The Growlers
1. What are growlers? How do you think they got their name?
2. What does Shackleton’s confrontation with the stowaway show us about his character and leadership?
3. In the last chapter (page 9), the author said that Shackleton was a great believer in improvisation: he would figure things out as the need arose. What evidence from the text in this chapter can you find to support this statement?
4. What was the Endurance’s first stop after leaving Britain?
5. Explain what the author meant by this statement: Shackleton never let the men “forget that their strength lay in unity.”

Winter on the Pack
Vocabulary: Write a sentence that conveys the meaning of each word.
succulent
vestige
ice pack aurora australis
brandishes
perpetuate
gramophone
raucous
ailing
1. Why did Shackleton order the fires to be burned down?
2. How was Endurance still moving, even though it was stuck in the ice pack?
3. What is “cabin fever”? What are its effects?
4. How did Shackleton keep the men from getting cabin fever?
5. How was Midwinter’s Day, June 22, celebrated?
“Outside in the darkness, the endless mass of pack ice was grinding against itself like restless giant breaking mountains in its sleep.” How does this statement use of personification, simile, and foreshadowing. What do you predict will happen next?

The Face of the Deep is Frozen
1. How do icebergs enrich the Southern Ocean?
2. Compare/contrast polar sea ice and sea water. Why is polar sea ice drinkable when sea water isn’t?
3. Read the following quote from Shackleton’s diary, which he wrote soon after the crushing ice forced the crew to abandon ship:
   Though we have been compelled to abandon the ship, which is crushed beyond all hope of ever being righted, we are alive and well, and we have stores and equipment for the task that lies before us. The task is to reach land with all of the members of the expedition. Goal
What character traits does Shackleton reveal by this quote?
Where did the title of this chapter come from? Locate and write down the page number and explain where it originated.
5. Shackleton rips a certain page out of the Bible. Why do you think he kept that particular page?
6. List three reasons why the journey to Paulet Island was bound to be so treacherous.
7. Why was blubber an important part of the crew’s diet?
8. Endurance’s crew made many sacrifices in order to survive. What sort of sacrifices would you be willing to make in a situation like this? What sort of sacrifices would you NOT be willing to make?

Page 51 says: “What they would do once they reached this destination (Paulet Island) was not specified: it was enough to have a goal.” Why was having a goal enough?

Mutiny-Close Reading
See - Day

Dry Land
1. Why couldn’t the crew leave the lifeboats behind? What difficulties did they face in dragging them across the ice?
2. Why did McNeish refuse to go farther?
3. How was Shackleton able to convince McNeish to go on?
4. Why did the men feel that they gained nothing by leaving Ocean Camp?
5. “And some of the university men, who were unused to such a hard life, were so demoralized by the events of the last months that they seemed ready to break down.” Based on context clues, the word “demoralized” most likely means?
6. Do you think McNeish had a right to give up, or do you think Shackleton was right in forcing McNeish to continue?
7. What was Shackleton’s responsibility to the other men? Why is mutiny a crime with the punishment of death?

The Open Boat Journey: The First Ten Days
1. “Gentoo penguins porpoised along beside the boat.” What does “porpoised” mean?
2. Why did the James Caird not sail straight to South Georgia Island? Describe the route it took.
3. Describe the men’s routine on the boat and their living arrangements.
4. What did the men eat on the boat?
5. List at least three challenges the men on the James Caird faced as they traveled from Elephant Island to South Georgia Island.
7. “The bottom of the boat was constantly awash, and the two men on watch who weren’t steering were always bailing or pumping.” Based on context clues, “awash” most likely means?

The Alps of the Southern Ocean
1. Why do you think Shackleton asks twice, “Can we stay where we are?” What did he actually mean?
2. Shackleton lies to Worsley and Crean about the time they slept on the mountain. Why did he lie?
3. Explain why Shackleton wasn’t recognized at the whaling station.
4. What was Aurora? What happened to Aurora?
5. How do you explain the “fourth presence” with the men?
Camp Wild

Vocabulary: Write a definition for each word. Then write a sentence using both words.
1. chloroform ________________________________________________________________
2. gangrene _________________________________________________________________
3. __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
4. How did the men construct shelter on Elephant Island?
5. Compare and contrast the winter spent on Elephant Island to the winter spent on Endurance. How were they alike and different?
6. List two jobs the men had on the island.
7. How long was the crew stranded on Elephant Island?
8. Would you rather have been one of the crew of the James Caird or one of the men waiting on Elephant Island? Why?
9. Would you have risked climbing the mountains, or would you have chosen to take the boat instead?