

## READING NOTES

society \_\_\_\_\_

hedgehogs \_\_\_\_\_

oaken settles \_\_\_\_\_

rooks \_\_\_\_\_

chap \_\_\_\_\_

## VOCABULARY

1. their *summons* sounded \_\_\_\_\_
2. "This is not the sort of night for small animals to be out," he said *paternally*. \_\_\_\_\_
3. where he had been busy laying a *repast* \_\_\_\_\_
4. In accordance with the kindly Badger's *injunctions* \_\_\_\_\_
5. makes me feel positively *famished* \_\_\_\_\_
6. Supposing the rooms are *draughty* \_\_\_\_\_
7. The Mole *assented* heartily. \_\_\_\_\_
8. a damp and airless tunnel, part *vaulted*, part *hewn* through solid rock \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. the whole mass of the Wild Wood, dense, *menacing*, compact \_\_\_\_\_
10. the comparative or actual *somnolence* \_\_\_\_\_
11. For others the *asperities* \_\_\_\_\_

## CHAPTER 4: MR. BADGER

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### COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS/ACTIVITIES

1. Badger asks for news about Toad. How serious are Toad's misadventures with driving machines?
2. What did Badger and Mole find they had in common? What are the advantages of underground living?
3. Give the history of the Wild Wood, according to Badger. What does he think of human cities? Is he right?
4. Research badgers and hedgehogs. Write a short report and draw a picture of each, giving accurate details.
5. Add to your list of character traits for Badger, the rabbits, Otter, Ratty, and Mole.

### FOCUS PASSAGE I

On the second page of this chapter there is a long paragraph describing Badger's kitchen, beginning, "The floor was well-worn red brick."

1. Badger's kitchen has a timeless feel to it. Three different groups of Englishmen could have been found eating in this kitchen. Who are they? Do they all remind you of "merry old England"?
2. Describe the personification in this paragraph.
3. Draw Badger's kitchen. Try to make it as alive and appealing as the author does with his words.

## CHAPTER 4: MR. BADGER

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### FOCUS PASSAGE II

In the second paragraph following Focus Passage I, Ratty and Mole begin to tell their story to Badger. It begins “When at last they were thoroughly toasted ...”

1. Badger is very wise but, like all humans, he doesn’t know everything. He does not go into Society, and thus thinks that manners and such are unimportant. The author thinks he is wrong. Why is it narrow to disregard social conventions as Badger does? Why are they important? Why does Badger not see this?
2. How does Badger show uncommon wisdom while listening to their story? Can you write this bit of wisdom into a maxim to remember?

### FOCUS PASSAGE III

Reread the last paragraph of the chapter.

1. “Know thyself” is an oft-repeated maxim. What did Mole learn about himself from his experience in the Wild Wood? What do the expressions *tilled field*, *ploughed furrow*, and *cultivated garden-plot* refer to as the proper home of Mole?
2. Do you know yourself yet? Are you a person of the Tilled Field, the River Bank, the Wild Wood, the Open Road, or the Wide World?

### WHO SAID THAT? WHEN? AND ABOUT WHAT OR WHOM?

1. “Smashes, or machines? Oh, well, after all, it’s the same thing—with Toad.” \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. “We’ll *make* him a sensible Toad.” \_\_\_\_\_
3. “What, us? *do* something?” \_\_\_\_\_
4. “There’s no security, or peace and tranquility, except underground.” \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. “Any friend of *mine* walks where he likes in this country, or I’ll know the reason why!” \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. “It’ll be all right, my fine fellow. ... if there’s a head that needs to be punched, you can confidently rely upon me to punch it.” \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_