

Elite Comprehension: The Lost World

Edward Malone, an ambitious young reporter for the Daily Gazette, seeks a challenging assignment to impress Gladys, the woman he loves. Gladys desires a man of bravery and accomplishment, which drives Malone to seek out the infamous Professor Challenger. Known for his disdain towards the press and his volatile temper, Challenger is notorious for physically assaulting journalists who dare approach him. Malone's task is to uncover the truth behind Challenger's controversial South American expedition. Understanding that a direct approach would likely lead to rejection, Malone decides to disguise himself as an earnest student, hoping to gain the professor's trust.

Upon meeting Challenger, Malone is immediately struck by the professor's imposing presence. Despite his initial confidence, Malone quickly realizes that his disguise is far from foolproof. Challenger, having seen through the ruse, tests Malone's scientific knowledge, which proves to be non-existent. Enraged by the deception, Challenger violently ejects Malone from his house. However, Malone's refusal to press charges with the policeman who witnessed the incident earns him Challenger's respect. Impressed by Malone's bravery, Challenger invites him back inside and, after securing promises of confidentiality, reveals an astonishing discovery: living dinosaurs in the remote regions of South America, a claim based on the findings of a deceased American explorer named Maple White.

Challenger, despite the ridicule he faces from his peers—especially from his professional rival, Professor Summerlee—announces plans for a new expedition to verify his findings. Malone, eager to prove himself, volunteers to join the journey. The expedition team includes the sceptical Professor Summerlee and Lord John Roxton, an adventurer renowned for his efforts to end slavery in the Amazon, with notches on his rifle symbolizing the slavers he has killed.

After navigating hostile territories with the help of local guides, the expedition reaches the fabled lost world, an isolated plateau teeming with prehistoric life. Despite witnessing remarkable botanical and entomological discoveries, Summerlee remains sceptical, even



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dismissing a distant sighting of a pterodactyl as a large stork. It is not until a close encounter with the creature during the night that Summerlee is forced to concede that Challenger's claims might be true.

The team's journey takes a perilous turn when one of their porters, Gomez—a former slaver seeking revenge on Roxton for killing his brother—betrays them. Gomez cuts down the tree serving as their bridge to the plateau, leaving the explorers stranded. Roxton quickly retaliates, shooting Gomez, whose body falls into the abyss below. Their remaining loyal porter, Zambo, is unable to assist them beyond sending supplies via rope.

While exploring the plateau, the team encounters various prehistoric creatures, including a terrifying Megalosaurus, which nearly breaches their camp's defences. Roxton bravely repels the beast with a torch. However, the situation worsens when the explorers are captured by a tribe of "ape-men," who are at war with a local indigenous tribe. Roxton and Malone manage to escape and mount a rescue operation, saving the indigenous tribe's prince and earning their gratitude.

The indigenous tribe, impressed by the explorers' firepower, initially wishes to keep them on the plateau. However, with the help of the prince, the explorers discover a tunnel leading back to the outside world. Before leaving, Roxton successfully captures a pterodactyl chick, which they bring back to England.

Despite detailed reports from Malone, the public remains sceptical of the expedition's findings. However, at a grand public meeting, Challenger unveils the pterodactyl, silencing all doubters. The explorers are celebrated as heroes, but in the chaos, the pterodactyl escapes, causing brief havoc across London before disappearing towards its home.

During a private celebration, Roxton reveals that the blue clay deposits they found contain diamonds worth a fortune. Each member of the expedition receives a share, with Challenger planning to open a museum and Summerlee retiring to study fossils. Malone, disillusioned by Gladys's decision to marry another man, decides to return to the lost world with Roxton, leaving behind the life he once knew.

1. Why does Malone seek out a dangerous assignment from his editor?

- a) He wants to advance his career.
- b) He desires to gain the approval of his editor.
- c) He hopes to impress the woman he loves.
- d) He is bored with his current job.

2. Why does Malone initially disguise himself as an earnest student when meeting Professor Challenger?

- a) He believes that Challenger respects students more than journalists.
- b) He knows Challenger's reputation for assaulting journalists.
- c) He wants to gain knowledge from Challenger.
- d) He wants to deceive Challenger into sharing scientific information.

3. How does Challenger's reaction to Malone's persistence affect the story's development?

- a) It demonstrates Challenger's ability to see through deception.
- b) It leads to Malone giving up on his assignment.
- c) It results in Malone abandoning his quest to impress Gladys.
- d) It fosters a reluctant respect between the two characters.

4. What does the inclusion of Professor Summerlee in the expedition suggest about the nature of the journey?

- a) The expedition will be a light-hearted adventure.
- b) The journey will involve academic rivalry and tension.
- c) Summerlee is there to support Challenger's theories.
- d) Summerlee is expected to lead the expedition.

5. Why does the text describe Lord John Roxton's rifle as having notches?

- a) To highlight Roxton's experience and brutality.
- b) To demonstrate Roxton's love for hunting.
- c) To show Roxton's careful nature in maintaining his weapon.
- d) To indicate Roxton's role as a protector of the group.

6. How does Summerlee's scepticism contribute to the group's dynamics during the expedition?

- a) It creates unnecessary conflict and slows down their progress.
- b) It adds a scientific rigor that challenges Challenger's claims.
- c) It motivates the group to find more evidence.
- d) It diminishes the morale of the group.

7. What is the significance of Gomez's betrayal in the context of the expedition?

- a) It highlights the dangers posed by the environment.
- b) It introduces the theme of revenge and personal vendettas.
- c) It shows the lack of trust among the expedition members.
- d) It serves as a turning point that ends the expedition prematurely.

8. How does the discovery of the tunnel back to the outside world alter the fate of the explorers?

- a) It prevents the group from being permanently trapped on the plateau.
- b) It leads to a division among the group members.
- c) It signals the end of the expedition.
- d) It causes the explorers to abandon their scientific research.

9. Why does the tribe wish to keep the explorers on the plateau?

- a) They admire the explorers' bravery and intelligence.
- b) They fear the explorers will return with more powerful weapons.
- c) They see the explorers as a means to protect their land.
- d) They want to learn more about the outside world.

10. What does Roxton's interest in the blue clay suggest about his character?

- a) He is primarily motivated by scientific curiosity.
- b) He is secretly focused on personal gain.
- c) He is more interested in geology than biology.
- d) He wants to use the clay for trade with the indigenous people.

11. How does Malone's experience with Gladys at the end of the story affect his future actions?

- a) It drives him to return to the lost world.
- b) It makes him determined to find a new love.
- c) It causes him to leave journalism altogether.
- d) It pushes him to write a book about his experiences.

12. Why does the public initially remain sceptical of the expedition's findings despite detailed reports?

- a) The public distrusts the explorers' motives.
- b) There is no physical evidence to support the claims.
- c) The public is generally uninterested in scientific discoveries.
- d) The explorers have a reputation for exaggeration.

13. What is the significance of the pterodactyl escaping at the end of the public meeting?

- a) It reinforces the public's belief in the expedition's discoveries.
- b) It causes panic and confusion in London.
- c) It symbolizes the ongoing mystery of the lost world.
- d) It leads to the explorers being discredited.

14. How does the success of the expedition impact the lives of the explorers?

- a) It leads them all to retire from exploration.
- b) It grants them fame, fortune, and new opportunities.
- c) It causes tension and division among the team.
- d) It brings them closer to their families.

15. Why does Roxton decide to capture a pterodactyl chick?

- a) To provide proof of the expedition's discoveries.
- b) To study the creature more closely.
- c) To sell it for financial gain.
- d) To keep it as a trophy.

16. What does the word "tumultuous" most likely mean in the context of the story?

- a) Peaceful
- b) Chaotic
- c) Boring
- d) Predictable

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17. In the story, "adulation" most likely refers to:

- a) Criticism
- b) Admiration
- c) Indifference
- d) Contempt

18. The word "gauntlet" in the phrase "running the gauntlet of hostile tribes" most likely means:

- a) A type of glove
- b) A difficult challenge
- c) A peaceful journey
- d) A narrow passage

19. In the sentence, "The explorers were trapped on the plateau," what is the grammatical role of the word "trapped"?

- a) Noun
- b) Adjective
- c) Verb
- d) Adverb

20. In the sentence, "Roxton captured a pterodactyl chick during the expedition," what part of speech is "during"?

- a) Conjunction
- b) Preposition
- c) Adverb
- d) Pronoun

Lost word Answers

1. **c) He hopes to impress the woman he loves.**
2. **b) He knows Challenger's reputation for assaulting journalists.**
3. **d) It fosters a reluctant respect between the two characters.**
4. **b) The journey will involve academic rivalry and tension.**
5. **a) To highlight Roxton's experience and brutality.**
6. **b) It adds a scientific rigor that challenges Challenger's claims.**
7. **b) It introduces the theme of revenge and personal vendettas.**
8. **a) It prevents the group from being permanently trapped on the plateau.**
9. **c) They see the explorers as a means to protect their land.**
10. **b) He is secretly focused on personal gain.**
11. **a) It drives him to return to the lost world.**
12. **b) There is no physical evidence to support the claims.**
13. **c) It symbolizes the ongoing mystery of the lost world.**
14. **b) It grants them fame, fortune, and new opportunities.**
15. **a) To provide proof of the expedition's discoveries.**
16. **b) Chaotic**
17. **b) Admiration**
18. **b) A difficult challenge**
19. **b**
20. **b**