



## **CTYOnline Younger Readers' Series**

### **Theme: Dragon Tales**

Note: Parents should review the books in each theme before choosing in order to find the most interesting and appropriate theme for their child.

**Note to viewers on the CTY website: Although the glossary words in blue are actual links to a web-based classroom, you cannot access that classroom because it is password protected.**

#### Instructions for Lesson One:

All work due by the following Sunday at midnight. (That's the end of Sunday, not the beginning!) This means that your assigned reading should be completed by Thursday night--at the latest--to allow you enough time to finish the other assignments (Quiz, Blog and Discussion Posts) by Sunday night.

1. Begin reading *Kenny and the Dragon* by Tony DiTerlizzi in the following chunks:

Before I Forget plus Chapters 1 - 4 (pp. IV - VII; pp 1 - 45);

Chapters 5 - 7 (pp. 46 - 79);

Chapters 8 -10 (pp. 80 - 110);

Chapters 11-14 (pp. 111 - 151)

Alternative Reading Chunks:

Before I forget plus Chapters 1 - 3 (pp. IV - VII: pp. 1 - 28);

Chapters 4 - 6 (pp. 29 - 67);

Chapters 7 - 10 (pp. 68 - 110);

Chapters 11 - 14 (pp.111 - 151)

2. Read the pages above and then take this self-graded Quiz.

*Directions:* Read the pages listed above for this lesson before taking this self-graded quiz. If you don't know an answer, refer to your book. To answer the last two questions, count how many questions you answered correctly without referring to the book. Feel free to click on the links to learn the definitions of literary terms such as "inference," "simile," "alliteration," and "onomatopoeia."

CLICK HERE TO BEGIN YOUR QUIZ: [QUIZ](#)

3. Post ONE of the following two blog assignments (your choice) to the Discussion Blog:

a. Pretend you are Grahame. In 50-150 words, write a first-person diary entry outlining the reasons you feel you are misunderstood by the townspeople. Be sure to base your writing on what you've read in the book.

b. According to the *King's Royal Bestiary*, "A dragon's strength is found within its long and dangerous tail. Tying the tail in a knot will render the foul beast harmless. But be warned, all drakes kill anything they catch with their vicious coils." After the experience with Grahame, George is commissioned to re-write the book. Pretend you are George. Using your new knowledge of dragons and your conversations with Grahame, write a 50-150 word entry on dragons.

CLICK HERE TO BEGIN BLOGGING: [Blog](#)

4. Contribute three (or more) thoughtful posts to the Discussion Board in response to any of the following questions. (Remember! At least one of your three thoughtful posts should be in reply to a discussion post made by another student.)

a. **Renaissance Fellow.** On page 24, Grahame describes himself as a "Renaissance fellow." What do you think he means by this? Could this description fit you or anybody else you know? Explain.

b. **Is Kenny's dad a connoisseur of the spoken word?** On page 32, Grahame suggests that he might trick Kenny's dad into reciting some poetry, and says, "If your son's a chip off the old block, I would imagine you are a fellow connoisseur of the spoken word. Yes?" His statement is met with silence. What does Grahame mean? Is Grahame's statement right or wrong? Give evidence based on what you know of the characters to this point.

c. **Was Kenny at fault?** On page 71, Kenny begins to feel that the excitement over Grahame and his "imminent extermination" is somehow his fault. He thinks back to his book report, to his confirmation that he had seen a real dragon. Do you feel the excitement is Kenny's fault?

d. **Weird river-stone-in-the-stomach feeling.** Throughout the book, Kenny makes many references to "a weird river-stone-in-the-stomach feeling." As the story progresses, "The river-stone stomachache was starting to melt away to another feeling—a fiery feeling." What is the "river-stone feeling" and what is it being replaced with? Have you ever had such feelings? When? What did you do about them?

e. **The wisdom of Kenny's father.** How does Kenny's father use his sheep-herding skills to get rid of the crowd on the hill the night before the alleged dragon slaying? How does Kenny view his father differently after this scene? How does Kenny see his father's wisdom as different from his own?

f. **What do the townspeople know?** On page 127 as the piano plays, do you think that any of the townspeople recognize the scene playing out in front of them is all for show? Why or why not?

g. **The Pecking Order.** At the beginning of chapter XIV, Kenny's father refers to Pecking Order. He then says, "When the true leader is revealed, then there's a new order." In this case, who emerged as the true leader? Why do you think so?

h. **The final chapter of the book.** The last chapter of the book involves narration by the royal historian and a scene with Grahame and Kenny. In the final scene, Kenny goes to fetch Grahame for dinner. What is the purpose of that final scene? Does it add to the book? Do you think that scene is necessary? Why or why not?

CLICK HERE TO BEGIN DISCUSSION: [Forums](#)

Note: You are provided with a list of “Mind-Expanding Vocabulary Words from *Kenny and the Dragon*” that you can use to help better understand the book and increase your knowledge of vocabulary words in general.

Crossword puzzles are also included to help reinforce your knowledge of these useful vocabulary words. Working on the crossword puzzles is an optional—not required—activity!



### Instructions for Lesson Two:

All work due by the following Sunday at midnight. (That's the end of Sunday, not the beginning!) This means that your assigned reading should be completed by Thursday night--at the latest--to allow you enough time to finish the other assignments (Quiz, Blog and Discussion Posts) by Sunday night.

1. Begin reading *Jeremy Thatcher, Dragon Hatcher* by Bruce Coville in the following reading chunks:

Chapters 1 and 2 (pp. 1 - 21)

Chapters 3 - 5 (pp. 22 - 52)

Chapters 6 - 8 (pp. 53 - 85)

2. Read the pages above and then take this self-graded Quiz.

*Directions: Read the pages listed above for this lesson before taking this self-graded quiz. If you don't know an answer, refer to your book. To answer the last two questions, count how many questions you answered correctly without referring to the book. Feel free to click on the links to learn the definitions of literary terms such as “[inference](#),” “[simile](#),” “[alliteration](#),” and “[onomatopoeia](#).”*

CLICK HERE TO BEGIN YOUR QUIZ: [QUIZ](#)

3. Post ONE of the following blog assignments to the Discussion Blog: Post ONE of the following blog assignments here by clicking the button "Add a New Discussion Topic."

a. Pretend you are Mary Lou Hutton and you have decided to follow Jeremy home on the day he runs out of art class. In 50-150 words and using the first person [point of view](#), write a diary entry describing what you saw when you opened the door to Jeremy's room. Be sure to include your reactions to the scene.

b. Jeremy is clearly in need of some help with Tiamat, and he has misplaced the book Miss Priest loaned him. Following the example of the hatching charm on page 24, write two to three different charms (totalling 50-150 words) to help Jeremy in different situations with his dragon. You might write one to help him tame the dragon; one to help him teach the dragon to safely hunt; one to teach the dragon proper behavior at school; one to teach the dragon how to mow the lawn, etc.

c. Pretend you are Dr. Thatcher and write a 50-150 word email to your best friend describing the disastrous dinner party. [Decide whether Dr. Thatcher would be mostly angry, sad, or amused and be sure to write the email from that perspective.]

CLICK HERE TO BEGIN BLOGGING: [Blog](#)

4. Contribute three (or more) thoughtful posts to the Discussion Board in response to any of the following topics. (Remember! At least one of these three thoughtful posts should be in reply to a discussion post made by another student.)

a. **Mr. Kravitz's attitude toward Jeremy.** Mr. Kravitz doesn't like Jeremy. Even Specimen says, "Everyone knows Kravitz hates you." Do you think Mr. Kravitz is fair in the way he handles the note from Mary Lou Hutton? What do you think makes him target Jeremy while at the same time choosing not to reveal Mary Lou's name?

b. **Unmowed grass.** "The wet grass, a little long because—despite his promise—Jeremy had not mowed yet this week, sparkled in the moonlight." Why does the author include the detail that Jeremy had not mowed the grass? What do you learn about Jeremy from that detail?

c. **About Miss Priest.** What do we know about Miss Hyacinth Priest by the end of Chapter four? Write three things we know about her. Do you like this character? Why or why not?

d. **Silly questions.** At the end of Chapter 4, Miss Priest tells Jeremy ["fiercely"] that "No question is silly if you really want to know the answer." What does this statement tell you about Miss Priest? Do you agree with her?

e. **Communication with the dragon.** How does Jeremy communicate with his dragon? Give three examples from the book of the way in which they communicate.

f. **To see or not to see.** Why do you think Mrs. Thatcher can't see the dragon? With all that Jeremy's experienced thus far, why does he think the idea of his mother not seeing the dragon is strange?

g. **What's important in Chapter 7?** At the end of Chapter 7, Tiamat sheds her skin for the first time. However, there is so much else going on in that scene that it can be difficult to follow. List three things that happen in the second half of Chapter 7, and explain why they are important.

h. **Jeremy and Mary Lou.** Why do you think that Mary Lou is able to see Tiamat when the rest of Jeremy's friends and family cannot? Are Jeremy's feelings toward Mary Lou starting to change? Explain. Is Mary Lou treating Jeremy any differently?

CLICK HERE TO BEGIN DISCUSSION: [Forums](#)

Note: You are provided with a list of “Mind-Expanding Vocabulary Words from *Jeremy*” that you can use to help better understand the book and increase your knowledge of vocabulary words in general.

Crossword puzzles are also included to help reinforce your knowledge of these useful vocabulary words. Working on the crossword puzzles is an optional—not required—activity!



**Instructions for Lesson Three:**

All work due by the following Sunday at midnight. (That's the end of Sunday, not the beginning!) This means that your assigned reading should be completed by Thursday night--at the latest--to allow you enough time to finish the other assignments (Quiz, Blog and Discussion Posts) by Sunday night.

1. Finish reading *Jeremy Thatcher, Dragon Hatcher* in the following chunks:

Chapters 9 and 10 (pp. 86 - 109)

Chapter 11 and 12 (pp. 110 -131)

Chapter 13, Epilogue, and Note from the Author (pp. 132 - 151).

2. Read the pages above and then take this self-graded Quiz.

*Directions: Read the pages listed above for this lesson before taking this self-graded quiz. If you don't know an answer, refer to your book. To answer the last two questions, count how many questions you answered correctly without referring to the book. Feel free to click on the links to learn the definitions of literary terms such as "[inference](#)," "[simile](#)," "[alliteration](#)," and "[onomatopoeia](#)."*

CLICK HERE TO BEGIN YOUR QUIZ: [QUIZ](#)

3. Post ONE of the following blog assignments to the Discussion Blog:

a. Pretend you are in Jeremy's situation and you have a dragon to raise. In 50-150 words, describe how you would feed and care for the dragon without letting anyone in your family know you have

such a creature. How would you hide it? How would you get food for it? How would you keep it from destroying things or eating things it should not?

b. Pretend you are a student in Room Nineteen. Write a 50-150 word letter to the Principal outlining why you should not be banned from the Art Contest. Propose a solution to this problem. Be sure to use examples from the book.

c. Pretend that you are Mr. Kravitz and write a 50-150 word diary account explaining your feelings about Jeremy and why you think your punishment of him is fair.

CLICK HERE TO BEGIN BLOGGING: [Blog](#)

4. Contribute three (or more) thoughtful posts to the Discussion Board in response to any of the following topics. (Remember! At least one of these three thoughtful posts should be in reply to a discussion post made by another student.)

a. **Dr. Thatcher's rule.** Jeremy often thinks about his father's rule that "there's no sense in getting mad at a cat for being a cat." What does he mean by that? Should this rule only apply to cats? Can you see any reason for applying this rule to your own life? Explain your answer.

b. **Was Tiamat fair in attacking Freddy?** On page 100, Freddy is tormenting Fat Pete, and we get the sense that he might have been doing this all along. Tiamat attacks Freddy, and he doesn't see it coming. Do you think Tiamat's attack on Freddy is justified? Is there anything else that could be done to stop Freddie? Explain your answer.

c. **Yum.** Not far into Chapter 11, Jeremy is wondering if Tiamat is getting enough to eat. She is drinking a gallon of milk a day, but Fat Pete has gone missing. When Jeremy tries to ask the dragon about the cat, she responds with a feeling of "Yum!" Why do you think she has this reaction? At this point in the book, do you think she has eaten the cat? Use evidence from the book to support your point.

d. **Letting Tiamat go.** Why did Mr. Elives and Miss Priest tell Jeremy to let Tiamat go? How was Jeremy keeping Tiamat from going home?

e. **Jeremy and his drawing.** Why doesn't Jeremy draw anymore after Tiamat leaves? What makes him begin to draw again at the end?

f. **Nothing you love is lost.** In Chapter 13, when Jeremy tells Miss Priest that he doesn't want to lose Tiamat, she assures him that "Nothing you love is lost. Not really. Things, people--they always go away, sooner or later. You can't hold them, any more than you can hold moonlight. But if they've touched you, if they're inside you, then they're still yours. The only things you ever really have are the ones you hold inside your heart." Do you think this idea makes Jeremy feel better? Do you think it is true? Would it apply to anything that has happened in your own life?

CLICK HERE TO BEGIN DISCUSSION: [Forums](#)

Note: You are provided with a list of "Mind-Expanding Vocabulary Words from *Jeremy*" that you can use to help better understand the book and increase your knowledge of vocabulary words in general.

Crossword puzzles are also included to help reinforce your knowledge of these useful vocabulary words. Working on the crossword puzzles is an optional—not required—activity!



#### Instructions for Lesson Four:

All work due by the following Sunday at midnight. (That's the end of Sunday, not the beginning!) This means that your assigned reading should be completed by Thursday night--at the latest--to allow you enough time to finish the other assignments (Quiz, Blog and Discussion Posts) by Sunday night.

1. Begin reading *Dealing with Dragons* by Patricia Wrede in the following chunks:

Chapters 1 and 2 (pp.1 - 30)

Chapters 3 and 4 (pp. 31 - 56)

Chapter 5 (pp. 57 - 73)

2. Read the pages above and then take this self-graded Quiz.

*Directions: Read the pages listed above for this lesson before taking this self-graded quiz. If you don't know an answer, refer to your book. To answer the last two questions, count how many questions you answered correctly without referring to the book. Feel free to click on the links to learn the definitions of literary terms such as "inference," "simile," "alliteration," and "onomatopoeia."*

CLICK HERE TO BEGIN YOUR QUIZ: [QUIZ](#)

3. Post ONE of the following blog assignments to the Discussion Blog:

a. On page 2, the text says of Linderwall, "There was a great deal of etiquette, from the proper way to curtsy before a visiting prince to how loudly it was permissible to scream when being carried off by a giant." There is lots of talk through the book of what is *not* done. In 50-150 words, write a page from the book of etiquette.

b. On page 49, Cimorene discovers that the wardrobe in her bedroom is enchanted. What she finds within it is completely dependent upon what she wants. On page 67, she is even able to find a plain cleaning dress in Alianora's size. Make up another useful magical item and write a 50-150 advertisement for this item to be placed in *Dragon's Life* magazine. To increase your sales, be sure to mention how this item could be useful to non-dragons as well as dragons.

CLICK HERE TO BEGIN BLOGGING: [BLOG](#)

4. Contribute three (or more) thoughtful posts to the Discussion Board in response to any of the following topics. (Remember! At least one of these three thoughtful posts should be in reply to a discussion post made by another student.)

a. **Nothing interesting seems to be proper.** What do you think of Cimorene's statement on page 3, "Nothing interesting seems to be proper." Based on Cimorene's experiences in the early part of the book, do you agree or disagree? Do you have any problems in your own life with being "proper"? If you were Cimorene, would you be so dissatisfied with your life as a princess?

b. **What makes Cimorene so ready to leave?** Cimorene is hesitant to follow the frog's advice and run away. However, after a day spent in wedding preparations and listening to her soon-to-be husband, she is more than ready to go. Why does she change her mind so easily? Why do you suppose she chooses to take "five clean handkerchiefs and her best crown" in her bundle? What does that tell the reader about Cimorene?

c. **Advice on dealing with dragons.** In the middle of Chapter 2, Cimorene tells the knight, "Kazul's not *my* dragon. I'm *her* princess. You'll never have any luck dealing with dragons if you don't get these things straight." What is the difference? Why would getting "these things straight" help the knight in his dealings with dragons?

d. **Why is Cimorene so happy being a dragon's princess?** In the middle of Chapter 2, the knight marvels that, "You really *do* like it here." Why is he surprised that Cimorene is happy living with a dragon? Why do you think that Cimorene is happier as a dragon's princess than she was in her former life as a princess? Would you rather live with a dragon if given a choice? Why or why not?

e. **What about the wizard?** Why doesn't Cimorene like the wizard Zemenar that she meets on her way to post the sign? As a reader, do you like and trust this wizard character? Why or why not?

f. **Why do dragons keep princesses?** "I keep forgetting that you're not as empty-headed as most princesses." Why does Kazul say this to Cimorene? How many princesses do you suspect she has had? Why do dragons keep princesses? Why do you think Moranz cannot manage to keep his princesses?

g. **Fractured fairy tales.** On pages 68 and 69, Alianora tells her story to Cimorene. Her account (and Cimorene's own story) is very similar to several well-known fairy tales, but with some important differences. Name the stories that you recognize and describe how Alianora or Cimorene's versions differ from the fairy tale that you learned. [If each student discusses only one fairy tale, more students will be able to contribute to this discussion!]

CLICK HERE TO BEGIN DISCUSSION: [Forums](#)

Note: You are provided with a list of "Mind-Expanding Vocabulary Words from *Dealing with Dragons*" that you can use to help better understand the book and increase your knowledge of vocabulary words in general.

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### Instructions for Lesson Five:

All work due by the following Sunday at midnight. (That's the end of Sunday, not the beginning!) This means that your assigned reading should be completed by Thursday night--at the latest--to allow you enough time to finish the other assignments (Quiz, Blog and Discussion Posts) by Sunday night.

#### 1. Continue reading *Dealing with Dragons* in the following chunks:

Chapters 6 and 7 (pp. 74 - 99)

Chapters 8 and 9 (pp. 100 - 127)

Chapter 10 ( pp. 128 - 144)

#### 2. Read the pages above and then take this self-graded Quiz.

*Directions: Read the pages listed above for this lesson before taking this self-graded quiz. If you don't know an answer, refer to your book. To answer the last two questions, count how many questions you answered correctly without referring to the book. Feel free to click on the links to learn the definitions of literary terms such as "inference," "simile," "alliteration," and "onomatopoeia."*

CLICK HERE TO BEGIN YOUR QUIZ: [QUIZ](#)

#### 3. Post ONE of the following blog assignments to the Discussion Blog:

a. Pretend that you have just killed the magic bird described in Chapter 8 and are entitled to take the forfeit. Write a 50-150 word description of your adventure answering the following questions: What would you do with the magic feathers? Where would you go? Who and/or what would you take with you and why?

b. Cimorene is very capable of quick thinking to get herself out of a variety of situations. She demonstrates her quick thinking with Therandil, the jinn, the wizards, etc. Using your imagination, write a 50-150 word story about another time (not mentioned in the book) that Cimorene used her quick thinking to get out of trouble.

CLICK HERE TO BEGIN BLOGGING: [Blog](#)

4. Contribute three (or more) thoughtful posts to the Discussion Board in response to any of the following topics. (Remember! At least one of these three thoughtful posts should be in reply to a discussion post made by another student.)

a. **Silly princess.** When Zemenar and Antorell come to the cave, Cimorene decides she might get some information from them if she acts like a silly princess. She emulates her sisters' behavior. Does her tactic work? Does she get any information? What does she learn?

b. **What's in a name?** Cimorene and Kazul launch into a discussion of Colin's Stone and the choosing of the King of the Dragons. What do you think of Kazul's words, "King is the name of the job. It doesn't matter who holds it"? Why is Cimorene confused by the dragon's "simple" ideas? Can you give any real life examples of situations where identical jobs have different names depending on who is doing the work? Why did this happen? Does it make sense? Why or why not?

c. **Make a prediction about the pebble.** While in the King's Cave, Cimorene picks up a pebble made of the same dark, shiny stone as the cave walls. She veers off course to pick it up, and she drops it in her pocket. What do you think when she first picks up the rock? Do you think she should have done this? Do you think that Cimorene's picking up the pebble will turn out to be a good idea or a mistake? Explain your prediction. [Spoiler alert: If you have read ahead and know what happens to the pebble, please don't give anything away.]

d. **Cimorene and the bird.** When Cimorene is discussing the forfeit with the bird, she asks if she can take someone with her. "The bird looked at her with respect." Why?

e. **Quick thinking.** When the jinn is accidentally released from the bottle, Cimorene once again demonstrates her quick thinking abilities. How does she convince the jinn not to kill her and Therandil? How does she convince Therandil that Kazul is not the dragon he is meant to defeat? How does she further convince him that she is not the princess to rescue?

f. **What about Antorell?** Why is Antorell surprised to see Cimorene and Alianora collecting herbs in the valley? Do you think Antorell is supposed to be where he is? Give your reasons based on what you have read in the text.

CLICK HERE TO BEGIN DISCUSSION: [Forums](#)

Note: You are provided with a list of "Mind-Expanding Vocabulary Words from *Dealing with Dragons*" that you can use to help better understand the book and increase your knowledge of vocabulary words in general.

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Instructions for Lesson Six:

All work due by the following Sunday at midnight. (That's the end of Sunday, not the beginning!) This means that your assigned reading should be completed by Thursday night--at the latest--to allow you enough time to finish the other assignments (Quiz, Blog and Discussion Posts) by Sunday night.

1. Finish reading *Dealing with Dragons* in the following chunks:

Chapter 11 (pp. 145 - 160)

Chapters 12 and 13 (pp. 161 - 183)

Chapters 14 and 15 (pp. 184 - 212)

2. Read the pages above and then take this self-graded Quiz.

*Directions: Read the pages listed above for this lesson before taking this self-graded quiz. If you don't know an answer, refer to your book. To answer the last two questions, count how many questions you answered correctly without referring to the book. Feel free to click on the links to learn the definitions of literary terms such as "inference," "simile," "alliteration," and "onomatopoeia."*

CLICK HERE TO BEGIN YOUR QUIZ: [QUIZ](#)

3. Post ONE of the following blog assignments to the Discussion Blog:

a. The day that Kazul was made king of the dragons was very exciting. Pretend you are a newspaper reporter for *The Daily Dragon*, and write a 50-150 word article describing the events of the day. Remember to include a headline and answer the questions: who, what, where, when, and how.

b. As princess to the King of the Dragons, it might be Cimorene's job to write a guidebook for dragon's princesses. In 50-150 words, write an entry for that book as Cimorene might write it, explaining what dragon's princesses should do and should not do.

CLICK HERE TO BEGIN BLOGGING: [Blog](#)

4. Contribute three (or more) thoughtful posts to the Discussion Board in response to any of the following topics. (Remember! At least one of these three thoughtful posts should be in reply to a discussion post made by another student.)

a. **The stone prince's story.** The stone prince has a long and interesting story, much like that of Alianora. Why do you think Cimorene is always the one to listen to these stories? Like Alianora, the prince alludes to several well-known stories through his words. Do you recognize any of the [allusions](#) he makes? Which ones?

b. **Whose fault is it?** When Cimorene asks the stone prince how it happened that he became lost in the caves, the stone prince responds, "It's all the Soothsayer's fault." Explain why the stone prince thinks his predicament is the Soothsayer's fault. Do you agree with the prince? Does he take any responsibility for his actions? Explain.

c. **"Useful and interesting magic."** On page 173, Antorell admits that he and Zemenar are trying to get their hands on the King's Crystal so they can find "every piece of useful and interesting magic in the world." Do you think it will be easy for them to go out and collect all of the magical items they learn about? Give your reasons for your answer based on what you have read in the book so far.

d. **He's melting.** When Alianora throws a bucket of water onto Antorell, he melts into a brown puddle. In what other story do we see a character melt in this way? In that story, as well, the character dropped an important and powerful prop. What comparisons can you make between that scene and this one?

e. **The stone prince's wisdom.** As Cimorene tries to convince the dragon to let her talk to Kazul, it is the stone prince who offers his wisdom. "At hero's school we were always taught that if you couldn't persuade anyone to help you with something, it meant that you were supposed to do it by yourself," the stone prince said diffidently. "And we *are* prepared." " Cimorene and her friends don't have much time to stop Woraus and the wizards. In what ways are Cimorene and her friends prepared? In what ways are they not?

f. **Morwen and the magic feather.** Why is Morwen so quick to grab onto Cimorene as she uses the last feather? Do you think she could have gotten to the blackberry thicket in any other way?

g. **The search for the right king.** The stone prince spends much of his life looking for the right king to serve. He even spends time avoiding all of the messengers and pages that come seeking his services. In the end, he stumbles onto his duty. Morwen says to him, "For a young man as intelligent as you seem to be, you're remarkably foolish." What does she mean by that statement?

CLICK HERE TO BEGIN DISCUSSION: [Forums](#)

Note: You are provided with a list of "Mind-Expanding Vocabulary Words from *Dealing with Dragons*" that you can use to help better understand the book and increase your knowledge of vocabulary words in general.

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#### Instructions for Lesson Seven:

All work due by the following Sunday at midnight. (That's the end of Sunday, not the beginning!) This means that your assigned reading should be completed by Thursday night--at the latest--to allow you enough time to finish the other assignments (Quiz, Blog and Discussion Posts) by Sunday night.

1. Begin reading *Dragon Slippers* by Jessica Day George in the following chunks:

Pages 1 - 23 ["The Brown Dragon of Carlieff " and "A Fine Pair of Shoes"]

Pages 24 - 55 ["Shards of Glass, Colored Brightly" and "The Gold Dragon of Rath Forest"]

Pages 56 - 86 ["A Cave Like Home," "The King's Seat," "The Princess's Pippin," and "The Curfew Bells Toll"]

2. Read the pages above and then take this self-graded Quiz.

*Directions: Read the pages listed above for this lesson before taking this self-graded quiz. If you don't know an answer, refer to your book. To answer the last two questions, count how many questions you answered correctly without referring to the book. Feel free to click on the links to learn the definitions of literary terms such as "inference," "simile," "alliteration," and "onomatopoeia."*

CLICK HERE TO BEGIN YOUR QUIZ: [QUIZ](#)

3. Post ONE of the following blog assignments to the Discussion Blog:

- a. Pretend you are a dragon and write a 50-150 word description about your beloved hoard. Why have you chosen to collect this particular item? Describe some of your favorite pieces.
- b. Pretend you are Creel after her first day of wandering lost around King's Seat before she meets Prince Luka. Write a 50-150 word diary entry about your seemingly hopeless situation and your plan for finding food, lodging, and work.

CLICK HERE TO BEGIN BLOGGING: [Blog](#)

4. Contribute three (or more) thoughtful posts to the Discussion Board in response to any of the following topics. (Remember! At least one of these three thoughtful posts should be in reply to a discussion post made by another student.)

- a. **Creel's aunt and the plan.** What do you think of Creel's aunt and her plan? Could the plan have ever worked? Why did Creel and the family go along with it?
- b. **"The stuff of fairy tales."** At the top of page 27, Creel thinks to herself. "This had been quite an exciting day for a farm lass. I had faced a dragon, bargained with him, and walked away free. I had deterred the young lord who had set out on his mighty steed to save me. I had a fine new pair of shoes and was on my way to the King's Seat to find work. It was the stuff of fairy tales." Do you think Creel lives a fairy tale life? If so, explain the fairy tales that come to your mind.
- c. **What is the whole story about the shoes?** Creel talks with Shardas about the shoes that Theoradus has given her, trying to determine what makes them so special. On page 41, she says, "I had a very strong feeling that there was much more going on here than he was telling me." What is some of the evidence in the text that Creel is right?
- d. **Why have dragons withdrawn from humans?** In the chapter "The Gold Dragon of Rath Forest," Shardas explains why dragons have withdrawn from human interactions since the time of King Milun four hundred years before. What is the reason and why does it surprise Creel? Do you agree with Shardas' statement that "It is better this way. For both our kinds" (page 49). Why or why not?
- e. **How does Shardas get his food?** What do you think of Shardas's manner of obtaining food for himself and for Creel? How does Creel feel when she first finds out, and how do her feelings change?
- f. **The shift in Creel.** The chapter "A Cave Like Home," describes a shift within Creel. At the end, she says, "After only two weeks, I had to admit it: I had never been so happy." What in her life had changed that made Creel so happy? If she was so happy, why did she still plan to leave the cave?

g. **What about Amalia?** What do you think of Amalia when we first meet her in the streets of King's Seat? Do you like this character? Why or why not? Might your feelings change when you learn more about her?

h. **What about Prince Luka?** Why do you think Prince Luka is so helpful to Creel? Do you trust him? Why or why not?

CLICK HERE TO BEGIN DISCUSSION: [Forums](#)

Note: You are provided with a list of "Mind-Expanding Vocabulary Words from *Dragon Slippers*" that you can use to help better understand the book and increase your knowledge of vocabulary words in general.

Crossword puzzles are also included to help reinforce your knowledge of these useful vocabulary words. Working on the crossword puzzles is an optional—not required—activity.



### Instructions for Lesson Eight:

All work due by the following Sunday at midnight. (That's the end of Sunday, not the beginning!) This means that your assigned reading should be completed by Thursday night--at the latest--to allow you enough time to finish the other assignments (Quiz, Blog and Discussion Posts) by Sunday night.

1. Continue reading *Dragon Slippers* in the following chunks:

Pages 87 - 118 ["Scarlet Ribbons" and "Numb Fingers, Itchy Feet"]

Pages 119 - 147 ["A Plague of Royals" and "A Midnight Caller"]

Pages 148 - 188 [Silver, Calfskin, and Pearls, "A Gown Fit for a Princess," "Wanting a Dragon, Getting a Prince," and "Pearls, not Glass"]

2. Read the pages above and then take this self-graded Quiz.

*Directions: Read the pages listed above for this lesson before taking this self-graded quiz. If you don't know an answer, refer to your book. To answer the last two questions, count how many questions you answered correctly without referring to the book. Feel free to click on the links to learn the definitions of literary terms such as "[inference](#)," "[simile](#)," "[alliteration](#)," and "[onomatopoeia](#)."*

CLICK HERE TO BEGIN YOUR QUIZ: [QUIZ](#)

3. Post ONE of the following blog assignments to the Discussion Blog:

- a. Pretend you are a worker in Derda's shop. Write a 50-150 word letter to Derda persuading her to increase your wages. Your letter should contain specific reasons for your request, and it should serve to persuade her rather than anger her.
- b. Pretend you are Creel, and you are spending late nights sewing to prepare for the Merchants' Ball. Write a 50-150 word letter to Shardas expressing your recent disappointments, worries, and hopes for the future. [Be sure to describe Prince Lucas to Shardas!]

CLICK HERE TO BEGIN BLOGGING: [Blog](#)

4. Contribute three (or more) thoughtful posts to the Discussion Board in response to any of the following topics. (Remember! At least one of these three thoughtful posts should be in reply to a discussion post made by another student.)

- a. **Derda's shop.** There seem to be a great many different personalities working in Derda's shop. There is Marta, pretty and flirtatious; Larkin, the somber ruler of the back room; Derda, a boss with very strong ideas of how things should be run; and Creel, who is not pleased that her wages are so low and her employer expects to get credit for her apprentices' ideas and patterns. How do you think these people will get along? How would you like to working as an apprentice in the shop?
- b. **Amalia and the shoes.** In the shop, Princess Amalia fixates on Creel's shoes. They are definitely very fine shoes for such a country girl as Creel. Why do you think Amalia becomes obsessed with getting Creel's shoes? Why doesn't Creel consider selling them to her? Were you surprised that the Duchess and Derda did not try to force Creel to give or sell the princess her shoes? [Spoiler alert: If you have read ahead, please do not spoil the story for others by answering this question with any information that you gained from the end of the book!]
- c. **Derda claiming the apprentices' ideas as her own.** Derda gets mad at Creel for coming out of the back room in sight of the customers because Derda wants everyone to think that all of the embroidery designs are her own. Do you think it's right for Derda to claim her apprentices' ideas are her own? Why or why not?
- d. **What about Larkin?** Larkin claims the Merchants' Ball is a fool's dream. She scolds the girls for not being grateful to Derda. What do you think of her attitude? Where do her loyalties lie? How do you know?
- e. **Man-eating dragon?** In the chapter "Numb Fingers, Itchy Feet," one of the shop girls, Alle, tells the story of the dragon "Ama-something" who ate a man who challenged him to a duel. The event was supposed to have taken place during her great-grandfather's time. Based on what you have read so far, do you think the story is true? Why or why not?
- f. **Dragon vs. human perspective.** Shardas commented in a dream that, "Truly, there is nothing that can compare to conversing with a human. Your brief lifespans give you such strange perspectives on life" (page 119). Explain how a dragon--who lives about a thousand years--would have a different perspective from humans--who typically live under a hundred years.
- g. **Few berries short of a pie.** On page 129, Creel observes that the "princess was either spoiled to a degree that I had never seen before, or else she was a few berries short of a pie." What do you think Creel means by the **metaphor** "she was a few berries short of a pie"? Have you come across other **metaphors** that mean the same thing? Can you make up any similar **metaphors**?

h. **What about Derda?** Are you surprised at Derda's response when she learns that Creel is interested in attending the Merchants' Ball? Explain. Can you find other examples in the text when Derda is unexpectedly kind or understanding?

i. **The right gift for Amalia.** Why is Miles having such a difficult time deciding on a gift for his bride-to-be, Princess Amalia? Several gifts are suggested, but based on what you know about Amalia, what do *you* think Miles should give to Amalia as a wedding gift? Explain.

j. **The deal has been made.** On page 165, Larkin says that she can't get the slippers back from Amalia because the princess "gave her word that you would receive a gown as payment and I gave my word that I would bring them [the blue slippers] to her. The deal has been made." When Theoradus gave Creel the blue slippers to fulfill his part of their deal, he was described by Shardus as "a creature of honor" [40]. Is Larkin also "a creature of honor"? What is the difference, if any, between Theoradus and Larkin's deals?

CLICK HERE TO BEGIN DISCUSSION: [Forum](#)

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Crossword puzzles are also included to help reinforce your knowledge of these useful vocabulary words. Working on the crossword puzzles is an optional—not required—activity.



#### Instructions for Lesson Nine:

All work due by the following Sunday at midnight. (That's the end of Sunday, not the beginning!) This means that your assigned reading should be completed by Thursday night--at the latest--to allow you enough time to finish the other assignments (Quiz, Blog and Discussion Posts) by Sunday night.

1. Finish reading *Dragon Slippers* in the following chunks:

Pages 189 - 220 ["Satin Roses and Golden Ale," "A Gown Like Stained Glass," and "A Council of War"]

Pages 221 - 261 ["An Unusual Messenger," "Feniul," "Hope Strung on a Loom," and "Collaring Dragons"]

Pages 262 - 295 ["Shardas," "The New Palace by Night," and "A Visit to the Kitchens"]

Pages 296 -321 ["Beneath the King's Seat," "Picking up the Pieces," and "Stolen Glass"]

2. Read the pages above and then take this self-graded Quiz.

*Directions: Read the pages listed above for this lesson before taking this self-graded quiz. If you don't know an answer, refer to your book. To answer the last two questions, count how many questions you answered correctly without referring to the book. Feel free to click on the links to learn the definitions of literary terms such as "inference," "simile," "alliteration," and "onomatopoeia."*

CLICK HERE TO BEGIN YOUR QUIZ: [QUIZ](#)

3. Post ONE of the following blog assignments to the Discussion Blog:

a. A passage in *The Compleat History of the Indigenous Peoples of Northern Feravel* describes how King Milun the Protector made friends with a dragon who advised him how to control the other dragons so that they would help him defeat the Roulaini army. Pretend Prince Luka has hired you to write a more accurate history to be published in a revised edition. Based on what you have learned from the *Dragon Slippers*, write a 50-150 word account of King Milun the First's actions 400 years ago that ended the war with Roulain and broke up all ordinary ties between humans and dragons.

b. Feniul flies Creel and Luka to the Duke of Mordrel's country estate where they will be safer than in the city. Then Feniul flies to the city to get the Duke and Duchess. However, the Duke and Duchess may not trust a dragon under the circumstances. In 50-150 words, write a message, either from Creel or Luka, explaining the plan to the Duke and Duchess and letting them know that they can trust Feniul.

c. Pretend you are Creel and you have just found out that your brother Hagen will be named caretaker of Theoradus's hoard. In 50-150 words, write a note to Hagen explaining his new job and why you have not been in touch before now. [Don't forget to add a special message to your aunt!]

CLICK HERE TO BEGIN BLOGGING: [Blog](#)

4. Contribute three (or more) thoughtful posts to the Discussion Board in response to any of the following topics. (Remember! At least one of these three thoughtful posts should be in reply to a discussion post made by another student.)

CLICK HERE TO BEGIN DISCUSSION: [Forum](#)

a. **Should Creel have told Luka about Shardas?** Creel is very vague when she talks about Shardas as her "friend." She never reveals his identity as a dragon. Do you think she should have told Luka her friend was a dragon? Why or why not?

b. **What makes Creel special?** Creel describes herself as "no beauty," without a dowry, and with only poor relatives. Why do you think Prince Luka becomes so interested in developing a friendship with her? What qualities does Creel have that the Prince might consider quite special?

c. **When did Amalia realize the value of the shoes?** It seems that Amalia has complete control over the dragons—and Creel has lost contact with them—because of the slippers. Do you think Amalia knew the power of the slippers before she asked Larkin to steal them? Use evidence from the book to support your answer.

d. **Should Creel trust Feniul?** What makes Creel so certain that Feniul is not being controlled by Amalia and the slippers? What makes her follow Azarte despite the warnings of Luka?

e. **Must the dragons be exterminated?** In pages 271-273 of the chapter “In the New Palace by Night,” Earl Sarryck decides that they have to destroy all the beasts, especially the gold colored one [Shardas]. He speculates that they should kill the dragons “the same way Milun the First did: Ambush: Spears, archers, swords to finish the job” because they didn’t have “time to win the creatures to over to our side, one by one.” He argues to Creel that “Maybe it isn’t the fault of the dragons...but they’re dangerous all the same...A danger we cannot afford to have loose.” Do you agree that extermination of the dragons is the only sensible solution? Does his plan seem fair and just to you? Can you think of any alternative plan? Explain your answers fully.

f. **Did Amalia get what was coming to her?** What happens to Amalia at the end of the book? Do you think she got what she deserved? What about Larkin?

g. **Creel and Prince Milun?** King Caxel declares that Creel should marry Prince Milun. Creel disagrees with the proclamation and argues with the King. Do you think it was a good idea for her to argue with the King? Why or why not? What do you think Prince Milun and Prince Luka thought about the King’s plan?

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### Instructions for Lesson Ten

1. Post ONE of the summary blog assignments, which ask you to think about, discuss, and compare all three books read.
2. Contribute three (or more) thoughtful posts to the Discussion Board in response to any of the listed summary topics, which ask you to think about and discuss all three books read. (Remember! At least one of these three thoughtful posts should be in reply to a discussion post made by another student.)

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