**The Hobbit**

**Chapter 2 - Roast Mutton**

1. Define the following vocabulary words from this chapter.

toothsome -

purloined –

blighter -

cavalcade -

runes –

2. What two items does Bilbo forget in his rush to meet the dwarves at the Green Dragon

Inn? What do you think forgetting these items tell the reader about Bilbo’s willingness

to go on this adventure?

3. How does Bilbo manage to sneak up on the trolls? Why does Bilbo decide to try to pick

the trolls’ pockets?

Use the following passage from the story to answer the next two questions:

“Right in the middle of the fight up came Balin. The dwarves had heard noises from

a distance, and after waiting for some time for Bilbo to come back, or to hoot like an

owl, they started off one by one to creep towards the light as quietly as they could. No

sooner did Tom see Balin come into the light than he gave an awful howl. Trolls simply

detest the very sight of dwarves (uncooked). Bert and Bill stopped fighting immediately,

and “a sack, Tom, quick!” they said, before Balin, who was wondering where in all this

commotion Bilbo was, knew what was happening, a sack was over his head and he was

down.” (Pg. 38)

4. Find an example of humor in the above quotation.

5. Find a sentence in this quotation where the narrator intrudes into the story to make a

comment to the reader.

6. What do you think about the fairness of Thorin’s decision to send Bilbo to investigate

the light? What indications are there that the dwarves do or do not care about Bilbo’s

well-being?

7. Find an example of slapstick comedy in this chapter.

8. “Fantasy” is a work of fiction, which does not represent the known world. List two

characteristics of the world Tolkien creates in *The Hobbit* that qualify this novel as a fantasy.

**Chapter 3 - A Short Rest**

1. Define the following vocabulary words from this chapter.

forded -

venerable -

palpitating –

2. Find an example of personification on page 47 and an example of foreshadowing on

page 50.

3. Briefly identify each of the following places from this chapter.

The Last Homely House –

Rivendell -

Misty Mountains –

4. Why does Bilbo want to hear the elves’ opinion of their adventure to the Mountain?

What do the dwarves think of the elves?

Use the following quotation, which describes Elrond’s character and his household to

answer the next two questions.

“He was a noble and as fair in face as an elf-lord, as strong as a warrior,

as wise as a wizard, as venerable as a king of dwarves, and as

kind as summer. His house was perfect, whether you liked food, or

sleep, or work, or story-telling, or singing, or just sitting and thinking

best, or a pleasant mixture of them all. Evil things did not

come into that valley.” (Pg. 51)

5. One overall theme in this story is the conflict between good and evil. What qualities

does Elrond possess which makes him a good leader for his people? How does the

author depict both good and evil in physical terms?

6. Another theme is the idea of free will. Do you agree or disagree that Bilbo came on this

mission of his own free will? What elements of freedom are present in Elrond’s kingdom

which support the idea that free will is important for a person to be happy?

7. What are the names of the swords captured from the trolls, and what do they signify?

8. Find an example of how Tolkien vividly describes the natural surrounding Bilbo and his

friends inhabit. Why do you think he spends so much time describing the countryside?

9. What is the legend about moon-letters? What riddle to they reveal to Elrond? What is

Durin’s Day?

10. *The Hobbit* was originally written for children. It contains many of the elements of a

fairy tale including goblins, wizards, dwarves and other imaginative characters. There

are also life lessons or generalizations about life imbedded in the story. State a generalization

about life using the following passage from the story.

“Now it is a strange thing, but things that are good to have and days that are

good to spend are soon told about, and not much to listen to; while things that

are uncomfortable, palpitating, and even gruesome, may make a good tale, and

take a deal of telling anyway.” (Pg. 51)