

The Call of the Wild by Jack London**VOCABULARY TRACKER**

Use the chart below to record unfamiliar terms that you encounter while reading. Choose words that you are likely to use in future reading, writing, and class discussions in this and other classes. Page references will vary depending on the edition of the book you are reading.

Word	Page	Definition from Context	Dictionary Definition	My New Sentence
<i>toil</i>	1	<i>Hard work</i>	<i>Exhausting labor or effort</i>	<i>There was no joy on the trail, as it required endless toil day after day for little gain.</i>

The Call of the Wild by Jack London**READ AND RESPOND 1**

Chapters 1 – 2

Remember to annotate as you read. Your teacher may ask you to use sticky notes, highlight ideas, or mark and write comments on the pages. Annotating will help you find evidence to support ideas in discussions. After reading, complete the following activities.

CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING

Answer these questions independently.

1. How is Buck treated from the time he is kidnapped until Perrault buys him?

2. What happens to Curly, and how does it affect Buck?

3. What is significant about Buck's theft of the "whole chunk" of bacon?

PICK A PASSAGE

Review the pages you have just read and choose a sentence or short passage that you find important or thought-provoking, or one that you have a question about. Discuss it with a partner or group.

**TALK ABOUT THE BOOK**

Discuss the following in pairs or small groups. Use evidence from the text to support your answers.

1. Compare and contrast the **setting** of Santa Clara Valley with the "Northland" environment. How does the change in setting affect Buck?
2. London uses a **simile** to describe how Buck's first taste of snow "bit like fire." Why is comparing snow to fire so effective in this scene?
3. What does Buck do to adapt to his new situation? What new challenges do you think he'll face, and how will he meet them?

The Call of the Wild by Jack London**READ AND RESPOND 2**

Chapters 3 – 4

Remember to annotate as you read. Your teacher may ask you to use sticky notes, highlight ideas, or mark and write comments on the pages. Annotating will help you find evidence to support ideas in discussions. After reading, complete the following activities.

CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING

Answer these questions independently.

1. What do Francois and Perrault do to take care of Buck’s feet? Why do they take these steps?

2. Why are Buck and Spitz in conflict, and how is it resolved?

3. What happens to Dave, and why?

PICK A PASSAGE

Review the pages you have just read and choose a sentence or short passage that you find important or thought-provoking, or one that you have a question about. Discuss it with a partner or group.

TALK ABOUT THE BOOK

Discuss the following in pairs or small groups. Use evidence from the text to support your answers.

1. How does London’s **characterization** of Buck and the other sled dogs—especially Spitz, Dave, and Sol-leks—reveal each one’s distinct personality?
2. Describe the key scenes, such as the one with the “starving huskies,” in these chapters. How does London use **sensory details** to bring these scenes to life?
3. Is Buck an effective leader of the dog sled team? Why or why not?

The Call of the Wild by Jack London**READ AND RESPOND 3**

Chapters 5 – 6

Remember to annotate as you read. Your teacher may ask you to use sticky notes, highlight ideas, or mark and write comments on the pages. Annotating will help you find evidence to support ideas in discussions. After reading, complete the following activities.

CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING

Answer these questions independently.

1. What happens when Hal, Charles, and Mercedes load their sled and drive their team for the first time?

2. How do Hal, Charles, Mercedes, and their sled dogs die?

3. How does Buck express his love for Thornton?

PICK A PASSAGE

Review the pages you have just read and choose a sentence or short passage that you find important or thought-provoking, or one that you have a question about. Discuss it with a partner or group.

**TALK ABOUT THE BOOK**

Discuss the following in pairs or small groups. Use evidence from the text to support your answers.

1. Several experienced onlookers—including John Thornton—advise Hal, Charles, and Mercedes against trying to travel to Dawson. In light of the fatal outcome, should someone have taken more forceful steps to prevent the party from continuing their journey?
2. Compare and contrast London's **characterizations** of Hal, Charles, and Mercedes with that of Thornton. How is Buck's perspective on each of these characters used to reveal their personalities?
3. Buck's feeling for Thornton is described as "love, passionate love." Do you think their mutual devotion is realistic, or is it idealized?

The Call of the Wild by Jack London**READ AND RESPOND 4**

Chapter 7

Remember to annotate as you read. Your teacher may ask you to use sticky notes, highlight ideas, or mark and write comments on the pages. Annotating will help you find evidence to support ideas in discussions. After reading, complete the following activities.

CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING

Answer these questions independently.

1. How does Buck befriend the lone wolf?

2. Why does Buck attack the Yeehats?

3. Where does Buck, the Ghost Dog, return each summer, and why does he do so?

PICK A PASSAGE

Review the pages you have just read and choose a sentence or short passage that you find important or thought-provoking, or one that you have a question about. Discuss it with a partner or group.

**TALK ABOUT THE BOOK**

Discuss the following in pairs or small groups. Use evidence from the text to support your answers.

1. Does Buck develop into a **hero** by the novel's end? Why or why not?
2. How is Buck's relationship to the **setting** of the "Northland" transformed over the course of the novel? What explains this transformation?
3. If you lived during the time of the Klondike Gold Rush and had the opportunity to prospect for gold there, would you? Why or why not?