

THE WAR WITH GRANDPA

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READING RIGHT

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THE WAR WITH GRANDPA

Synopsis

Pete Stokes loves his Grandpa, but he doesn't want him to have his bedroom.. Grandpa is moving from Florida to live with Pete's family. He has a bad leg and cannot go up two flights of stairs to the guest room. When Grandpa gets Pete's room, Pete declares war. At first Grandpa ignores him, but Pete persists and finally Grandpa retaliates. Pete takes slippers, Grandpa takes the Monopoly pieces and both sides escalate. Grandpa changes from being sad and mopey to happy and energetic due to the war with Pete. The war comes to a point where they both want it to stop because they really love each other. Grandpa comes up with the idea of making an apartment for himself in the basement and then Pete can have his room back. The solution makes everyone happy and Pete learns that communicating is better than declaring war.

THE WAR WITH GRANDPA

Lesson 1

Chapters 1 - 8

8. The beginning of Chapter Three describes Peter's room . On the back draw a picture of the room as it is described.

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Lesson 2

Chapters 9 - 17

1. To what does Grandpa compare the way Pete is growing?

2. Who tells Peter he should fight to keep his own room?
 - A. Jennifer, his sister
 - B. His friends, Billy and Steve
 - C. Mrs. Klein

3. The Secret Warrior is a nickname for whom?

4. What does "fanatic" mean?
("Steve is a Risk fanatic, or expert, or both.")

5. The first trick Pete played on his grandfather was:
 - A. To set off his alarm at three o'clock in the morning
 - B. To steal his slippers
 - C. Taking grandfather's toothbrush

6. Peter's grandfather had changed from when he used to live by them.
How was he different?

7. Pete declares war on his grandfather. What do you think Pete will do?

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Lesson 3

Chapters 18 - 24

C. Putting up with his nosy sister who keeps getting his way

8. Are you more like Grandpa or Pete? Why?

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Lesson 4

Chapters 25 - 30

1. Pete said, "There are some things I'm not going to do, no matter how much my friends egg me on." What does the phrase egg me on mean?

2. Grandpa wants to take Pete fishing but Pete is nervous about:

- A. Getting seasick
- B. Being with his "enemy"
- C. Jaws being in the harbor

3. Underline the characteristics that apply to Grandpa.

Short Strong Fixer Forgetful Sloppy

4. What does "diabolical" mean?

("Diabolical, if you want to know the truth.")

5. Grandpa has stopped moping around and is starting to do new things. What do you think caused him to change?

6. How do you think Pete felt about the day he spent fishing with his Grandpa?

7. Do you think Pete should have kept playing tricks on his grandfather to get his room back?

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Lesson 5

Chapters 31 - 37

1. Why is Pete brushing his teeth with his finger?

2. Grandpa has a solution to the bedroom problem. What is it?

3. Pete hopes his teacher will:
 - A. Like his book
 - B. Publish the story
 - C. Not take off for spelling or grammar

4. What does "retaliation" mean? ("I think this calls for massive retaliation.")

5. When Pete was getting ready for school he had to find all the things Grandpa hid. Number the following items in the correct order that Pete went looking for them.

_____ Sneaker laces on the kitchen counter
_____ School books inside the luggage that was in the storage room
_____ Underwear in the hall closet
_____ Socks in the cabinet under the bathroom sink

6. War isn't any fun Pete learned. What do you think about fighting or wars?

7. Pete said you shouldn't always do what your friends say. Do you agree with his statement? Explain why you think that.

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Answer Key

LESSON 1

1. C

2. There is going to be a lot of short chapters in this book because Pete thinks short chapters make a book go faster.
3. Pete's Grandpa can't use the guest room permanently because it is up two flights of stairs and he has a bad leg and could not get there without difficulty.
4. Disgusting means very strong distaste; sickening dislike.
5. The last item to be moved out of Pete's bedroom was his bed.
6. Pete feels like his bedroom belongs only to him because it had been his room since he was born.
7. Answers will vary.
8. Pictures will vary.

DISCUSSION: Pete thinks his room is worth fighting for, what would the reader think was worth fighting for?

LESSON 2

1. Grandpa compares Pete's growing to the spring up a weed.
2. B
3. The Secret Warrior is the name Pete uses in his war with Grandpa.
4. A fanatic is a person having unduly strong and unreasonable beliefs about something.
5. A
6. Pete's grandfather has changed from being a fun, lively, happy person to a sad, moping person.
7. Answers will vary.

LESSON 3

1. A
2. Pete's friends think he has lost the war because he keeps talking about how nice his grandfather is and how he doesn't want to do anything bad to him.
3. B
4. Meander means to wander along in an aimless way.

5. The first trick that Grandpa plays on Pete is to take all of the Monopoly game pieces.
6. Answers will vary.
7. C
8. Answers will vary.

LESSON 4

1. The phrase *egg me on* means to try to get someone to do something, almost like a dare.
2. C
3. The characteristics of *Grandpa* that should be underlined are *strong* and *fixer*
4. *Diabolical* means *devilish* or *cruel*.
5. Answers will vary. One reason *Grandpa* is not moping around is he is too busy trying to think up tricks to play on Pete.
6. Pete loved the day he spent fishing with his *Grandpa*. He said he would never forget it.
7. Answers will vary.

LESSON 5

1. Pete had to brush his teeth with his finger because *Grandpa* had taken his toothbrush.
2. *Grandpa's* solution to the bedroom problem is for him to make the basement into an apartment for himself.
3. C
4. Retaliation means to return like for like; to reply in action by a similar one.
5. The correct order is 3, 4, 1, and 2.
6. Answers will vary. Pete and *Grandpa* come up with a good alternative to fighting - talking.
Discuss with the students why that is a good solution. Are there other choices?
7. Answers will vary.