Monkey’s Paw

**Part I**- Pages 32-37

1. You have probably heard the expression “be careful what you wish for.” Explain what that sentence means. Why should someone be careful about wishing?
2. Exposition: What important background information about the characters and their home is given in the exposition of the story?
3. Prediction- is a logical idea about what will happen in a story. What can you predict will happen between the Whites and their visitor?
4. Who has arrived at the Whites’ house? What is text that tells you?….write it down.
5. Reflect: What do the details about Sergeant Major Morris’s body language and gestures reveal about him?
6. Literary Analysis: What two reactions does Mrs. White have to the paw? Underline the words or phrases that describe her behavior when she sees the monkey’s paw.
7. Foreshadowing is giving details that hint at upcoming events. What might these reactions foreshadow?
8. Reading Check: What prediction can you make about the monkey’s paw. Use your prior knowledge and story details to make your prediction.
9. Literary Analysis: A plot is a sequence of events in a story. The sergeant major tells the Whites the history of the monkey’s paw. What part of the plot is this history?
10. Reflect: What is your opinion about the sergeant major’s behavior toward the Whites and the monkey’s paw? Do you think he is tempting the Whites, or is he trying to warn them against using the paw to make a wish? Explain your response.
11. Literary Analysis: How does the information about the previous wishers foreshadow danger?
12. Reading Check: What does Sergeant Major Morris tell Mr. White to wish for? Write the quote.
13. Conflict: A conflict is a struggle. What is Mr. White’s conflict in the following paragraph?

Mr. White took the paw from his pocket and eyed it dubiously. “ I don’t know what to wish for, and that’s a fact,” he said, slowly. “It seems to me I’ve got all I want.”

1. Reading Skill: Predict the result of Mr. White’s wish. Use your prior knowledge about characters in stories about wishes. Use examples.
2. Reflect: How does the mood of the story change after the first wish has been made?
3. Reading Check: What is the first wish Mr. White makes? Write the text that makes you think so.
4. Literary Analysis: From the following paragraph, what are the words that foreshadow that something bad may happen with regard to the monkey’s paw?

Herbert sat alone in the darkness, gazing at the dying fire, and seeing faces in it. The last face was so horrible and so simian that he gazed at it with amazement. IT got so vivid that, with a little uneasy laugh, he felt on the table for a glass containing a little water to throw over it. His hand grasped the monkey’s paw and with a little shiver he wiped his hand on his coat and went up to bed.