

Island of the Blue Dolphins

Chapter 1&2 questions

Name _____



Date _____

1. What two things does Karana compare the Aleut ship to _____
and what does the ship really look like? (pg. 1) _____

2. Explain why everyone in the tribe has two names. (pg. 5) _____

3. Why did the Russian men come to the Island? (pg. 6) _____

4. What deal did Captain Orlov and Chief Chowig make? (pg. 6&7) _____

5. If a league is equal to about 3 miles, how long and wide is the island (pg. 9) _____

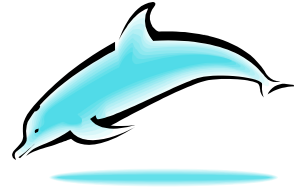
6. What was the good fortune that befell (happened to) the Indian village? (pgs. 11,12,13)

7. Read the last paragraph on page 14. Predict the troubles soon to come for the Ghalas-at village.

Island of the Blue Dolphins - Chapter 1&2 Vocabulary

Name _____

Date _____



Match the word with its definition. Use context clues from the story to help you. You may use a dictionary.

1. dolphin _____ Excess of the selling price of goods over cost
2. cormorant _____ Narrow steep-sided valley
3. canoe _____ To stop
4. ravine _____ A steep flat-topped hill
5. intrude/intruder _____ A unit of distance equal to about 3 miles
6. ornament _____ To follow in order to overtake
7. parley _____ A sea mammal related to the whale
8. doubt/doubted _____ To act as a friend to
9. cease/ceasing _____ A dark colored sea bird
10. mesa _____ To not believe
11. league _____ To happen to
12. profit _____ A narrow sharp-ended boat propelled by paddles
13. befriend _____ To barge in on
14. befell/befall _____ Something used to decorate
15. pursue _____ A conference about a dispute or argument

Island of the Blue Dolphins

Chapter 3&4 questions

Name _____



Date _____

1. Where did the Aleuts hunt for the otter? (pg. 15) _____

2. How did the village of Ghalas-at know that Captain Orlov and his hunters were getting ready to leave the island? (pgs. 17 & 18)

3. Why was Karana's father making a new spear? (pg. 18) _____

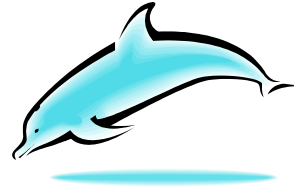
4. Why do you think Captain Orlov wanted to give the Indian village a chest of beads and necklaces instead of the otter pelts? (20 & 21)

5. Read the last paragraph on page 24. Why does Karana believe it was wrong for her father to tell Captain Orlov his secret name?

Island of the Blue Dolphins - Chapter 3&4 Vocabulary

Name _____

Date _____



Match the word with its definition. Use context clues from the story to help you. You may use a dictionary.

1. kelp (15) _____ To hit sharply
2. carcass (16) _____ A social group of numerous families
3. pelt (16) _____ Course shrubby vegetation
4. scarcely (16) _____ A body of land surrounded by water
5. island (17) _____ To fix the eyes in a steady intent look
6. preparation (18) _____ To move nearer or be closer to
7. approach(22) _____ Course brown seaweed
8. strike (19) _____ Barely – by a very small margin
9. tribe (19) _____ To throw
10. delight (20) _____ The skin of a fur-bearing animal
11. brush (20) _____ To make or get ready
12. chest (21) _____ great pleasure
13. gaze (22) _____ Unworthy of trust or belief
14. flung/fling (23) _____ A boxlike container
15. dishonest (24)\ _____ The dead body of an animal

Island of the Blue Dolphins

Chapter 5&6 questions

Name _____



Date _____

1. In the beginning of chapter five why was the night described as the "most terrible in all the memory of Ghalas-at" ? (pg. 25)

2. Who became the new chief ? How did he organize the tribe? (pg. 26) _____

3. What does Kimki decide to do in the spring? (pg. 28) _____

4. Describe the plan the villagers will follow if the Aleut ships are sighted? (pg. 31)

5. What does Nanko say about the ship that has come to the island? (pg. 33-34) _____

Island of the Blue Dolphins

Chapter 7&8 questions

Name _____



Date _____

1. What is the mark Ulape draws on her face and what does the mark mean? (pg. 35)

2. Why was the ship unable to anchor close to shore? (pg. 36) _____

3. What does Karana mean when she says "The boat pitched so wildly that in one breath you could see the ship and in the next breath it had gone"? (pg. 37)

4. What does Karana do when she realizes her brother Ramo is not on the ship? (pgs. 38 - 39)

5. How does Ramo die and what does Karan vow to do someday? (pg. 47 -48) _____

Island of the Blue Dolphins

Chapter 9&10 questions

Name _____



Date _____

1. Why do you think Karana burned down the village? (pgs. 49-50) _____

2. Why does Karana think she should not make weapons? What made her decide to make weapon in the end? (pgs. 51 & 54)

3. Why did Karana decide to **not** keep the bracelets and beads that she recovered from the chest?(pgs. 52-53)

4. When did Karana decide to leave the island and why? (pgs. 60-61) _____

5. After two days in the canoe, Karana needs to decide whether she will continue or whether she will return to the island. **On the back**, list the reasons she thinks she should continue and the reasons she thinks she should turn back and go to the island. (pgs. 65-66)

Island of the Blue Dolphins

Chapter 11&12 questions

Name _____



Date _____

1. How did Karana feel after she returned to the island? (pgs. 69-70) _____

2. How had Karana's ideas about the island changed? (pgs. 69-70) _____

3. How did Karana decide where she would build her new home? (pgs. 70-72) _____

4. How does Karana make her fence? Why does she build this first? (pg. 74) _____

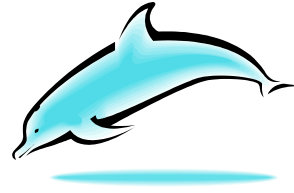
5. What is Karan's problem at the end of chapter 12? _____

6. Find an example of each: personification (pg 69), simile (pg 70) _____

Island of the Blue Dolphins - Chapter 11&12 Vocabulary

Name _____

Date _____



Match the word with its definition. Use context clues from the story to help you. You may use a dictionary.

1. certain (71) _____ Not plentiful, rare
2. lair (71) _____ To have a firm or strong purpose
3. brackish (71) _____ Thin porridge, soft boiled cereal
4. clamor (72) _____ To be assured, confident, or to guarantee
5. omen (72) _____ Eating or cooking tool
6. gnawed (74) _____ To roam about secretly
7. scarce (75) _____ A state of commotion or uproar
8. legend (75) _____ A shelter for animals, den
9. quarrel (75) _____ To argue
10. broad (76) _____ To have a salty taste
11. utensil (76) _____ A sign or warning for the future
12. gruel (77) _____ The smoldering fragments from a fire
13. embers (77) _____ A story handed down from the past
14. prowl (78) _____ To be wide or spacious
15. determination (79) _____ To bite or chew on

Island of the Blue Dolphins

Chapter 13&14 questions

Name _____



Date _____

1. What was the warning that Karana remembered while preparing to kill the a sea elephant (pgs.82-83)

2. Which bull did Karana hope would win the battle? (pg.84) _____

3. What was Karana planning to do with the cave? (pgs. 88-89) _____

4. What did Karana mean when she said "Gulls had picked his bones clean, but I found what I had come for."? (pg.90)

5. What did Karana make from the teeth of the bull? How did she do this? (pg. 90)

Island of the Blue Dolphins

Chapter 15&16 questions

Name _____



Date _____

1. How did Karana set up to kill the pack of wild dogs? How many dogs did she kill? (pgs. 91-93)

2. Why do you think Karana didn't kill the wild dog when she had the chance? (pg. 94-95)

3. What does Karana name the wild dog and what does the name mean? (pgs. 97-98)

4. Why isn't Karana lonely any more? (pgs.101-102) _____

5. What is the "great" discovery that Karana makes? (pgs. 102-103) _____

6. Why does karana say she is happy at the end of chapter 16? _____

Island of the Blue Dolphins

Chapter 17&18 questions

Name _____



Date _____

1. Why is Rontu now not the leader of the wild dogs?(pgs.107-108)

2. Why doesn't Karana help Rontu during the battle? (pg.109)

3. How does Rontu act after the fight? (pgs.110-111)

4. How does Karana keep the two birds from flying away once they out grew their cage? (pgs 113.)

5. Why does Karana often dress up in her yucca skirt and sandals? (pgs.114-115)
