

Comprehension Questions To Support The Teaching of Holes By Louis Sachar

Chapter 44–47

1. Why does Zero think it is a bad idea for Stanley to go and refill the jars?

2. Why does Stanley have to dig very carefully?

3. Describe how Stanley digs the suitcase out of the ground.

4. How do you think the boys feel when they hear the warden's voice?

5. Why does Stanley have to suppress a scream?

6. What do you think the warden means when she says, 'won't be long now'?

7. Imagine you are the warden as a little girl. Write a diary entry describing your parents' obsession with digging and searching the ground.

8. Why does Mr Sir say that he will have nightmares for the rest of his life?

9. What does the warden plan to tell Stanley's parents?

10. Stanley thinks about a fond memory from his childhood to make himself feel better. Write about a memory that makes you feel happy.

11. Do you think the boys are right to keep still? What would you do in the same situation?

12. What does Zero figure out about Stanley's name?

13. What lie does the warden tell the lawyer about the suitcase?

14. What amazing discovery does Zero make about the suitcase?

15. Why, do you think, does the warden rush to hug the boys? Do you think she is really happy that they are alright? Why/Why not?

Comprehension Questions To Support The Teaching of Holes By Louis Sachar **Answers**

Chapter 44–47

1. Why does Zero think it is a bad idea for Stanley to go and refill the jars? **Zero thinks that Stanley is too big and noisy to refill the jars without being heard.**
2. Why does Stanley have to dig very carefully? **Stanley has to dig carefully so that the side of the hole won't collapse on him.**
3. Describe how Stanley digs the suitcase out of the ground. **Stanley starts to dig underneath the suitcase in the hope that it would drop down. Then he repetitively moved the shovel between the dirt and the suitcase until it fell free. He then used his hands to dig to find the handle and pull it free.**
4. How do you think the boys feel when they hear the warden's voice? **Teacher check**
5. Why does Stanley have to suppress a scream? **Stanley had to suppress a scream because he realised that he was standing in a lizard nest.**
6. What do you think the warden means when she says, 'won't be long now'? **Teacher check.**
7. Imagine you are the warden as a little girl. Write a diary entry describing your parents' obsession with digging and searching the ground. **Teacher check.**
8. Why does Mr Sir say that he will have nightmares for the rest of his life? **Mr Sir says that he will have nightmares for the rest of his life because he has been traumatised by being so close to the lizards and he had just shot one in mid-air.**
9. What does the warden plan to tell Stanley's parents? **The warden is planning to tell Stanley's parents that he tried to run away in the night and fell in a hole and was killed by the lizards.**
10. Stanley thinks about a fond memory from his childhood to make himself feel better. Write about a memory that makes you feel happy. **Teacher check.**
11. Do you think the boys are right to keep still? What would you do in the same situation? **Teacher check.**
12. What does Zero figure out about Stanley's name? **Zero figures out that Stanley's last name is his first name spelt backwards.**
13. What lie does the warden tell the lawyer about the suitcase? **The warden tells the lawyer that Stanley and Zero stole the suitcase from her cabin while she was asleep and then ran outside and fell into the lizard's nest.**
14. What amazing discovery does Zero make about the suitcase? **Zero noticed that the suitcase had Stanley's name on it.**
15. Why, do you think, does the warden rush to hug the boys? Do you think she is really happy that they are alright? Why/Why not? **Teacher check.**