



Brothers of the Fire Star
Core Curriculum Standards-Based Study Guide

by
Douglas Arvidson

Comprehension and Vocabulary Quizzes

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Name _____ Period _____

Quiz: Chapters 1 – 5

Directions: Circle the letter of the best answer for each of the questions below.

1. Why is Joseph out in the jungle when the planes attack his village?
 - a. He is lost.
 - b. He is looking for spiders.
 - c. He likes to explore in the jungle.
 - d. He is hiding from his uncle.

2. What has Joseph been told about the nunu tree he hides in?
 - a. It has poisonous leaves.
 - b. It is where the spirits of the island people's ancestors live and is considered sacred.
 - c. Its roots are harmful.
 - d. He can eat the tree's fruit.

3. When Joseph returns to the village, he finds his uncle has been killed and is lying in the water in the harbor. What is his uncle holding?
 - a. a Bible
 - b. a key to their house
 - c. a letter to Joseph
 - d. Joseph's book, *A Boy's Picture History of the World in One Volume*.

4. When Joseph leaves the village and is walking along the road, what two things does he find?
 - a. a coconut and a flag
 - b. an empty sack and a machete
 - c. a rifle and a bullet
 - d. a bag of food and some fishhooks

5. How does the Spirit of the Voyage help Joseph when the soldiers come in the truck?
 - a. It scares the soldiers away.
 - b. It finds Joseph some water to drink.
 - c. It tells him to jump into the jungle.
 - d. It deflects the bullet when a soldier shoots at him.

Quiz: Chapters 1 – 5 (contined)

6. When Joseph meets Napu why doesn't Napu want to take Joseph with him when he escapes the island in his boat?
 - a. Napu is waiting for his grandmother.
 - b. Napu doesn't trust Joseph.
 - c. Napu feels that Joseph does not know anything about sailing or fishing and will be a problem.
 - d. He thinks Joseph is too weak to be able to sail.

7. What does Napu think about the carved stick and the book?
 - a. He is excited about reading the book.
 - b. He thinks they are worthless.
 - c. He is afraid of the ghost that lives in the stick.
 - d. He thinks the stick is ruined because it has a bullet hole in it.

8. Why do you think Napu finally decides to take Joseph with him despite the danger?
 - a. He understands he cannot leave Joseph behind because the soldiers will kill him.
 - b. He needs Joseph to help him fish and sail the boat.
 - c. He wants to use Joseph's book to start fires when they get to the islands.
 - d. He knows Joseph will be good at opening coconuts to drink and eat.

9. When Napu and Joseph escape the island in Napu's boat, how does Joseph feel?
 - a. He is afraid of the dark ocean and wants to return to the island but knows he cannot because the soldiers are looking for him.
 - b. He feels happy to be going sailing with Napu.
 - c. He feels very sleepy and wants to lie down.
 - d. He is excited about exploring other islands.

10. What does Joseph help Napu do when they are finally out on the ocean?
 - a. Get ready to fish
 - b. Keep an eye out for Japanese patrol boats
 - c. Put the mast up and set sail
 - d. Open coconuts to drink

Name _____ Period _____

Chapters 1 - 5: Vocabulary Quiz

Directions: For each definition below choose the best answer from the word list and write it in the space provided.

concussions banyan tree ancestors acrid diminished
procession chaotic unscathed fervently windward
leeward perpetual serenity ravine rivulets

1. _____ A group of people moving along in an ordered manner
2. _____ Continuing or lasting for an indefinite time
3. _____ A disorderly mass; a jumble
4. _____ Powerful shock waves caused by exploding bombs
5. _____ Made smaller
6. _____ Showing great emotion
7. _____ Unharmed
8. _____ The side of an island or boat exposed to the wind
9. _____ The side of an island or boat not exposed to the wind
10. _____ Calmness, peacefulness

Name _____ Period _____

Chapter 6 – 10: Quiz

Directions: Answer the following questions using complete sentences. Support your answer with details.

1. Why do you think Napu wants Joseph to think he can steer the boat by using the stars?

2. What happens when Joseph first tries to steer the boat? How does he feel after this?

3. Why do you think it does not bother Napu to eat raw fish?

Name _____ Period _____

Chapter 6 – 10: Quiz (continued)

Directions: Answer the following questions using complete sentences. Support your answer with details.

4. After the fighter plane leaves without attacking them, Joseph feels both relieved and frightened. Why?

5. While Napu is sleeping and Joseph is steering, why doesn't Joseph believe he is seeing trees in the middle of the ocean? What are they?

6. Do you think Napu believes Joseph's stories about seeing the Spirit of the Voyage?

Name _____ Period _____

Chapters 6 - 10: Vocabulary Quiz

Directions: For each definition below choose the best answer from the word list and write it in the space provided. Not all the words are used.

stern	crescent	stoically	igniting	transom
flogging	mast	zenith	soaring	anticipate
cleat	broadside	sheath	relinquished	horizon

1. _____ the back part of a boat
2. _____ a case for covering the blade of a sword or knife
3. _____ the line that forms the boundary between Earth and sky
4. _____ to expect, to look forward to
5. _____ beating, thrashing
6. _____ calm, cool strength
7. _____ the highest point a star or the sun can be above the Earth
8. _____ let go of, released
9. _____ setting on fire
10. _____ the shape of the moon in its first or last quarter

Name _____ Period _____

Chapter 11 – 15: Quiz

Directions: Circle the best answer for each of the following questions.

1. How does Joseph feel after he and Napu are shipwrecked on the atoll?
 - a. He is happy because they have reached land.
 - b. He is hungry and starts looking for food.
 - c. He blames himself for wrecking the boat and losing Napu's fishhooks.
 - d. He blames Napu for letting him steer the boat when he did not know how.

2. When Joseph finds his book, *A Boy's Picture History of the World in One Volume*, floating in the water, how does he react?
 - a. He is excited because now they have paper to help them start a fire.
 - b. He is sad because when he looks at the pictures in the book they seem to be like long-lost family.
 - c. He gets angry and tears the book up.
 - d. He throws the book back into the ocean.

3. Joseph and Napu have a fight on the beach. Afterwards how do you think they feel?
 - a. They hate each other.
 - b. They know they will not be able to live together.
 - c. They realize that they need each other if they are going to survive.
 - d. They want to keep fighting but they are too tired.

4. After the fight, what does Joseph find out he can do that Napu cannot?
 - a. build a fire without matches
 - b. climb a coconut tree to get coconuts
 - c. use a throw net to catch fish
 - d. use a machete to open a coconut

5. Why was Napu excited when they find the lagoon on the other side of the island?
 - a. They could use the lagoon for swimming.
 - b. The lagoon was full of fish that he could catch with his throw net.
 - c. The lagoon is a good place to sail.
 - d. The water in the lagoon was very calm.

Chapter 11 – 15: Quiz (continued)

6. Why is it so important to Joseph that he build a fire?
 - a. He wants to send signals to passing ships.
 - b. They need the fire to keep warm.
 - c. They want to be able to cook food and he does not want to let Napu down.
 - d. They can read by the fire's light.

7. Joseph and Napu are finally successful in building a fire. How do they do it?
 - a. by using heat caused by friction
 - b. by using a magnifying glass to magnify the sun's rays
 - c. Napu finds matches in the boat.
 - d. The Spirit of the Voyage makes it for them.

8. What does Napu finally admit to Joseph?
 - a. He does not know how to swim.
 - b. He does not like to eat fish.
 - c. He does not know how to navigate using the stars.
 - d. He is afraid of climbing coconut trees.

9. When the boys make torches and go looking for the Spirit of the Voyage in the dark jungle, what happens that frightens them?
 - a. The torch burns out, they hear a noise, and they see a light flying through the trees.
 - b. The moon is so bright the shadows scare them.
 - c. The Spirit of the Voyage speaks to them.
 - d. The sound of the ocean on the reef is too loud.

10. Why are they afraid to go back to their camp?
 - a. It is too scary to walk in the dark.
 - b. They are afraid the taotaomo'na will be there.
 - c. They are worried that the fire has gone out.
 - d. They are afraid there will be Japanese soldiers waiting for them.

Name _____ Period _____

Chapters 11 - 15: Vocabulary Quiz

Directions: For each definition below choose the best answer from the word list and write it in the space provided. Not all the words are used.

barnacles	fringed	thatched	vegetation	Charles Darwin	sodden
riffle	friction	tinder	flotsam	constellations	lagoon
foliage	breadfruit	conch	loom	carnivorous	

1. _____ meat eater
2. _____ anything that easily catches on fire
3. _____ to appear indistinctly in the distance
4. _____ wreckage or garbage floating on the water
5. _____ groups of star
6. _____ a pond-like body of water surrounded by a reef
7. _____ to flutter in a breeze
8. _____ wet, soggy
9. _____ rubbing to objects together
10. _____ the scientist who developed the theory of Evolution

Name _____ Period _____

Chapter 16 - 20: Quiz

Directions: For each of the following statements write “true” if the statement is true and “false” if the statement is false. For each of the false statements use the space below it to rewrite the statement making it true.

1. _____ Joseph is very proud of his fishing net and his ability to catch fish with it.

2. _____ When Joseph takes his machete into the jungle to get more coconuts he is worried that the spirits are not happy and he needs to be careful.

3. _____ When the machete falls from the coconut and cuts Joseph’s leg, he calls to Napu and Napu comes and helps him.

4. _____ After he gets hurt, Joseph is worried because there is no doctor and they do not have any medicine.

5. _____ Three days after Joseph cut his leg, the wound had healed and he was okay.

Name _____ Period _____

Chapter 16 - 20: Quiz (continued)

Directions: For each of the following statements write “true” if the statement is true and “false” if the statement is false. For each of the false statements use the space below it to rewrite the statement making it true.

6. _____ Together Joseph and Napu fight the evil spirits and then put medicine on Joseph’s wounded leg.

7. _____ Joseph and Napu have a ceremony around the fire and become brothers of the fire star.

8. _____ When Joseph finds the turtle laying her eggs, he suggests to Napu that they should eat the eggs.

9. _____ The men who arrive on the island in the proa all speak English.

10. _____ The men offer to take Joseph and Napu with them when they leave.

Name _____ Period _____

Chapters 16 – 20 Vocabulary Quiz

Directions: Read the passages below. Vocabulary words are underlined. From the list of definitions below each passage, choose the best definition and circle the letter of your answer.

1. “He had remembered something else from the Boy Scout Manuel: elevate the wound.” (P. 67)
 - a. to lift up, make higher
 - b. to raise in rank or status
 - c. to raise in spirits
 - d. to improve morally or culturally
2. “It was the figure of a man, a man with no head, who wore only a loincloth around his hips.” (P. 70)
 - a. a towel
 - b. a long, loose shirt
 - c. a garment worn around the hips
 - d. a tattoo
3. “He borrowed Napu’s knife and carved an effigy of the headless taotaomo’na out of the stalk of a palm frond.” (P. 73)
 - a. a carved ball
 - b. a crude figure or likeness of a hated person
 - c. a poor copy
 - d. an exact replica
4. “The canoe, with its long outrigger and outstretched sail, was quickly closing the distance to the shore and now the boys could see it was painted a shiny red and black and had high, pointed prows at either end.” (P.87)
 - a. the forward part of a boat’s hull or the ends of a canoe
 - b. the sides of the mast
 - c. colorful designs
 - d. spears
5. “The sail was furled on its spars and dropped onto the sides of the canoe’s hull.” (P. 87)
 - a. painted
 - b. rolled up and secured
 - c. hanging down
 - d. nailed

Chapter 21 – 25: Quiz

Directions: Circle the best answer for each of the following questions.

1. When Napu and Joseph sail away from their island with the men on the canoe, what do they notice about the way the men sail?
 - a. The men all do one job while sailing.
 - b. All the men share all the jobs of sailing the proa.
 - c. Only Raumwele, the navigator and captain, did not share in doing all the jobs.
 - d. The boys were expected to share in the work of sailing the canoe.

2. Both Raumwele and the old navigator, Retawasiol, warn the boys about something on the island. What is it?
 - a. The island is full of poisonous insects.
 - b. Coconuts sometimes fall from the trees and can hurt you.
 - c. They must be careful so as not to disturb the many spirits that live on the island.
 - d. They must not disturb the turtles when they come ashore to lay their eggs.

3. What statement best describes the old navigator they meet on the island of Pikelot?
 - a. He is old but strong and healthy.
 - b. He is completely blind.
 - c. He is sick and has difficulty seeing and caring for himself.
 - d. He wishes the boys had not come because he cannot take care of them.

4. What is the arrangement the old man has with the boys?
 - a. He will hide them from the Japanese soldiers and teach them to navigate but they must take care of him and get the canoe ready to take him to the island where he believes the ancestors came out of the Earth.
 - b. They must harvest his tuba and hunt turtles.
 - c. They must help him remember the star paths.
 - d. They must keep watch for Japanese ships and planes.

5. When Napu and Joseph get sick from drinking tuba, what happens to Joseph?
 - a. He gets a bad headache and cannot eat.
 - b. He dreams that he sees himself and Napu sitting in a circle with the Spirit of the Voyage and a young Restawasiol.
 - c. He goes swimming to make himself feel better.
 - d. He tells Napu that they should never drink tuba again.

Chapter 21 – 25: Quiz (continued)

Directions: Circle the best answer for each of the following questions.

6. During their first navigation lesson, what does the old navigator start teaching Napu and Joseph?
 - a. how to find islands using sea birds
 - b. using sea turtles to find the star paths
 - c. the names of the important navigation stars
 - d. how to talk to the spirits of navigation

7. What does Joseph do when the Japanese captain comes to see the old navigator?
 - a. hides in the jungle
 - b. hides in the canoe
 - c. pretends to be the old man's grandson
 - d. goes fishing with Napu

8. When Napu and Joseph go fishing, they see a turtle floating on the surface of the water. Why doesn't the turtle swim away?
 - a. Sharks have bitten off two of its flippers.
 - b. It is a tame turtle.
 - c. It is dead.
 - d. It is about to crawl up on the beach to lay its eggs.

9. After the boys get the turtle up on the beach, what do they do with it?
 - a. They decide to keep it as a pet.
 - b. They decide to build a fire and cook it.
 - c. They bury it after it dies
 - d. They have a ceremony for the turtle's spirit.

10. What does the old navigator tell the boys about where the ancient secrets of navigation came from?
 - a. They were taught to the daughter of a chief by a bird.
 - b. They came out of the Earth when the world was born.
 - c. The stars came down to Earth and taught them to the people of the islands.
 - d. An octopus taught the people of the islands to navigate.

Name _____ Period _____

Chapters 21 – 25 Vocabulary Quiz

Directions: Read the passages below. Vocabulary words are underlined. From the list of definitions below each passage, choose the best definition and write it in the space.

incomprehensible	rudder	helmsman	deferred	mirage	lilting
intonation	reproach	intrusion	Samuri	smallpox	utt

1. _____ something impossible to understand
2. _____ a light, rhythmical way of speaking
3. _____ the person who steers the proa
4. _____ to yield to another person's skill or authority
5. _____ a thatched building used to store proas and to have meetings.
6. _____ the rise and fall of a person's speech
7. _____ a disease that has killed millions worldwide
8. _____ scolding or criticism
9. _____ an illusion, something that looks real but is not
10. _____ a Japanese warrior in former times

Name _____ Period _____

Chapter 26 – 30: Quiz and Critical Thinking Exercise

Directions: Answer the questions in the space provided.

1. Why do you think Napu and Joseph learn to measure the passage of time by the seasons and the phases of the moon rather than by the days, weeks, and months of a calendar?

2. Why does Retawasiol, the old navigator think it is very important for Joseph and Napu to learn how to navigate using just the stars and the sea?

3. Why does the old navigator tell the Japanese captain that Napu used the book to start fires?

Chapter 26 – 30: Quiz and Critical Thinking Exercise (continued)

Directions: Circle the letter of the correct answer for the questions below.

4. How do Retawasiol and the boys get the canoe out from inside the utt?
 - a. They drag it using ropes.
 - b. They use poles as levers to slowly push it out.
 - c. They take turns pushing and pulling.
 - d. They dig a path for it in the sand.

5. How do Napu and Joseph first practice handling the sails on the proa?
 - a. They take the canoe out to sea.
 - b. They draw pictures in the sand.
 - c. They listen to the old navigator while sitting in a circle.
 - d. They practice on the canoe while the canoe is on dry land.

6. After a hard day of practicing handling the sails out at sea, what do the boys discover is the secret of doing it easily and quickly?
 - a. taking turns and working alone
 - b. working together as a team
 - c. having the old navigator tell them how to do it
 - d. asking the Spirit of the Voyage to help them

7. Retawasiol teaches the boys that there many separate parts to learning how to navigate—birds, stars, ocean swells and currents, the phosphorescence of deep reefs, and clouds—but that to be a great navigator what must they learn to do?
 - a. They must put all the separate skills together as one single thing inside their souls.
 - b. They must learn to love the sea.
 - c. They must learn to get along better.
 - d. They must forget all the things they learned from books.

8. What news do the men from Puluwat share with Napu, Joseph, and Retawasiol?
 - a. The war is over.
 - b. There is a great battle being fought on Saipan.
 - c. The Japanese captain is coming back to the island.
 - d. They must leave Pikelot atoll right away.

Name _____ Period _____

Chapters 26 – 30: Vocabulary Quiz

Directions: Read the passages below. Vocabulary words are underlined. From the list of definitions below each passage, choose the best definition and write it in the space.

phosphorescence lashings absentmindedly machete pellucid
acutely

1. _____ Clear, transparent
2. _____ in a forgetful, preoccupied manner
3. _____ a glowing light emitted by some underwater sea life
4. _____ sharply, keenly
5. _____ ropes wrapped and tied tightly around sticks or logs to hold them together

Chapters 26 – 30: Critical Thinking

Joseph and Napu live with the old navigator on the island for many seasons. Knowing that characters change and develop as a story progresses, how do the boys and the old man change during this time and how do you think it will affect the rest of the story?

Name _____ Period _____

Chapter 31 – 35: Quiz

Directions: Circle the letter of the correct answer for the questions below.

1. When Retawasiol, the old navigator, awakens from his sleep, he comes down to the beach and tells the others that it is time for him and the boys to set off on their voyage. How does he say he knows this?
 - a. The moon is in the right part of the sky.
 - b. The stars have stopped fighting.
 - c. A seabird spoke to him.
 - d. He knows he is about to die.

2. The Japanese soldiers return to the island before Retawasiol and the boys can set sail. Why did they come back?
 - a. to look for the American spy rumored to be on the island
 - b. to take the proa back to Japan
 - c. to say good-bye to the old man
 - d. to drink more tuba

3. When, after three days at sea, they come upon a dead American in a small life raft, what does Joseph decide he should do?
 - a. have a ceremony and bury the dead man at sea
 - b. get the dog tags from around the dead man's neck
 - c. tie the life raft to the canoe and take it with them
 - d. sink the life raft so the Japanese soldiers will not find it

4. Why does Retawasiol say they must stop at Saipan even though there is a battle going on there?
 - a. The spirits have told him to stop.
 - b. The ocean currents are carrying them there.
 - c. They need to help the American soldiers.
 - d. They need more coconuts to drink on the voyage.

5. What do they see floating in the water as they approach the island of Saipan?
 - a. the dead bodies of women and children
 - b. green coconuts
 - c. dead soldiers
 - d. dead fish and turtles

Chapter 31 – 35: Quiz (continued)

Directions: Circle the letter of the correct answer for the questions below.

6. How does Joseph find the coconuts when he goes onto the battlefield after dark?
 - a. The Spirit of the Voyage shows him where they are.
 - b. The coconuts have been blown off the trees during the battle and he crawls around on his hands and knees until he finds them.
 - c. The soldiers have stacked them up in piles.
 - d. Retawasiol tells him where to find them.

7. Why doesn't Retawasiol go with the boys to get coconuts?
 - a. He wants to stay on the canoe and keep an eye on it.
 - b. He is unconscious and can't move.
 - c. He is too old.
 - d. He has hurt his leg.

8. When both Joseph and Napu go back together to get more coconuts, what happens?
 - a. They get caught in the battle and lay huddled together on the ground until it's over.
 - b. They bring the Spirit of the Voyage with them for protection.
 - c. They can hear the old navigator calling for them.
 - d. They make friends with a wounded Japanese soldier.

9. The morning after the battle, Joseph and Napu are found by American soldiers. What does the sergeant tell Joseph and Napu?
 - a. If Joseph wants to go back to Massachusetts, he will help him.
 - b. If they want food, they can take the cans of C-rations lying on the beach.
 - c. He warns the boys not to go back to Guam too soon because there will be a battle there, too.
 - d. all of the above

10. How do you think Napu and Joseph feel the morning after the battle?
 - a. They are excited that the battle is over.
 - b. They are looking forward to sailing with Retawasiol to the island where the spirits of the ancestors came out of the Earth.
 - c. They want to help the American soldiers fight.
 - d. They are filthy and exhausted

Chapter 36 – 40: Quiz

Directions: Circle the letter of the correct answer for the questions below.

1. After Joseph and Napu leave the battlefield, exhausted and confused, they remember that they had left Retawasiol on the proa. When they find the proa, what has happened to the old navigator?
 - a. He has moved from the canoe to the beach taking the Spirit of the Voyage with him.
 - b. He is sleeping on the canoe.
 - c. He is sitting up waiting for them.
 - d. He is dying and unable to drink more coconut water.

2. Why are the boys anxious to get to the island where the old navigator believes the ancestor's spirits came out of the Earth?
 - a. They want to get away from the war.
 - b. They don't have enough food or water.
 - c. They know the old man is dying and he wants to die on the island.
 - d. They need to get back to Guahan.

3. How do you know that Napu and Joseph have learned how to navigate when they leave Saipan?
 - a. They use the stars and the currents to steer the canoe.
 - b. Retawasiol tells them they are doing a good job.
 - c. The Spirit of the Voyage is pleased with them.
 - d. They follow the seabirds to the island.

4. How do they know they have reached the island where the old navigator wants to die?
 - a. The old man tells them it is the right island.
 - b. They see volcanoes just like Retawasiol described.
 - c. They see fires burning on the island.
 - d. American planes begin bombing the island.

5. When they reach the island, they meet a young Japanese soldier on lookout duty. How does Napu convince the soldier not to kill them?
 - a. He tells him the American's have won the war.
 - b. He shows him the canoe and tells him about their voyage.
 - c. He speaks to him in Japanese and tells him the spirits of the ancestors will eat him if he shoots them.
 - d. He surrenders to the soldier.

Chapter 36 – 40: Quiz (continued)

Directions: Circle the letter of the correct answer for the questions below.

6. Why does Joseph think the soldier cannot hurt them?
 - a. He believes he sees the shadow of the Spirit of the Voyage hovering over the soldier, protecting them.
 - b. He knows the young soldier is nice.
 - c. He thinks the soldier does not know how to shoot his rifle.
 - d. He gives the soldier food.

7. Where do they take the old navigator to die?
 - a. to the top of a volcano
 - b. They lay him in the water by the beach.
 - c. They carry him up into a cave near the beach.
 - d. They take him into the jungle.

8. Where did Napu learn to speak Japanese?
 - a. in Japan
 - b. in school
 - c. from the Japanese captain
 - d. from his grandmother

9. What do they do with the old navigator after he dies?
 - a. They bury him at sea.
 - b. The Japanese soldier builds a tomb for him in the cave and they have a ceremony.
 - c. They bury him in the sand on the beach.
 - d. They put him on the canoe and set him adrift on the sea.

10. Why does Joseph force the young Japanese soldier to go with him and Napu when they leave the island?
 - a. He doesn't want the soldier to tell the other soldiers about them.
 - b. He is afraid the soldier will starve.
 - c. He doesn't want the soldier to destroy the canoe.
 - d. He doesn't want the soldier to die in the war.

Name _____ Period _____

Chapters 36 – 40: Vocabulary Quiz

Directions: Read the passages below. Vocabulary words are underlined. From the list of definitions below each passage, choose the best definition and write it in the space.

1. “They splashed across the rocks to the canoe and stared at the outrigger platform as if its emptiness had been a deceit of their exhaustion.” (P. 165)
 - a. hunger
 - b. delight
 - c. a trick
 - d. happiness
2. “They were drab green and one had U.S. Army Rations C, B-Unit printed on the side and the other said, *M-Unit*.” (P. 166)
 - a. canned food issued to soldiers in World War II
 - b. ammunition
 - c. photographs
 - d. secret messages
3. “They hove to, configuring the sail so the canoe sat in the seaway without moving, just drifting.” (P. 169)
 - a. a way of setting the sail on a proa or sailboat
 - b. went to sleep
 - c. stopped to eat
 - d. went swimming
4. “I think he is in a coma like my grandmother was before she died.” (P. 170)
 - a. a boat
 - b. asleep
 - c. a state of unconsciousness from which a person cannot be awakened
 - d. peaceful
5. “Scattered across the grass and among the trees were burned-out trucks and a small fighter plane whose fuselage had been torn apart by bombs.” (P. 174)
 - a. wings
 - b. an aircraft’s main body section
 - c. propeller
 - d. pilot

Name _____ Period _____

Chapters 36 – 40: Vocabulary Quiz (continued)

Directions: Read the passages below. Vocabulary words are underlined. From the list of definitions below each passage, choose the best definition and write it in the space.

6. “They spoke this way, back and forth, while the soldier pointed the rifle at them and the planes strafed and bombed the island behind them.” (P. 175)
 - a. flew over
 - b. to attack by airplanes with machinegun fire
 - c. did tricks
 - d. spied on

7. “Throughout the long vigil, the soldier had watched them, keeping the rifle aimed at them.....” (P. 178)
 - a. a period of watchful attention
 - b. party
 - c. supper
 - d. night

8. “.....he was lying on the edge of the escarpment that led up to the cave....” (P. 178)
 - a. beach
 - b. a steep slope or long cliff
 - c. staircase
 - d. lawn

9. “.....and when Joseph saw this, his own eyes welled up....” (P. 179)
 - a. closed
 - b. began to cry
 - c. burned
 - d. went blind

10. “When they were out of the lee of the island....” (P. 186)
 - a. windward side
 - b. part of the island covered with jungle
 - c. side of the island protected from the wind
 - d. lowest part

Name _____ Period _____

Chapter 41 – Epilogue: Quiz

Directions: Circle the letter of the correct answer for the questions below.

1. After they leave the island where they buried the old navigator Napu and Joseph force the young Japanese soldier to go with them. How do you think they feel about the soldier?
 - a. They are afraid of him but they want to help him.
 - b. They tell him he is their prisoner.
 - c. They need him to catch fish.
 - d. They need him to translate Japanese for them.
2. How does Kiki prove that he does not want to hurt Napu and Joseph?
 - a. He opens coconuts for them with a machete.
 - b. He tells them about his family in Japan.
 - c. He shares his food with them.
 - d. He warns them about the approaching ship.
3. After they are almost run down by a ship, why do the boys decide to stop at a small island?
 - a. They need to repair the proa and want to wait for the war to be over.
 - b. They need to get some sleep.
 - c. They are afraid of the war planes that are flying over.
 - d. Kiki is seasick.
4. How does Kiki feel after they find the dead Japanese soldier on the island?
 - a. He feels happy because the soldier is no longer suffering.
 - b. The soldier was a friend of his and he feels he should be dead, too.
 - c. He wants to give the soldier a proper burial.
 - d. He takes the soldier's dog tags to give back to his family in Japan.
5. When they think the war is over, they leave the island to sail to Guahan. What does Joseph see that the old navigator has taught them is bad luck and sign of trouble?
 - a. The sky is filled with thunderstorms.
 - b. An octopus swims by the proa.
 - c. A piece of bamboo floats by the proa.
 - d. They see ships on the horizon.

6. How do Napu and Joseph know in which direction to sail to get back to Guahan?
- a. Kiki has a compass.
 - b. They remember the star path to sail to Guahan.
 - c. They follow a sea turtle.
 - d. They follow the American planes.

Chapter 41 – Epilogue: Quiz

Directions: Circle the letter of the correct answer for the questions below.

7. When they reach Guahan, what do they discover?
 - a. Guahan is being bombed and shelled by American planes and ships.
 - b. Kiki is afraid of the war.
 - c. The Americans are waiting for them.
 - d. They need to go ashore to get more coconuts.

8. When they realize they are caught in the American invasion of Guahan, why don't they sail away?
 - a. They are too tired to sail anymore.
 - b. The wind dies and they cannot sail.
 - c. The proa is sinking.
 - d. The Spirit of the Voyage tells them to go ashore.

9. What are Napu and Joseph's last acts of brotherhood?
 - a. Even though he is badly hurt, Joseph warns Napu that Kiki can't swim.
 - b. Napu tries to get the Spirit of the Voyage for Joseph but cannot reach it.
 - c. Napu puts his arm around Joseph and keeps his face out of the water.
 - d. All of the above.

10. (**Directions:** Write the answer to this question in the space provided.)

After all they went through do you think that, in the end, Joseph and Napu were successful? (Hint: Think about the Epilogue.)

Name _____ Period _____

Chapters 41 – Epilogue: Vocabulary Quiz

Directions: From the list below select the word that matches the right definition. Write it in the space provided.

epilogue lopped haunches supergiant star acrid
legible impassively

1. _____ A piece of writing usually at the end of a book whose purpose is to bring closure to the story and tie up loose ends.
2. _____ Writing that is neat and clear enough to be read.
3. _____ calm, serene, without emotion
4. _____ sharp or biting to the taste or smell
5. _____ to cut off, especially from a tree or shrub
6. _____ the hips and upper thighs
7. _____ the largest and most luminous stars in the Universe

Name _____ Period _____

The Coconut Palm: The Tree of Life

By Douglas Arvidson

Author of *Brothers of the Fire Star*

Directions: Read the essay and answer the questions on the following page. Be sure to use complete sentences.

When I finished writing *Brothers of the Fire Star* and sent the manuscript to my editor, she was very pleased with how the story came out. She had just one concern: There were too many coconuts. It seemed to her that Napu and Joseph were always looking for coconuts, always opening coconuts to drink, always filling up the canoe with coconuts. They used coconut water to drink and as medicine, coconut shells to drink from, coconut husks to make rope, and coconut meat not only as food but also as soap. She said she was afraid that readers would get tired of reading about coconuts.

After living on a tropical island for many years, and in fact, having been saved from dangerous dehydration by drinking coconuts while exploring an uninhabited island, it was easy for me to answer her concerns: For the peoples of the Pacific islands, the coconut tree really is The Tree of Life.

Many, many thousands of years ago, people of the tropics all over the world discovered how useful coconut trees and coconuts are and, in fact, they became dependent on them to live. The list of things coconuts trees and coconuts can be used for is very long but includes three critical areas: food, medicine, and shelter.

The trunks of coconut trees can be used to make homes, fences, canoes, and furniture. The leaves can be woven into baskets, hats, and mats while the fibers in the coconut husks can be used to make rope and floor mats. The water in coconuts is good to drink, the meat good to eat, and empty nuts are used to make cups and other utensils.

But coconuts are not just valuable to people living on tropical islands. Products made from coconuts are used all over the world. Copra, the dried meat from coconuts, is an important commercial product. The oil from the copra is used in cooking and making soap and hair care products. After the oil is removed from the meat, the meat is used to feed farm animals such as cow and horses.

So, after my editor expressed her concerns about too many coconuts in the story, I carefully explained to her why it was necessary to have them: Napu and Joseph could not have survived without them.

Name _____ Period _____

1. After Douglas Arvidson's editor read the manuscript of *Brothers of the Fire Star*, why was she concerned?

2. Why were coconuts so important for Napu's and Joseph's survival? What did they primarily use them for?

3. What are three things coconuts or coconut trees can be used for?

4. What is copra? What are two things it is used to make?

5. What might you have in your home that is made from coconuts?

Word Origins: Etymology

To be a good reader and a good writer, it is important (and interesting) to understand a word's *etymology*; that is, where a word came from—its derivation—and how it developed into its present meaning.

Directions: *You studied the following vocabulary words while reading Chapters 21 to 25. In the exercise below, the etymology of each word is given. Based on this etymology, give your own definition and then look up the word in the dictionary and write that definition. In the space provided, use the word in a sentence. The first one is done for you.*

1. mirage

- a. Word Origin: 1812, from French *mirage*, from *se mirer* "to be reflected," from Latin *mirare* (see mirror)
- b. Your definition: a reflection, like in a mirror
- c. Dictionary definition: optical illusion of water in sandy deserts
- d. Sentence: The lake turned out to be a mirage; it wasn't really there.

2. intonation

- a. Word Origin: 1610s, "opening phrase of a melody," from French *intonation*, from Medieval Latin *intonationem*
- b. Your definition: _____

- c. Dictionary definition: _____

- d. Sentence: _____

Name _____ Period _____

Word Origins: Etymology (continued)

4. reproach

a. Word Origin: mid-14th century, *reprochen* "to rebuke, reproach," from Old French *reprochier*, Anglo-French *repruchier*, from *reproche*

b. Your definition: _____

c. Dictionary definition: _____

d. Sentence: _____

5. intrusion

a. Word Origin: late 14 century, from Old French *intrusion*, from Medieval Latin *intrusionem* (nom. *intrusio*) "a thrusting in"

b. Your definition: _____

c. Dictionary definition: _____

d. Sentence: _____

Name _____ Period _____

Core Standard: Identifying Parts of Speech

To be a good reader and a competent writer, it is important to understand the *parts of speech*. A sentence is made up of words and each word has a purpose and a place in that sentence. There are nine main parts of speech: nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions, pronouns, interjections, articles, and prepositions.

Directions: *The following sentences are from the book Brothers of the Fire Star. For the words that are underlined, decide what part of speech it is and write it in the space provided.*

1. In the bright sunlight, shadows of the trees played across the sail.
 - a. bright _____
 - b. of _____
 - c. played _____
 - d. sail _____

2. Joseph and Napu both jumped up quickly and, stepping outside the hut, found the food wrapped in banana leaves just as Retawasiol had said.
 - a. jumped _____
 - b. quickly _____
 - c. wrapped _____
 - d. hut _____

3. He lifted the rusty tin to his lips again and drank....
 - a. He _____
 - b. lifted _____
 - c. rusty _____
 - d. drank _____

4. The stars were brilliant in the inky blackness of the night sky.
 - a. stars _____
 - b. in _____
 - c. inky _____
 - d. sky _____

Name _____ Period _____

Core Standard: Identifying Parts of Speech

(continued)

5. Then he heard Napu's hard whisper: "Look! Look there!"

- a. heard _____
- b. hard _____
- c. whisper _____
- d. Look! _____

6. They made five torches by bending dried palm leaves over on themselves so that the fronds formed a clump at the end of the stalk.

- a. They _____
- b. torches _____
- c. formed _____
- d. at _____

7. His eyes were closed and his face was like a tight, brown mask.

- a. eyes _____
- b. and _____
- c. tight _____
- d. mask _____

8. Soldiers appeared around them as if from nowhere, and started picking up the dead.

- a. around _____
- b. from _____
- c. and _____
- d. started _____

9. A shadow came up next to the soldier.

- a. A _____
- b. shadow _____
- c. came _____
- d. soldier _____