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Catholic National Reader Book Five Answer Key

p. 26:

1. *At a loss for words* means he didn't seem to know what to say.
2. *Pursued Richards* means that he continued to speak.
3. *Evoked a long, derisive chuckling* means his name caused the boys to laugh at him in a cruel, belittling fashion.
4. *Employed a bitter tongue* means he used his ability to speak in a cruel way.
5. *Feeding and gloating upon his embarrassment* compares Percy's embarrassment to food. Apparently the other boys kept trying to get Percy more embarrassed for their own pleasure.
6. *Could endure his awkward position no longer* means that Percy couldn't bear the difficulties of being the one getting picked on any longer.
7. *The bully's eyes lowered involuntarily* means that he did not want to look away but that he couldn't help it.

p. 31:

1. *Had a way of offering candy which was simply irresistible* means that the candy being offered looked so tasty and delicious that Percy couldn't pass it up.
2. *A smile spoke volumes of gratitude* means that not only was Percy grateful for the candy, he was grateful for Tom's friendly gesture.
3. *Entered a negative* refers to the response that Tom gave to Percy when he was asked if he had read various books. It is another way of saying no.
4. *Astonishment softened into pity* means that Percy was surprised and pitied Tom for not having any sisters.
5. *Putting away his emotions under cover of boisterousness* points out how Tom kept his sentimental feelings to himself by acting cheerful.
6. *Considered this convincing* means that Percy thought his argument was good, logical and strong.
7. *Absorbed in wonder* means that Tom was still wondering and thinking about what Percy had told him.
8. *Broke the stillness* means that all was quiet and

still until Percy's voice interrupted the silence.

p. 34:

1. The poem describes the King, the soldier, the statesman, the widow and the boy.
2. The first to claim the vacant place was the soldier.
3. The reasons for his claim were that he had fought well for the king, won many engagements and could fight some more.
4. The next to make the claim was the statesman.
5. His claim was that he had wisdom, that he had done much in the council hall to win renown for the king, and that he had used his talents for the king's service.
6. The third to claim the Earldom was the deceased Earl's wife.
7. She claimed it for her son, because it should come to him as he was the Earl's son and because he had no strength or place to seek it for himself.
8. The objections made to this were that he had no strength of power, no brawn, no craftiness, and that he was just a child.
9. The boy said that he could not fight but he could pray and heaven would give them strength.
10. The king decided to give the boy his rightful heritage because he realized that strength and power are nothing without God.
11. The moral of the poem is that prayers are more powerful than the strength of a whole army.

p. 38:

1. *In useless toil...doing hard work that was of no use to anyone or that got them nowhere.*
2. *The question of attack was quickly settled... the decision to attack the elephant was quickly made.*
3. *Having the wind fair... the wind was not too strong and it was blowing in such a way that it did not bring the men's scent to the animal they were hunting.*
4. *In the folly of excitement... the foolishness that comes with excitement because we do not think clearly.*
5. *Completely distanced the aggageers... put them at a great distance from himself; got very far from them.*