

**SYNOPSIS**

Tony Laporte, accustomed to getting what he wants from his hard-working parents and looking for something "real and different" to happen, brings home a stray dog in an attempt to inject some adventure into his life. Infuriated when his parents chase the dog out after it disturbs their landlords, Tony decides to "show them" and runs off in a severe snowstorm in his mother's '51 Plymouth although he is too young legally to drive. He picks up an equally young hitchhiker, Cindy Reichert, an aloof loner who preferred hitching in a bitterly cold snowstorm to waiting for hours in a people-crowded bus station.

Driving up New York Route 11 behind a slow snowplow, Tony impatiently turns off onto a side road, bragging about a short cut and his driving skills. Cindy is terrified. They become hopelessly lost; the car is wrecked off the road in a vast and remote uninhabited area called Tug Hill.

Tony angrily blames Cindy for the accident, worries about the damage to his mother's car, and confidently awaits rescue in the morning. Cindy realizes nobody knows where they are and that prospects of rescue are dim. After Tony uses all the gas to run the heater, Cindy leaves the car the next morning to look for help and save herself. She struggles to the top of a rise, panics when she sees no signs of civilization, and returns to the car with frostbitten toes.

In the car, Tony and Cindy quarrel continually. Cindy considers Tony a conceited know-it-all; Tony thinks Cindy acts superior and stuck-up. Cindy now urges cooperation for survival, but Tony is reluctant to think of anything but his own discomfort. Over Tony's misguided objections—"My father will skin me alive"—they start a fire in the car to keep from freezing. Cindy rations her cookies for both of them; Tony steals some while she sleeps. They huddle together wrapped in a blanket and a duffel bag.

After another day of snow and night in the car, Tony decides to search for help. Cindy stays behind, unable to walk until her frostbite abates; she keeps herself alive by munching cookies, drinking hot melted snow, and restarting the fire when it dies out. Alone in the car for three days, Cindy keeps a journal of her thoughts and fears and begins to realize she has been too quick to judge people, too fast to feel injury, too aloof. She regrets her judgment of Tony as arrogant and conceited and wonders what he is really like.

Meanwhile, Tony flounders through the hip-deep snow, encounters a pack of vicious wild dogs, and follows a stream to a deserted hunting camp where he finds a small store of canned food. He lingers in the camp for two days, eating

rice and fish and reveling in the wood-stove warmth. Finally, regretfully, he returns to the car with food and blankets.

A week and a day after the wreck, Tony and Cindy set off together for the camp, using the car's hood as a sled to carry everything of value with them. Miraculously, they hear snowmobiles nearby. In his misguided anxiety to reach the snowmobilers, Tony sleds down a long slope, crashes into a ravine, and severely injures his ankle. Despair overcomes Tony; he refuses to walk. Cindy drags him to a rock outcropping, gathers their gear, makes a fire, fixes bedding, fights off panic. The wild dogs hover nearby.

In the morning, Cindy agonizingly pulls Tony on the sled through the ravine until Tony gives up and refuses to push any longer or help in any way. Blaming each other for everything, Tony stays behind while Cindy goes ahead alone. But realizing they have no chance alone, Cindy returns as Tony yells for help and together they flee the blood-crazed dogs as the pack kills a deer.

All supplies gone and directionless, Tony and Cindy are now totally dependent upon each other. Yoked together, they stagger forward, depleting the last of their physical resources. At day's end, they discover hope—a state park picnic area; the next morning, they stumble up the road to civilization.

Back home, in the hospital, Tony and Cindy both realize their experience has changed them. Tony is ready to take responsibility for his own actions. To signal the change, he insists on paying for his mother's wrecked car, to show his parents he is no longer the "spoiled, punk kid" he used to be. Cindy, for her part, realizes many people know and care about her; she has cast her aloofness aside, embraces Tony as a brother, and eagerly anticipates visiting his family. By reaching out to each other for survival, Tony and Cindy have given birth to their new selves, caring, mature, and responsive to others.

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Harry Mazer (1925- ) is a professional writer of juvenile fiction who lives in Jamesville, New York, with his wife, author Norma Fox Mazer. Father of four, Mazer turned to full-time writing in the early 1960's. His works include *Hey, Kid! Does She Love Me?* (1985), *I Love You, Stupid* (1981), *The Island Keeper* (1980), *The Last Mission* (1979), *The War on Villa Street* (1978), and *The Dollar Man* (1974).

"What I'm very much concerned with," Mazer states, "is survival, in one form or another. If I have a message, it's that

## SNOW BOUND

you, too, can cope; you can get through this period in your life. You have the strength in yourself."  
(*Contemporary Authors*, Vol. 97-100)

### CRITIC'S CORNER

*Snow Bound*, Mazer's second novel, was praised by critics for its "unlagging action" and perceptive, sympathetic portrayal of two radically different adolescents. The novel was translated into a TV movie by the Learning Corporation of America in 1978. Representative critical comments include these:

"*Snow Bound* is a crackling tale; Mazer tells it with vigor and authority." (*New York Times Book Review*, 8/12/73)

"An engrossing story that will be of interest to adolescents struggling through this awkward stage of their own lives." (*Library Journal*, 7/73)

"A persuasive and entertaining study of humans . . . fighting against implacable natural forces." (*Publishers' Weekly*, 3/26/73)

### INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES

1. To examine the necessity of taking responsibility for your own actions and using your actions to take charge of your own life
2. To explore the theme of mutual cooperation by observing the effects of both selfishness and cooperation on Tony and Cindy's attempts to survive
3. To observe the effect of parental role models, or lack of them, through Cindy's maladjustment to people
4. To analyze the desirable extent of parental permissiveness and consider what limits might prevent a child from becoming spoiled and self-centered like Tony
5. To discuss the extreme self-consciousness of adolescents and ways to combat it
6. To study the will to survive and the extremes it permits human beings to endure
7. To understand the reason for and function of daydreaming
8. To investigate the nature of irony through the contrast between Tony's fantasizing and actual events

### MEANING STUDY

Below are words, phrases, or sentences that have a particular meaning in the novel. Explain each as it relates to the book. Use the page numbers given in parentheses to reread the term in context if you wish.

1. Cindy's anonymous costume (p. 24)  
(Cindy wears old blue jeans, a loose black turtleneck,

plain rubber boots, and a shapeless brown coat. Her clothing is deliberately chosen to be devoid of any fashion or color, any detail, that would draw attention to her. Cindy's anonymous costume is one of the devices the girl uses to maintain her detachment from other people.)

2. there was something a little masochistic about her hitchhiking (p. 26)

(By hitchhiking, Cindy deliberately places herself in a painful situation, in "pure torture:" having to communicate with another person, a total stranger. Nevertheless, Cindy continues to hitch because of "really rotten" bus service. She copes with the agony by reciting a few key phrases to get the driver talking and take the burden of communication off her shoulders.)

3. carbon monoxide poisoning (p. 55)

(Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless, tasteless gas found in automobile exhaust fumes. Carbon monoxide can infiltrate a closed, unmoving car; inhaling too much of the gas can cause death. Cindy is justifiably worried about carbon monoxide poisoning when Tony runs the car engine after the wreck so the heater will work.)

4. frostbitten (p. 60)

(Skin and tissue may freeze when exposed to severe cold, especially extremities like toes, fingers, and ears. Like Cindy's toes, frostbitten tissue becomes numb and white; thawing out is painful and must be done slowly in dry and warm air, never by massaging as Tony suggests.)

5. "Your sense of values is distorted. Private property means nothing now." (p. 67)

(Cindy points out to Tony that values change in extreme circumstances. Survival by burning a fire inside the car far outweighs the damage caused by the fire to the car. Later, Tony demonstrates his assimilation of Cindy's lesson when he breaks into the hunting camp and freely uses its contents to improve his chances of survival.)

6. duffel bag (pp. 68, 106)

(A duffel bag is a large, cylindrical bag of heavy canvas, usually green, used by military personnel to carry personal belongings. A duffel bag in the car provides a foot-warming sack, and another duffel bag in the hunting camp yields a trove of blankets.)

7. "All those five-dollar words." (p. 80)

(Tony calls Cindy's use of multisyllabic (gastronomical) and formal (ethnic origins) expressions "five-dollar words"—extra-long or fancy words when simpler ones would do. Tony thinks Cindy is showing off by using these words. "That's just the way I talk," she explains, but she does wish she could communicate more easily and naturally.)

## SNOW BOUND

8. ethnic origins (p. 80)  
*(One of Cindy's "five-dollar" expressions, ethnic origins are a person's racial and/or national background, the culture of a person's forebears. When Cindy refers to Tony as Italian, she immediately reflects her communication insecurity; she wonders if she has said something wrong, and asks rather stiffly, "Do you mind my mentioning your ethnic origins?")*
9. Mother Nature, what a lie! (p. 89)  
*(Cindy has always loved all aspects of nature, finding beauty in its myriad manifestations. Such beauty must have meaning, Cindy has believed; Nature must be God. Trapped in the snow, however, Cindy now sees beautiful Nature as cruel and indifferent, scarcely maternal, in no way linked to a caring God.)*
10. "But this time, we gave birth to ourselves." (p. 141)  
*(In this line, Cindy sums up to Tony the effect of their ordeal. Helpless as babies at first, Cindy and Tony have taken charge of their lives, their own survival. Forced to discard their childishness and selfishness, they have grown and matured and have "given birth" to their newly emergent responsible, self-sufficient adult selves.)*

### COMPREHENSION STUDY

1. Why is Tony confident his parents will let him keep the stray dog?  
*(Tony is accustomed to getting his own way with his parents. In an effort to give their children a more prosperous life than they had growing up, Mr. and Mrs. Laporte have spoiled Tony by showering him with material possessions—a baseball glove, a suede jacket, and a Sony TV for Christmas, for example—and granting most of his wishes. Tony has become predictably complacent about getting his parent's permission for almost anything. "They might say no at first to something he wanted . . . , but they came around. They always had, and they always would." Tony is so stunned when his desires are thwarted, he takes his mother's car and drives away: "For what they'd done, he'd give them something to worry about.")*
2. What reasons are suggested for Cindy's aloofness, her detachment from other people?  
*(Cindy has patterned herself after her father, who doesn't care much for people, prefers his own company, and hates having his routine disrupted by personal contacts such as traveling or visiting. From her father, Cindy has learned to be cool and self-contained. Cindy has had no other role model, since her mother died when the girl was three, so Cindy has had no way to learn interpersonal skills. She feels so awkward in her relationships with other people that she avoids and agonizes over personal contacts.)*
3. Describe the ways in which Tony and Cindy blame each other for their problems.  
*(Cindy blames Tony for getting them lost by insisting on following the impassable "short cut," for impeding survival attempts by waiting passively for rescuers to arrive; for thinking only of himself; for riding the sled and therefore breaking his ankle and slowing their progress down to a crawl.  
Tony blames Cindy for wrecking the car by grabbing the wheel; for making him come back from the hut and then slowing them down because of her frostbitten feet; for acting superior and bringing him bad luck.)*
4. Which actions of Tony's threaten his and Cindy's survival?  
*(Tony places them in the life-threatening position by pulling off Route 11 in a fit of impatience and continuing on the back road although he is lost. In the car, he runs the motor all night instead of conserving fuel; gives the wrong first-aid advice to Cindy about frostbite; gobbles food instead of sharing and rationing; resists starting a fire in the car. Later, Tony spends an extra day in the hut before returning for Cindy; insists on riding the "sled" down a steep hill and breaks his ankle; succumbs to despair and makes Cindy drag him and the sled forward through the ravine with little or no help.)*
5. In what ways does Tony change because of his experience?  
*(Tony drives his mother's car toward Waterville in a fit of pique, a spoiled child's temper tantrum. Tony thinks only of himself, expects his wishes to be granted with little effort on his own part, is more than ready to blame Cindy for the results of his own actions, hoards and steals food, and resents any necessity to share or cooperate. Gradually, Tony comes to accept responsibility for the situation and for helping Cindy and himself survive. He returns to the car for Cindy, accepts his dependence on her help to walk, and divides half a loaf of frozen bread "carefully." Back home, Tony signals his readiness to assume responsibility for himself and his actions by insisting on paying for the wrecked car. "When he'd taken the car he'd acted like a spoiled, punk kid. He wanted them to know he wasn't that way anymore.")*
6. In what ways does Cindy change because of her experience?  
*(Cindy has always held herself aloof from other people, avoiding personal contacts, "an observer who saw and recorded everything and touched no one." Quick to categorize people negatively, Cindy sums up Tony as a "conceited know-it-all" and readily argues with him. Forced into communication and cooperation, Cindy begins to care about Tony and what kind of person he really is. She realizes she has been too critical of people, too ready with snap*

## SNOW BOUND

judgments, and she resolves to let people get close to her if she survives. Back home, she realizes many people do care about her and reveals her new openness by claiming Tony as a brother and declaring her eagerness to visit Tony's family.)

7. What do Tony and Cindy learn about cooperation?

*(After Cindy runs away from the car to save herself and frostbites her feet, she realizes help is not imminent. "We have to cooperate," she tells Tony, and "help each other." Tony resists, cooperating only reluctantly. Cindy persists, even giving Tony her scarf and most of the cookies when he leaves the car to search for help. On the final trek, cooperation disintegrates in the face of Tony's injury-induced apathy and depression; Cindy leaves Tony behind. However, confrontation with wild dogs snaps both Tony and Cindy back to reality. Without Tony, Cindy realizes she is terribly alone. "Together they had a small chance of being saved," Cindy thinks. "Alone they were both lost." Tony, finally, agrees; only with Cindy's help can he walk. "He couldn't have survived without Cindy," he acknowledges to himself. Survival, life itself, they both learn, requires cooperation between people.)*

8. Explain the irony of Tony's wish for something "real and different" to happen to him and his daydream of "rescuing someone from great danger."

*(When Tony wishes for something to happen in his life, he dreams of excitement and adventure rather like a TV action show. The "real" things Tony imagines are driving off across the country with a passing trucker, or fearlessly tracking down bombs with his dog. He will rescue terrified children on a school bus or coolly land a hijacked plane full of hysterical passengers. Tony does get his wish for something "real and different," but the reality is shockingly, life-threateningly different from his dreams. And while Tony does in fact rescue someone from great danger, it is someone he never for a moment imagined rescuing—himself.)*

9. In your opinion, who makes a greater contribution to survival, Tony or Cindy? Why? Or were both equal contributors? Why?

*(Answers will vary.)*

10. Write a return letter from Tony to Cindy responding to Cindy's request "to know how you are, the real you, the inside you."

*(Letters will vary.)*

### STUDENT INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES

- On a map of New York State, trace Tony and Cindy's route up I-85 and Route 11 toward Watertown and through the Tug Hill area to Redfield. Try to find some travel guide descriptions of the area.
- Plan a five-day winter camping/survival trip in extremely cold, snowy terrain. Make a detailed list of all the equipment and supplies you will need.
- Reread the Christina Rossetti poem on pages 104-05. Find another poem or compose your own about snow, cold, and/or winter and read it aloud to the class.
- Tony daydreamed a lot before his real adventure. Do you daydream? Describe some of your favorite daydreams.
- Keep a journal like Cindy's for a week, recording your thoughts about and impressions of each day's events.
- Explain the nursery rhyme Cindy writes in her journal: "If *it's* and *and's* were pots and pans, there'd be no need for tinkers."
- Tony's parents often say they both work hard so their kids can have a better life than they'd had. What kinds of obligations, if any, does this impose on Tony and his sisters? Prepare to discuss this question in class.
- Invite someone who has had a winter survival experience, voluntary or involuntary, to describe that experience to your class.

## SNOW BOUND

### VOCABULARY TEST

Match each underlined word with its definition listed below. Write the letter of the appropriate definition in the space next to the sentence number.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. She sat on the edge of the seat as the car lurched and tossed down the hill.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. It was abysmally stupid.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The going was terribly hard. Cindy floundered on.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. "I told you not to go out, didn't I?" he said complacently.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Cindy's eyes became flinty.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. "This is futile," Cindy said, shivering.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. He pushed the fragrant green boughs into the front on her side.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Tony stared at her balefully.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. No noise, only the raucous cries of blue jays calling to each other in the woods.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. She indiscriminately loved fogs and first snowfalls, thunderstorms, and hailstones.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. He'd persevered. He'd gotten through.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. I had to be so aloof, so critical and demanding.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. "This must be the greatest gastronomical experience of my life," Cindy said.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. His old trail had been obliterated by the new fall of snow.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. He laughed derisively.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 16. The dread that had been growing in him from the beginning now overwhelmed him.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 17. She heard Tony yell in the distance, a desperate inarticulate cry for help.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 18. One garbage can after another was empty and scoured clean.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 19. They'd lived ten days in the snow, stayed alive by their own efforts and ingenuity.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 20. My father wanted to know how you behaved during the ordeal.

a. scrubbed  
b. useless  
c. deeply  
d. scornfully  
e. unyielding

f. wiped out  
g. distant  
h. wallowed  
i. kept on  
j. evilly

k. staggered  
l. great fear  
m. wordless  
n. food-related  
o. inventiveness

p. tree branches  
q. harshly noisy  
r. severe trial  
s. nonselectively  
t. with self-satisfaction

## SNOW BOUND

### COMPREHENSION TEST A

#### Part I: Character Identification (30 points)

Match each statement with the appropriate character in the list below. Write the letter of your answer in the space provided next to the statement number.

- |  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| _____ 1. Hates traveling, visiting, or having a routine disrupted. | a. Tony Laporte         |
| _____ 2. Lucinda.  | b. Cindy Reichert       |
| _____ 3. Lives on a lonely road in Redfield.                       | c. Mr. Laporte          |
| _____ 4. Own the house in which the Laporte family lives.          | d. Mrs. Laporte         |
| _____ 5. One of Tony's sisters.                                    | e. Grandmother Reichert |
| _____ 6. Cares very much about her three dogs.                     | f. Mr. Reichert         |
| _____ 7. Dreams of rescuing someone from great danger.             | g. Lillian Littlejohn   |
| _____ 8. Took a first-aid course last summer.                      | h. the Bielecs          |
| _____ 9. Causes the problem that spurs Tony to run away.           | i. Uncle Leonard        |
| _____ 10. Owns a '51 Plymouth.                                     | j. King Arthur          |
| _____ 11. Warns Cindy she is in Snow Belt country.                 | k. David                |
| _____ 12. Worries about damaging the car by lighting a fire.       | l. Evie                 |
| _____ 13. Chases Arthur down the street.                           |                         |
| _____ 14. Lives near Watertown.                                    |                         |
| _____ 15. Divides half a loaf of bread equally.                    |                         |

#### Part II: Fill-In (20 points)

Write a word in each blank to make each statement true.

1. Tony and Cindy find themselves marooned in the area called \_\_\_\_\_
2. Cindy and Tony's trek ends at a picnic area in a \_\_\_\_\_
3. Tony claims he is taking a \_\_\_\_\_ from Route 11 to Watertown.
4. While Tony is gone, Cindy records her thoughts in a \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The "sled" is actually the \_\_\_\_\_ of the wrecked car.
6. Cindy's \_\_\_\_\_ died when Cindy was very young.
7. The story takes place in the State of \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Cindy's toes become \_\_\_\_\_ in the snow.
9. Cindy worries about \_\_\_\_\_ poisoning in the car.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ gather outside Tony and Cindy's shelter in the ravine.

## SNOW BOUND

### Part III: True-False (30 points)

Mark each statement either **T** for true or **F** if any part is false.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Cindy burns her school books to keep the fire going.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Tony decides not to go back to the car for Cindy.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. In the woods, Tony and Cindy race after the snowmobiles they hear nearby.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Tony offers to share his cookies with Cindy.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. The Laportes' landlords say Tony can keep his dog.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Tony avoids state troopers because he has no driver's license.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. At first, Tony is very confident they will be rescued soon.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Tony and Cindy realize right away that they must cooperate in order to survive.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Tony gathers firewood, evergreens for bedding, and limbs for a smoke signal.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Cindy drinks hot "tea" made from snow.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. A rescue party finally reaches Tony and Cindy in the picnic area.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. Cindy never lets the fire go out.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. The Laporte family is Italian.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. Tony hides a stale peanut butter sandwich and doesn't share it with Cindy.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. Tony has two sisters.

### Part IV: Essay Questions (20 points)

1. Why does Tony turn off I-91 and then off Route 11?

2. What is Tony's initial attitude toward girls and women?

**SNOW BOUND**

**COMPREHENSION TEST B**

**Part I: Character Identification (30 points)**

Match each statement with the appropriate character in the list below. Write the letter of your answer in the space provided next to the statement number.

- |  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| _____ 1. Calls Cindy "Lucinda."  | a. Tony Laporte         |
| _____ 2. Is an official in the local labor union.                                    | b. Cindy Reichert       |
| _____ 3. Catches and eats a number of fish.  | c. Mr. Laporte          |
| _____ 4. Spends part of a night in the basement of Tony's home.                      | d. Mrs. Laporte         |
| _____ 5. First driver to pick up Cindy when she hitchhikes.                          | e. Grandmother Reichert |
| _____ 6. Often takes Tony hunting and fishing.                                       | f. Mr. Reichert         |
| _____ 7. Suggests lighting a fire in the car.  | g. Lillian Littlejohn   |
| _____ 8. Tells Tony's sisters to help with the housework.                            | h. the Bielecs          |
| _____ 9. The Laportes' landlords.  | i. Uncle Leonard        |
| _____ 10. One of Tony's sisters.   | j. King Arthur          |
| _____ 11. Plays hookey from school.  | k. David                |
| _____ 12. A dermatologist with a passion for golf and the cello.                     | l. Donna                |
| _____ 13. First person Tony and Cindy encounter when they get out of the wilderness. |                         |
| _____ 14. Refuses to go any further in the ravine.                                   |                         |
| _____ 15. Writes poetry.   |                         |

**Part II: Fill-In (20 points)**

Write a word in each blank to make each statement true.

1. Cindy has just spent the weekend with her \_\_\_\_\_.
2. On the morning of the second day, Tony and Cindy hear a \_\_\_\_\_ overhead.
3. Tony and Cindy use the car's \_\_\_\_\_ to start their fire.
4. Tony's mother's car is a 1951 blue \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Tony decides to drive to his Uncle Leonard's near \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Mr. Laporte says it is a \_\_\_\_\_ that Tony and Cindy survived.
7. In her letter to Tony, Cindy tells him he is now her \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Tony tells Cindy she should \_\_\_\_\_ her frostbitten toes, but Cindy says that's the worst thing to do.
9. Cindy rations out forty-eight \_\_\_\_\_ to eat in the car.
10. Mrs. Littlejohn thinks Cindy and Tony look like \_\_\_\_\_ retreating from a battlefield.



## SNOW BOUND

### Part III: Multiple Choice (30 points)

Choose an ending to complete each statement correctly. Write the letter of your choice in the space provided next to the statement number.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. When Tony brings the stray dog home, (a) his sisters beg their parents to keep the dog (b) Mrs. Laporte agrees to keep the dog (c) the landlords insist the Laportes get rid of the dog (d) the dog bites Mr. Laporte.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Cindy thinks she is (a) a bit chubby but pretty (b) an observer who touches no one (c) too friendly and outgoing (d) over-confident.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Tony decides to drive off in his mother's car because (a) he wants his parents to worry (b) he can search for the dog in the car (c) he has promised to visit his uncle (d) he wants to practice driving in the snow.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Tony won't go into the diner on Route 11 (a) when he sees state troopers inside (b) because he has no money (c) after arguing with Cindy about stopping (d) because it is snowing so hard.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Tony turns off Route 11 onto the "short cut" because (a) the main road is snowed in (b) Cindy tells him to (c) he sees several other cars doing the same thing (d) he is impatient at being behind a snowplow.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Right after the car is wrecked (a) Cindy is confident they will be found soon (b) Tony knows they will not be found soon (c) Cindy and Tony blame each other for what has happened (d) Tony goes for help.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Cindy and Tony stay warm the first night by (a) lighting a fire in the car (b) running the engine and heater (c) wrapping themselves in blankets (d) stomping their feet and clapping their hands.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Cindy's toes become frostbitten when (a) the car's heater stops running (b) snow piles up inside the car (c) she panics and runs off into the snow (d) Tony pushes her out of the car.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. From the car radio's weather report, Tony and Cindy learn that (a) area highways, schools, and businesses are all closed (b) search parties are looking for them (c) their parents have reported them missing (d) not too much snow has actually fallen.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Tony leaves the car (a) because he is mad at Cindy (b) to try to find the snowmobiles (c) because he panics (d) because no one is looking for them where they are.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Cindy can't sleep when she is alone in the car because she's afraid (a) of the wild dogs (b) that the fire will go out (c) she will miss any rescuers nearby (d) her toes will get frostbitten again.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. When Tony finds the hunting camp, he (a) gathers the supplies and goes back to the car right away (b) worries about breaking in and using up the camp's wood (c) stays in the camp eating and being warm for over two days (d) decides to follow the camp road back to civilization.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. Tony decides to sled down a hill because (a) he wants to find the snowmobilers they have heard (b) he wants to get away from the wild dogs (c) Cindy dares him to (d) he has a broken ankle and can't walk down.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. Cindy and Tony almost don't make it out of the ravine because (a) they stop cooperating and helping each other (b) the wild dogs try to kill them (c) Cindy's toes get frostbitten (d) Cindy gets depressed and refuses to go on.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. When Tony is in the hospital, he tells his parents (a) how brave and clever he has been (b) they should have let him keep the dog (c) he has changed a lot (d) he wants to pay for wrecking the car.



## SNOW BOUND

### VOCABULARY TEST ANSWER KEY

- |      |       |       |       |
|------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. k | 6. b  | 11. i | 16. l |
| 2. c | 7. p  | 12. g | 17. m |
| 3. h | 8. j  | 13. n | 18. a |
| 4. t | 9. q  | 14. f | 19. o |
| 5. e | 10. s | 15. d | 20. r |

### COMPREHENSION TEST A ANSWER KEY

#### Part I: Character Identification (30 points)

- |      |       |       |
|------|-------|-------|
| 1. f | 6. e  | 11. k |
| 2. b | 7. a  | 12. a |
| 3. g | 8. b  | 13. c |
| 4. h | 9. j  | 14. i |
| 5. l | 10. d | 15. a |

#### Part II: Fill-In (20 points)

- |                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Tug Hill           | 6. mother          |
| 2. state park         | 7. New York        |
| 3. short cut          | 8. frostbitten     |
| 4. journal (notebook) | 9. carbon monoxide |
| 5. hood               | 10. wild dogs      |

#### Part III: True-False (30 points)

- |      |       |       |
|------|-------|-------|
| 1. T | 6. T  | 11. F |
| 2. F | 7. T  | 12. F |
| 3. T | 8. F  | 13. T |
| 4. F | 9. T  | 14. T |
| 5. F | 10. T | 15. F |

#### Part IV: Essay Questions (20 points)

1. Tony doesn't have a driver's license or learner's permit, so he decides to leave I-85, which is patrolled by state troopers, for Route 11, which isn't patrolled. On Route 11 he becomes impatient when he gets stuck in a long line of traffic crawling slowly behind a snowplow. In a typically impulsive move, Tony turns sharply off the highway onto a side road.
2. Tony acts very superior toward females. He comments that men have always been hunters, while women stay home, a belief reinforced by his own family situation. He calls Cindy a stupid female and expects her to cry and scream when he threatens her, not fight back. He dismisses Cindy's sensible ideas and advice as stupid female blabbering.

### COMPREHENSION TEST B ANSWER KEY

#### Part I: Character Identification (30 points)

- |      |       |       |
|------|-------|-------|
| 1. e | 6. i  | 11. a |
| 2. c | 7. b  | 12. f |
| 3. a | 8. d  | 13. g |
| 4. j | 9. h  | 14. a |
| 5. k | 10. l | 15. b |

#### Part II: Fill-In (20 points)

- |                      |                           |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Grandmother       | 6. miracle                |
| 2. helicopter        | 7. brother                |
| 3. cigarette lighter | 8. massage                |
| 4. Plymouth          | 9. chocolate chip cookies |
| 5. Watertown         | 10. soldiers              |

#### Part III: Multiple Choice (30 points)

- |      |       |       |
|------|-------|-------|
| 1. c | 6. c  | 11. b |
| 2. b | 7. b  | 12. c |
| 3. a | 8. c  | 13. a |
| 4. a | 9. a  | 14. a |
| 5. d | 10. d | 15. d |

#### Part IV: Essay Questions (20 points)

1. Tony lives with his parents and three sisters. Mr. and Mrs. Laporte both work in local factories, determined to give their children advantages they themselves never had. Mr. Laporte is a union shop steward; Mrs. Laporte and her daughters do the housework. Tony has become accustomed to getting whatever he wants from his parents.  
Cindy lives with her widowed father, after whom she has patterned herself. They get along well, but he is cool and detached from other people. She seldom sees her father's two brothers. She visits her grandmother in an attempt to establish closeness and communication with someone.
2. When her bus is delayed at least three hours, Cindy becomes uncomfortable waiting at the bus station with many other people, particularly after a boy begins staring at her. It is too cold to wait for her bus outside. She often hitchhikes at home to circumvent the inadequate suburban bus schedules so, on impulse, she decides to hitch home rather than wait for her bus.

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