

Practice Exercise 19

The fish-catchers tested the lashings on their double-pronged fish spears, and Sarkak, taking one of these, walked carefully out into the water, for the rocks beneath his feet were smooth and slippery. When the water reached the top of his sealskin boots, he stopped and stood quietly, his eyes adjusting to the strong sunlight that flashed across the water. He held the spear lightly poised in his right hand and waited, motionless. Then he struck downward with a thrust so swift that I could not see it, and when he raised the spear again, it held a huge thrashing sea trout, pierced through the back and firmly held between the two springing jaws of bone. Blood ran down the silver sides of the fish, and Sarkak laughed with joy, for this was what every hunter lived for. Here he was with a whole camp of men, women, children, and dogs to feed, and because we lived like true people, offending neither people nor spirits, the fish had come once more to give themselves to us.

1. The character of Sarkak is revealed through
 - a. his speech.
 - b. his thoughts.
 - c. his actions.
 - d. the conversation of others.
2. Sarkak is
 - a. vigorous and capable.
 - b. quiet and heroic.
 - c. proud and arrogant.
 - d. savage and depraved.
3. The narrator's attitude toward Sarkak seems to be one of
 - a. contempt.
 - b. admiration.
 - c. suspicion.
 - d. fear.
4. Underline the sentence that summarizes Sarkak's world view.