

Forbidden City Reading Quiz 1 (Prologue to April 8)

_____ 1. The poem, Ulysses, is discussed in the prologue to

- A. give the reader background on China
- B. show how well-read Alex is.
- C. serve as a parallel to Alex's story.
- D. serve as the basis for this story.

_____ 2. In what city do Alex and his dad live?

- A. Ottawa
- B. Sarnia
- C. Thornhill
- D. Toronto

3. Alex talks a bit in his March 29th entry about his dad, making a few comments on his personality. Write one adjective he uses to describe his dad's personality. Make sure you use an adjective!

_____ 4. Alex's most recent creation is a model of soldiers from

- A. the battle of Frog Lake.
- B. the Tiananmen Square Massacre.
- C. the Xi'an Tombs.
- D. Qin Shi-huang of the Qin dynasty.

5. What city has Alex's dad been posted to for his job? _____

6. When Alex and his dad first land in Beijing, Alex notices something different about the city. What does he notice that makes him realize Beijing will be very different from his own city?

7. Names are important. What is the name of the first person to greet Alex and Ted in China? Please be careful with your spelling, first and last name.

8. Alex is given a Chinese name (look for the Chinese character representation in the novel) "Shan Da." What does the name mean in English?

- _____ 9. The "Forbidden City" is in the middle of

- A. Tiananmen
- B. Hong Kong
- C. Beijing
- D. Yangtze

10. The Red Army's name has changed since 1949. What do people call it now?

11. In what year was the Tiananmen Square protest? (1989) _____

12. Alex's history teacher, Mr. Bronowski, has told Alex he can get an 'A' in History if he does what while he's in China?

- _____ 13. When Alex asks his dad if h3e can get a bike to ride around Beijing on, his dad says 'yes' as long as Alex

- A. is careful not to get in trouble.
- B. makes sure he doesn't get lost.
- C. is careful and records what he sees on video
- D. phones his dad every few hours to make sure he is okay.

Forbidden City Reading Quiz 2 – April 14 to May 5

1. Alex decides he needs to disguise the fact that he is a Westerner. Select the two things he does to achieve this.

- ☐ Wears a Mao coat
- ☐ Wears a red hat with a yellow star
- ☐ Wears a blue hat with a red star
- ☐ Dyes his hair black
- ☐ Wears a pair of Oakley sunglasses

2. Alex has gone to great lengths to avoid being caught filming by the Chinese authorities. He attaches his video camera to the back of his bike, and covers it with what?

- _____ 3. How large is Tiananmen Square in area?

- A. 5 hectares
- B. 15 hectares
- C. 25 hectares
- D. 40 hectares

4. A politician named Hu Yao-bang, who was demoted for being too lenient on student demonstrators, dies. Alex learns that demonstrations will be held in Tiananmen Square.

Who has organized the demonstrations? _____

5. _____ **True** or **False**? The lesson of the story that Lao Xu tells Alex about Zhou Yu and Zhu Geliang is "use an opponent's strength against him".

- _____ 6. The leader of the USSR at the time the novel is set is

- A. Boris Yeltsin
- B. Mikhail Gorbachev
- C. Vladimir Putin
- D. Stephen Harper

_____ 7. The editorial in the People's Daily states that the student demonstrators are

- A. "promoting chaos"
- B. "making a good point"
- C. "stirring up trouble"
- D. "promoting democracy"

8. What is the main thing students are criticizing?

9. _____ **True** or **False**? The students are against the Communist Party and socialism.

10. The student with the red cap and loud-hailer thinks that Alex is a _____.

11. The student has three demands that he wants the Chinese government to hear.

The first demand is that the government speaks to students like _____,
not children. The second demand is that the government
_____ for the violence against students previously. The third
demand is that Xin Hua (the official news agency) stops _____
about the students.

12. Eddie is surprised that the government has allowed the TV station to show the
demonstration, because they usually _____ anti-government
demonstrations.

13. Lao Xu says that Chairman Zhao has contradicted Deng Xiao-Ping's analysis of the student
demonstrations. Lao Xu feels that the Communist Party is now speaking with
_____, which will cause trouble for China.

Forbidden City Reading Quiz 3 – May 20 to 29

1. On May 13, student demonstrators decide to try a different strategy to get the government's attention. They start a _____ which will end only when the government agrees to meet them and begin reforms.
2. Alex admires Hong and Lan, realizing that what they are doing is dangerous. However, he is not quite sure whether they are very _____ or very _____.
3. After Gorbachev's visit, the chairman of the Communist Party visits the hunger strikers. Amazingly, once he arrives at the square he starts _____
_____ with students in a bus.
4. Li-Peng goes on television and announces Beijing is now under _____ law. Among other restrictions, foreign reporters are forbidden to report the _____ in the square.
5. _____ **True or False?** Ted and Eddie decide not to break the martial law.
6. The soldiers of the PLA try to enter the city and clear the square, but hundreds of thousands of citizens block the roads. Are the soldiers armed?

☐ Yes
☐ No
7. More than a _____ people show up for the demonstration, many of them with banners saying things like, _____.
8. Lao-Xu goes pale when the government radio broadcast says that student demonstrators are now considered "counter-revolutionaries" because this means that students can now be arrested and _____.

- _____ 9. After hearing the government's announcement, a couple of _____ students vow not to leave the square until the government makes significant changes.
- A. Hundred
 - B. Thousand
 - C. Hundred thousand
 - D. Million
10. Despite rumours that tanks and armoured personnel have surrounded the city, students return to the square and erect a statue that looks much like the United States Statue of _____.

Forbidden City Reading Quiz 4 – May 30 to June 4

_____ 1. What do we learn journalists are asking tourists to do for them?

- A. Take secret videos of the protests
- B. Smuggle video tapes out of the country
- C. Tell their home country about the demonstrators
- D. Smuggle newspaper articles out of the country

2. There is a standoff between soldiers and the people. Who retreats first?

_____ 3. When Alex compares the students to pawns being used by the Chinese government, which popular game does he refer to?

- A. Risk
- B. Chess
- C. Warhammer
- D. Monopoly

4. Lao-Xu is disappointed in the PLA because they are not acting fairly, as he expects them to. This reminds Alex that he has come to think of Lao-Xu as a friend, not as a

_____ 5. After the incident where the trucks have driven straight into the crowd and crushed several people, Alex decides they need to leave the hotel because he is certain that

- A. His dad will not leave the square.
- B. He must go help his dad videotape the events taking place
- C. The army will seize the hotel and he will be captured
- D. Lao-Xu will inform the government of his dad's activities

6. After he loses radio contact with his dad, what does Alex videotape the soldiers doing?

7. Lao-Xu runs towards the soldiers, yelling at them. He is then _____ by the soldiers.

8. After Alex escapes to the side-streets from the square, he falls unconscious for about _____ hours. When he awakens, his biggest fear is that he has been _____ by the soldiers.

_____ 9. Once he looks around the room, Alex realizes he has been taken to someone's house. Who does he realize has taken him there?

- A. His father
- B. A soldier
- C. Lao-Xu
- D. A student, Wang Xin-hua

_____ 10. After the PLA massacres any students who refuse to leave the square, bonfires remain burning. Why?

- A. Molotov cocktails are still on fire
- B. Army vehicles continue to burn
- C. The army is eliminating evidence of the massacre
- D. Protestors are trying to keep the soldiers out of the square

Forbidden City Reading Quiz 5 – June 6 to 8

1. Because the Chinese government has made sure that citizens cannot receive any TV or radio news of what has happened, the word must be spread by news spreaders who ride around Beijing using _____.
2. After the massacre, the Chinese Red Cross estimates there are _____ dead civilians and students. We also learn that there are _____ in and around Beijing.
3. The next day, Alex decides to try and walk back to the hotel. This is very different from most other foreigners who have chosen instead to _____ the country.
4. Xiao Nie, Xiao Yang, and Xin-hua think it is safer if they take Alex to the _____ embassy, not the Beijing Hotel.
5. _____ **True or False?** Alex begins to feel hesitant about smuggling video-tapes and other documents out of China.
6. In order to get Alex safely to the embassy, Xin-hua will pretend to be a woman delivering a _____ . Alex will pretend to be her _____ and secretly videotape scenes along the way.
7. _____ **True or False?** Xin-hua is upset with the PLA for the same reasons that Lao-Xu was.
8. In a sentence or two, explain why Xin-hua thinks the government has acted so violently against the students.

9. In a sentence or two, explain why Alex feels he will be different from other kids when he returns to Canada.

Forbidden City Unit Quiz

1. When Alex and Xin-hua are questioned while trying to cross Ring Road, what do they give the first soldier so that he will let them through? _____
2. When Xin-hua realizes that they are not going to make it to the Canadian Embassy, Alex suggests that they should instead go to _____.
3. When Xin-hua and Alex reach the roadblock, the PLA soldiers realize that Alex is white. What happens to Xin-hua and Alex?

4. When Alex gets to the airport, he finally finds his _____.
- _____ 5. What do we learn has happened to Xin-hua's video-tapes?
 - A. They were seized by the Chinese government and destroyed
 - B. They were broadcast repeatedly
 - C. They were destroyed in Alex's struggle against the PLA soldier
 - D. They were seized by the Canadian government
6. When he learns that _____ was arrested and executed, Alex smashes his models and trophies in anger.
7. At the beginning of the novel, we learn that Alex is an avid maker of models, particularly military ones. However, by the end of the novel he has smashed his models to bits and melted the soldiers down.

How has Alex's attitude towards war changed? Use specific details from the novel to support your answer.

8. Referring to the events and ideas in the novel as support, explain why the title *Forbidden City* is effective.

9. Alex is the protagonist of *Forbidden City* and we have seen first-hand how he handles his experiences in Beijing. We have also witnessed how his perspective and view of life has changed.

Using specific references to the novel, explain what makes Alex an admirable character.

10. Choose one of Alex's heroes –Lao-Xu, Xin-hua, or Wang Ai-min—and explain, in detail, why he admires him or her.

11. Near the end of the novel, Alex quotes his dad saying, “you know, Alex, I think I’ve finally started to grow up.” He states that his dad “was trying to work things out...” His dad says, “...it wasn’t a game anymore.”

What have both Alex and his dad realized about war, soldiers, and photographing news stories?

12. In a well-developed paragraph, discuss what you think author William Bell's message is about **one** of the following subjects in *Forbidden City*: Friendship, Responsibility, Sacrifice, or Freedom.

Be sure to support your idea with two or three details or examples from the novel.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Forbidden City Reading Quiz 1 (Prologue to April 8)

1. *C*
2. *D*
3. *Childlike, childish, crazy, risk, risk-taker, crazy risk-taker, fixated on career, obsessed with work*
4. *D*
5. *Beijing*
6. *Very little artificial light at night*
7. *Xu Bing-long, Bing Long Xu, Mr. Xu Bing-Long*
8. *Tall mountain*
9. *Beijing*
10. *The People's Liberation Army (PLA)*
11. *1989*
12. *Writes a travel diary, writes about his trip, writes about his travels*
13. *C*

Forbidden City Reading Quiz 2 – April 14 to May 5

1. *Wears a Mao coat, Wears a blue hat with a red star*
2. *a box with a hole for the lens, a box with a hole, a box with a hole in it, a box*
3. *D*
4. *Students*
5. *True*
6. *B*
7. *A*
8. *Government Corruption*
9. *False- they want the government to listen to the people*
10. *Reporter*
11. *Equals, apologize/say sorry, lying*
12. *Censor*
13. *Two, voices*

Forbidden City Reading Quiz 3 – May 20 to 29

1. *Hunger strike*
2. *Brave, dumb (either space)*
3. *Shaking, hands*
4. *martial, students/student demonstrators*
5. *False- they choose to ignore the newly imposed martial law, and continue to film the events in Tiananmen Square*
6. *No*
7. *Million, Democracy Now!/Support the Students/Stop the Corruption!*
8. *Shot, killed*
9. *B*
10. *Liberty*

Forbidden City Reading Quiz 4 – May 30 to June 4

1. *B*
2. *The army/soldiers*
3. *B*
4. *Spy*
5. *A*
6. *Firing into the crowd, shooting into the crowd*
7. *Shot, killed*
8. *3/three, captured/arrested*
9. *D*
10. *C*

Forbidden City Reading Quiz 5 – June 6 to 8

1. *Loud, speakers/hailers*
2. *2600/two thousand six hundred, twenty-six hundred, 300, 000/three hundred thousand*
3. *flee, escape, leave*
4. *Canadian*
5. *True*
6. *washing, machine, helper*
7. *True- like Lao-Xu, Xin-hua is upset that her childhood “heroes” are no longer acting heroically*
8. *Xin-hua thinks that the old leaders of China were embarrassed by the student protestors when Gorbachev came to visit. Therefore, they sent the army to teach the students a lesson, because they made it look like the government does not have control over the country).*
9. *Because of the brave young people he has met, and the horrific events he has witnessed, Alex feels he will view the world differently than the kids back home whose lives and concerns are much simpler.*

Forbidden City Unit Quiz

1. *Money, some money*
2. *Airport*
3. *Xin-hua is taken into the woods and shot. Alex is clubbed with an AK47, forced into a taxi, and driven to the airport*
4. *Father, Dad*
5. *B*
6. *Wang Ai-min*

7. *Answers may vary—attitude has changed to that of disapproval—examples are many—from what he witnessed, heroes dying, brutality, riots, and mistreatment of innocents.*
8. *Answers may vary— Forbidden City is the fixture in the center of the city that is hundreds of years old, and a sacred historical site. Students gathered before the city and rioted—the government was inflexible (as inflexible as the monarchy of the Forbidden City would have been or worse) and harsh to it's people. Also applies to the censorship—nothing leaves the country—news bans, etc. without harsh penalty.*
9. *Answers may vary—Alex's character traits are many*
10. *Answers may vary—the character traits of these characters are numerous, most notable that they would sacrifice themselves for the good of the people—they were very heroic, and they all died sticking up for their beliefs.*
11. *Answers may vary—risk (sometimes high personal risk) is involved in these activities, both for oneself and the people that are drawn into your activities. The risk is magnified by the lack of familiarity a foreigner has with a country, with a government, and with the language. It got quite serious in Tiananmen Square very very quickly. One of them easily could have died.*
12. *Answers may vary.*