

The One and Only Ivan

by Katherine Applegate

A Novel Study by:

Name: _____

Date: _____

Vocabulary Study

Section 1: Hello – A Plan

Match Up

Match the words in the left column to their definitions in the right column.

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| majestic • | • without good sense; foolish |
| trilling • | • worn-out and shabby looking |
| feeble-minded • | • grand and dignified, like royalty |
| lush • | • growing thickly and healthily |
| threadbare • | • making a vibrating sound |
| shrill • | • high-pitched; ear-splitting |

Fill in the Blank

Complete each sentence by filling in the blanks with the provided vocabulary.

majestic trilling feeble-minded lush threadbare shrill

1. The microphone suddenly made a _____ noise that hurt our ears.
2. The _____ ballroom was a popular place to hold special events.
3. Even though Melissa's doll was _____, it was still her favorite toy.
4. The _____ of the birds in the garden woke Leslie up.
5. During his walk through the _____ forest, Tom identified twelve different types of trees.
6. Some dogs are very smart, but others can be quite _____.

**A Little
Extra!**

A simile is a figure of speech that uses the words 'like' or 'as' to compare two things. Ivan uses many similes to explain his thoughts. For example, Ivan thinks Julia's pictures "are like pieces of a dream". Find and write at least two other similes from this section.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Understanding the Story

Section 1: *Hello – A Plan*

Multiple Choice

1. What does Stella call the chains she wore in her youth?

- (a) Bracelets.
- (b) Metal strings.
- (c) Snakes.
- (d) Leg scratchers.

2. Ivan describes himself as an:

- (a) Acrobat.
- (b) Artist.
- (c) Astronaut.
- (d) Athlete.

Short Answer

3. Ivan is a silverback gorilla. What do we learn about silverback gorillas in these chapters?

Long Answer

4. What does Ivan think of humans?

**A Little
Extra!**

What do you think of places like circuses and zoos that lock up animals for peoples' enjoyment?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Vocabulary Study

Section 2: *Bob – Jambo*

Match Up

A synonym is a word that means the same as another word. For example, happy and joyful are synonyms. Match the vocabulary words with their synonyms!

unadorned •

wayward •

irrationally •

undaunted •

cunning •

juvenile •

• unreasonably

• youngster

• undecorated

• clever

• fearless

• unruly

Best Word

Circle the word which works best in each sentence.

1. He stood at the end of the diving board (*undaunted / irrationally*) before he jumped.
2. By coming up with a (*cunning / undaunted*) plan, the police were able to catch the thief.
3. My brother is too old to play on the (*unadorned / juvenile*) soccer team now.
4. A (*wayward / juvenile*) bee flew into my room and it took me ten minutes to catch it.
5. Caleb became (*cunning / irrationally*) angry when his friend accidentally dropped his book.
6. I am looking to buy a simple straw hat that is (*unadorned / wayward*) with ribbons or bows.

**A Little
Extra!**

Ivan explains that he likes stories with “black beginnings and stormy middles and cloudless blue-sky endings”. What do you think Ivan means by this?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Understanding the Story

Section 2: *Bob – Jambo*

Multiple Choice

1. What is Julia's favorite thing to do?

- (a) Sing.
- (b) Draw.
- (c) Do homework.
- (d) Nap.

2. Mack gives Ivan a new black crayon. After much thought, what does Ivan decide to draw?

- (a) The tire swing.
- (b) His foot.
- (c) A beetle.
- (d) Nothing, he eats the crayon.

Short Answer

3. Stella and the other animals sense that a new animal will be arriving soon. Stella tells Ivan and Bob that it will be a baby elephant and Ivan replies that that is what she is hoping for. Stella closes her eyes and softly replies, "...not hoping. Not at all." What do you think Stella is thinking about when she says this?

Long Answer

4. Ivan notes that he looks angry in the picture on the faded billboard and sad in the pictures that Julia draws of him. Based on what you have read so far, is Ivan an angry gorilla? Is he a sad gorilla? Use at least two examples from the story in your answer.

A Little Extra!

Stella notes that memories are precious and that they, "help tell us who we are". Do you agree? Explain your answer.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Vocabulary Study

Section 3: *Lucky – The Parking Lot*

Which Word?

On the provided lines, write the matching vocabulary word for each definition.

lumbering	specimen	dignified	indifferent	eagerly	contemplating
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1. With a great amount of interest. _____
2. To not care or have no interest in something. _____
3. Moving in a heavy, slow way. _____
4. Thinking about something seriously. _____
5. To be serious, calm and in control. _____
6. An example of something, like an animal or plant. _____

Making Sentences

Make a sentence for each word below.

1. Lumbering: _____
2. Specimen: _____
3. Dignified: _____
4. Indifferent: _____
5. Eagerly: _____
6. Contemplating: _____

**A Little
Extra!**

In "Elephant Jokes", what sound does Ivan compare to "dancing water"?
What memory is attached to this sound?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Understanding the Story

Section 3: *Lucky – The Parking Lot*

Multiple Choice

1. The mall gets a “new arrival”. What is it?

- (a) A baby gorilla.
- (b) A baby seal.
- (c) A baby elephant.
- (d) A baby boy.

2. How does Ivan feel when he is drawing a picture?

- (a) Tired.
- (b) Quiet inside.
- (c) Anxious and confused.
- (d) A little self-conscious.

Short Answer

3. Mack is having money troubles. How does he try to attract new customers in this section?

Long Answer

4. A worrisome change has come over Stella. What is different about Stella’s behavior and what is causing this change?

**A Little
Extra!**

How does Ivan feel right after Ruby arrives?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Vocabulary Study

Section 4: *Ruby's Story – Hunger*

Match Up

Match the words in the left column to their definitions in the right column.

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| mesmerized • | • covered or hidden |
| hoarse • | • able to put up with something |
| shrouded • | • rough and harsh sounding |
| tolerant • | • to make louder |
| amplify • | • to be so facinated you don't pay attention to anything else |
| foraging • | • searching for something |

Fill in the Blank

Complete each sentence by filling in the blanks with the provided vocabulary.

mesmerized foraging hoarse amplify shrouded tolerant

1. You must be _____ of rainy days if you want to live in this part of the country.
2. We drove slowly because the road was _____ in fog.
3. I plugged in a set of speakers to _____ the music coming from my MP3 player.
4. Jacob's voice went _____ after cheering at the basketball game.
5. My pigs spend their days in the woods, _____ for mushrooms.
6. She was _____ by the spinning of the beautiful merry-go-round.

**A Little
Extra!**

In "Ruby's Story", Stella uses the scientific term "homo sapiens".
What is a homo sapien?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Understanding the Story

Section 4: *Ruby's Story – Hunger*

Multiple Choice

1. What was Ivan's twin sister's name?

- (a) Ivana.
- (b) Banana.
- (c) Big girl.
- (d) Tag.

2. Who dies in "Knowing"?

- (a) George.
- (b) Stella.
- (c) Bob.
- (d) Mac.

Short Answer

3. What does Stella make Ivan promise to do in "The Promise"?

Long Answer

4. During this section, Ruby is conflicted about her feelings towards humans. Why does she feel this way?

**A Little
Extra!**

Have you ever visited a place with wild animals, like a zoo or circus?
Describe your experience.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Vocabulary Study

Section 5: *Still Life – How*

Match Up

Match the vocabulary words with their synonyms!

- | | |
|--------------|-----------|
| bedraggled • | • neatly |
| sullen • | • eager |
| daintily • | • shines |
| precisely • | • gloomy |
| anxious • | • exactly |
| glints • | • untidy |

Best Word

Circle the word which works best in each sentence.

1. Donovan came in from the rain looking (bedraggled / daintily) and in need of a hug.
2. She sipped the tea (sullen / daintily) to show everyone she had good manners.
3. In the morning, the sunlight (anxious / glints) through the cracks of my window blind.
4. Aiden was very (sullen / precisely) after his best friend left for summer camp.
5. Keira is (anxious / bedraggled) to join the ballet class her friends are in.
6. I have (glints / precisely) fifteen minutes to get to school before the bell rings.

**A Little
Extra!**

In "My Place", Ivan notes that Mack grew *sullen*. What had caused Mack to feel this way?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Understanding the Story

Section 5: *Still Life – How*

Multiple Choice

1. What is the present Julia gives to Ivan that he tries to eat?

- (a) A soft paintbrush.
- (b) A rubber ball.
- (c) Finger paints.
- (d) A pair of headphones.

2. When Mack tries to hit Ruby with the claw stick, what does she do?

- (a) She cries.
- (b) She runs away from him.
- (c) She sneezes.
- (d) She smacks him with her trunk.

Short Answer

3. What does Mack's treatment of Ruby in "A New Beginning" tell us about his character? Why might he be treating Ruby this way?

Long Answer

4. How did Ivan feel about his domain at the mall when he first moved in? How have his feelings about his domain changed over time?

**A Little
Extra!**

In "My Place", Ivan questions whether he is a human or a gorilla. Why does he wonder this?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Vocabulary Study

Section 6: Remembering – Showing Julia

Which Word?

On the provided lines, write the matching vocabulary word for each definition.

furrowed incompetent fleeting temperamental dismay monstrosity

1. Not having good enough skills to do something. _____
2. Something that is large and ugly looking. _____
3. To have moods that change quickly and often. _____
4. Lasting for a very short time. _____
5. Wrinkled because of frowning or concentrating. _____
6. A feeling of shock or distress. _____

Making Sentences

Make a sentence for each word below.

1. Furrowed: _____
2. Incompetent: _____
3. Fleeting: _____
4. Temperamental: _____
5. Dismay: _____
6. Monstrosity: _____

**A Little
Extra!**

In "Ad", Ivan calls a zoo a "wild cage". What does he mean by this?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Understanding the Story

Section 6: *Remembering – Showing Julia*

Multiple Choice

1. What is the name of Ivan's stuffed toy gorilla?

- (a) Not-Tag.
- (b) Buster.
- (c) Jungle Jim.
- (d) Ivan 2.0.

2. In "Going Nowhere", what does Mack do to save money?

- (a) He takes away Ivan's T.V. to cut-down on electricity.
- (b) He fires George.
- (c) He feeds Ivan and Ruby spoiled food that he found in the dumpsters.
- (d) He cuts back on food for the animals and turns the heat off at night.

Short Answer

3. In "Bad Guys", Ivan imagines what it would be like to be a sheriff. Why does Ivan wish to be a sheriff?

Long Answer

4. Describe what Ivan plans to do to save Ruby.

**A Little
Extra!**

In "Twelve", Julia asks her father, "If I'm going to be an artist when I grow up, why do I need to know how to spell?" How would you answer Julia if she were to ask you this question?

Vocabulary Study

Section 7: More Paintings – New Box

Match Up

Match the words in the left column to their definitions in the right column.

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| disarray • | • respectable; showing importance |
| publicity • | • people who publicly show their disapproval |
| distinguished • | • to be full of or covered with something |
| protesters • | • untidy and disorganized |
| teeming • | • juicy and delicious |
| luscious • | • information that goes out to get someone or something attention |

Fill in the Blank

Complete each sentence by filling in the blanks with the provided vocabulary.

disarray publicity distinguished protesters teeming luscious

- The tuxedo made my father look very _____.
- The airport was _____ with travelers walking in all directions.
- There is nothing more _____ than a fresh peach.
- There was so much good _____ about the rock concert that the tickets sold out in one day.
- A group of _____ is gathered outside the city hall because they don't want Greenfield Park turned into a grocery store parking lot.
- My bedroom is in such _____ that I can't find my running shoes.

A Little Extra!

Circle the adjectives from this list which you feel best describe the main character of this story, Ivan.

artistic	gentle	funny	carefree	lonely	angry
hopeful	hyper	clever	patient	protective	sad
happy	nurturing	fierce	jealous	curious	kind

Name: _____

Date: _____

Understanding the Story

Section 7: *More Paintings – New Box*

Multiple Choice

1. What is the word Ivan spells with his pile of paintings?

- (a) "Love".
- (b) "Ivan".
- (c) "Home".
- (d) "Silverback".

2. How does Ivan get Julia's attention when she goes to leave in "Angry"?

- (a) He starts painting.
- (b) He beats his chest.
- (c) He throws his body at the cage door until it breaks open.
- (d) He throws food at her through the hole in his cage.

Short Answer

3. How does Julia convince her father to paint the billboard with Ivan's artwork?

Long Answer

4. How does the public react after watching the T.V. segment about the animals at the mall? What happens as a result of their reaction?

**A Little
Extra!**

Look over the illustrations in the story. How do they help tell the story? Which illustration is your favorite and why?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Vocabulary Study

Section 8: *Training – What I See*

Match Up

Match the vocabulary words with their synonyms!

- | | |
|-------------|----------|
| interior • | • wild |
| untamed • | • argue |
| weary • | • happy |
| contented • | • inside |
| placid • | • calm |
| bicker • | • tired |

Best Word

Circle the word which works best in each sentence.

1. The (interior / untamed) of the car smelled like leather and pine air freshener.
2. He was completely (weary / contented) to lie in the hammock all day long.
3. My parents are (weary / interior) when they get home from work at night.
4. The stray dog was (placid / bicker) around people so I thought he must be someone's pet.
5. The mother told her sons not to (contented / bicker) about which game to play.
6. Animals that are (placid / untamed) can be dangerous. You must be careful around them.

**A Little
Extra!**

In "Respect", Ivan describes his sister as being "nimble" while playing tag with him. What does Ivan mean by "nimble"?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Understanding the Story

Section 8: *Training – What I See*

Multiple Choice

1. What does the lady from the zoo use to get Ruby into the box?

- (a) A loud noise.
- (b) The claw-stick.
- (c) A hose.
- (d) A food treat and metal clicker.

2. What will Bob miss when Ivan leaves?

- (a) Ivan's smile.
- (b) Ivan's jokes.
- (c) Ivan's belly.
- (d) Ivan's art.

Short Answer

3. Why doesn't Ivan want to go in the box in "More boxes"?

Long Answer

4. Why do you think the zookeeper shows Ivan the gorillas through the TV set in "A new tv" and "The family" before he actually meets them?

**A Little
Extra!**

Ruby shows courage when she makes the decision to enter the box. Have you ever done something you needed to do, even though you were afraid? Describe your experience.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Vocabulary Study

Section 9: *Still There – Silverback*

Which Word?

On the provided lines, write the matching vocabulary word for each definition.

spry	brittle	savoring	stragglers	reluctantly	wistful
------	---------	----------	------------	-------------	---------

1. Enjoying and appreciating something. _____
2. Hard and easily broken or snapped into pieces. _____
3. Not really wanting to do something. _____
4. People who fall behind the group; slowpokes. _____
5. Active and lively. _____
6. Feeling a bit sad or regretful. _____

Making Sentences

Make a sentence for each word below.

1. Spry: _____
2. Brittle: _____
3. Savoring: _____
4. Stragglers: _____
5. Reluctantly: _____
6. Wistful: _____

A Little Extra!

In "Outside at Last", Ivan makes a list of fifteen words to describe his new home. On the other side of this sheet, make a list of fifteen words to describe your home.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Understanding the Story

Section 9: *Still There – Silverback*

Multiple Choice

1. What game does Ivan play with Kinyani in "It"?

- (a) Chess.
- (b) Dodgeball.
- (c) Hide and Go Seek.
- (d) Tag.

2. Who visits Ivan in "Silverback"?

- (a) Julia, Bob and George.
- (b) Ruby.
- (c) Mack.
- (d) Mack and Helen.

Short Answer

3. In "More TV", what compels Ivan to touch his hands to the glass and, with his eyes, say thank you to Maya?

Long Answer

4. *The One and Only Ivan* won a very important literary award called the Newbery Medal in 2013. In your opinion, is this book deserving of the award? Why or why not?

**A Little
Extra!**

Has this book changed your opinion about keeping wild animals in captivity? If so, how?
