

Name _____ Date _____ # _____

Island of the Blue Dolphins - Chapter Summaries

Answer the summary questions in complete sentences. Remember to restate the question.

Do not use a pronoun without the antecedent.

Correct - **Karana** is the main character in the novel.

Incorrect - **She** is the main character in the novel.

Chapter One

1. Briefly describe Ramo and Karana.
3. Briefly describe the Russian.
4. Tell about the discussion and agreement between Captain Orlov and Chief Chowig.
5. Review why Karana was surprised by her father.

1. Ramo is a lively, imaginative boy who is about six years old.

Karana is _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Vocabulary - 1) Aleut - native to the Aleutian Island, a chain of island located off the coast of Alaska

2) kelp – large, coarse brown seaweed

3) ravine – a deep, narrow cut in the earth

4) parley(v) - to hold an informal conference with an enemy

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Chapter Two

1. Briefly describe the island.
2. Tell why Chief Chowig warned his people about the Aleuts.
3. Review why the Aleuts were angry with the Chief of Ghalas-at.

1. The island was about two leagues long and one _____

2. _____

3. _____

- Vocabulary -
- 1) league – a measure of distance equal to about three miles
 - 2) sparingly – in a thrifty, saving manner
 - 3) pursued – chased
 - 4) stalked – walked stiffly or angrily

Chapter Three

1. Describe the sea otter which the Aleuts hunted.
2. Tell why Karana was angry.
3. Review how the villages knew that the Aleuts were preparing to leave.

1. The Aleuts continually hunted the sea otter, an animal which looks like a _____

2. _____

3. _____

- Vocabulary -
- 1) slain – killed; murdered
 - 2) pelts – the skins of furry animals
 - 3) strewn – covered by objects that are scattered or carelessly spread

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Chapter Four

1. Discuss the argument between Captain Orlov and Chief Chowig.
2. Tell why the villagers thought their chief had fallen.

1. As Captain Orlov and the Aleuts were packing their ship with otter pelts, Chief Chowig _____

2. _____

- Vocabulary -
- 1) ceased – stopped; ended
 - 2) bales – large bundles of material tied together
 - 3) retreat (v) - withdraw; pull back

Chapter 5

1. Tell about the new division of labor, and the men's reaction to women as hunters.
2. Relate the real reason for unrest in the village.
3. Discuss Kimki's decision to explore a country to the east.

1 _____

2. _____

3. _____

- Vocabulary -
- 1) portioned – cut or divided into portions or shares
 - 2) abalones – large sea snails having a bowl-like shell
 - 3) mesa – a flat-topped hill with steep sides
 - 4) decreed – proclaimed; made an official order

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Chapter Six

1. Discuss the villagers' reaction when Kimki did not return.
2. Briefly review the plan if the Aleuts returned.
3. Tell what incident alarmed the tribe.

1. During the long days and months of Kimki's absence, the tribe grew _____

2. _____

3. _____

- Vocabulary -
- 1) shrouded – covered or hid from sight
 - 2) ponder – to consider carefully
 - 3) stout – sturdy; strong
 - 4) dunes – hills of sand formed by the wind

Chapter Seven

1. Discuss the tribe's preparations to leave the island.
2. Tell what happened to Ramo, and describe Karana's reaction to the news about Ramo.
3. Relate what happened once Karana was back on land.

1. When the villagers learned what they would have time to pack, each began

2. _____

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Chapter 7 continued

3. _____

- Vocabulary –
- 1) strode - walked with long steps
 - 2) awl – a pointed tool for poking holes in leather or wood
 - 3) beckoned - summoned with a movement
 - 4) forlorn – sad; hopeless

Chapter Eight

1. Tell what was the children's greatest enemy.
2. Relate Karana's reaction to her brother's death.

1. _____

2. _____

- Vocabulary –
- 1) gorged - ate fast and greedily
 - 2) lair - living or resting place of a wild animal
 - 3) mussels - bluish-black shellfish, somewhat like clams

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Chapter – Nine

1. Discuss Karana’s reactions to being stranded alone.
2. Review Karana’s reason for moving to the rock.
3. Review Karana’s difficult decision to make her own weapons.
4. Relate Karana’s reacton to the island’s solitude.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

- Vocabulary –
- 1) befell - happened to
 - 2) sinews - tendons; the tissues fastening a muscle to a bone
 - 3) crevices - cracks; narrow openings resulting from a split
 - 4) pelicans - large fish-eating birds having a pouch under their beak

Chapter 10

1. Discuss Karana’s realization that no ship would be returning for her.
2. Relate how Karana weathered the fierce storm.
3. Explain Karana’s decision to travel to the country to the east.
4. Briefly review Karana’s troublesome voyage.
5. Tell about Karana’s decision to return to the island.

1. _____

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Chapter 10 continued

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Vocabulary – 1) omen - a sign; a warning
2) chafing - rubbing

Chapter 11

1. Discuss Karana's return to her island.
2. Review Karana's decision to build a house.
3. Discuss the problem of the wild dogs' lair.
4. Tell about the sea elephants' influence on Karana
5. Explain Karana's feeling of good omen.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

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Island of the Blue Dolphins - Chapter Summaries

Chapter 11 continued

4. _____

5. _____

Vocabulary – 1) brackish – having a salty taste, as of the sea

2) clamor – an uproar; a loud sound of shouting and confusion

Chapter 12

1. Tell how Karana made her fence and house.

2. Review Karana's preparations for killing the wild dogs.

1. _____

2. _____

Vocabulary – 1) gruel – a thin porridge

2) sea elephant – a sea animal of the seal family with long tusks, flippers, and a tough hide

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Chapter 13

1. Discuss Karana's fear as she prepared to hunt the bull sea elephant.
2. Briefly describe the sea elephants.
3. Tell about the attack by the young bull sea elephant.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Vocabulary – 1) wary – cautious; careful to avoid danger or difficulty
2) grating – making an unpleasant, harsh, scraping noise
3) rival – a person or opponent that competes with or tries to be better than the other

Chapter 14

1. Describe Karana's encounter with the wild dogs.
2. Tell about Karana's story in the cave.
3. Describe what Karana found when she returned to the sea elephants' place.

1. _____

2. _____

Island of the Blue Dolphins - Chapter Summaries

Chapter 14 continued

3. _____

- Vocabulary –
- 1) lobe – a round part that protrudes or is otherwise set apart
 - 2) venturing – approaching in the face of danger
 - 3) basins – deep bowls that can hold a lot of liquid

Chapter 15

- 1. Discuss briefly the leader of the wild dogs.
- 2. Describe Karana's hunting tactics.
- 3. Tell about Karana's nursing the big gray dog.
- 4. Discuss what happened on the fourth day.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

- Vocabulary –
- 1) bolder – showing more courage; less afraid
 - 2) carcass – the body of any dead animal

Island of the Blue Dolphins - Chapter Summaries

Chapter 16

1. Tell why Karana was not lonely.
2. Review the discovery Karana made while she was canoeing.
3. Briefly describe the devilfish.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Vocabulary – 1) roost - to rest or sleep, as on a perch
2) devilfish – (octopus) a sea animal that has a soft body and eight long arms covered with suckers

Chapter 17

1. Briefly discuss how Karana made the devilfish spear.
2. Discuss Rontu's departure and battle with the dogs.
3. Tell why Karana chose not to shoot the attacking dogs.
4. Describe Rontu's trick to lure the dogs into attacking.
5. Describe Rontu's action after winning the fight with both dogs.

1. _____

2. _____

Island of the Blue Dolphins - Chapter Summaries

Chapter 17 continued

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

- Vocabulary –
- 1) barbed - having a sharp point or edge sticking backward from another point, as on a fishhook
 - 2) heed – attention
 - 3) haunches - the upper legs, including the hips
 - 4) lure - something that attracts or tempts

Chapter 18

1. Briefly describe the island's spring beauty.
2. Discuss Karana's pet birds.
3. Tell how Karana kept her birds from flying away.
4. Briefly describe Karana's "dress-up" clothes.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

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Island of the Blue Dolphins - Chapter Summaries

Chapter 18 continued

4. _____

Vocabulary – 1) singed - burned slightly, especially hair or feathers

Chapter 19

1. Discuss Karana's food-gathering techniques.
2. Tell why Karana avoided hunting when starfish were feeding.
3. Describe Karana's battle with the devilfish.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Vocabulary – 1) prey - to seize animals for food
2) flailing - waving or swinging something about

Island of the Blue Dolphins - Chapter Summaries

Chapter 20

1. Discuss Karana's preparations for winter.
2. Describe Karana's journey to the Black Cave.
3. Tell about Karana's reaction to the Aleut ship.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Vocabulary – shaft – a long pole forming the body of various weapons

Chapter 21

1. Discuss which one of the Aleuts Karana feared.
2. Review how Karana spent her time in the cave.
3. Briefly describe Karana's encounter with the Aleut girl.
4. Tell about Tutok's gift to Karana.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

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Island of the Blue Dolphins - Chapter Summaries

Chapter 21 continued

4. _____

Vocabulary – 1. giddy - silly, light hearted or foolish

Chapter 22

1. Discuss Karana's reaction to the necklace.
2. Describe how Karana and Tutok communicated.
3. Discuss the gift Karana made for Tutok.
4. Explain Karana's feeling when Tutok left.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Vocabulary – 1. prow – the forward part of a boat or ship

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Chapter 23

1. Tell about the one otter Karana befriended.
2. Review how Karana felt when Mon-a-nee left the pool.
3. Tell why this winter was difficult for Karana.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

- Vocabulary –
1. reproachfully - in a scolding manner
 2. smelt – small fish having oily flesh

Chapter 24

1. Discuss Tainor's and Lurai's nest
2. Briefly describe the yard at Karana's house.
3. Review Karana's thoughts about Tutok and Ulape.
4. Describe Karana's reunion with Mon-a-nee.
5. Tell about Karana's decision regarding animals.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

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Island of the Blue Dolphins - Chapter Summaries

Chapter 24 continued

4. _____

5. _____

- Vocabulary –
1. fledglings - young birds
 2. teetering - standing or walking unsteadily
 3. reef - a ridge of sand or rock just about even with the surface of the water.

Chapter 25

1. Discuss the change in the summer habits of the sea otter.
2. Tell Karana's reaction to the passing of time.
3. Describe Rontu's death and burial.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

- Vocabulary –
1. quiver (n) - a case for holding arrows
 2. urged - encouraged; pushed or forced

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Chapter 26

1. Tell about Karana's plan to capture Rontu's son.
2. Explain how xuchal helped Karana catch the dog.
3. Briefly describe Rontu-Aru.
4. Discuss Karana's loneliness for Tutok and Ulape.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

- Vocabulary –
1. glimpse - a brief look
 2. stride (n) - a long step; a manner of walking or running
 3. snares (n) – traps made with a noose
 4. thong – a thin strip of leather used for tying

Chapter 27

1. Discuss the sweltering summer heat.
2. Describe the tidal wave and its effect on Karana.
3. Describe where Karana took refuge from the tidal waves.
4. Briefly tell about Karana's return to the headland.
5. Describe the earthquake that followed the tidal waves.

1. _____

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Island of the Blue Dolphins - Chapter Summaries

Chapter 27 continued

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

- Vocabulary –
1. crest - the top of a wave
 2. currents (n) - flows of water
 3. vanquished - those who are defeated in battle

Chapter 28

1. Discuss Karana's losses from the great waves.
2. Tell what Karana used to start building a new canoe.
3. Explain Karana's reaction to the sighting of the ship and to the man who called to her.
4. Relate what Karana did as the men came ashore.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Island of the Blue Dolphins - Chapter Summaries

Chapter 28 continued

4. _____

- Vocabulary –
1. uneasy - uncomfortable; nervous
 2. hasten - to hurry; speed up
 3. whence – where; what place or source

Chapter 29

1. Tell when the ship finally returned.
2. Describe Karana's actions when she knew she would be rescued.
3. Relate what Karana learned at Mission Santa Barbara.
4. Describe Karana's feelings at leaving the island.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

- Vocabulary –
1. ornament - a decoration of beauty