**“The Interlopers” Study Guide**

**Directions:**

**Define the following vocabulary words from “The Interlopers” using the definition that best fits how it’s used in the story.**

1. precipitous -

2. marauders - n.: people who roam around in search of loot, or goods to steal.

3. condolence

4. languor

5. succor - n.: help given to someone in distress; relief

6. interloper

**Directions:**

**As you read, answer the following questions. Be sure to give as much detail as possible.**

1. Who do you think are “the interlopers” referred to in the title, and why do they deserve that name?
2. The disputed land was not particularly desirable. What does this fact reveal about the families who contested its ownership for so many years?
3. What does the wild weather foreshadow?
4. What is Ulrich doing in the forest?
5. When they meet in the forest, why can Georg and Ulrich not shoot each other?
6. How does each man envision his rescue?
7. To whom is Georg referring when he says, “. . .with no cursed interlopers to come between us”?
8. What do you think motivated Ulrich’s change of heart? Does this change reflect internal or external conflict?
9. Why doesn’t Georg consider himself a poacher?
10. With his surprise ending, what comment does the writer seem to be making about the role of human plans and wishes? What literary element does this illustrate?

Narrator Chart

The point of view of the narrator determines what you learn as you read a story. A third-person-omniscient narrator knows and tells all. The third-person-limited or first-person narrator tells only what one character knows. If the narrator is biased or unreliable, you may not be able to believe what you read.

In the chart below, fill in the point of view of the narrator who tells the story you have just read. Then tell what you have learned from the narrator. (You may not learn anything about an omniscient narrator.) Finally, decide if what you learned is reliable.

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| --- |
| **Point of View:** |

|  |
| --- |
| **The Narrator:** |
| **Other Characters:** |
| **Events:** |

Is the information reliable? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Identify irony in the story by using the chart below. In the first box, note the outcome that Ulrich and Georg expect when they first confront each other in the forest. In the second box, describe what actually happens.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **What Characters Expect** | **What Actually Happens** |

What type of irony is this an example of? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_