

#4 Getting to the house

When he opened his eyes he knew from the position of the sun that it was late in the afternoon. Sleep had given him new vigor. He looked about him, almost cheerfully.

“Where there are gunshots, there are men. Where there are men, there is food,” he thought. He had a sharp hunger. But what kind of men, he wondered, live in so dangerous a place?

He saw no trail through the plants and trees. It was easier to follow the shore, but Rainsford stopped not far from where he slept.

Some wounded animal, a large animal had fallen and the plants were crushed down and some of them had a red coloring. Rainsford saw a small shiny object and he picked it up. It was an empty cartridge.

“A twenty-two,” he thought. “That’s strange. It must have been a fairly large animal, too. What kind of hunter would hunt a large animal with a light gun? It’s clear that the beast put up a fight. I suppose the first three shots I heard were when the hunter found the beast and wounded it. The last shot was the finish.”

He examined the ground closely and found what he had hoped to find: the prints of hunting boots. They pointed in the direction he was going. Eagerly he hurried along, now slipping on a rotten log or a loose stone. The night was beginning on the island.

Underline the English

- 「妙だな。相当大的動物のはずだが。こんな小口径の銃で渡り合うとは、このハンターは随分な度胸の持ち主らしいな。
- 強烈な飢えが彼を責め立てた。
- 「22口径」彼は言った。
- 小さな光を反射する物体が然程離れていない位置に落ちているのが目に留まり、レイズフォードはそれを拾い上げた。空の薬筒だった。

Questions

1. Where is Rainsford? Ship trap island
2. What does he find? cartridge
3. How many shots does he hear? 3
4. What time of day is it? Morning, afternoon, or **night**?