

## Chapter One

### You Are Entering Camp Green Lake

There is no lake at Camp Green Lake. There once was a very large lake here, the largest lake in Texas. That was over a hundred years ago. Now it is just a dry, flat wasteland.

There used to be a town of Green Lake as well. The town shrivelled and dried up along with the lake and the people who lived there.

During the summer, the daytime temperature hovers around ninety-five degrees in the shade - if you can find any shade. There's not much shade in a big, dry lake.

There are two old oaks on the eastern edge of the 'lake'. A hammock is stretched between the two trees and a log cabin stands behind that.

The campers are forbidden to lie in the hammock. It belongs to the Warden. The Warden owns the shade.

Out on the lake, rattlesnakes and scorpions find shade under rocks and in the holes dug by the campers.

Here's a good rule to remember about rattlesnakes and scorpions: if you don't bother them, they won't bother you.

Usually.

Being bitten by a scorpion or even a rattlesnake is not the worst thing that can happen to you. You won't die.

Usually.

Sometimes a camper will try to be bitten by a scorpion or even a small rattlesnake. Then he will get to spend a day or two recovering in his tent, instead of having to dig a hole out on the lake.

But you don't want to be bitten by a yellow-spotted lizard. That's the worst thing that can happen to you. You will die a slow and painful death.

Always.

If you get bitten by a yellow-spotted lizard, you might as well go into the shade of the oak trees and lie in the hammock.

There is nothing anyone can do to you anymore.

Identify how language, structure and presentation contribute to meaning.

Retrieve and record information

Draw inferences such as inferring characters' feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justifying inferences with evidence

**Questions:**

**1. Why might the town have 'shrivelled and dried up'? (2 marks)**

---

---

---

**2. What does the term 'hovers' tell you about the temperature? Tick one. (1 mark)**

The temperature is really high. ☐

The temperature can be both low and high. ☐

It remains at a similar temperature throughout the year. ☐

The temperature can float. ☐

**3. The author refers regularly to 'shade' at the beginning of the extract. Why do you think this is? (2 marks)**

---

---

---



**4. Read the paragraph starting “Here’s a good rule to remember...” What word in the text is used to show that these events typically happen? (1 mark)**

---

**5. a) What might the campers try to get bitten by? (1 mark)**

---

**5. b) Why would want to get bitten by this creature? (1 mark)**

---

---

**6. “If you get bitten by a yellow-spotted lizard, you might as well go into the shade of the oak trees and lie in the hammock...There is nothing anyone can do to you anymore.”  
What does this mean? Explain your answer fully using evidence from the text. (3 marks)**

---

---

---

---

---

---

**ANSWERS 1. Why might the town have 'shrivelled and dried up'? (2 marks)**

There was a lack of rain so the lake couldn't be refilled. Also, the temperature here was very high and so would have caused the water in the lake to evaporate.

**2. What does the term 'hovers' tell you about the temperature? Tick one. (1 mark)**

The temperature is really high.

☐

The temperature can be both low and high.

☐

It remains at a similar temperature throughout the year.

☒

The temperature can float.

☐

**3. The author refers regularly to 'shade' at the beginning of the extract. Why do you think this is? (2 marks)**

Shade is an important theme in the chapter. There is limited shade in this setting and the only place they can find shade is under the oak tree. There aren't many trees here because it used to be the site of a lake and trees do not grow in lakes.

The shade is important for the people there as it is very hot and so would be something they would seek. It says that the shade belongs to the Warden which shows that it is valuable.

**4. Read the paragraph starting "Here's a good rule to remember..." What word in the text is used to show that these events typically happen? (1 mark)**

Usually

**5. a) What might the campers try to get bitten by? (1 mark)**

scorpion or rattlesnake

**5. b) Why would want to get bitten by this creature? (1 mark)**

You will get to spend a day or two recovering in your tent, rather than having to dig a hole out on the lake which the campers wouldn't want to do.



6. "If you get bitten by a yellow-spotted lizard, you might as well go into the shade of the oak trees and lie in the hammock...There is nothing anyone can do to you anymore."

What does this mean? Explain your answer fully using evidence from the text. (3 marks)

When you get bitten by a yellow-spotted lizard, you will definitely die as in the text it says "You will die a slow and painful death."

Normally the campers are not allowed to lie on the hammock as it belongs to the Warden and they are forbidden from doing so.

However, they know that they are going to die if they've been bitten so they might as well lie on the hammock as there is nothing worse that the Warden can do to them as a form of punishment.

