth, growling and drooling.
- 2. What happened to Edward in another dramatic situation? Pp. 15-16** A new maid vacuumed Edward and his watch was sucked up. Edward ended up with Abilene's other dolls.
- 3. Who returned the watch to Edward? P. 18** Abilene's father addressed Edward as Sir Edward as he returned the watch.

## Chapter Three Pp. 19-24

### Vocabulary List with Definitions (grade appropriate #, page where word is found)

**excruciatingly** dull (11, 21) intensely painful or distressing; agonizing; torturous

**jovially** (8, 22) marked by good humor

**vantage** point (11, 22) a position giving a strategic or commanding perspective

**condescending** looks (11, 22) assuming an air of superiority

### Comprehension Questions

1. **What did Abilene's mother say about Abilene taking Edward on the *Queen Mary* with the family? Pp. 21-22** Abilene was getting a little old for china rabbits.
2. **What did Abilene ask her grandmother? Pp. 23-24** She asked if there would be a story tonight, and Pellegrina said there would be one. She said Edward should best listen too.

**Student's Guide**

## Chapter One Pp. 1-9

### Vocabulary

torso (3)

jaunty (3)

ennui (3)

penetrating (4)

initially (4)

**unsavory** animal (4)

preferred (6)

condescending (7)

commissioned (7)

### Comprehension Questions

1. Describe the rabbit. Pp. 1-2
2. To whom did Edward belong? P. 4
3. Where did Edward spend each day? P. 5
4. Which adult in the household on Egypt Street treated Edward as an equal? Pp. 6-7
5. Why did Edward often stare at the stars all night? Pp. 8-9

## Chapter Two Pp. 11-18

### Vocabulary

**domestic** drama (13)

**brindled** boxer (13)

inexplicably (13)

implications (13)

vigorously (13)

diligence (15)

derogatory (15)

brutality (16)

efficiency (16)

demented (17)

agitation (17)

annoyance (17)

inconvenienced (17)

cavalierly (18)

inanimate (18)

### Comprehension Questions

1. What happened when Rosie, the boxer, entered the room where Edward sat waiting for Abilene? Pp. 13-14
2. What happened to Edward in another dramatic situation? Pp. 15-16
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## Chapter Three Pp. 19-24

### Vocabulary

**excruciatingly** dull ( 21)

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**vantage** point (22)

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1. What did Abilene's mother say about Abilene taking Edward on the *Queen Mary* with the family? Pp. 21-22
2. What did Abilene ask her grandmother? Pp. 23-24

**Student's Workbook**

## Chapter One Pp. 1-9

### Vocabulary

torso (3) \_\_\_\_\_

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ennui (3) \_\_\_\_\_

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### Comprehension Questions

1. Describe the rabbit. Pp. 1-2 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

5. Why did Edward often stare at the stars all night? Pp. 8-9 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Chapter Two Pp. 11-18

### Vocabulary

- domestic drama** (13) \_\_\_\_\_
- brindled boxer** (13) \_\_\_\_\_
- inexplicably** (13) \_\_\_\_\_
- implications** (13) \_\_\_\_\_
- vigorously** (13) \_\_\_\_\_
- diligence** (15) \_\_\_\_\_
- derogatory** (15) \_\_\_\_\_
- brutality** (16) \_\_\_\_\_
- efficiency** (16) \_\_\_\_\_
- demented** (17) \_\_\_\_\_
- agitation** (17) \_\_\_\_\_
- annoyance** (17) \_\_\_\_\_
- inconvenienced** (17) \_\_\_\_\_
- cavalierly** (18) \_\_\_\_\_
- inanimate** (18) \_\_\_\_\_

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### Comprehension Questions

1. What did Abilene's mother say about Abilene taking Edward on the *Queen Mary* with the family? Pp. 21-22 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. What did Abilene ask her grandmother? Pp. 23-24 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Teacher's Workbook Answer Key

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## Key Questions

## Key Questions

Answer these questions in complete sentences. Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Ch. 1. Describe Edward. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Ch. 4. What kind of story did Pellegrina, Abilene's grandmother, tell? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Ch. 6. What was Edward's first genuine and true emotion? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. Ch. 9. Where did Edward and Lawrence go after dinner? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. Ch. 13. How did Bull make new clothes for Edward? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. Ch. 17. What had happened to Sarah Ruth's china doll? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. Ch. 19. After Sarah Ruth's death, what did Bryce do? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Key Questions Answer key

Answer these questions in complete sentences.

**1. Ch. 1. Describe Edward.**

He was made mostly of china: arms, legs, paws, head, torso, nose. He had freedom of movement because of jointed arms and legs with wire. He was three feet tall. He was an exceptional specimen.

**2. Ch. 4. What kind of story did Pellegrina, Abilene's grandmother, tell?**

The story was about a princess who cared nothing for love and didn't love anyone.

**3. Ch. 6. What was Edward's first genuine and true emotion?**

He was afraid.

**4. Ch. 9. Where did Edward and Lawrence go after dinner?**

Edward and Lawrence went for a walk. He rode on Lawrence's shoulder, and Lawrence talked of constellations and the names of stars.

**5. Ch. 13. How did Bull make new clothes for Edward?**

An old hat with three holes in it became Edward's shirt. Red handkerchiefs sewed together were made into pants.

**6. Ch. 17. What had happened to Sarah Ruth's china doll?**

Sarah Ruth's father was drunk and stepped on the doll's head. And just like Humpty-Dumpty, it couldn't be put back together again.

**7. Ch. 19. After Sarah Ruth's death, what did Bryce do?**

He picked up Edward and left for Memphis.

**8. Ch. 21. When Bryce got the bill for the food he ate, what did he realize?**

He didn't have enough money to pay for the meal.

**9. Ch. 23. How did Bryce pay Lucius for mending Edward?**

Lucius had told Bryce that if he fixed the rabbit, the rabbit was his. Bryce gave up Edward so Edward could be restored.

**10. Ch. 27. What was the woman Edward recognized, wearing around her neck?**

Edward's pocket watch was on a chain around her neck. Abilene asked, "Edward?" Edward said, "Yes."

# Vocabulary Worksheet

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Use the following blanks to list and define vocabulary words chosen from the included word list.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_ Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_ Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_ Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_ Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. \_\_\_\_\_ Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

9. \_\_\_\_\_ Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

10. \_\_\_\_\_ Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Comprehension Worksheet

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Answer five comprehension questions in complete sentences.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Vocabulary and Comprehension Worksheet

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Use the following blanks to list and define vocabulary words chosen from the word list.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Answer three comprehension questions in complete sentences.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_