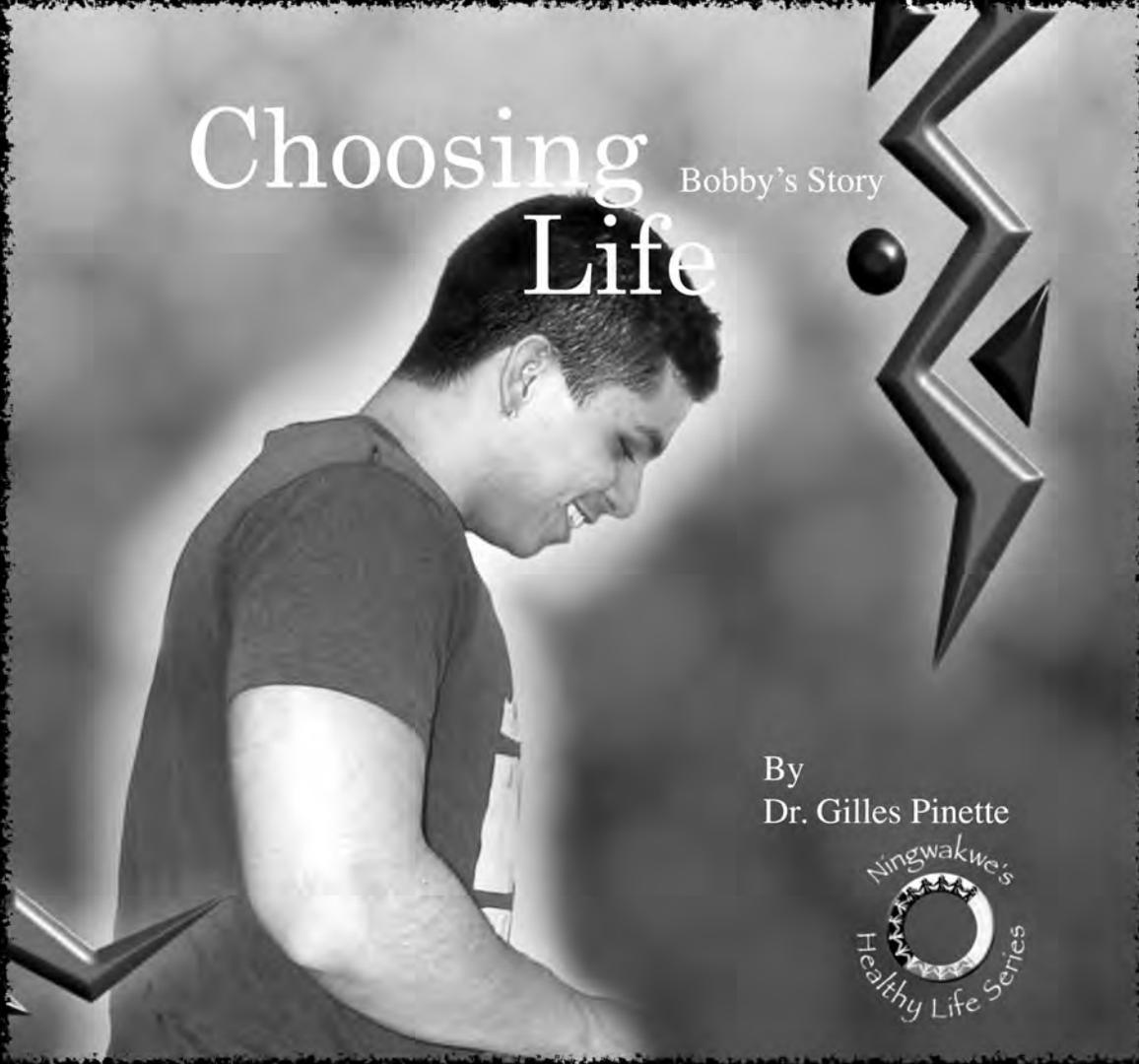


STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Choosing Life

Bobby's Story



By
Dr. Gilles Pinette



Ningwakwe Learning Press

Questions and Activities Designed
by Christopher McGruer

Accompanying Teacher's Guide contains the answer key and more group activities.

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Edit, Layout and Design by Ningwakwe Learning Press.
Student tested by Nina Sugarhead & Buffy-Marie Wabason.

Funding provided by the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities.

ISBN 978-1-897541-12-8

Ningwakwe Learning Press

www.ningwakwe.on.ca

1-888-551-9757

Printed in Canada 2010



Introduction

Welcome to the Healthy Living Series. These questions will help you understand and remember what you have read in the book “Choosing Life: Bobby’s Story.”

Good readers think when they read. Life has taught you a wide range of thinking skills. This question booklet will help you use them for reading.

The question booklet is divided into nine parts. The answers to the questions in each section can be found on the pages indicated at the beginning of each section.

At the end of each section, there is a self-assessment rubric that you can fill out. This will help you identify what you need to work on.

When you have finished reading the book and answering these questions, your instructor will have a final assessment. As you read, the questions in the booklet will help you practice thinking skills. These skills will help you become a better reader.

Helpful Tip:

Read “Choosing Life: Bobby’s Story” all the way through then go back and answer the questions in the booklet.

Use the book as a guide to help you with your answers.

Part 1

(answers found on pages 5 of the story)

A. Comprehension Check

Choose the best answer.

1. Bobby wanted his gravestone to read
 - (1) nothing at all
 - (2) Rest in Peace
 - (3) a loving son
 - (4) missed by friends and family

2. One of the things Bobby was really good at
 - (1) fishing
 - (2) hockey and lacrosse
 - (3) basketball
 - (4) drawing

3. Where did Bobby think he got his eyecolour?
 - (1) his uncle
 - (2) his grandfather
 - (3) his father
 - (4) his mother

4. Before James' suicide Bobby's personality could be described as
 - (1) quiet and shy
 - (2) aggressive and angry
 - (3) happy and outgoing
 - (4) rebellious and frustrated

B. Revisit the Story

Why do you think the author made a point of showing us that Bobby was a happy kid before James' suicide?

C. Self-Reflection

Some of Bobby's personality traits could be described as: confident, friendly, daredevil. Come up with a list of three of your personality traits and an example for each one. Write and discuss these questions.

Part 1 How did I do?

Take some time to reflect on your learning progress.

Write the number in the box that best fits the level you are currently working in, for each of the three categories.

Fill this out on your own.

CATEGORY	Current level:	Excellent 4	Good 3	Needs Work 2	Review 1
Sentence Structure / Grammar		Used full sentences and proper grammar in the answers.	Answered in full sentences and used proper grammar in the answers but there may be some mistakes.	There are mistakes and while some can be identified, others cannot.	Not sure what is wrong with sentence structure or grammar.
Identify Details in Story		Recalled all the details for answers - only referring to the book occasionally.	Recalled several details, but needed to refer to the book more often.	Needed to use book to locate all details for answers.	Could not locate details with accuracy.
How am I Doing?		All the instructions are clear and my answers are correct.	Understand everything but sometimes not sure if the answers are correct.	Some things are fine but other things are difficult.	The questions are difficult to understand.

I completed Part 1 on _____ .
(date)

Part 2

(answers found on pages 5-6 of the story)

A. Comprehension Check

Choose the best answer.

1. After James' suicide, how did Bobby feel?

- (1) sad and upset
- (2) he felt nothing at all
- (3) angry
- (4) tired

2. Bobby and James

- (1) knew each other well but didn't get along
- (2) were best friends
- (3) did not like each other
- (4) worked together

3. When Bobby suggested to James that he should get some help for his drinking

- (1) James agreed but didn't know what to do
- (2) James refused to talk about drinking
- (3) James didn't think he needed help
- (4) James said he would get help later

4. On the bonfire, Bobby burned

- (1) a photograph of James
- (2) an old baseball mitt
- (3) a necklace
- (4) a basketball jersey

B. Revisit the Story

It states that Bobby was feeling angry. What are some other emotions Bobby probably had at the time?

C. Self-Reflection

Bobby's personality changed after James' death. What are some life changing events that might cause someone to have a change in personality? Write down five such events and compare the list in a group.

Part 3

(answers found on pages 6-7 of the story)

A. Comprehension Check

Choose the best answer.

1. In the two years since James' death, Bobby
 - (1) started drinking more
 - (2) learned to not think about James
 - (3) ran away
 - (4) stayed at home all the time

2. Bobby's father had left
 - (1) 12 years ago
 - (2) 10 years ago
 - (3) 5 years ago
 - (4) 15 years ago

3. What did Bobby's uncles think about the change in Bobby's behaviour?
 - (1) They thought he was fine.
 - (2) Even though they were worried, they thought he would grow out of it.
 - (3) They didn't care.
 - (4) They recommended counseling.

4. What happened to Bobby at school?
 - (1) He began failing all his courses.
 - (2) The principal suspended him from school.
 - (3) He was suspended from playing sports.
 - (4) He dropped out.

B. Revisit the Story

Judging from Bobby’s reaction to his mothers’ request to talk, how do you think Bobby was feeling? Do you think he understood why he was feeling that way?

C. Self-Reflection

What are some of the things you do to understand what you are feeling? Do you have any coping strategies that help you calm down? Discuss these strategies in a group and compare which ones work for which people.

Part 4

(answers found on pages 7-8 of the story)

A. Comprehension Check

Choose the best answer.

1. After Bobby's father left his mother, she
 - (1) had to rely on welfare to get by
 - (2) moved to the city
 - (3) lived with friends
 - (4) lived with her mother

2. After the sexual assault, Anne
 - (1) cried every day
 - (2) planned her own suicide
 - (3) planned her revenge
 - (4) began drinking heavily

3. When did Anne last see Bobby cry?
 - (1) when his father left
 - (2) at James' funeral
 - (3) when he broke his arm in grade four
 - (4) as a baby

4. Why does Anne want Bobby to see his great-grandfather, the medicine man?
 - (1) She doesn't know what else to do.
 - (2) He will show Bobby how to hunt and fish.
 - (3) She sees the same problems in Bobby as she saw in herself.
 - (4) She thinks he needs to be with a male role model.

B. Revisit the Story

Anne said that she put a note underneath her father's door. What do you think she said in her note? Why do you think she wanted to kill herself?

C. Self-Reflection

Anne saw no way out of her situation. Who would you most likely talk to about a problem that you were having? What is it that makes that person special? Use a mind map to answer this question. Your instructor will show you how to do this.

**Part 4
How did I do?**

Take some time to reflect on your learning progress. Write the number in the box that best fits the level you are currently working in, with each of the three categories.

Fill this out on your own.

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How am I Doing?		All the instructions are clear and my answers are correct.	Understand everything but sometimes not sure if the answers are correct.	Some things are fine but other things are difficult.	The questions are difficult to understand.

I completed Part 4 on _____ .
(date)

Part 5

(answers found on pages 9-10 of the story)

A. Comprehension Check

1. What did Anne pack for Bobby to take to his great-grandfather's when he went to visit?

2. What did Bobby expect his great-grandfather Leo to look like?

3. How long is Bobby told he will be staying with his great-grandfather?

4. What does Anne tell Bobby about his great-grandfather?

B. Revisit the Story

What do you think Bobby thought about his great-grandfather when he first saw him? What are some of the details the author uses to get this across?

C. Self-Reflection

Have you ever been wrong about a first impression of someone? Describe what happened.

Part 6

(answers found on pages 10-11 of the story)

A. Comprehension Check

Choose the best answer.

1. What are Bobby's first impressions of Leo's trailer?
 - (1) it is dark and has an odor of fresh dirt
 - (2) it was very messy
 - (3) it was decorated with a lot of plants
 - (4) it smelled badly

2. What happened as Bobby lit the cigarette?
 - (1) the wind blew out the match
 - (2) Leo knocked it out of his lips
 - (3) it began to rain
 - (4) Leo grabbed a hold of the cigarette

3. What did Bobby make himself to eat?
 - (1) tuna sandwich
 - (2) bowl of soup and crackers
 - (3) Klik sandwich
 - (4) peanut butter and jam

4. What did Leo do when Bobby set the plate of food in front of him?

5. What did Leo tell Bobby he had learned?

B. Revisit the Story

What do you think Bobby was thinking when he realized Leo was not going to speak? Why do you think Bobby did not want to be the first one to speak?

C. Self-Reflection

Has someone ever tried to teach you something you did not want to learn, maybe a relative or close friend. What happened?

Part 7

(answers found on page 7 of the story)

A. Comprehension Check

Choose the best answer.

1. What was Bobby dreaming about?
 - (1) flying in the air
 - (2) someone chasing him
 - (3) of being back home in his own bed
 - (4) being trapped in a dark cave

2. What did Bobby prepare on the hill?
 - (1) a lodge
 - (2) a fire
 - (3) dinner
 - (4) clothing

3. How did Leo speak when talking to Bobby?
 - (1) quickly and softly
 - (2) loudly and sharply
 - (3) soft low tones
 - (4) he did not speak at all

4. Why did Leo turn to the East and begin singing?

5. What did Leo say would happen if Bobby did not use his gifts to do the Creators work?

6. How did Bobby feel after he had shared a sweat in the sweat lodge?

B. Revisit the Story

Summarize Leo's explanation of the medicine wheel.

C. Self-Reflection

Leo states that good health means paying attention to your medicine wheel. Can you remember an instance when something in your life was being affected by something unrelated to the problem? What did you do to resolve the problem?

Part 7 How did I do?

Take some time to reflect on your learning progress.

Write the number in the box that best fits the level you are currently working in, with each of the three categories.

Fill this out on your own.

CATEGORY	Where I'm At:	Excellent 4	Good 3	Needs Work 2	Review 1
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How am I Doing?		All the instructions are clear and my answers are correct.	Understand everything but sometimes not sure if the answers are correct.	Some things are fine but other things are difficult.	The questions are difficult to understand.

I completed Part 7 on _____ .
(date)

Part 8

(answers found on pages 13-14 of the story)

A. Comprehension Check

Choose the best answer.

1. Why was Leo not eating?

- (1) he was not hungry
- (2) he could concentrate his energy on healing
- (3) he was eating but Bobby did not see him
- (4) he was on a diet

2. What did Bobby find after asking the Creator to help heal him and be a better person?

- (1) he found a new way of life
- (2) he was cured of his depression
- (3) he had found a purpose in his life
- (4) he cured his head and stomachache

3. How did a boy become a man in the old days?

4. What was Leo's reaction as Bobby and his mother drove away?

5. In what way did Bobby see the world differently after the teaching from Leo?

B. Revisit the Story

What did Bobby discover about himself after his experience on the hill with Leo?

C. Self-Reflection

Of the ten myths about suicide, which one surprised you the most? Which two myths do you think most people believe to be true? Why?

Part 9

(answers found on pages 15-16 of the story)

A. Comprehension Check

Choose the best answer.

1. What percentage of people talk about suicide before trying anything?

- (1) 72%
- (2) 65%
- (3) 70%
- (4) 75%

2. What can happen if you ask someone if they are considering suicide?

- (1) they may try to kill themselves
- (2) they will become more depressed
- (3) it may help prevent a suicide
- (4) it will make no difference

5. What career did Bobby eventually have?

- (1) crisis counselor and school counselor
- (2) high school teacher
- (3) social worker
- (4) a psychologist

3. If someone is suicidal, who are some of the people they can talk to?

4. What happens to other teens that are considering killing themselves if one of their friends commits suicide?

Idea Map

Write your topic on the line below. In the center circle, write a topic sentence summarizing your opinion about the topic. In the surrounding circles, list examples or reasons that support your topic sentence. You can add more circles if you'd like.

My Topic _____

