

# Mr. Popper's Penguins

by Richard and Florence Atwater

Nightly Reading Homework from January 9<sup>th</sup>  
January 31<sup>st</sup>

A Novel Study by:

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## Reading Schedule

Read Chapters	1-3 (pgs 3-21)	by Mon.	1/9
Read Chapters	4-6 (pgs 22-43)	by Wed.	1/11
Read Chapters	7-9 (pgs 44-61)	by Tues.	1/17
Read Chapters	10-12 (pgs 62-80)	by Thurs.	1/19
Read Chapters	13-15 (pgs 81-100)	by Mon.	1/23
Read Chapters	16-18 (pgs 101-122)	by Wed.	1/25
Read Chapters	19-20 (pgs 123-139)	by Mon.	1/30

\* Please make sure to complete your nightly reading and assignments on time. \*

\*\* Pop quizzes may be given on various chapters \*\*

\*\*\* Whole book test Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup> \*\*\*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1/9

Monday  
night

(due  
Tues. 1/10)

HW

# Dictionary Detective!

## Chapters 1 - 3

Using a dictionary, find the definitions for the words below.

**pompous**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**expanses**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**inquisitive**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**heathen**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**spectacles**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**tobogganed**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Vocabulary Study

## Chapters 1 - 3

Monday  
night  
HW  
(due Tues.)

### Match Up

Match the words in the left column to their definitions in the right column.

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| pompous •     | • eyeglasses                              |
| expanses •    | • to travel downhill by a long, flat sled |
| inquisitive • | • uncivilized                             |
| heathen •     | • to be very curious                      |
| spectacles •  | • open areas                              |
| tobogganed •  | • arrogant                                |

### Fill in the Blanks

Complete each sentence by filling in the blanks with the provided vocabulary.

pompous    expanses    inquisitive    spectacles    heathen    tobogganed

1. Animals might be considered \_\_\_\_\_ creatures because they are not civilized the way we are.
2. The green \_\_\_\_\_ of the valley were part of a beautiful view from the hill.
3. We giggled with delight as we \_\_\_\_\_ down the steep slope.
4. Many old photographs show people wearing round \_\_\_\_\_.
5. That girl is so \_\_\_\_\_; she always looks down her nose at us.
6. The \_\_\_\_\_ boy asked at least ten questions during the class.

**A Little  
Extra!**

In Chapter 1, we learn that Mr. Popper is "quite an authority" on the subject of Polar explorers. What do you think this expression means?

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1/10

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Understanding the Story

## Chapters 1 - 3

Tues night  
HW  
(due Wed.  
1/11)

### Multiple Choice

1. What does Mr. Popper dream of doing? \_\_\_\_\_
- (a) Painting.  
(b) Inventing something.  
(c) Traveling.  
(d) Owning a pet.
2. In Chapter 3, Mr. Popper receives a surprise gift from: \_\_\_\_\_
- (a) A scientist.  
(b) An astronaut.  
(c) The president.  
(d) Mrs. Popper.

### Short Answer

3. Why does Mrs. Popper wish Mr. Popper had a different job?

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### Long Answer

4. Mr. Popper is passionate about Polar expeditions and enjoys reading books and watching movies to learn more about this topic. What are you passionate about? In what ways do you pursue your interests?

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**A Little Extra!**

Why is Mrs. Popper worried about the winter ahead? Why is Mr. Popper looking forward to it?

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Chapter Summary

## Chapters 1 - 3

Tues night  
HW  
(due Wed.)

1. If you could give a title to this section of the book, what would it be?

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2. What happens in these chapters?

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3. What is your favorite part of this section of the book?

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4. What new words did you learn in Chapters 1 to 3?

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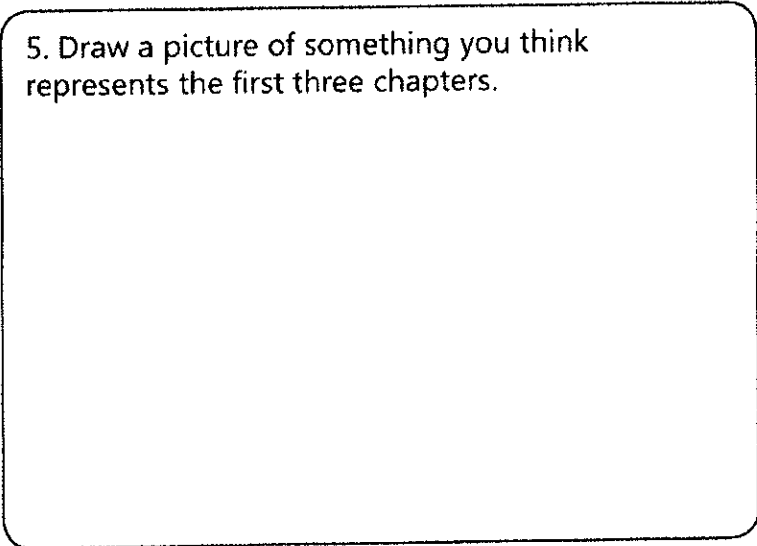
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5. Draw a picture of something you think represents the first three chapters.



1/11

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Dictionary Detective!

Chapters 4 - 6

Wed night  
HW  
(due Thurs. 1/12)

*Using a dictionary, find the definitions for the words below.*

**trilled**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**ventilating**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**ordinance**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**solemnly**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**considerable**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**indignantly**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Vocabulary Study

Chapters 4 - 6

Wed night  
HW  
(due Thurs.)

## Which Word?

On the provided lines, write the matching vocabulary word for each definition.

trilled    ventilating    ordinance    solemnly    considerable    indignantly

1. Angrily. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Very seriously. \_\_\_\_\_
3. A large amount. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Made a musical sound. \_\_\_\_\_
5. A law. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Allowing fresh air to enter. \_\_\_\_\_

## Making Sentences

Make a sentence for each word below.

1. Solemnly: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Trilled: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Ventilating: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Indignantly: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Ordinance: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Considerable: \_\_\_\_\_

**A Little Extra!**

The icebox service man who comes to the house tells Mr. Popper to sit down where he can "keep an eye" on him. What does the man mean by this?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1/12

# Understanding the Story

## Chapters 4 - 6

Thurs.

night

(due Fri. 1/13) HW

### Multiple Choice

1. What word best describes Captain Cook when he arrives at Mr. Popper's house? \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) Scared.
- (b) Shy.
- (c) Curious.
- (d) Angry.

2. What is the first food Captain Cook eats at Mr. Popper's house? \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) Shrimp.
- (b) Goldfish.
- (c) Eggs.
- (d) Tuna.

### Short Answer

3. Captain Cook is named after a famous person. Who was the original Captain Cook?

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### Long Answer

4. Explain how Mr. Popper changes his refrigerator for the penguin in Chapter 5.

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**A Little Extra!**

What reasons does Mr. Popper give for choosing the name "Captain Cook" for his first penguin?

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Chapter Summary

## Chapters 4 - 6

Thurs. night  
HW  
(due Fri.)

1. If you could give a title to this section of the book, what would it be?

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2. Summarize this section of the book.

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3. What is your favorite part of this section of the book?

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4. What new words did you learn in Chapters 4 to 6?

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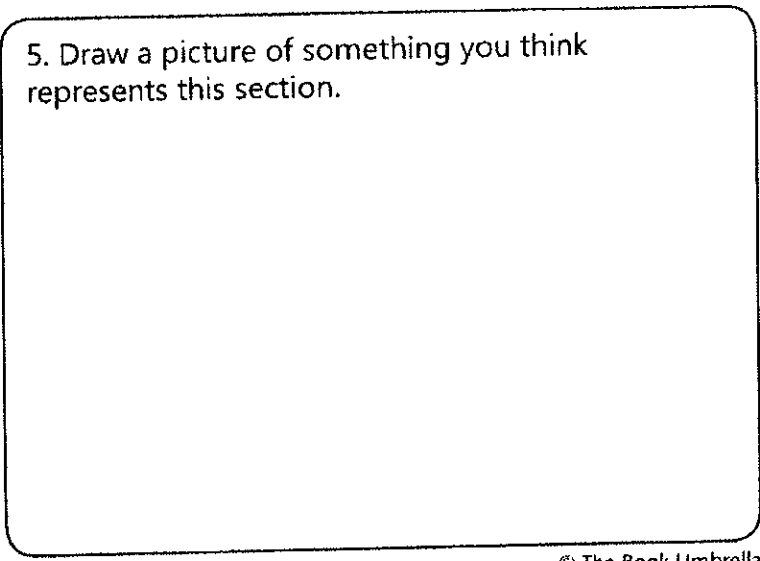
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5. Draw a picture of something you think represents this section.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

4/17  
Tues. night  
HW  
(due Wed. 4/18)

# Dictionary Detective!

## Chapters 7 - 9

*Using a dictionary, find the definitions for the words below.*

**customary**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**elegant**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**belatedly**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**unwearyingly**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**reproach**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**astonishment**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tues. Night HW  
(due Wed.)

# Vocabulary Study

## Chapters 7 - 9

### Match Up

A synonym is a word that means the same as another word. For example, happy and joyful are synonyms. Match the vocabulary words with their synonyms!

- |                |            |
|----------------|------------|
| customary •    | • surprise |
| elegant •      | • blame    |
| belatedly •    | • usual    |
| unwearyingly • | • graceful |
| reproach •     | • tardily  |
| astonishment • | • steadily |

### Best Word

Circle the word which works best in each sentence.

1. To my ( elegant / astonishment ), the front door was wide open when I got home from school.
2. Since I wished my brother 'Happy Birthday' ( belatedly / reproach ), he wasn't happy with me.
3. My niece looks so ( elegant / steadily ) when she dances that she takes my breath away.
4. "Why do you ( customary / reproach ) me for everything?" I asked my mom when she shouted at me about the mess in the kitchen.
5. Robin always works ( unwearyingly / belatedly ), even when she's very tired.
6. In our house it is ( customary / astonishment ) to say a prayer before every meal.

**A Little Extra!**

What action words or expressions are used in Chapter 7 to describe Captain Cook's process while building a nest in the icebox?

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

4/18 Wed night  
HW  
(due Thurs. 4/19)

# Understanding the Story

## Chapters 7 - 9

### Multiple Choice

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. What does Mr. Popper use for a leash when he takes the penguin for a walk? _____ | 2. Mr. Popper and Captain Cook meet the following people on their walk EXCEPT: _____ |
| (a) A dog's leash.  | (a) A scientist.   |
| (b) Yarn.   | (b) A neighbor.  |
| (c) A clothesline.  | (c) A photographer.  |
| (d) A telephone cord.   | (d) A barber.  |

### Short Answer

3. In Chapter 7, Captain Cook collects odds and ends from around the house. What does he use these things for?

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### Long Answer

4. What does Captain Cook do when he reaches the top of the stairs behind the barber shop? What problem does this cause for Mr. Popper?

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**A Little Extra!**

How do you think people would react if you walked a penguin on a leash around your neighborhood?

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Wed Night  
HW (due Thurs)

# Chapter Summary

## Chapters 7 - 9

1. If you could give a title to this section of the book, what would it be?

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2. What happens in these chapters?

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3. What is your favorite part of this section of the book?

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4. What new words did you learn in Chapters 7 to 9?

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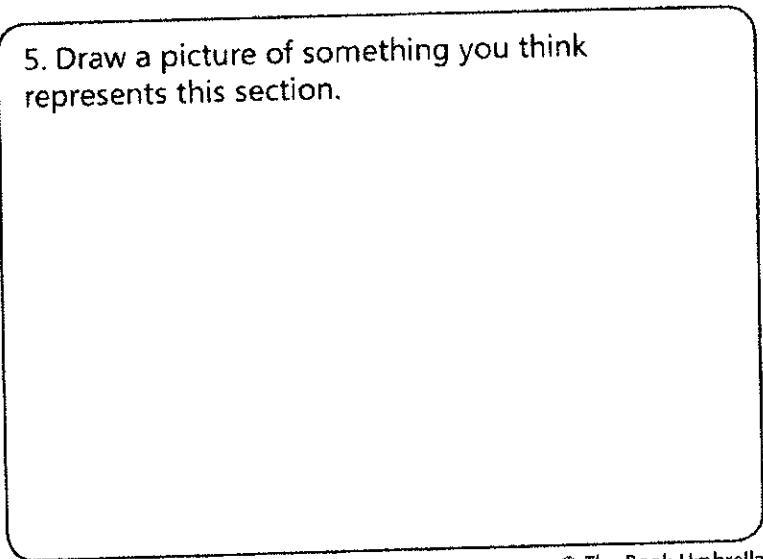
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5. Draw a picture of something you think represents this section.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1/19

# Vocabulary Study

Chapters 10 - 12

Thurs. night  
HW  
(due Fri. 1/20)

## Match Up

Match the words in the left column to their definitions in the right column.

- |               |                                  |
|---------------|----------------------------------|
| stupor •      | • a process of printing          |
| scarcely •    | • hardly                         |
| rotogravure • | • waited for something with fear |
| tremendous •  | • a dream-like state of mind     |
| dreaded •     | • understanding                  |
| sympathetic • | • wonderful                      |

## Fill in the Blanks

Complete each sentence by filling in the blanks with the provided vocabulary.

sympathetic    tremendous    rotogravure    dreaded    stupor    scarcely

1. My assignment was so \_\_\_\_\_ that I got an A+ on it!
2. An old process of printing called \_\_\_\_\_ was invented in Germany a hundred years ago.
3. We \_\_\_\_\_ have any trees here as our climate is very dry and hot.
4. The teacher was \_\_\_\_\_ about my nosebleed.
5. She \_\_\_\_\_ going back to school in the fall because of the bullies.
6. I think something is wrong with her as she is always in a \_\_\_\_\_

**A Little Extra!**

Why do you think the authors called Chapter 10 "Shadows"?

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Understanding the Story

## Chapters 10 - 12

*Thurs.  
Night HW  
(due Fri.)*

### Multiple Choice

1. When Captain Cook gets sick, what does the aquarium curator send? \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) Soup.
- (b) Medicine.
- (c) Food.
- (d) Another penguin.

2. To which room does Mr. Popper move his penguins in Chapter 12? \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) The kitchen.
- (b) The cellar.
- (c) The living room.
- (d) The attic.

### Short Answer

3. In Chapter 12, what surprises Mr. Popper about Greta's eggs?

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### Long Answer

4. The icebox is too small for two penguins. How does Mr. Popper solve this problem in Chapter 11? Why is Mrs. Popper unhappy with his solution?

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**A Little Extra!**

What does Mr. Popper do with the furnace? Why does he do this?

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1/23 Monday night

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Dictionary Detective!

Chapters 13 - 15

HW  
(due Tues. 1/24)

Using a dictionary, find the definitions for the words below.

**trooped**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

**droll**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

**vigorously**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

**exhibit**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

**clinch**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

**novelty**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Monday Night  
HW

# Vocabulary Study

## Chapters 13 - 15

### Which Word?

On the provided lines, write the matching vocabulary word for each definition.

trooped	droll	vigorously	exhibit	clinch	novelty
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1. A show or demonstration. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Funny and amusing. \_\_\_\_\_
3. A hug or embrace. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Walked somewhere together. \_\_\_\_\_
5. To do with a lot energy. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Something new and unusual. \_\_\_\_\_

### Making Sentences

Make a sentence for each word below.

1. Droll: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Exhibit: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Trooped: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Novelty: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Vigorously: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Clinch: \_\_\_\_\_

**A Little Extra!**

List at least three adjectives you could use to describe Mrs. Popper's feelings as she talks to Mr. Popper about their money problems.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

1/24

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Tues night

# Understanding the Story

## Chapters 13 - 15

HW  
(due Wed. 1/25)

### Multiple Choice

1. In Chapter 13, Mr. and Mrs. Popper discuss all of the following EXCEPT: \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) Selling the penguins.
- (b) Shipping the penguins back to Antarctica.
- (c) Training the penguins.
- (d) Eating the penguins.

2. Which of these is NOT one of the acts the penguins learn in Chapter 13? \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) Sliding down hills.
- (b) Slapping each other with flippers.
- (c) Marching in a line.
- (d) Tap dancing.

### Short Answer

3. Why are the Poppers and their penguins asked to exit the bus in Chapter 14?

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### Long Answer

4. In Chapter 15, the penguins perform on stage for the first time. Describe a time when you had to perform in front of a group of people. How did you feel?

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**A Little Extra!**

What kind of animal act would you be interested in seeing?

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Chapter Summary

## Chapters 13 - 15

*Tues. Night  
HW*

1. If you could give a title to this section of the book, what would it be?

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2. Summarize this section of the book.

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3. What is your favorite part of this section of the book?

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4. What new words did you learn in Chapters 13 to 15?

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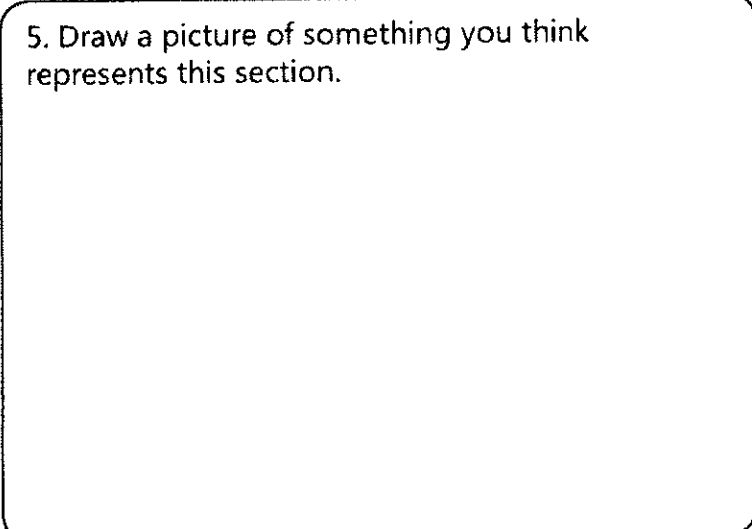
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5. Draw a picture of something you think represents this section.



1/25 Wed night  
hw  
(due Thurs. 1/26)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Dictionary Detective!

## Chapters 16 - 18

*Using a dictionary, find the definitions for the words below.*

**uneasy**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**berths**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**nuisance**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**footlights**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**porter**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**vexed**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Wed Night  
HW

# Vocabulary Study

## Chapters 16 - 18

### Match Up

Match the vocabulary words with their synonyms!

- |              |                |
|--------------|----------------|
| uneasy •     | • docks        |
| berths •     | • a bother     |
| nuisance •   | • gatekeeper   |
| footlights • | • unsure       |
| porter •     | • upset        |
| vexed •      | • stage lights |

### Best Word

Circle the word which works best in each sentence.

1. The sweaty ( porter / vexed ) ran all over the platform handling passengers' suitcases.
2. "What a ( berths / nuisance )!" Mrs. Lee exclaimed as it started to rain after she had finished hanging the laundry on the clothesline.
3. All the ( footlights / berths ) at the port were occupied by large container ships.
4. I was truly ( vexed / nuisance ) when my cell phone fell into the lake.
5. The ( footlights / uneasy ) shone on the handsome actor as he acted out his role on stage.
6. Nancy was ( porter / uneasy ) when she heard strange noises coming from the basement.

**A Little  
Extra!**

In Chapter 17, the authors say that when the penguins were on the road, "their reputation traveled ahead of them". What do you think this means?

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Thurs night

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ hw

# Understanding the Story

## Chapters 16 - 18

1/26  
(due Fri. 1/27)

### Multiple Choice

1. In which car do the penguins travel while on the train? \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) The baggage car.
- (b) The sleeping car.
- (c) The caboose.
- (d) The club car.

2. What big mistake does Mr. Popper make in Chapter 18? \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) He loses his star penguin.
- (b) He goes to the wrong theater.
- (c) He oversleeps.
- (d) He forgets to bring the ladder for the penguins.

### Short Answer

3. Why are the penguins becoming irritable toward the end of their tour?

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### Long Answer

4. At the end of Chapter 18, Mr. Popper is arrested. Do you think this is fair? Why or why not?

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**A Little Extra!**

After reading the book so far, what do you think might happen to the Poppers and their penguins?

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Chapter Summary

## Chapters 16 - 18

Thurs.  
Night HW

1. If you could give a title to this section of the book, what would it be?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What happens in these chapters?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

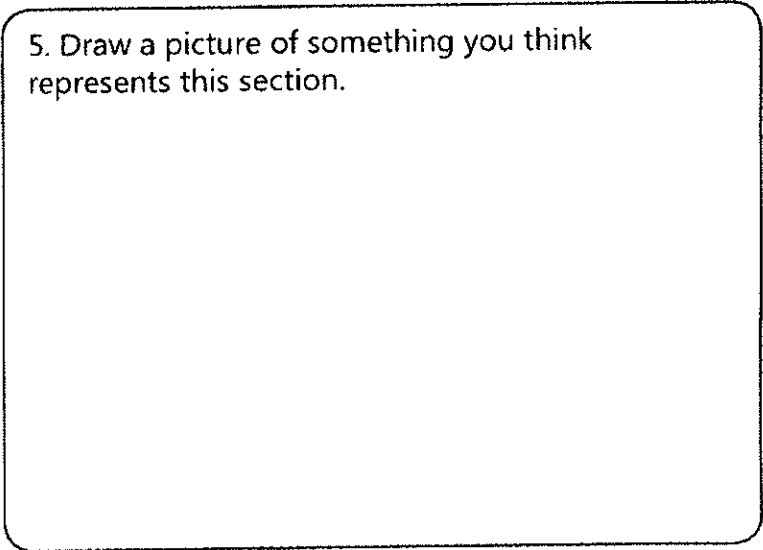
3. What is your favorite part of this section of the book?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. What new words did you learn in Chapters 16 to 18?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. Draw a picture of something you think represents this section.





1/30 Monday  
night

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Dictionary Detective!

Chapters 19 - 20

HW  
(due Tues. 1/31)

*Using a dictionary, find the definitions for the words below.*

**renewing**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**gangplank**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**corridor**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**haggard**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**scuttled**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**establishing**

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Vocabulary Study

## Chapters 19 - 20

Monday  
Night HW

### Match Up

Match the words in the left column to their definitions in the right column.

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| renewing •     | • starting something off                       |
| gangplank •    | • running with short steps                     |
| corridor •     | • to start something again                     |
| haggard •      | • a piece of wood to get onto or off of a ship |
| scuttled •     | • to look tired and worn out                   |
| establishing • | • a hallway                                    |

### Fill in the Blanks

Complete each sentence by filling in the blanks with the provided vocabulary.

corridor    renewing    haggard    gangplank    scuttled    establishing

1. "We will be \_\_\_\_\_ our efforts to create a bigger army for our country", the president announced.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ was so unstable that I was sure I would fall into the water.
3. Finding the classroom and \_\_\_\_\_ empty, John sneaked into Mrs. Kane's classroom and took some chalk.
4. The crab \_\_\_\_\_ away when I tried to get closer to it.
5. After \_\_\_\_\_ our new cleaning business, we began to advertise.
6. Kaylee looked \_\_\_\_\_ for a few days after she had the flu.

**A Little  
Extra!**

Write a sentence that you think best describes Mr. Popper's feelings when he joins the expedition to the North Pole.

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1/31 Tues

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Night

# Understanding the Story

## Chapters 19 - 20

HW  
(due Wed.  
2/1)

### Multiple Choice

1. Who pays to get Mr. Popper out of jail? \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) Mrs. Popper.
- (b) Mr. Greenbaum.
- (c) Mr. Swerson.
- (d) Admiral Drake.

2. Where will the penguins go when their performing days are over? \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) The South Pole.
- (b) The North Pole.
- (c) An aquarium.
- (d) The local zoo.

### Short Answer

3. Mr. Popper has a hard time coming to a decision about what to do with the penguins at the end of the story. Explain the reasons behind Mr. Popper's ultimate decision.

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### Long Answer

4. Would you have made the same decision as Mr. Popper does about the penguins? Explain why or why not.

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**A Little Extra!**

On the back of this paper, write a paragraph describing what kind of adventures you imagine Mr. Popper might have at the North Pole. Discuss what you think might be the best thing about his trip and the worst thing about his trip.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Chapter Summary

## Chapters 19 - 20

*Tuesday  
Night HW*

1. If you could give a title to this section of the book, what would it be?

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2. What happens in these chapters?

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3. What is your favorite part of this section of the book?

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4. What new words did you learn in Chapters 19 to 20?

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5. Draw a picture of something you think represents this section.

