

Stig of the Dump
Chapter Eight – Comprehension

Section A

1. What did Barney want to do because it was the shortest night?

2. What made Barney eventually fall asleep?

3. How did Barney know it was midnight on his way over to see Stig?

4. Who or what gave Barney and Lou away?

5. What animal does the author compare Barney to when he is moving through the tree?

6. What happened to Barney at the end of the chapter?

Section B

7. What clues, other than the title, are given to show this chapter takes place during summer time?

8. Why was it as ‘light as day’ outside that night?

9. How does Lou feel about going to see Stig?

10. What does the word ‘cautiously’ tell us about the way Barney and Lou move through the wood?

11. Who do you think the people are?

12. Describe how Barney moved through the tree.

Section C

13. Why do you think Barney’s heart was ‘thumping’ when he thought of going to see Stig at night?

14. Barney thought of how dark it would be in the pit. Why do you think this led Barney to asking Lou to go with him?

15. Dinah the dog went off ‘in pursuit’ of the stag. What does ‘in pursuit’ mean?

16. The author describes Flash as moving ‘like the wind’. What technique is being used here?

17. Why was Stig walking ‘sulkily’ away from the camp fire towards the trees?

18. Why did Barney and Lou not reveal themselves straight away?

19. Why do you think the word ‘CRACK’ is written in capital letters?

20. Predict what you think will happen next in the story.

Section D

21. When Barney and Lou head to the chalk-pit, they find it is not there. What do you think has happened?

22. Why do you think the author has chosen to set this chapter at this time?

23. What clues does the author leave that something special and strange is going to happen to Barney and Lou?

24. Find an example of a rhetorical question on this page.

25. What does Stig’s invention tell us about him in his own time compared to the modern day?

26. ‘The two trees shook hands high in the air.’ What technique is being used here?

27. The chapter ends in a cliff-hanger. Explain what this means.

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Chapter Eight – Challenge Activity

Section A

A verb is a word which shows an action. Find examples of verbs from Chapter Eight.

Section B

Look at Barney’s description of the camp from page 197 onwards. Find examples of adjectives and adverbs which are used to describe and add detail to the scene.

Adjectives	Verbs

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Section C

‘Stig is just a figment of Barney’s imagination.’

Do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer below. Remember to support your ideas with evidence from the text.

Section D

Find all the clues that tell the reader Barney and Lou have travelled back in time to the Stone Age.