

Woodsong Journal Guide

Chapters 5 through 8

Here are the assignments for chapters 5 through 8 in the novel *Woodsong* by Gary Paulsen. You are to choose one paragraph assignment from each section below and complete each entry on separate paper.

Chapters 5 & 6:

- a) Imagine you are Scarhead the bear. Describe the encounter you have with Gary Paulsen from your point of view.
- b) Write a letter to Gary Paulsen in which you tell him why you agree or disagree with his statement that a human is “nothing more or nothing less than any other animal in the woods.”
- c) Your own idea that explores the ideas of these chapters--approved by Mr. George

Chapters 7 & 8:

- a) Write a character sketch of a favorite pet or wild animal, basing it on your eyewitness observations of that animal in a zoo, at home, or in a natural setting.
- b) Create a conversation that Fred, Cookie, and Storm might have about Gary Paulsen while they are out on a run.
- c) Your own idea that explores the ideas of these chapters--approved by Mr. George

Each entry should be typed or be written in cursive/ink and meet the following standards for quality.

- a) **Scarhead's Point of View:** Entry should fully explore the events from the “scene” beginning to end. After reading your entry one should truly understand the thoughts and feelings of the bear. A vivid description (5 or more sentences) of Paulsen should also be included. (length= one page minimum)
- b) **The Letter to Paulsen:** Your letter should include all five parts of a friendly letter (attached). It should first introduce you, who you are and why you are writing the letter. Secondly, it should provide the quote and explain your thoughts clearly through details, reasons and examples. Lastly, you should sign your letter. (Length= one page minimum)
- a) **Character Sketch:** This sketch should include a very carefully written and specific description of an animal. Like a scientist and like Paulsen report exactly what you “see.” Also, describe the environment (habitat) in vivid detail as well. (length= one page minimum)
- b) **Conversation:** This conversation should be written like a play and include the thoughts and feelings of all three animals. Because you now know the personalities of these animals, their words and ideas should reflect who they are and what they might actually think. (length= two pages minimum)