

# The Call of the Wild

Jack London

## The story step by step

- 1 *back*; feet; neck; hands; eyes; throat; mouth; hair; nose; ears; head
- 2 b *Everything here was very different from his quiet life in the sunny Santa Clara Valley.* ✓  
c The dogs did what they were told so that their masters did not hit them. ✓  
g François put him in a harness and made him pull a sled. ✓  
j Perrault worked for the Canadian government, taking things for them from one place to another, across the snow. ✓  
k Billee was kind and friendly, but Joe was an angry dog, and he was always growling. ✓  
l He was an old husky with just one eye and his name was Sol-leks, which means The Lonely One.  
m Like Dave, Sol-leks asked for nothing and he gave nothing. ✓  
n Buck went too close to Sol-leks on the wrong side on that first day, and Sol-leks bit him on the shoulder. ✓  
p There, in a hole under the snow, lay Billee. ✓
- 3 1 H; 2 K; 3 A; 4 J; 5 G; 6 B; 7 E; 8 D; 9 C; 10 I; 11 F
- 4 hard/hardly; sang/song; cold/coldly; sadness/sad; wild/wildly; alive/life; harden/harder; load/loaded; good/well; run/ran; fierce/fiercely; clever/cleverly
- 5 a They started back along the same old trail to Dawson.  
b Buck did not like it, but he had pride in his work.  
c They left in the dark before the sun came up and camped at night.  
d But Buck fought with the fiercest.  
e After he had eaten in the evening, Buck loved to lie near the fire.  
f He moved like a cat, as if he was always afraid of something.  
g He carried a long stick with a big stone on the end.  
h Sometimes in Buck's dreams, the hairy man slept by the fire.  
i Buck saw black eyes in the circling darkness around him.  
j He heard the noise of bodies moving.  
k He knew that they were great animals of the night, looking for food.

6

Who says	this	to whom	about what and/or why?
The man from the other tent	'Do you think it will move?'	Charles and Hal	The sled because it's too full.
Charles	'Why wouldn't it?'	the three men	The sled moving because he doesn't like the men laughing at him.
Charles	Mush! Let's go!	the dogs	To get them moving.
Mercedes	'Poor darlings! You must promise you will be good to them, or I won't come.'	Hal	About the dogs because she doesn't like Hal whipping them.
The man from the other tent	'They're weak as water, if you want to know.'	Charles and Hal	The dogs because he cares about them.
The man from the other tent	'It's frozen in the snow, and you need to push it out.'	Charles and Hal	The sled because he's trying to help.
Hal	'Stop! Stop!'	the dogs	Because the sled went over him.

7 *It was beautiful spring weather.*

The sun came up earlier and went down later.

All day it shone.

The silence was broken by the sound of the land waking up.

Things began to live and move again.

Trees turned green.

Birds sang.

From every hill came the sound of running water.

Everywhere the snow was melting away.

The branches of the trees were bending and breaking.

The sun ate away at the ice from above.

- 8
- a *'The ice is breaking.'*
  - b *'The bottom of the trail will fall out at any moment.'*
  - c *'You've only got here with the luck of fools.'*
  - d *'Well, we're going on to Dawson.'*
  - e *'Get up, Buck! Get up! Mush!'*
  - f *'If you hit that dog again, I'll kill you.'*

g 'Get out of my way. I'm going to Dawson.'

h 'You poor devil.'

9 a 6; b 4; c 2; d 3; e 7; f 9; g 5; h 8; i 10; j 1

10 *looking*; traveling; hunting; fishing; moving; collecting; dreaming; sleeping; walking; listening; smelling; waiting; knowing; watching; lying; standing; sitting; howling; showing; jumping; wanting; biting; growling; making; seeing; running; answering; going; crying; eating; pushing; pressing

11 Buck began to sleep ~~inside~~ **outside** at night, staying away from the camp for ~~weeks~~ **days** at a time. Once he went back up the gorge into the land of ~~woods~~ **forests** and ~~waterfalls~~ **streams**, and stayed there for a ~~month~~ **week**, looking for the wild brother. He killed his meat as he traveled, and fished in the ~~rivers~~ **streams**. Near one stream, he killed a big, black ~~deer~~ **bear**, in a terrible fight that showed the fierceness he still had hidden inside him.

Buck's hunger for the taste of ~~blondes~~ **blood** was stronger now than ever before. He was a killer, living by ~~heating~~ **eating** the animals that he caught. Buck was living life at its ~~worst~~ **best** in a hard world where only the ~~weakest~~ **strongest** could stay alive. He was intelligent and ~~clearer~~ **clever** at getting what he wanted, and he had learned many ~~useful~~ **difficult** lessons during his hard life in the ~~Southland~~ **Northland**. All these things made him as great and ~~wrong~~ **strong** as any wild animal. His body was working perfectly. When he ~~smelled~~ **saw** or heard something, he could jump toward it or away from it twice as fast as any ~~puppy~~ **husky** dog. His muscles were as strong as ~~gold~~ **iron**, and every part of him was full of ~~lift~~ **life**.

12 a *Lying dead under some trees.*

b Some voices.

c Hans.

d Because he saw the Yeehats dancing around the broken-down cabin.

e A terrible roar.

f Yes, they were terribly frightened of him.

g John Thornton.

h He had a feeling of emptiness inside him.

i A pack of wolves.

j Yes, he did.