**Wolf Brother – Focus Questions**

**Chapter One**
1. What was the light like when Torak wakes from his sleep?
2. What did Torak know, but could not feel?
3. What simile is used to describe the bear’s disappearance?
4. What is strange about the bear’s behaviour?
5. What does Torak’s father need to take with him when he dies?
6. How does the writer suggest Torak is paranoid that the bear is very near?
7. Why is the bear thought to be evil?
8. What does Fa worry about as he is dying?
9. What is Torak being forced to do as his father tells him to find the mountain?
10. What does Torak do to prepare his father for death?
11. What advice does Fa give Torak?

**Chapter Two**
1. What does Torak do to suggest that he has a spiritual connection with the forest?
2. What personification is used on page 11?
3. What makes Torak feel completely alone?
4. What happened at Torak’s first clan meet?
5. Why don’t any scavengers feed on the dead forest horses?
6. What does Torak see in the bear’s eyes?
7. How does Torak react to the cry of the young animal?

**Chapter Three**
1. How does the Wolf Club feel?
2. What is unusual about the smell that the wolf cub picks up?
3. How does the wolf club describe Torak?
4. What do we learn about Torak through the way he treats the cub on page 19?
5. Why does Torak think he will be safe for the night?
6. How does Torak know where to set the traps to catch food?
7. What metaphors are used to describe how Torak feels when chopping wood for his shelter?
8. What is the real reason for Torak suddenly being sick?
9. What effect is the wound on his arm having on Torak?

Chapter Four
1. Why do you think Torak is reluctant to bond with the cub?
2. Why does Torak feel he doesn’t deserve his clan tattoos?
3. How do Torak’s feelings toward the cub change as he wakes from his dreams about the bear?
4. What reassures Torak as he is afraid of the bear attacking him?

Chapter Five
1. How do Torak’s feelings toward the cub change when he realises it has gone?
2. Why does the wolf cub yip at Torak when he finds it by the deadfall?
3. How does the cub learn that Torak is the leader?
4. What ritual does Torak do before he eats his food?
5. What does Torak know about demons?
6. Explain what the World Spirit is.
7. What is the decision which Torak makes that makes him feel better?

Chapter Six
1. What are ‘Lights and Darks’, ‘Tall Tailless’ and ‘Fast Wet’?
2. How does the cub know that Torak is going the wrong way?
3. How do we know that the relationship between Torak & Wolf has strengthened?
4. What does Torak do to the deer as it is dying?
5. Explain how wolves talk to each other.
6. Explain what Torak uses part of the deer’s body for.

Chapter Seven
1. Why are the hunters angry with Torak?
2. What mistake does Torak make when Wolf appears?
3. How does Torak feel as he is lead away with his hands tied?
4. What is Torak confused about regarding Hord’s appearance?
5. What is different about Renn than Hord?
Chapter Eight
1. What is intimidating about the appearance of the men who are skinning the boar?
2. Name five other things Torak notices about the area.
3. What does Hord imply when he is explaining what has happened?
4. Why do you think Torak raise his chin when he says he is from the Wolf clan?
5. What effect does the word ‘drilled’ have when describing how Fin-Keddin looks at Torak?
6. What does Torak wonder about Fin-Keddin when he tells him who his father is?

Chapter Nine
1. How does the arm guard feel when Torak puts it on?
2. How does the writer want the reader to feel at this point in the story?
3. Why does Torak keep his top on to fight Hord?
4. How does Torak think the fight will go?
5. What does Torak use to distract Hord so he can get him with his knife?
6. What does Torak think of doing for split second?
7. How does Fin-Keddin say that Torak cheated?
8. What do the clan think about Torak when they decide not to let him go?
9. What part of the prophecy begins to come true?

Chapter Ten
1. What two things tell us that Torak is fearful about what will happen to him?
2. Why is it so difficult for Torak to escape before dawn?
3. What does Torak plan to get the wolf cub to do?
4. What does Hord think about keeping Torak to help defeat the bear?
5. What effect does the repetition of the word ‘still’ have on the first paragraph after the break on page 71?
6. How do the Auroch Clan and Boar Clan want to deal with the bear?
7. Why did Hord want to stay with the Red Deer clan?
8. How does Renn say the bear was ‘made’?
Chapter Eleven
1. What does Torak notice about Saeunn’s appearance that gives the impression of her being an evil character?
2. Which two words at the bottom of page 77 describe Saeunn as having animal-like qualities?
3. What is mean by ‘three moons’?
4. What does Saeunn say normally happens to children when their mothers die?
5. What did Torak’s father do instead?
6. In the third paragraph after the break on page 80, what effect do the short sentences have? (Beginning ‘He dropped it...’)

Chapter Twelve
1. Which words are used that create an onomatopoeic effect on page 82?
2. What simile is used on page 83?
3. Why are some lines written in italics?
4. Why does Torak head north?
5. Why would deer droppings result in the dogs still chasing after him?
6. Why are wolverine droppings better to put off the hunting dogs?
7. What is personified on page 86?

Chapter Thirteen
1. Why does the whispering woman think Torak might appear where they are?
2. Why doesn’t Torak decide to overpower Renn?
3. List the items Renn emerges with on page 90.
4. What does Hord think the prophecy means?
5. What three things can Torak do that prove he is the Listener?
6. What effect does eating the dry roe buck have on Torak?
7. How does Renn make sure her salmon ‘stays good all winter’?
8. Why doesn’t Torak trust Renn?
9. What do you think is the Long-Claw-that-Flies?
Chapter Fourteen
1. What three things suggest there is danger ahead to Torak?
2. How does the writer personify the tree that the bear has attacked?
3. Why does Torak now decide he can trust Renn?
4. What does Torak need to find to get the World Spirit to help him?
5. How does Torak encourage Wolf to cross the river?

Chapter Fifteen
1. What technique is used to describe the river at the beginning of this chapter and what does it make us think of the river?
2. What is it that brings Torak out of the charms of the Hidden People?
3. Look at the section starting ‘But his strength was failing’ on page 110. How does the writer make the reader feel the panic that is going through Torak’s mind? Clue: look at sentence lengths. How do they change and why?

Chapter Sixteen
1. What are ‘Not-Breath’ and ‘Bright Beast-That-That-Bites-Hot’?
2. Why does Torak think they are up the side of the valley?
3. What happens when Torak reveals the river eyes that he has been clenching in his hand?

Chapter Seventeen
1. What is it that makes Torak feel like he’s being swallowed?
2. What is similar between Torak and Renn before they go hunting?
3. Look at the paragraph beginning ‘It was a bright, cold morning...’ on page 119. What do the words ‘blazed’, ‘glittered’ and ‘frost-spangled’ make you think what the forest is like?
4. What do you think the author means when he says there was a ‘companionable silence’ when Renn & Torak had eaten their meal?
5. What effect does seeing the First Tree have on Renn & Torak?
6. What is the ‘Thundering Wet’ that Wolf hears?
7. What does Wolf find difficult to sense from the creature he sees?
Chapter Eighteen
1. What simile is used to describe the fog?
2. What effect does the fog have when they walk along the auroch trail?
3. Why should there be more reindeer in the forest?
4. Why does Torak feel guilty about bringing Wolf with them?
5. What is personified in the paragraph beginning ‘They hadn’t gone ten paces…’ on page 127?
6. What are the two onomatopoeic words in the next paragraph?
7. What features of the Walker man make him sound like he is rotting?
8. What is an ‘elemental’ demon?

Chapter Nineteen
1. What creates the ‘bleak, menacing feel’ about the stony grey hill?
2. What simile is used to describe the stone mouth at the top of the trail?
3. How does the writer describe the cave as if it is the mouth of a creature?
4. What does the writer mean when they describe the stillness as ‘horrible, waiting’?
5. What effect do the short sentences have at the end of this chapter?

Chapter Twenty
1. What signals were there that the bear was close before Renn saw it by the river?
2. What is it that claws Renn in the darkness?
3. What does the word ‘reverberated’ at the bottom of page 144 mean?
4. Why is the silence worse than the noise the Watchers had been making?
5. Why did Wolf grab the ravenskin pouch and run from the cave?
Chapter Twenty-One
1. Why does Torak feel ashamed when he sees Renn’s injuries?
2. Why do you think it is so important to Torak that he doesn’t lose Wolf?
3. Why do you think Renn is surprised when Torak gives her the whistle so she can also call Wolf?
4. What do the reindeer remind Wolf of as they run past him?
5. Why does Wolf run through them but doesn’t kill one of the reindeers to eat?

Chapter Twenty-Two
1. How does Torak become when he is tracking Wolf?
2. How is the willow and heather personified in the last paragraph of page 161?
3. Why does Renn feel left out when in the company of Torak and Wolf?
4. Why is Renn so afraid of crossing the ice river?
5. What does she want Torak to realise when she tells him how her father died?

Chapter Twenty-Three
1. What alliteration has been used at the beginning of this chapter and what effect do you think it has on the description of the ice cliffs?
2. What does the word ‘plodded’ tell you about how the three characters were moving?
3. What do the words ‘obliterate’ and ‘torrent’ mean?
4. How do they manage to carry fire with them?

Chapter Twenty-Four
1. How is the ice personified as Renn & Torak try to figure out a way to get him out of the ice river?
2. Read the sentence: ‘More shards crashed down, the echoes rumbling on and on’. What onomatopoeia is used on this sentence and what effect does it have?
3. How does the tension fall after Torak escapes from the ice river?
4. How is the ice river personified at the end of the chapter?
Chapter Twenty-Five
1. What does the writer make the ice river seem like when she writes ‘the ice river had them in its grip…’, ‘it spun him round…’, ‘the ice river’s vicious trick’ and it ‘tore her name from his lips’?
2. Why might it be dangerous for Torak to touch the dead body?
3. How does Torak know the man was ready for death?
4. What draws Torak’s attention to the third piece of the Nanuak?
5. What difficult decision does Torak face at the end of this chapter?

Chapter Twenty-Six
1. How is the ice river personified in the opening of this chapter?
2. What do you think is happening to Renn as she wakes to ‘find herself floating in beautiful heat’, when she is surrounded by snow and ice?
3. Why is Torak glad to be arguing with Renn?
4. What do Renn & Torak treat the fire in the birch-bark roll like when they are trying to light a fire?
5. What four onomatopoeic words are in the second paragraph on page 187?

Chapter Twenty-Seven
1. Why is Torak surprised when he hears Wolf howling to another pack in the mountains?
2. Why do some wolves howl with their muzzles in the snow?
3. What simile is used to describe the inside of the ice wall?
4. What does Torak work out from the animal droppings Renn sees?
5. Why had no animals fed on the carcass of the auroch?
6. Who does Torak forget to listen to as he focuses on the carcass?

Chapter Twenty-Eight
1. Why does Hord wish Renn was dead?
2. How has Hord changed since Torak last saw him?
3. Why do you think the men hang their heads when Renn asks them if they are now following Hord as Clan Leader?
4. What are ‘Bright Soft Cold’ and ‘Bright Beasts-That-Bite-Hot’?
5. What simile is used to describe the voices of the clan as Torak is guided to the clearing by Oslak?
6. Why does Torak say he should go to the mountain instead of Hord?

**Chapter Twenty-Nine**
1. Why does Vedna, Oslak’s mate, appear to dislike Torak?
2. What reminders of the bear’s attack are there in Fin-Kedinn’s shelter?
3. Why has Fin-Kedinn let Torak be sentenced to death, be fought by Hord, and tied up whilst being threatened to be sacrificed?
4. Why did the Healers become evil and turn into the Soul-Eaters?
5. What does Fin-Kedinn say is the most important quality a hunter can have?

**Chapter Thirty**
1. Why does Torak smear Death Marks on his skin before he leaves for the mountain?
2. What five materials has Vedna used on Torak’s new clothes?
3. How can Torak tell the prints in the snow are of a buck (young deer)?
4. What things does Torak leave by the tree as he heads up the mountain?

**Chapter Thirty-One**
1. What makes Torak look down the ravine to see the bear?
2. Why doesn’t the bear sense Torak when he is so close?
3. What happens to Torak when he stares into the eyes of the bear?

**Chapter Thirty-Two**
1. Why does Hord want to take the Nanuak to the Mountain so much?
2. Why do you think the writer has used a capital letter for the ‘Mountain’ (Clue: think about when you used capital letters)?
3. How does the World Spirit help Torak against the bear and Hord?
4. Why can’t Torak howl to Wolf that he will see him in the future?