

Find the Main Idea

Call of the Wild by Jack London

Jack London's story, Call of the Wild, tells of Buck, a dog stolen from California who is taken to Alaska during the Klondike Gold Rush in the late 1890s. Buck becomes a sled dog, part of a team that transports supplies and people through the harsh winters.

Chapter III The Dominant Primordial Beast

It was inevitable that the clash for leadership should come. Buck wanted it. He wanted it because it was his nature, because he had been gripped tight by that nameless, incomprehensible pride of the trail and trace—that pride which holds dogs in the toil to the last gasp, which lures them to die joyfully in the harness, and breaks their hearts if they are cut out of the harness. This was the pride of Dave as wheel-dog, of Sol-leks as he pulled with all his strength; the pride that laid hold of them at break of camp, transforming them from sour and sullen brutes into straining, eager, ambitious creatures; the pride that spurred them on all day and dropped them at pitch of camp at night, letting them fall back into gloomy unrest and discontent. This was the pride that bore up Spitz and made him thrash the sled-dogs who blundered and shirked in the traces or hid away at harness-up time in the morning. Likewise it was this pride that made him fear Buck as a possible lead-dog. And this was Buck's pride, too.



Historic photograph of an Alaskan dog sled team

Find the Main Idea

Write the main idea of the paragraph in your own words.

Write two supporting ideas for the main idea.

1. _____

2. _____

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Actual wording and supporting ideas will vary. Example of correct answers:

Write the main idea of the paragraph in your own words.

If you have pride in your work, you love working and want to excel at

your task.

Write two supporting ideas for the main idea.

1. **The dogs were so proud of being sled dogs that their hearts would break if**

they were cut from the dog sled harness.

2. **Sol-leks pulled the sled with all of his strength because he was proud of his**

work and wanted to do a good job.