

The Silver Secret of the Golden Hind – Chapter 1

Open-Ended Questions

1. Why was León on night watch?

2. León had to work hard on board the Spanish galleon.

Write down three of León's daily chores.

3. Look at the paragraph beginning: And tonight, as...

Why was the approaching ship deliberately slowing its progress in the water?

4. Under a blanket of smoke and dust, the privateers were clambering aboard, using axes and daggers to slash their way through the ship's netting.

What is meant by the phrase blanket of smoke and dust?

5. Look at the paragraph beginning: Under a blanket...

León managed to make his way below decks without being spotted.

Give two reasons why nobody noticed him slip away.

The Silver Secret of the Golden Hind – Chapter 2

Open-Ended Questions

1. Look at the paragraph beginning: *Instead of shining...*

How did León know that he was on a different ship?

2. Look at the paragraph beginning: *It all sounded...*

Why did the rough handling of the trunk make León think that the ship was sinking?

3. *Hearing Diego speak words of Spanish to him instantly comforted León.*

Why did this make León feel instantly comforted?

4. Look at the paragraph beginning: *León thought he...*

Give two reasons to explain why the boys who helped the gunners were called powder monkeys.

5. Using León's situation as an example, explain the meaning of the following saying: the grass is not always greener.

The Silver Secret of the Golden Hind – Chapter 3

Open-Ended Questions

1. Look at the paragraph beginning: *In the following...*

Diego was a good friend to León. How can you tell this by his actions? Give two ways.

2. Look at the paragraph beginning: *“The Spaniards were...*

Why did León tell Diego about how he had been treated by the chief steward?

3. Look from the paragraph beginning: *“When Drake arrived... to the paragraph ending: ... silver was hidden.”*

Why did Drake feel that he could rely on the Cimarrons to keep the location of the treasure a secret?

4. Look from the paragraph beginning: *“Then why do... to the paragraph ending: ... at last Diego spoke.*

Why did it take Diego a long time to speak after he hung his head?

5. *“Because when I came away, I broke my word to someone else. Her name was Almira, the daughter of a Cimarron chief. I loved her from the day I met her.”*

What did Diego mean by the phrase *broke my word*?

The Secret of the Golden Hind – Chapter 4

Open-Ended Questions

1. Look at the paragraph beginning: A few days...

Why did Drake agree to let León join the men who were going ashore?

2. Look at the paragraph beginning: Drake had given...

Explain why the men didn't stay together as one group.

3. Look at the paragraph beginning: There they swung...

At what point would Diego and León have realised that they had been captured by people who wished them no harm?

4. Look at the paragraph beginning: They heard voices...

What evidence is there to suggest that the people outside the hut respected Almira's father?

5. Look from the paragraph beginning: "But that's it... to the paragraph ending: ...rejoin El Draque.

Even though he had been made to feel very welcome, why did León feel like he couldn't stay?

Give two reasons.

The Silver Secret of the Golden Hind – Chapter 5

Open-ended Questions

1. Look at the paragraph beginning: The trouble was...

Why was León looking for a hanging rock?

2. Look at the paragraph beginning: The trouble was...

What was León's biggest worry?

3. It was a small stream, snaking its way between huge moss-covered boulders.

What does the word snaking tell you about the river?

4. Look at the paragraph beginning: The sound of...

Why did León need to be careful as he stretched forward and reached down under the rock?

5. How did Drake reward León for finding the location of the hidden silver?