

Reading Notes

moorlands	hill land where only certain plants can grow
dog fancier	dog lover
harum-scarum	reckless
kennelmen	person who tends a kennel or dog house

Vocabulary

Write the meaning of each bold word or phrase.

1. In that **bleak** part of northern England _____ gray; depressing
2. the dog seems to **thrive** _____ to grow and survive heartily
3. walking at the heels of humbly **clad** workmen _____ dressed
4. **bludgeoned** by fate _____ beaten or knocked down

Setting and Characters

Identify each character and place.

1. Sam Carracough _____ the father of the Carracough family and Lassie's owner
2. Joe _____ Sam Carracough's son; loves Lassie
3. Lassie _____ the Carracough collie; the best dog in the village
4. Mother _____ the mother of the Carracough family
5. The Duke of Rudling _____ a wealthy landowner who lives nearby; wants to buy Lassie from Sam
6. Greenall Bridge _____ the town in which Joe and his family live
7. Yorkshire _____ the largest county in England; where Greenall Bridge is located

Comprehension Questions

Answer the following in complete sentences.

1. What is the first reason Lassie is the best-known dog in the village? She is the finest dog they have ever seen.
2. Of all places in the world, the dog is king in the county of Yorkshire.
3. Why does the dog thrive in this particular place? Dogs there become rich-coated and sturdy; people who raise them love and understand them.
4. What do the women of the village say about Lassie that is the second reason Lassie is the best-known dog in the village? The women say, "You can set your clock by her."
5. What is the third reason Lassie is the best-known dog in Greenall Bridge? She is proof that pride is more important to the people than money. Because he is so proud of Lassie, Sam refuses to sell her, no matter what the Duke offers.
6. What kind of work do the men in the hundreds of Yorkshire villages do? They are coal-miners.
7. What is the irony in the picture of poor village miners followed by their collies? The collies represent wealth, but their owners are anything but wealthy.

Enrichment

1. Look at the publication page. What is the original publication date of *Lassie Come-Home*? What major events were happening around this time?
2. Read the Biographical Sketch of the author in the Appendix, and write a one-paragraph summary of his life.

Reading Notes

dole	government payment to people without work
collier	coal miner
poor times	times of need and lack of provisions or money

Vocabulary

Write the meaning of each bold word or phrase.

1. No one seemed afraid that something **dire** had happened troubling, horrible
2. Almost automatically, by a habit **ingrained** firmly fixed in someone's mind
3. It did not mean **luxurious** living for them comfortable and expensive
4. he turned back to the fire and stared into it **intently** with great focus

Comprehension Questions

Answer the following in complete sentences.

1. What is different when Joe comes out of school that has never happened before? Lassie is not waiting for him.
2. What is the irony of humans always being "five minutes late" and animals always being on time? Humans have made many ways of keeping time, like watches and clocks, yet they tend to arrive late, whereas animals, which have no such machines, always arrive on time.
3. How do Joe's mother and the village people cover up their hurts and disappointments? They will scold and reprove others, although they don't really mean it.
4. Why has Lassie not kept her appointment as she always has before? Sam has sold Lassie to the Duke of Rudling because the family needs the money.
5. Contrast the behavior of Joe's mother and father when Joe says Lassie is gone. Who tells Joe the sad news? Sam sits silent by the fire, but Mrs. Carracough busies herself setting out tea. She tells Joe the news.