

Husky Team



The dogsled sped past icy caverns.
 The driver bellowed commands
 as the huskies struggled
 and the wind screamed past.
 Tucked in the sled was a precious bundle, 5
 Riches found in the snow and ice:
 food to feed family and dogs.
 Would she get home before darkness fell?

A polar bear, scenting the snarling huskies,
 Shambled and wobbled away. 10
 The dogs dashed along,
 and the moon rose, full and pale.
 Deep in the belly hunger growled,
 As fingers grew cold and toes numb.
 But the team knew home was near. 15
 Could they reach home before darkness fell?



Northern Lights flickered in the darkening sky,
 Shimmering blue, green and yellow.
 And the driver raised a hand,
 shouting the names of her trusty team. 20
 Close in the deepening night a wolf howled
 As hungry as any tame husky.
 The driver gripped the sled tighter.
 Would they reach home?

Out of the gathering darkness, a flicker. 25
 Out of the fearsome gloom, what glimmers?
 There it is! Light from an opening door
 spilling its welcome across silvery snow.
 Curving in graceful harmony, driver and team together,
 Huskies and sled carving a path toward warmth. 30
 Food and fire await them.
 So they reached home.

- 7** What is the “precious bundle” in line 5?
- a ice
 - b food
 - c a child
 - d a puppy
- 8** The use of questions in lines 8, 16 and 24
- a indicates a change in time.
 - b signals the conclusion of a topic.
 - c creates uncertainty for the reader.
 - d provides a summary of the events.
- 9** The word “shambled” as used in line 10 means
- a moved clumsily.
 - b climbed quickly.
 - c walked carefully.
 - d marched proudly.
- 10** What is the driver’s most likely reaction to the flicker? (lines 25–28)
- a fear
 - b relief
 - c concern
 - d admiration

11 Explain two challenges that the driver and her dogs face. Use examples from the text and your own ideas to support your answer.

12 Describe one characteristic of the dogsled team that allows it to get home safely. Use specific details from the text and your own ideas to support your answer.
