

Chpts. 1-3 Discussion questions:

*Answer each question in a complete sentence.*

1. Describe what kind of dog Shiloh is and what he looks like. (Shiloh is a beagle. He is a shorthaired dog- white with brown and black spots.)
2. How did Shiloh react when Marty first called him to “come”? (The dog goes down on his stomach; groveling in the grass.)
3. How did Marty get Shiloh to finally come to him? (He whistled.)
4. What did Marty tell his dad he wanted to be when he grows up? (A traveling/country vet.)
5. Marty does not like Judd Travers for four reasons. Give one of the reasons. (1. He switched a \$10 for a \$20 bill in the store, 2. He spits tobacco very close to you, 3. He was very rude to Marty at the fair, 4. He kills deer out of season.)
6. What does Judd Travers do to Shiloh when they bring him back? (He kicks Shiloh.)
7. What does Marty decided he has to do for Shiloh? (He decides that he has to buy him from Judd.)
8. What does Marty’s dad suggest he do to earn money? What is wrong with his plan? (His dad suggests that he collect cans and bottles to earn money. The problem is that would take too long to earn enough money.)
9. What does Marty’s dad do for a living? (Marty’s dad is a postman.)

Chpts. 4-6 Discussion questions:

*Answer each question in a complete sentence.*

1. When Marty found Shiloh in his front yard, what did he decide to do with him? (Marty decided to not take him back to Judd Travers.)
2. What did Marty do in order to keep Shiloh? (He made a pen in the woods for him to stay in.)
3. Why was Marty tense? (He was afraid that Shiloh was going to bark.)
4. What was Marty's main problem now? (He was going to have a problem getting Shiloh enough food.)
5. What time of the year does the story take place? (The story takes place in the summer.)
6. Why was Marty's heart pounding? (His heart is pounding because Judd has come over to ask about the dog and Marty is afraid he'll find Shiloh.)
7. What was Marty's dilemma about lying to Judd Travers? (He didn't know if he should be honest and take the dog back or lie and keep him safe.)
8. Where did Shiloh go during the rain? (Shiloh stayed in the pen during the rain.)
9. How much did Judd Travers pay for Shiloh? (Judd paid \$35.00 for Shiloh.)

### Chpts. 7-9 Discussion questions:

*Answer each question in a complete sentence.*

1. What was the pet that David showed Marty? What was its name? (The pet was a hermit crab named Hermie.)
2. What did Marty take from David's house to give to Shiloh? (Marty took ½ of a chicken salad sandwich and chocolate covered graham crackers.)
3. Then what did he buy for Shiloh at the store with his 53¢? (Marty then bought a block of moldy cheese, sour cream and frandfurters.)
4. How does Marty feel about lying to his friends and family? (Marty felt "not good, but not exactly bad.")
5. Marty's plan for keeping Shiloh has worked so far, but what happened that caused him to be nervous? (Judd wanted to hunt on their land.)
6. Why do you think people are leaving food for Marty's dad? (Because Marty bought the spoiled food, people think that his family can't afford to buy food.)
7. What kind of game do Marty and Shiloh play? (Marty covers his face with his arms and Shiloh tries to uncover his face.)
8. Who found Marty and Shiloh? What made that person suspicious? (Marty's mom found him because he took an extra helping of squash to give to Shiloh and his mom said that he never eats more than one helping of squash.)
9. What was the promise that Marty and his mom made? (Marty promised not to run away and his mom promised not to tell his dad about Shiloh for one day.)
10. What happened to Shiloh that made Marty bawl and caused his dad to find out about the hidden dog? (Shiloh was attacked by a German sheperd and he was bleeding badly. Marty thought he was dead.)

Chpts. 10-12 Discussion questions:

*Answer each question in a complete sentence.*

1. Where did Dad take Shiloh after his attack? Was that person a veterinarian? (Dad took Shiloh to Doc Murphy who was a regular doctor, not a vet.)
2. What happened when Doc Murphy asked to whom the dog belonged? (Marty told the truth- that he belonged to Judd Travers.)
3. What did Marty whisper in Shiloh's ear as he was leaving Doc Murphy's house? ("Live, Shiloh, live!")
4. Why do you think Marty's dad may not have believed him when he said he was telling the truth on the bottom of page 93? (Because if he lied once, he might be lying about more things.)
5. What did Marty's dad think was the "right thing to do" about Shiloh? (Dad said, "you have to go by the law". He thought that they should give the dog back to Judd.)
6. What did Marty's dad say about keeping Shiloh? (Dad said that they could keep him until he was well, then they would have to take him back.)
7. What happened when Dad found out that Ma knew about Shiloh? (Dad was upset with Ma for keeping a secret.)
8. Of the seven people who know about Shiloh, why does Marty think his sister Becky will tell someone about it? (He thinks that a secret is just too big for a little kid.)
9. Describe Shiloh's recovery. (It was quicker than expected.)
10. How does the family react to Shiloh? List examples of how each family member reacts. (The whole family likes Shiloh a lot. Ma is petting him all the time. Dad let him lick his plate after dinner and removes his ticks every evening. Becky feeds him crusts off her bread. Dara Lynn brushes Shiloh's hair.)
11. Who told Judd Travers about Shiloh and where he was? (Doc Murphy told Judd where Shiloh was.)

12. Who finally asked Judd if they could buy the dog? What did Judd say? (Ma finally asked Judd if they could buy the dog and Judd said “he’s not for sale.”)

**Draw** a picture of the main setting of the story and the members of the Preston family. Label the family members with their names. Don’t forget to color your picture!

(Main setting = the house in the hills of W.Va.)

(Characters = Ma, Dad (Ray), Marty, Dara Lynn, and Becky. Shiloh, optional.)

### Chpts 13-15 Discussion questions:

*Answer each question in a complete sentence.*

1. What is the “proof” Marty thinks shows that Judd mistreats his dogs. (Marty found a dog with a bullet hole in its head near Judd’s house.)
2. What two animals did Marty encounter on his way to Judd’s. (Marty encountered a rabbit and a deer/doe on his way to Judd’s house.)
3. What was Judd doing in the woods? (Judd was shooting deer out of season.)
4. What is the fine for killing a doe out of season? (\$250.00)
5. What does Marty mean on page 122 when he says “I realize I got Judd Travers right where I want him”? (He now has something he can use to bargain with for Shiloh.)
6. Why did Marty feel that he could stand up to Judd? What made him do and say things that he normally wouldn’t say or do? (His love for Shiloh made Marty feel that he could say or do anything to get him back.)
7. How much money did Judd say he wanted to Shiloh? (\$40.00)
8. What bargain did Judd and Marty make to pay for the dog? (Marty would work for Judd for 20 hours and \$2.00 per hour.)
9. When Marty go Shiloh, he said it was “the finest day of his life, and in a way it wasn’t.” What did he mean? (He was so happy that he got the dog, but he kept thinking that Judd might go back on his word.)
10. What did Judd say about the paper that he signed selling Shiloh? (He said it was no good because it wasn’t witnessed.)
11. What was a sign that Marty was making progress with Judd? (Judd set out some water with ice in it for Marty.)
12. What did Judd give Marty on his last day of work for him? (Judd gave Marty a dog collar for Shiloh.)