

Name _____

Date _____

Siddhartha
“By the River” (chpt. 8): Reading Guide

I. Vocabulary: Be able to define the following words and understand them when they appear in the novel. Also, be prepared to be quizzed on these words.

ennui: extreme boredom

efface: wipe out; make something disappear

sojourn: temporary stay

transitory: short-lived; brief

assiduous: hard-working

expiate: to clear of wrongdoing

perish: to die

futile: useless

II. Questions: answer the following questions while you read to check your comprehension.

1. What was the only thing Siddhartha knew?
2. What did Siddhartha wish passionately for?
3. What did Siddhartha do when he saw the reflection of his face?
4. What sound does Siddhartha hear right before jumping into the river?
5. When Siddhartha awakes, who does he see?
6. Why was this person watching over Siddhartha?

7. What does Siddhartha say he is doing?
8. What does Siddhartha figure out he no longer possesses?
9. What does Siddhartha think he has become?
10. How does Siddhartha feel about the path that he has taken with his life?
11. What is the one thing that Siddhartha has done well?
12. According to Siddhartha, what is a good thing?
13. What does Siddhartha realize had been hindering him?
14. What reason did Siddhartha have to have his experiences?