



# The Voyage of the Dawn Treader Study Guide



For the novel by  
C. S. Lewis

by Carol Clark



## Table of Contents

Study Guide Author .....	4
Note to Instructor .....	5
Synopsis .....	7
About the Novel's Author .....	8
Ideas for Prereading Activities .....	9
As-You-Read Activity .....	10
Chapters 1 & 2 .....	11
Chapters 3 & 4 .....	17
Chapter 5 .....	23
Chapters 6 & 7 .....	28
Chapter 8 .....	34
Chapters 9–11 .....	39
Chapters 12–14 .....	43
Chapters 15 & 16 .....	47
Overview .....	53
After-You-Read Activities .....	57
Additional Resources .....	58
Answer Key .....	Separate File

## Synopsis

Lucy and Edmund are swept into Narnia again, and, along with their unwilling cousin Eustace, join King Caspian in his search for the seven lords of Narnia who were banished by Caspian's evil uncle, King Miraz. Caspian's journey takes the crew of the *Dawn Treader* to unknown islands in the Eastern Seas, where they encounter magic, adventure, invisible enemies, and peril. Each discovery leads them further toward Aslan, who will help if they seek him. The quest takes the *Dawn Treader* to the very eastern edge of the world, where one crew member must be left in order to save three of the lords. But, who will stay?

**Note:** Because *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* is the fourth book in *The Chronicles of Narnia* series, we strongly suggest that you read the first three books either before or soon after reading this book. It is not strictly necessary, but it will make many things clearer and will heighten the reader's enjoyment of this novel.

## Chapters 3 and 4

### Vocabulary:

A *synonym* is a word with a similar meaning to a different word. For example, instead of using the word *good*, a writer might use a synonym such as *excellent*, *admirable*, or *splendid* to give a more precise meaning to the sentence. A thesaurus, a book similar to a dictionary, is a good source for synonyms. Using a thesaurus or dictionary, match the vocabulary words in the Word Bank to their synonyms.

*Word Bank*

---

abominable	bedraggled	civilized	dandified
dominion	forfeit	infuriated	jabber
carrion	rigmarole	fief	bilious
languid	pitching	regent	tribute

---

1. \_\_\_\_\_ rumpled, untidy, disheveled
2. \_\_\_\_\_ enraged, angered, incensed
3. \_\_\_\_\_ tithe, toll, dues, payment
4. \_\_\_\_\_ rolling, lurching, unsteady
5. \_\_\_\_\_ talk, gab, chatter
6. \_\_\_\_\_ well-mannered, polite, courteous
7. \_\_\_\_\_ hateful, detestable, despicable, horrible
8. \_\_\_\_\_ territory, jurisdiction, domain
9. \_\_\_\_\_ penalty, relinquish, lose
10. \_\_\_\_\_ listless, sluggish, leisurely

### Thinking About the Story:

6. An *idiom* is an expression that does not literally mean what the words say, but has an accepted or understood meaning. For example, if we say someone has ants in his pants, we do not mean that he has insects crawling inside his clothing. We understand this expression to mean that the person is having a hard time sitting still or is agitated.

Gumpas and his men often use idioms. Their speech emphasizes the local flavor of the island, setting them apart from the more formal speech of Caspian and the *Dawn Treader* crew. Study the underlined idioms in the following sentences and paraphrase what the sayings mean as they are used in the sentence.

- a. “The mouse is a fair treat but this one would talk the hind leg off a donkey.”
- b. “You make very free,” said the other. “How shall I know this is true?”
- c. “By heaven,” exclaimed the man, “it is his father’s very voice and trick of speech.”
- d. “Gumpas is a chicken-hearted man, and can be over-awed.”
7. *Juxtaposition* is the act of placing two things side by side for comparison or contrast. An author uses juxtaposition to underscore the distinctive characteristics of two people, things, happenings, or places. The author describes Caspian’s men and their armor as they enter the village. When they reach the castle gate, they find Gumpas’ men in quite a different condition. Reread the description of

*The Voyage of the Dawn Treader Study Guide*

these two groups and list the ways in which they differ. What characteristics does this juxtaposition reveal about Gumpas' men and Caspian's soldiers?

Caspian's Men

Gumpas's Men

8. Lord Bern states that Gumpas "would not be best pleased to find a real, live King of Narnia coming in upon him." Why? What reception *does* Caspian receive from Governor Gumpas? What is Caspian's solution to the situation here on Felimath?
  
9. What does Lord Bern request of Caspian? What two reasons does Caspian give for continuing the voyage of the *Dawn Treader*? What does this tell us about Caspian's inner character?

**Dig Deeper:**

10. Caspian offers forgiveness to three people, but in each case he imposes a consequence for their actions. Complete the lines below for each person.

*Captain:* Pardoned for: \_\_\_\_\_

Consequence: \_\_\_\_\_

*Gumpas:* Pardoned for: \_\_\_\_\_

Consequence: \_\_\_\_\_

*The Voyage of the Dawn Treader Study Guide*

*Pug*: Pardoned for: \_\_\_\_\_

Consequence: \_\_\_\_\_

11. Caspian was a wise ruler who forgave people. Read Colossians 3:12–14. To *paraphrase* something is to restate it with plain words, usually more briefly, to help clarify the meaning. Paraphrase these verses in your own words.
  
12. When Caspian decided to walk across Felimath, everything went wrong. Sometimes, no matter what we do, things will go wrong, but most of the time, we can try to make wise decisions. Read Proverbs 14:22, Proverbs 20:18a, Proverbs 3:5–6, and Proverbs 19:20. What are some ways to make wise decisions?

**Optional Activities:**

1. Explain how the above verses might have changed Pug’s treatment of slaves, had he heeded these scriptures. Write a well-organized paragraph with an introduction, explanation, and conclusion. The beginning sentence(s) should state the main idea you wish to convey. The middle sentences could give examples of Pug’s possible behavior changes. The ending should summarize the changes, draw a conclusion, or restate the main idea of your paragraph.
2. *Creative writing*: Write a 1- to 3-page story telling how life became different with Lord Bern in charge of Felimath and slavery no longer permitted.
3. *Math connection*: Upon learning that Reepicheep could talk, the slave merchant said, “Blowed if I take less than 200 crescents for him.” The author explains that the crescent is one-third of a pound.

## *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader Study Guide Answer Key*

4. The enchantment can only be broken by one of the crew being left behind at the end of the world. Reepicheep volunteers.

### *Thinking About the Story:*

5. Words listed may vary, but should mention some of the following: capes and headlands on fire, the cape was black against a red sky and sharp as if cut from cardboard. Hills like pillows. A dim, purple kind of smell. “It came slowly nearer and the light behind them made it look as if the capes and headlands of this new country were all on fire. But presently they were sailing along its coast and its western cape now rose up astern of them, black against the red sky and sharp as if it was cut out of cardboard, and then they could see better what this country was like. It had no mountains but many gentle hills with slopes like pillows. An attractive smell came from it—what Lucy called “a dim, purple kind of smell,” which Edmund said (and Rhince thought) was rot, but Caspian said, “I know what you mean.”

6. The book hints or foreshadows that Caspian will return for and then kiss Ramandu’s daughter. It implies they will be together.

7. Caspian’s men are challenged by Caspian and told they cannot all automatically come along. They have to apply for the privilege. Caspian tells the crew that only the most worthy of them will be chosen for such a high honor. They must be skilled, pure-blooded, loyal to the King, and clean in life and morals. He promises them a title and either gold or lands enough to make them rich.

8. Men who had been anxious enough to *get* out of the voyage felt quite differently about being *left* out of it, and soon all but one of them had volunteered to go. This is often referred to as reverse psychology or psychological reactance. Opinions on why it works will vary.

### *Dig Deeper:*

9. These verses teach us that God is with us, he is our stronghold, even in danger or under attack we can be without fear and have confidence. God will keep us safe. We should be faithful, on guard, courageous, loving, and strong. Trust God. He is our strength, our rock, fortress, deliverer, refuge, stronghold, and salvation. Nothing at all can separate us from the love of God.

10. God promises that nothing at all can separate us from his love. He also reminds us that he has given us the Holy Spirit to teach us and guide us; and he has given us his peace.

## *Chapters 15 and 16*

### *Vocabulary:*

1. c; 2. a; 3. d; 4. c; 5. c; 6. b; 7. a; 8. b; 9. d; 10. a

### *Questions:*

1. The children need less sleep; they do not want to go to bed or to eat; they talk in low voices; the sun appears twice its size; the water becomes clear, and eventually sweet. Once they drink the water, they are no longer hungry and can bear the increasing light.

2. Reepicheep interprets the Sea King’s shaking his spear as a challenge and intends to settle it. It is a matter of honor to him.

3. He discovers the water is sweet-tasting, not salt. The Dryad had prophesied that the end of the world would begin where the water was sweet.

4. Answers will vary. Reepicheep’s lifelong quest has been to find Aslan’s country in the utter East. The prophecy (in Chapter 15): “Where the waves grow sweet, doubt not, Reepicheep, there is the