

After you Read

Respond and Think Critically

1. What is Riki-Tikki's "great war?" Describe Darzee and Chuchundra. How do they help Rikki-Tikki?
2. How does Kipling call attention to Rikki-tikki's bravery? List two incidents in the story that illustrate Rikki-tikki's courage?
3. Compare the characters of Nag and Nagina. Which one is more sympathetic or likeable?

Nag		Nagina

4. How does the family count on Rikki-tikki's cleverness?
5. Big Question: What traits or characteristics make Rikki-tikki someone to be counted on? Explain.

Vocabulary Practice

1. Choose the sentence that uses the vocabulary word correctly: **Cowered**
A. Hakim hid during the storm because he was a **cowered**.
B. Hakim, terrified during the storm, **cowered** under his blanket.
2. Choose the sentence that uses the vocabulary word correctly: **restless**
A. Aisha was **restless** and paced from room to room.
B. Aisha was **restless** and calmly read a book during the long afternoon.
3. Choose the sentence that uses the vocabulary word correctly: **cultivated**
A. The soup was half **cultivated** before Maria added the salt.
B. Maria's garden was mulched and fully **cultivated** by the end of April.
4. Choose the sentence that uses the vocabulary word correctly: **valiant**
A. Ella was **valiant**, protecting her younger sister from the vicious dog.
B. Ella was **valiant**, running with her younger sister from the tiny kitten.
5. Rikki-tikki-tavi's life with the British family **ensured** that a cobra would never again live inside the garden walls.

In the preceding sentence, **ensured** means "made sure or certain." Think about Rikki's plan to kill Nag. Where did he have to strike Nag to kill him? Then fill in the blank for this statement.

Rikki ensured his attack would kill Nag by

Vocabulary Practice

1. The conflict in the story is

- a. Nag's internal struggle
- b. Rikki's internal struggle
- c. An external struggle between the cobras and Rikki
- d. An external struggle between Rikki and the family.

2. What event happened before Rikki killed Karait?

- a. Rikki met Nag at night and killed him.
- b. A British family rescued Rikki.
- c. Karait bit Teddy.
- d. Nagaina tried to save her last egg from Rikki.