

Reading For Comprehension Series
By Lee Ann Berg

Moon Over Manifest

By Clare Vanderpool

Published by Delacorte Press Copyright 2011

John Newberry Medal Winner

351 Pages

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Teacher's Guide

Please note: Vocabulary – The number before the word indicates the grade at which the student should know the definition of the word while the number after the word indicates the page number on which the word was found in the publisher's printed book. If the word only has an underline mark in front of it, that means the word could not be found in the EDL Core Vocabulary booklet. (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.

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

Chapter Santa Fe Railway Southern Kansas May 27, 1936 Pp. 1-4

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

satchel (7, 2) suitcase

Comprehension Questions

- 1. Where was Abilene Tucker when the story started? P. 1** She was on a train riding to a small town, Manifest, Kansas.
- 2. Why couldn't Abilene stay with Gideon, her father, for the summer? P. 2** He had gotten a railroad job back in Iowa.
- 3. What item did Abilene have of her father's that didn't work, but which she treasured? P. 2** a compass
- 4. How did Abilene get off the train, and why did she do it that way? Pp. 3-4** She jumped off the train. She wanted to look at the place before it got a look at her.

Newspaper Article by Hattie Mae May 27, 1917 Pp. 5-7

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

vigilant (10, 5) alertly watchful especially to avoid danger

parcels (6, 6) a wrapped bundle; package

hardscrabble (, 6) suffering; to work hard and long

Comprehension Questions

- 1. What was happening May 27, 1917? Pp. 5-7** World War I
- 2. What were the newspaper ads selling? Pp. 5-7** Liberty Bonds and Billy Bump's Hair Tonic

Chapter Path to Perdition May 27, 1926 Pp. 8-10

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

perdition (, 8) eternal damnation; hell

fluttered (4, 10) to move about or behave in an agitated aimless manner

wispy (, 10) a thin strand; strip, fragment

Comprehension Questions

1. What word did Abilene find on the wrought iron gate, and why did she think it was strange? Pp. 8-10 Perdition is a word which means “hell and eternal damnation” so why would someone want that word advertised on their fence.

Chapter Shady's Place May 27, 1936 Pp. 11-22

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

scruffy (, 11) unkempt; slovenly

interim (13, 12) a time interval

hospitality (8, 13) friendly treatment, reception or disposition

conjure (, 13) to practice sleight of hand; to practice magic

dingy (8, 13) dirty; discolored; shabby

glares (4, 13) to shine with a harsh dazzling light; to stare fiercely or angrily

antiquity (, 14) ancient times; relics of ancient times

promoted (6, 15) to advance in station, rank, or honor

extraordinaire (8, 15) notably unusual or exceptional

discombobulated (, 18) upset; confused

Comprehension Questions

- 1. What did Shady Howard look like? P. 11** He was very thin. Everything about him was thin: his clothes, his hair, and his scruffy whiskers.
- 2. How long had Shady Howard been the interim preacher at the Baptist Church, and why was this ironic? P. 12** 14 years Interim is a time interval usually meaning a short time of less than a month or two before the real preacher comes.
- 3. How did Gideon's stories of Manifest differ from the reality of the place? P. 13** Gideon said people were bustling in and out of "colorful storefronts, bright awnings, with unusual names painted on doors. In reality the town was dry and stale, the stores dingy and some were boarded up, awnings were torn and saggy. The town wasn't bustling.
- 4. Why did Shady and Abilene stop at the Manifest Herald? Pp. 14-15** They stopped to pick up a letter from Hattie Mae, the reporter.
- 5. Why did Abilene take some newspapers to read? Pp. 16** She took some papers from 1917 when her dad had lived in Manifest. Abilene thought that she would know the town better if she knew it from Gideon's point of view.
- 6. What do you as the reader begin to suspect from reading about the overheard conversation between Shady and Hattie Mae, and why they didn't tell Abilene? P. 17** They knew that Abilene's father wouldn't be coming to get her soon.
- 7. What was the Baptist Church like? Pp. 18-19** It had burned down, and now it was one-part saloon, one-part carpenter's shop and one-part church.
- 8. While trying to find a place to hide her keepsake bag, what did Abilene find? Pp. 20-22** She found a Lucky Bill cigar box with papers and odds and ends.

Student's Guide

Chapter Santa Fe Railway Southern Kansas May 27, 1936
Pp. 1-4

Vocabulary

satchel (2)

Comprehension Questions

1. Where was Abilene Tucker when the story started? P. 1
2. Why couldn't Abilene stay with Gideon, her father, for the summer? P. 2
3. What item did Abilene have of her father's that didn't work, but which she treasured?
P. 2
4. How did Abilene get off the train, and why did she do it that way? Pp. 3-4

Newspaper Article by Hattie Mae May 27, 1917 Pp. 5-7

Vocabulary

vigilant (5)

parcels (6)

hardscrabble (6)

Comprehension Questions

1. What was happening May 27, 1917? Pp. 5-7
2. What were the newspaper ads selling? Pp. 5-7

Chapter Path to Perdition May 27, 1926 Pp. 8-10

Vocabulary

perdition (8)

fluttered (10)

wispy (10)

Comprehension Questions

1. What word did Abilene find on the wrought iron gate, and why did she think it was strange? Pp. 8-10

Chapter Shady's Place May 27, 1936 Pp. 11-22

Vocabulary

scruffy (11)

interim (12)

hospitality (13)

conjure (13)

dingy (13)

glares (13)

antiquity (14)

promoted (15)

extraordinaire (15)

discombobulated (18)

Comprehension Questions

1. What did Shady Howard look like? P. 11
2. How long had Shady Howard been the interim preacher at the Baptist Church, and why was this ironic? P. 12
3. How did Gideon's stories of Manifest differ from the reality of the place? P. 13
4. Why did Shady and Abilene stop at the Manifest Herald? Pp. 14-15
5. What did Abilene take some newspapers to read? Pp. 16
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7. What was the Baptist Church like? Pp. 18-19
8. While trying to find a place to hide her keepsake bag, what did Abilene find? Pp. 20-22

Student's Workbook

Chapters and Newspaper Article Pp. 1-22

Vocabulary

vigilant (5) _____

interim (12) _____

promoted (15) _____

extraordinaire (15) _____

Comprehension Questions

1. Where was Abilene Tucker when the story started? P. 1 _____

2. How did Abilene get off the train, and why did she do it that way? Pp. 3-4 _____

3. What was happening May 27, 1917? Pp. 5-7 _____

4. What did Shady Howard look like? P. 11 _____

5. How long had Shady Howard been the interim preacher at the Baptist Church, and why was this ironic? P. 12 _____

6. How did Gideon's stories of Manifest differ from the reality of the place? P. 13 _____

7. What was the Baptist Church like? Pp. 18-19 _____

Chapters Pp. 23-50

Vocabulary

anticipation (23) _____

quandary (25) _____

precise (29) _____

tolerate (40) _____

Comprehension Questions

1. What does the reader find out about Abilene's mother? Pp. 26-32 _____

2. How did Abilene act toward Lettie and Ruthanne who came to see her in the tree house? Pp. 33-40 _____

3. Who was the Rattler? Pp. 41-42 _____

4. What did the three girls find when they decided they had had enough spy hunting for the day and went back to the tree house to get Ruthanne's pack? Pp. 45-47 _____

5. Why did Abilene go back to the cemetery when daylight was fast fading and the other girls had gone home? Pp. 48-49 _____

6. Where did Abilene find the compass? Pp. 49-50 _____

Teacher's Workbook KEY

Please note: Vocabulary – The number before the word indicates the grade at which the student should know the definition of the word while the number after the word indicates the page number on which the word was found in the publisher's printed book. If the word only has an underline mark in front of it, that means the word could not be found in the EDL Core Vocabulary booklet. (Word grade placement is per *EDL Core Vocabularies in Reading, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. 1989*)

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And 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.

Chapters and Newspaper Article Pp. 1-22

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

vigilant (10, 5) alertly watchful especially to avoid danger

interim (13, 12) a time interval

promoted (6, 15) to advance in station, rank, or honor

extraordinaire (8, 15) notably unusual or exceptional

Comprehension Questions

- 1. Where was Abilene Tucker when the story started? P. 1** She was on a train riding to a small town, Manifest, Kansas.
- 2. How did Abilene get off the train, and why did she do it that way? Pp. 3-4** She jumped off the train. She wanted to look at the place before it got a look at her.
- 3. What was happening May 27, 1917? Pp. 5-7** the First World War
- 4. What did Shady Howard look like? P. 11** He was very thin. Everything about him was thin: his clothes, his hair, and his scruffy whiskers.
- 5. How long had Shady Howard been the interim preacher at the Baptist Church, and why was this ironic? P. 12** 14 years Interim is a time interval usually meaning a short time of less than a month or two before the real preacher comes.
- 6. How did Gideon's stories of Manifest differ from the reality of the place? P. 13** Gideon said people were bustling in and out of "colorful storefronts, bright awnings, with unusual names painted on doors. In reality the town was just the opposite.
- 7. What was the Baptist Church like? Pp. 18-19** It had burned down, and now it was one-part saloon, one-part carpenter's shop and one-part church.

Chapters Pp. 23-50

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

anticipation (8, 23) to look forward to _____

quandary (10, 25) a state of perplexity or doubt _____

precise (8, 29) exactly defined or stated, exact, definite _____

tolerate (9, 40) to allow to be or to be done without hindrance, abide _____

Comprehension Questions

1. **What does the reader find out about Abilene's mother? Pp. 26-32** She decided she didn't want to be a wife or mother, and had joined a dance troupe in New Orleans.

2. **How did Abilene act toward Lettie and Ruthanne who came to see her in the tree house? Pp. 33-40** She acted snotty and filled with pride because she thought they were doing their corporal works of mercy by being nice to her. They were making her a charity case she thought. They thought she was pigheaded, and they were trying to be friendly.

3. **Who was the Rattler? Pp. 41-42** Rattler was the mysterious "spy" who was in Manifest in 1917.

4. **What did the three girls find when they decided they had had enough spy hunting for the day and went back to the tree house to get Ruthanne's pack? Pp. 45-47** A note was attached to the tree trunk at eye level which said, "Leave Well Enough Alone."

5. **Why did Abilene go back to the cemetery when daylight was fast fading and the other girls had gone home? Pp. 48-49** She had lost the compass again.

6. **Where did Abilene find the compass? Pp. 49-50** The compass was among the wind chimes on Miss Sadie's Divining Parlor porch.

Key Questions

Key Questions

Name _____

Answer the following questions in complete, legible sentences.

1. P. 11 What did Shady Howard look like? _____

2. Pp. 49-50 Where did Abilene find the compass? _____

3. Pp. 78-80 Why did Lettie and Ruthanne think they needed to see Hattie Mae about being the Rattler? _____

4. Pp. 109-110 Who did Abilene literally run into when she had been hiding because she thought someone was following her? _____

5. P. 166-167 Since the Women's Temperance League was against drinking whiskey, why was it humorous when Mrs. Larkin acted like she had a healthy glow? _____

6. Pp. 210-212 Even though Abilene had worked off her debt of breaking Miss Sadie's pot, why did she keep coming to work for Miss Sadie?

7. Pp. 251-252 What caused people, especially the women, to come to Manifest to get the elixir?

8. Pp. 289-290 Why didn't Jinx and the others in on-the-con let Shady know what was going on?

9. Pp. 305-306 What did Jinx notice while he listened to Paulie explain how to play bocce?

10. Pp. 328-329 What did Abilene do for Miss Sadie that Miss Sadie hadn't let Abilene do before?

Bonus question:

How was the act of lancing Miss Sadie's wound and the telling of the story to Abilene by Miss Sadie in many ways alike?

Key Questions Answers

Key Questions Answer Key

Name _____

Answer the following questions in complete, legible sentences.

1. P. 11 What did Shady Howard look like?

Shady's body was very thin. His clothes and hair were thin. His scruffy whiskers were thin.

2. Pp. 49-50 Where did Abilene find the compass?

Abilene found the compass among the wind chimes on Miss Sadie's Divining Parlor porch.

3. Pp. 78-80 Why did Lettie and Ruthanne think they needed to see Hattie Mae about being the Rattler?

Hattie Mae had a sweet tooth. The girls know Hattie Mae had licorice or jelly beans, and she would give some to the three girls.

4. Pp. 109-110 Who did Abilene literally run into when she had been hiding because she thought someone was following her?

Abilene literally ran into Sister Redempta who had Abilene finish the rhyme Abilene had started to comfort herself in her anxiety of being followed.

5. Pp. 166-167 Since the Women's Temperance League was against drinking whiskey, why was it humorous when Mrs. Larkin acted like she had a healthy glow?

Mrs. Larkin had, unbeknownst to her, had drunk Velma T's elixir which was mostly whiskey.

6. Pp. 210-212 Even though Abilene had worked off her debt of breaking Miss Sadie's pot, why did she keep coming to work for Miss Sadie?

Abilene kept coming back to work for Miss Sadie because Abilene wanted to hear the rest of the story.

7. Pp. 251-252 What caused people, especially the women, to come to Manifest to get the elixir?

Families were getting sick with the flu and the elixir seemed to work. They were willing to try anything that might cure their family members.

8. Pp. 289-290 Why didn't Jinx and the others in on-the-con let Shady know what was going on?

Jinx told Shady he couldn't be told about the con because Shady didn't have the best poker face, and he might have given away the con.

9. Pp. 305-306 What did Jinx notice while he listened to Paulie explain how to play bocce?

Jinx noticed that the sheriff was eying him. He also saw someone else was in the shadows eying Jinx.

10. Pp. 328-329 What did Abilene do for Miss Sadie that Miss Sadie hadn't let Abilene do before?

Abilene lanced the wound on Miss Sadie's leg so it could drain and heal.

Bonus question:

How is the act of lancing Miss Sadie's wound and the telling of the story to Abilene by Miss Sadie in many ways alike?

Abilene lanced the wound on Miss Sadie's leg so it could drain and be cured. Miss Sadie telling the story was like lancing the wound in her heart of losing her son, Ned, two times. The words that flowed out of Miss Sadie was like the pus and infected drainage which came out of the leg. Once Miss Sadie had an audience to tell the story to, her aching heart could be cured after the words came tumbling out.

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. _____
