Reading Journal Worksheet

Asem Aldaej

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| Title: High Pursuit | Author: Mitchell S. Jackson |
| What does each page of text say? Write at least one to two full sentences where you accurately describe one to two main ideas from each page of text. You must summarize in your own words for this assignment. | What didn’t you know on that page? What did you have to look up? This can be words, events, people, or titles you don’t know about. Or maybe you know a little but can learn more. You must list at least one word or idea for each page and its definition or meaning. |
| #1 The first page of the text talks about brothers Blood and Maine: where it depicts Blood as the one who somehow is successful and in high pursuit of luxurious things in life; whereas Maine is portrayed as the brother who ends up working elbow-and-ass for a small amount of money. Moreover, this page from the text also expresses how this wasn’t always the case – for when the brothers were young, they used to always be with each other. | For this page, I had to look up the meaning of the word “largesse”, for I didn’t know what it was. Largesse, according to the Merriam Webster dictionary is actually defined as the liberal giving of money to an inferior; it is also related with the word generosity as it has an almost similar meaning. |
| #2 In the second page is conveyed how Blood hasn’t always been how he is at the present – with his high-profile Caddy; he actually worked graveyard shifts at Coast to Coast Janitorial with an AMC Pacer as his car. One day, Blood decided he can’t do such work with such pay anymore and went off with a dingy duffel and suitcase to seize what he wants out of life. | AMC Pacer – prior to reading this text, I had no idea what an AMC Pacer is. After doing a quick surf over the internet, I learned that an AMC Pacer is actually an old model of a car (1975-1980) that is a two-door type. |
| #3 The third page is set back to the present where Maine tramps down to a corner store and saw not far off in the distance girls barter their bodies under broad daylight: and there he saw among them his ex, and one love. Conveyed is a short version of their short relationship that started freshman year until last summer when Maine was on his last year to attain his diploma – apparently, Maine cheated on her. | Broads – I didn’t know there is such a word to mean women as “broads”. This is my first time to encounter the word as used in this context from the text. Broad could actually mean a woman: this is an informal language used in North America. |
| #4 The fourth page paints a picture of Maine and his patnas getting high, and sometime later came Blood joining and giving an even better substance to smell and get high on. Maine and his patnas took turns borrowing and admiring Blood’s gold watch and ended up asking how Blood got into the game of getting rich; wherein Blood obliges their question by saying how it was, how to get into the game, and what rules they have to abide by to stay in it. | Pro bono – In the text, Blood said: “Never pro bono…”. I didn’t know what this meant until now when I looked into its meaning. Pro bono actually means work that is undertaken without payment: such as legal work done for a client with low income. This term is also North American. |
| #5 The fifth page talks about the work that Maine does: how he was filled with hope at the beginning of the day that by the end of work that time, he might get a pocket full of singles since cars are lining up for cleaning. However, one client – like how most of them were by Maine’s experience – was very stingy regarding the work done which got Maine to finally speak up, and ended with Maine losing the job. | Spokes – The stingy customer that Maine was last handling complained of a pebble in his spokes. Prior to this text, I didn’t know that that is what you actually call those rods radiating from the center of a wheel – spokes. |
| #6 The sixth page tells about Maine visiting her sister and his nephew. It’s a heartwarming setting wherein both got to talk about themselves and their family, and by the end Maine handed her sis what few bills he got – and felt richer for giving it. | Zealot – when Maine and his sister were talking about their parents, Maine mentioned about how their father’s case has ordained their mom a zealot. After looking into it, I learned that zealot is defined as someone who is uncompromising in their pursuits and ideals. |
| #7 This page is a scene wherein Maine and his patnas are invited to a BYOB and smoke party: there he saw his ex – his only love – getting it hot with another man. He went up to the girl and tried to get her out of there, however the girl insisted that there’s nothing between them; and, when the other guy got back and asked who Maine was, the girl replied “nobody”. | Rotgut liquor – the place that Maine was invited to has rotgut liquor among other things in there. Rotgut liquor is actually just an alcoholic beverage that has an inferior quality. |
| #8 This page is a scene about Blood and Maine going out and asking Blood’s employee for money that she’s worked for so far: the money remitted was given to Maine for counting. Turns out, Blood’s game is actually into the flesh market industry wherein he somehow has girls working their bodies and remitting to him the money they got from it. | Peckerwoods – Another term not familiar to me prior to reading this text is “peckerwoods”. Peckerwood is labeled a derogatory word that is used to mean a white person, specifically one who is poor or has a low social standing. |
| #9 The last page is a scene where Maine goes to a store to buy for himself some dress shirts, specifically something of silk, celestial as Maine so puts it. It somehow denotes Maine coming out of the hard life he’s been living. | Parole hearing – Mentioned in this page is Maine wearing a dress shirt for the parole hearing of his dad. Parole hearing is actually a hearing in a legal court done to determine if an inmate be released from prison under parole supervision in the community while under the period of his sentence. |