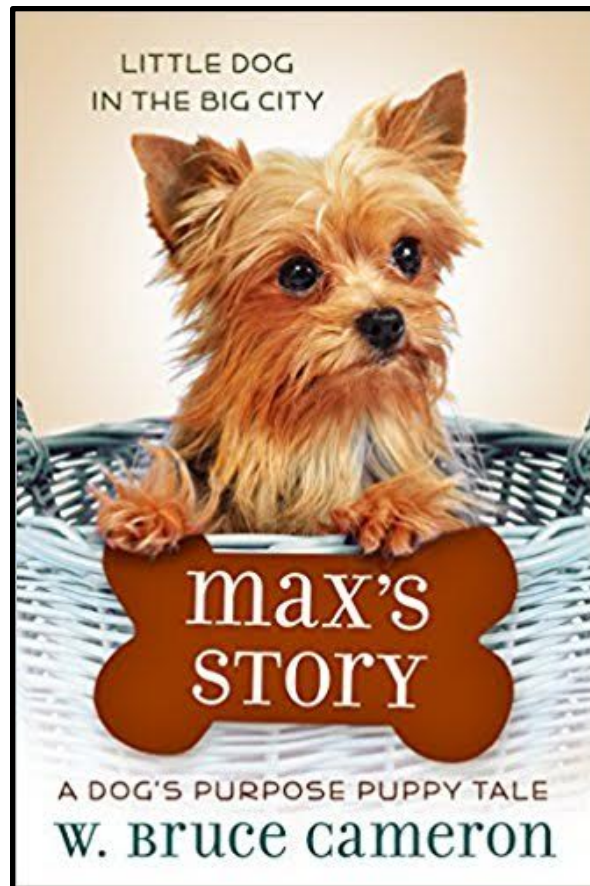


A Study Guide for *Max's Story*

Written by W. Bruce Cameron



Study Guide Written by Judith Robben, MA. Ed.

CHAPTER 1

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

peered, clumsily, irritated, astonishing, galloping, reckoned, startled

1. (RI.4.1 Details) What dog breed do the women think Max looks like? Use a detail from the text to support your answer.

—

—

2. (RI.4.1 Details) Explain how Max shows the other black dog that he can not be pushed around. Cite at least two actions Max did to make the dog back off.

—

—

—

3. (RI.4.1 Details) Why does Max feel it is so important to show the world that he matters? Cite the reason from the text.

—

—

4. (RI.4.1 Details) List the scents that Max is able to pick up at the park:

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____
- e. _____

5. (W.4.3.C) Write a summary describing Max's first few weeks as a puppy. What does he see? What does he hear? How does he feel about being small? What is important to him?

—

—

—

CHAPTER 2

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

enticing, mellow, indignantly, loping

1. (RL4.1 Inference) Why do you think Max is the only puppy left in the pen? Use details from the text to support your inference.

2. (RI.4.1 Details) The setting of *Max's Story* is revealed in Chapter 2. In what city does the story take place?

3. (RL4.6 Point of View) From what point of view does author W. Bruce Cameron write *Max's Story*, and why do you think he uses this point of view?

4. (RI.4.1 Details) Why does Max like the girl more than anyone else at the park?
Cite a detail from the text to show evidence.

—

—

—

CHAPTER 3

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

asphalt, frantically

1. (W.4.3.C) Explain in steps, using transition words, how Max escapes from Gail's grip.

2.

- A. (RI.4.1 Details) W. Bruce Cameron writes, "Long tubes of bright color, twisted together, wobbled and jiggled in the breeze. It smelled dreadful – a rubbery, unnatural smell" (p. 31). What is this object that Max describes?

- B. (RI.4.1 Details) "A deafening bang exploded in my ears, and my legs took off running in spite of me." p. 31. What is this sound that Max hears?

3. (W.4.3.C) Summarize how Max escapes the glass doors that put him in danger after he spots the girl inside. Be sure to use your own words and transition words in your summary. Include several details from the text.

CHAPTER 4

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

disinfectant, aggressive, intently, alertly, smugly, intriguing

1. (RI.4.1 Details and L.4.1 Adj.) What adjective does CJ use to compliment Max when she is trying to return Max to Gail?

2. (RI.4.1 Details) How does Gail describe Max's personality to CJ?

3. (RI.4.1 Details) What evidence on p. 41 proves that CJ is the only one who can save Max? Use quotation marks when citing evidence from the text.

4. (RL.4.1 Inference) Why do you think Gail says, "We'll waive the fee, don't worry about that" (p. 42). Use a detail to support your inference.

5. (RI.4.1 Details) List the conditions that Jillian makes in order to keep Max in the New York apartment:

- a. _____
b. _____
c. _____

CHAPTER 5

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

taunting, intent, haughtily, apologetically, humoring

1. (RI.4.1 Details and RI.4.5 problem/solution) What is the first problem CJ encounters with Max, and how does she solve this problem?

2. (RI.4.1 Details) Who is taking care of CJ's dog, Molly, back home?

3. (RI.4.1 Details) Max believes he has two jobs when he is with CJ. What are those two jobs?

4. (L.4.5 Figurative Language) W. Bruce Cameron uses a metaphor when Baxter's owner speaks of Max (p. 57). Cite the metaphor, and explain its meaning.

5. (RI.4.1 Details and L.4.1 adj.) Several new dogs are introduced in Chapter 5. Fill in the chart below to match their breeds and adjectives to their names.

| | | | |
|---------------|-------------|------------|--------------|
| Baxter | Duke | Jay | Honey |
|---------------|-------------|------------|--------------|

| | | | |
|---------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| breed- German Shepherd | breed- | breed- | breed- |
| adj. | adj. | adj. | adj. |
| adj. | adj. | adj. | adj. |

CHAPTER 6

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

ambled, alertness, infuriating, scholarship, sauntering

1. (RI.4.1 Details) Max's personality traits come through strongly in Chapter 6. Cite at least two details where Max is trying to prove who is the boss.

a. _____

b. _____

2. (RL.4.1 Inference and RL.4.3 Character Analysis) CJ is working on her art. Make an inference about how CJ feels concerning her art work based on details in the text. Cite at least one detail as evidence for your inference.

—

—

—

—

3. (RL.4.1 Inference) The setting of *Max's Story* is New York City. Max describes a car as "...a bright yellow car dashed past, so close the wind made my ears flap" (p.75). Based on the setting and Max's words, make an inference as to the kind of car that dashed past them.

—

—

—

4. (W.4.7 Research) Use the internet to research the following facts about New York state:

| Capital City | New York's Nickname | A Gift from France | State Animal |
|--------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| | | | |

CHAPTER 7

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

quivering

1. (RI.4.1 Details) While inside the apartment, what is CJ trying to teach Max with the treats hidden in her hand? Cite a detail in the text to support your answer.

2. A. (RI.4.2 Summarize and W.4.3.C) Summarize the game in the hallway involving the rolled up newspaper and hidden treats. Be sure to use transition words in your summary.

- B. (RI.4.1 Details) Why is CJ playing this game with both Sneakers and Max? Be sure to cite evidence from the text.

3. (L4.4 Vocabulary and L4.1 Adj.) CJ arrives home from her art class and Jillian asks about her drawing. CJ responds, "He said it was **inauthentic**." What does her teacher mean by using the adjective "inauthentic"? Record the meaning of "inauthentic" below, and explain why this adjective made CJ feel disappointed.

Inauthentic means: _____

CHAPTER 8

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

meek, cringe, abruptly

1. (RI.4.1 Details) Max is able to sense that the girls CJ meets are saying nice words, but may not be nice. State two details about these girls that help Max make this judgment.

2. (RI.4.1 Details) Why does Stella say, “He is a New York dog – you can tell” (p.98). What detail in the text explains this comment?

3. (RL.4.3 Character Analysis) W. Bruce Cameron uses first person point of view to explain what Max is thinking. What kind of character is Max based on this point of view? Cite at least two character traits that describe Max, and provide a detail from the text as evidence for each character trait.

a. **Character Trait #1:** _____
Evidence from the text:

b. **Character Trait #2:** _____
Evidence from the text:

4. (W.4.7 Research) Use the internet to research facts about Central Park in New York. In which city is Central Park located? How big is Central Park? What man-made structures tower above Central Park? What movies have been filmed in Central Park? Write your researched facts in complete sentences below.

CHAPTER 9

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

entrancing, aroma, contentment, sternly

1. (L.4.5 Figurative Language) W. Bruce Cameron uses a metaphor when describing Sneakers: "Sneakers sat down, wrapped her tail snugly around her back feet..." (p.101). Explain the metaphor used in this sentence. What is being compared?

2. (W.4.1.a.b.c Opinion Writing) In Chapter 9, CJ encounters a problem when she arrives home and Jillian is very angry. Describe CJ's problem, and then state your **opinion** on how CJ should solve the problem. Be sure to support your opinion with at least three reasons based on events in the story. (Use linking phrases such as: "in order", "in addition to", etc.)

CHAPTER 10

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

contraption, hustled, straining, dismay, disdainfully, eagerly

1. (RI.4.1 Details and W.4.2.b Quotation Marks) CJ takes Max for a longer walk in Chapter 10. Max describes the train/subway station from a dog's point of view (first person). List four details that Max uses to help the reader figure out where he and CJ are walking. Use quotation marks and page numbers for the text details.

- a. _____
b. _____
c. _____
d. _____

2. (RI.4.1 Details and W.4.2.b Quotation Marks) Once on the train, how does Max describe the rat that scampers across the tracks? As above, use quotation marks and page numbers when citing this detail.

—

—

3. (RL.4.3 Compare Characters) CJ meets up with Stella and they spend time together at Central Park. Compare traits of both characters in the diagram below. How are they different and how are they alike?

| CJ | Both | Stella |
|----|------|--------|
| | | |

CHAPTER 12

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

triumphantly, burrowed, antiseptic, admiring, alley

1. (RI.4.1 Details) Why does CJ take Max outside, but then crawl back into bed? Use a detail in the text as evidence for your answer.

—

—

—

2. (SL.4.5 Use of audio/video recording for presentation) Using the technology tools available to you, create a video presentation on why Max would make a great pet. Be sure to include convincing reasons why Max should be adopted, and use a visual (such as a chart) in your video as evidence. Your video must last 2 minutes and show fluency and poise. Use the chart below as a checklist to help you prepare your video presentation.

| |
|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Picture/Drawing of Max |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reason #1 to adopt Max |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reason #2 to adopt Max |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reason #3 to adopt Max |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chart or Graph as convincing evidence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Practice Round #1 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Practice Round #2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Practice Round #3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Time-Does my video last 2 minutes? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Live Video Recording |

CHAPTER 13

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

intentions, resentfully, tentatively, delectably

1. (W.4.3.c Summary Writing and Transition Words) Write a short summary explaining how Max saves Sneakers's life in Chapter 13. Be sure to use transition words and important details in your summary.

2. (RI.4.1 Details) Why does Jillian change her mind about Max staying at the apartment for the rest of the summer? Be sure to cite two details from the text as evidence for your answer.

3. (RI.4.1 Details) List some of the many ways that Stella helps CJ both emotionally and physically:

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

4. (RI.4.1 Details) What is the best compliment that CJ receives from Jillian? Explain how this offer proves to CJ that her art work has some value.

—

—

—

—

—

CHAPTER 14

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

crooned, riveted

1. (RL.4.3 and W.4.3.a Character Analysis/Narrative) Explain how Max's personality is complex. Reflect on the way he warms up to CJ, yet does not like new strangers. In addition, discuss how he feels about other dogs. Describe at least three different personality traits with examples as evidence from different chapters.

a. **Character Trait #1:** _____

Evidence from the text:

b. **Character Trait #2:** _____

Evidence from the text:

c. **Character Trait #3:** _____

Evidence from the text:

2. (RL.4.1 Inference) When CJ arrives back home, what can you infer about the woman in the flowery dress and her feelings about Max? Use two details to support your inference.

3. (W.4.1.b Opinion Writing) In your opinion, what character traits make the best dog to have as a pet? List at least 3 character traits that the ideal dog could have and a reason to support your opinion.

a. **Character Trait #1:** _____

Evidence from the text:

b. **Character Trait #2:** _____

Evidence from the text:

c. **Character Trait #3:** _____

Evidence from the text:

Vocabulary Intervention Organizer

| Word | Page # | Definition/Text to Self Sentence |
|------|--------|----------------------------------|
| | | <hr/> -- |
| | | <hr/> -- |
| | | <hr/> -- |
| | | <hr/> -- |