

Reading Skills and Strategies Worksheet  
**Where the Red Fern Grows**

*Chapters XV–XVII*

**Chapters XV–XVII: Comparing and Contrasting**

During the competition, Billy interacts with his father and his grandfather in various situations. These three characters are similar in some important ways, but each is different from the others.

**Complete the following sentences to compare and contrast Billy, Papa, and Grandpa.**

1. One way that Billy is very much like his father is .....  
.....
2. One way that Billy is different from his father is .....  
.....
3. Billy and his grandfather agree that .....  
.....
4. Billy and his grandfather disagree about .....  
.....
5. One way that Papa is similar to Grandpa is .....  
.....
6. One important difference between Papa and Grandpa is .....  
.....
7. I think that the most important way in which these three characters are alike is .....  
.....
8. I think that the greatest difference among them is .....  
.....

Where the Red Fern Grows, Chapters XV–XVII *continued*

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**VOCABULARY DEVELOPMENT: USING CONTEXT CLUES**

Use clues in the sentences that follow to fill in the best word from this list:

*monotonous* (p. 150), *eliminated* (p. 156), and *faltered* (p. 163).

1. The unchanging and tiresome call of the hoot owl was as \_\_\_\_\_ as the ticking of a clock.
2. When I was \_\_\_\_\_ from the finals, it was like the end of the world.
3. Billy's love for his hounds never \_\_\_\_\_; it was as steady as the sunshine on a bright summer day.

**PREDICTING WHAT'S NEXT**

What possible events could happen next? Think especially of Grandpa's situation.