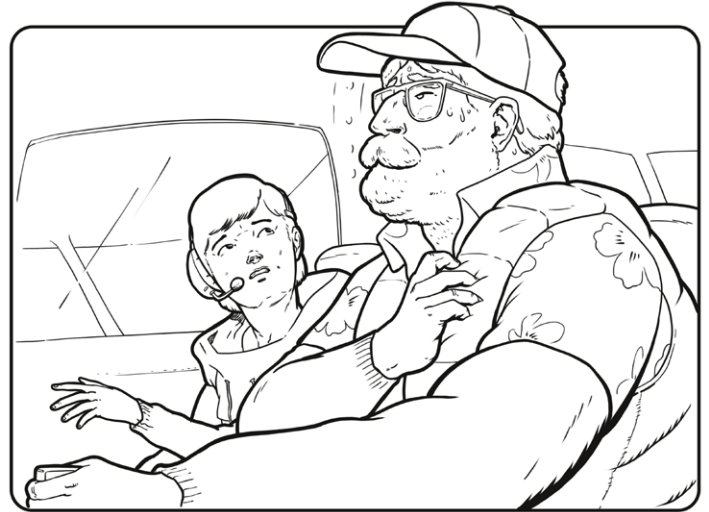


Name: _____

Use with the book:
Hatchet by Gary Paulsen

Hatchet: Chapters 1–2

1. What is the reason Brian is traveling from Hampton, New York to Canada, and how does it connect to the story's main conflict?
 - a. His parents are divorced, and he's spending the summer with his dad, which explains his need to fly alone.
 - b. He is visiting his mom for spring break, which helps him prepare for school.
 - c. He is camping with his dad, showing he has a closer relationship with his dad than he has with his mom.
 - d. He is spending the school year with his dad, so his mom drives him to the airport.



2. Describe Brian's initial impression of the pilot. How does his initial impression evolve over the course of the first chapter?

3. How are Brian's feelings toward his parents' divorce revealed in chapter one?

Name: _____

Use with the book:
Hatchet by Gary Paulsen

Hatchet: Chapters 1–2

4. Describe Brian's feelings toward his mom. How do his feelings toward his mom differ from those toward his dad?

5. What does Brian infer happened to the pilot, and how does this event increase the story's tension?

- a. He ate bad sushi, showing how dangerous travel food can be.
- b. He was overly tired, which caused him to lose focus.
- c. He suffered a stroke, forcing Brian to give him life-saving help.
- d. He had a heart attack, leaving Brian to face flying the plane alone.

6. How does Brian's age impact the intensity of the conflict?

- a. Being 13 makes coping with his parents' divorce more difficult.
- b. Being 14 makes him wiser, making it easier for him to stay calm during emergencies.
- c. Being only 13, he has never been on a plane before and cannot navigate one alone.
- d. Being 12 means he's too young to remember what to do in an emergency.

7. How does Brian's description of the Canadian wilderness add to the intensity of the setting?

- a. It shows the area is busy and full of people, reducing the sense of danger.
- b. It shows the land is desolate and isolated, making it easier to land the plane.
- c. It shows there are forests and no clearings, making it more challenging to land the plane.
- d. It shows the wilderness is bright and lively, making him feel safe.

Name: _____

Use with the book:
Hatchet by Gary Paulsen

Hatchet: Chapters 1–2

8. How do Brian's attempts to use the CB radio show his determination to survive?
- a. He keeps trying for a long time, even though no one responds, showing persistence.
 - b. He doesn't know how to use the radio and gives up immediately.
 - c. He becomes frustrated by the complicated controls and stops trying.
 - d. He keeps trying and eventually reaches air traffic control, showing that persistence brings quick success.

9. How does the title **Hatchet** connect to the gift Brian's mother gives him before his flight to Canada? What do you predict about the gift's importance to the story's plot?

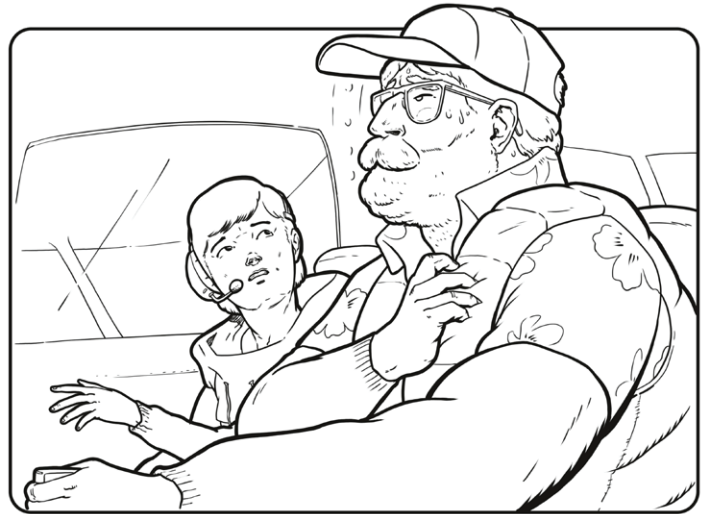
10. How does the author's repetition of the word **alone** add to the intensity of the setting?

Hatchet: Chapters 1–2

1. What is the reason Brian is traveling from Hampton, New York to Canada, and how does it connect to the story's main conflict?

a. His parents are divorced, and he's spending the summer with his dad, which explains his need to fly alone.

- b. He is visiting his mom for spring break, which helps him prepare for school.
- c. He is camping with his dad, showing he has a closer relationship with his dad than he has with his mom.
- d. He is spending the school year with his dad, so his mom drives him to the airport.



2. Describe Brian's initial impression of the pilot. How does his initial impression evolve over the course of the first chapter?

Answers will vary. An example is: The text states, “But in five minutes they had leveled off at six thousand feet and headed northwest and from then on the pilot had been silent, staring out the front, and the drone of the engine had been all that was left.” This shows that the pilot is not conversational or friendly to Brian. The text also states, “The pilot sat large, his hands lightly on the wheel, feet on the rudder pedals. He seemed more a machine than a man, an extension of the plane.” This quote demonstrates that he is not warm and conversational, but rather more rigid and quiet. However, Brian's impression changes when the text states, “When he saw Brian look at him, the pilot seemed to open up a bit, and he smiled.” He then goes on to help Brian fly the plane.

3. How are Brian's feelings toward his parents' divorce revealed in chapter one?

Answers will vary. An example is: Brian seems very sad about his parents, as the text states, “... all that he had levied was coming apart—and the breaking and shattering of all the solid things.” The text also states, “Brian felt his eyes beginning to burn and knew there would be tears.” Just the thought of his parents' divorce brings tears to his eyes.

Hatchet: Chapters 1–2

4. Describe Brian's feelings toward his mom. How do his feelings toward his mom differ from those toward his dad?

Answers will vary. An example is: Brian seems resentful toward his mother because the text states, "What he knew and had not told anybody, what he knew about his mother that had caused the divorce, what he knew, what he knew—the Secret." This suggests that Brian feels angry and blames his mother for the divorce. The text also says, "Brian's father did not understand as Brian did, knew only that Brian's mother wanted to break the marriage apart." His feelings toward his father seem different; Brian appears to feel protective of him.

5. What does Brian infer happened to the pilot, and how does this event increase the story's tension?

- a. He ate bad sushi, showing how dangerous travel food can be.
- b. He was overly tired, which caused him to lose focus.
- c. He suffered a stroke, forcing Brian to give him life-saving help.

d. He had a heart attack, leaving Brian to face flying the plane alone.

6. How does Brian's age impact the intensity of the conflict?

- a. Being 13 makes coping with his parents' divorce more difficult.
- b. Being 14 makes him wiser, making it easier for him to stay calm during emergencies.

c. Being only 13, he has never been on a plane before and cannot navigate one alone.

- d. Being 12 means he's too young to remember what to do in an emergency.

7. How does Brian's description of the Canadian wilderness add to the intensity of the setting?

- a. It shows the area is busy and full of people, reducing the sense of danger.
- b. It shows the land is desolate and isolated, making it easier to land the plane.

c. It shows there are forests and no clearings, making it more challenging to land the plane.

- d. It shows the wilderness is bright and lively, making him feel safe.

Hatchet: Chapters 1–2

8. How do Brian's attempts to use the CB radio show his determination to survive?

a. He keeps trying for a long time, even though no one responds, showing persistence.

b. He doesn't know how to use the radio and gives up immediately.

c. He becomes frustrated by the complicated controls and stops trying.

d. He keeps trying and eventually reaches air traffic control, showing that persistence brings quick success.

9. How does the title *Hatchet* connect to the gift Brian's mother gives him before his flight to Canada? What do you predict about the gift's importance to the story's plot?

Answers will vary. An example is: Brian's mom gives him a hatchet, which is the title of the book. Students should provide a realistic prediction and support it with evidence from the text.

10. How does the author's repetition of the word **alone** add to the intensity of the setting?

Answers will vary. An example is: The author repeats the word alone to emphasize that Brian is completely isolated. This repetition increases the intensity of the moment because, at just 13 years old, Brian is facing a life-or-death survival situation as the plane goes down. The author wants readers to fully understand the seriousness and fear of being truly alone in such a dangerous situation.