

Holes by Louis Sachar

Study Guide

1. Identify the following:
 - a. Zero- How did he get his nickname? What did he finally admit to doing?
 - b. Madame Zeroni
 - c. Elya Yelnats
 - d. Stanley- Why does he go to Camp Green Lake? Why do students tease him? What is his nickname?
 - e. Zigzag
 - f. Stanley's father
 - g. Stanley's great-grandfather
 - h. Kissin' Kate Barlow- What was her occupation? How did she become an outlaw?
 - i. Sam-
 - j. Ms. Katherine-
 - k. Trout Walker-
 - l. Mr. Sir-
 - m. Mr. Pedanski-
 - n. Mary Lou
 - o. Clyde Livingston
"Sweet Feet" Livingston
 - p. The Warden
 - q. Camp Green Lake- where is it? What is the only rule?
 - r. Big Thumb
 - s. Yellow-Spotted lizards- describe them
2. What is the worst thing that can happen to you at Camp Green Lake?
3. What choices does the judge give Stanley?
4. What does Stanley learn that he will be doing everyday?
5. Why are there no guard towers or electric fences at the camp?
6. What is the most important rule at Camp Green Lake?
7. What does Stanley determine a nickname indicates?
8. Why does Stanley lie about stealing the sneakers?
9. What does Stanley think when the sneakers fall on his head?
10. According to Mr. Pendanski, why are the boys digging holes every day?
11. When each boy finishes digging his hole, what is the ritual he does?
12. Why do Armpit and X-Ray decide Caveman is tough?
13. Why does Stanley lie about Camp Green Lake when writing to his mother?
14. What is the first thing Stanley finds as he is digging?
15. What does X-Ray ask Caveman to do the next time he finds something?
16. Which of the boys is the understood leader? How do you know this?
17. What does Magnet say he wants to do when he is an adult?
18. What does Stanley find next?
19. How does giving X-Ray his second "find" affect his status with the boys?
20. How does Zigzag release his anger toward Stanley?
21. What does Zero want Stanley to teach him to do?

22. When Stanley is sent to the Warden for stealing sunflower seeds, what does she do to him?
23. In what school subject does Zero excel?
24. After the Warden punishes Mr. Sir, how does he get even with Stanley?
25. What did Hattie Parker see?
26. Why does the sheriff want Sam to hang?
27. How does Sam die?
28. Why does Stanley save his strength during the day?
29. Why won't Stanley drink from his canteen?
30. Why does Trout threaten to kill Kate Barlow?
31. Why do the boys give Stanley a hard time about being "better" than them?
32. What does Mr. Pendanski do about the boys harassing Stanley?
33. Why does Zero hit Mr. Pendanski with the shovel?
34. Why does Stanley drive off in the water truck?
35. Where does Stanley find Zero?
36. What does Stanley plan to tell the Warden to ease their sentence upon returning?
37. Where do Stanley and Zero decide to go?
38. What is Stanley's warning to Zero?
39. How do the boys distract themselves from their hunger and pain?
40. When Zero collapses, what does Stanley do?
41. What does Zero confess to Stanley?
42. Why didn't Zero know the shoes he took belonged to Clyde Livingston?
43. Why does Stanley decide he is glad the shoes hit him on the head?
44. As the two boys make their way down the mountain, what is the unspoken challenge between them?
45. After returning to the hole where Stanley found the lipstick tube, what do the boys uncover?
46. What does Mr. Sir reveal to Stanley about his guilt?
47. Why doesn't Stanley want to leave camp when he is released?
48. Why does Stanley's attorney take Zero with them when they leave?
49. Why aren't Stanley and Zero attacked by the yellow-spotted lizards?
50. How does the author account for the sudden success of Stanley's father?