

Title: Last Man in Pompeii

Word Study

Fill in the blanks using the words.

soil	nearby	chaos	liquid	darkness
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1. It doesn't take long to walk to the store because it is nearby.
2. They looked into the darkness but couldn't see anything.
3. Soil is just as important to plants as water.
4. When ice melts, it becomes a liquid.
5. There was a lot of chaos after the earthquake.

Reading Comprehension

A. Circle T for true or F for false.

1. The people in Pompeii grew olive trees. T / F
2. Linus mother's name was Tabitha. T / F
3. Linus had never seen a dead person before. T / F
4. After the eruption, it started to snow. T / F
5. The story takes place in the month of August. T / F

B. Circle the correct word.

1. The good (water / soil) in Pompeii made it easy to grow food.
2. When the eruption started, Linus was at the well filling a (cup / jar).
3. There was a lot of black (smoke / ash) that came from the volcano.
4. The volcano had been quiet for (years / centuries).
5. A wall of (gas / liquid rocks) killed everyone still in the town.

C. Choose the best answer.

1. Which of the following did people in Pompeii NOT get from the rich soil?

- a. oil
- b. food
- c. rocks
- d. drink

2. What happened to Linus's father?

- a. He left the family.
- b. He was killed by the volcano.
- c. He died when Linus was young.
- d. He was out of town on business.

3. What did Linus do when the rocks first started to fall?

- a. He stood and watched.
- b. He covered his head with the jar.
- c. He went straight home.
- d. He went toward Vesuvius.

4. Why did Linus's sister think it was snowing?

- a. Because it was winter
- b. Because of the falling ash
- c. Because she was sick
- d. Because of the people screaming

5. How did Linus's mother get to the river?

- a. Someone helped Linus carry her.
- b. Linus and his sister carried her.
- c. Linus carried her on his own.
- d. A soldier carried her for Linus.

Summary

Fill in the blanks with the words.

erupt	quiet	ash	resident	destroyed
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Linus lived in a beautiful and peaceful town called Pompeii. The people there were happy. Near Pompeii there was a large but quiet volcano, Vesuvius. Linus, who was just 16 years old, didn't have a father. He took care of his mother and sister. One day, Linus was getting water. The volcano started to erupt. At first, he did not know what was happening. Then he felt a rock hit his head. Next he saw the volcano was putting a lot of ash and smoke into the air. Linus went home to get his mother and sister. He wanted to leave town. Linus knew the town would be destroyed. However, his mother was too sick to go. Linus tried to find another resident of Pompeii to help. But none would. He carried his mother to the river. His family escaped. Linus became a man that day by protecting his family.