**Reading Comprehension Questions “Rip Van Winkle”**

1. What is the setting of this story? What feature of the place seems to be the most memorable? What details suggest when the story takes place?
2. What has made Rip Van Winkle so kind, meek, and patient?
3. How do the children react when they see Rip? (What are three things they do?) Why do they react this way?
4. Why do the women of the village like him and take his side?
5. What proof is offered that Rip is willing to work long and hard at some things? What sorts of work does Rip not like to do?
6. Why does Rip think there is no point in working on his farm? What are we told to prove that Rip’s farm is the “worst farm in the neighborhood”?
7. What about Rip’s personality would have made him contented if he hadn’t had a family?
8. What did Rip’s wife complain to him about? How would Rip respond?
9. Where would Rip go when he wanted to escape his wife? Why did he like the men he met there?
10. Since his wife would come and take him away from the men, where was the only place he could go to escape her? Whom would he take with him?
11. What is Wolf’s reaction when a voice is heard calling “Rip Van Winkle! Rip Van Winkle!”? What two emotions does Rip feel?
12. What does the stranger want Rip to do? What is Rip’s response?
13. Where is Rip when he wakes up? What time of day is it? What does he think has happened? What is he worried about?
14. What has happened to Rip’s gun? What explanation does he come up with to explain that?
15. What has happened to Wolf? What different things does Rip do in response?
16. What does Rip notice when he starts to walk? What worries him about this?
17. When Rip returns to his village, what has changed about its appearance? What makes Rip certain that it must be the same village even though it looks so different?
18. What are two things that surprise Rip when he gets to his own home?
19. What are two symbols of the newly created United States of America that Rip does not recognize?
20. What are two things people are talking about that make no sense to Rip?
21. What happens when Rip mentions his own name? Why does this confuse Rip so much?
22. What do the people in the crowd do and say that shows they think Rip is crazy?
23. When his daughter Judith tells what happened to her father, what question does Rip ask before he reveals who he is?
24. How had Dame Van Winkle died? How is that consistent with her character?
25. Where does Rip end up living? Why is Rip now able to spend time with the men at the inn?