The Hunter with a Heart

I’d been hiding in the undergrowth for what seemed like hours before the beast appeared – my stomach growling with hunger so loudly that I was scared it might give my position away.

I’d sharpened the tip of my flint spear and made three extra arrows out of twigs and animal bone. I was ready to become the hero of my village; ready to bring back the biggest catch we’d had in months. It was so big it would feed our families for weeks.

I approached – tiptoeing silently behind the trees. Just as I was about to fire, I saw it... a baby mammoth, trundling and stumbling behind its mother, weaving in and out of her legs.

I knew I couldn’t do it. I couldn’t kill them... but what would we do for supper?

Quick Questions

1. What does “trundling and stumbling’ tell you about the baby mammoth’s walk?

2. What do you think the hunter did next? Give a reason for your answer.

3. How has the author made the character seem unsure at the end of the text?

4. Explain how the hunter’s feelings change throughout the text.
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Answers

1. What does “trundling and stumbling” tell you about the baby mammoth’s walk? Accept any reasonable answer which explains that its walk was unsteady.

2. What do you think the hunter did next? Give a reason for your answer. Accept any reasonable prediction accompanied with a valid explanation.

3. How has the author made the character seem unsure at the end of the text? Accept any answer pertaining to the use of a question, the use of ellipses or repetition.

4. Explain how the hunter’s feelings change throughout the text. Accept answers which discuss the change from feeling ready to hunt, to hesitant after he sees the mammoth family.