

Name: _____

Date: _____

Reading Comprehension Worksheet

In The Storm

The Texan Scouts

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Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

The horseman rode slowly toward the west, stopping once or twice to examine the wide circle of the horizon with eyes that were trained to note every aspect of the wilderness. On his right the plains melted away in gentle swell after swell, until they met the horizon.

On his left was the wide bed of a river which flowed through the sand, breaking here and there into several streams, and then reuniting, only to scatter its volume a hundred yards further into three or four channels. A bird of prey flew on strong wing over the water, but there was no other sign of life.

The horseman looked most often into the south. His glances into the north were few and brief. His was an attractive face. He was young, only a boy, but the brow was broad and high, and the eyes, grave and steady. He was clad completely in buckskin. A rifle held in one hand lay across the pommel of his saddle and there were weapons in his belt. Two lights and blankets, folded closely, were tied behind him. The tanned face, strong figure showed a wonderful degree of health and strength. Several hours passed and the horseman rode on steadily though slowly. He never failed to search the plains on either side, but chiefly in the south.

But the lonesome gray land, cut by the coiling yellow river, still rolled before him. It was the depth of the Texan winter, and, at times, icy gusts, born in far mountains, swept across the plains.

The rider presently turned his horse toward the river and stopped on a low bluff overlooking it, as if his eyes failed to find objects for which they sought. Again he gazed long and patiently into the south, but without reward.

He resumed his ride parallel with the river, but soon stopped a second time, and held up an open hand, like one who tests the wind. The air was growing perceptibly colder. The strong gusts were now fusing into a steady wind. The day, which had not been bright at any time, was turning darker. The sun was gone and in the far north banks of mists and vapor were gathering. A dreary moaning came over the plain.

Answer the question.

1. What is the main idea of this passage?
2. How do you know
3. Underline the five sentences that help you know the main idea
4. Write a summary. Tell what is most important?