

LESSON 17

The Masterpiece

Introducing the Selection

Q: What is a masterpiece?

A: It is a work of art or craftsmanship, such as a painted picture, that shows that the craftsman is a master. This story is about a blacksmith, but he is not the one who produces the masterpiece.

Answer Key

Building Vocabulary

1. Because of the impending blizzard, we canceled our plans. (paragraph 1)
brewing
2. The miller blew dust off his clothes with a hand-operated device for blowing air. (paragraph 3)
bellows
3. When the oil well ignited, it quickly became an intense, raging fire. (paragraph 3)
inferno
4. Your words were felt stingingly by everyone in the room. (paragraph 3)
smartly
5. Try not to remove courage from the child when he comes to see you. (paragraph 6)
unnerve
6. Leon found it hard to start talking about his plans for the trip. (paragraph 9)
broach
7. The grocer's abrupt, curt manner will not win him many customers. (paragraph 10)
brusque
8. Climbing this mountain is no task for the timid. (paragraph 10)
diffident
9. The apostle Paul's letter to Philemon is a remarkably skilled work of affection and persuasion. (paragraph 16)
masterpiece
10. Little Joel shrank back at the thought of crossing the lawn in the dark. (paragraph 17)
cringed

Comprehending and Appreciating

11. The smith's helper showed what he thought of the smith by
 - a. telling Alfred that the smith would see to him shortly.
 - b. pumping the bellows vigorously.
 - c. producing enough sparks to burn the smith.
 - (d) rushing for the door.