

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 _____.
2. They looked into the _____ but couldn't see anything.
3. _____ is just as important to plants as water.
4. When ice melts, it becomes a _____.
5. There was a lot of _____ 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 _____ 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 _____. 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 _____ 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 _____. However, his mother was too sick to go. Linus tried to find another _____ 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.