

Shooting an Elephant Worksheet

A - Instructions: On a separate piece of paper look up each word and write a definition. Use a dictionary or reference PC to assist you. Please write out the word and then the definition.

Perplexing
Imperialism
Intolerable
Supplant
Tyranny

Despotic
Ravage
Squalid
Garish
Irresistible

Futility
Absurd
Squeamish
Innumerable

B - Instructions: On a separate sheet of paper answer the following questions. Express your answers using complete sentences.

1. Why was the elephant out of control?
2. Why was Orwell called in to deal with the elephant?
3. Why did Orwell send for an elephant rifle?
4. Why did the natives want the elephant to be shot?
5. What was Orwell's greatest fear during the episode?
6. What justifies Orwell shooting the elephant?
7. Knowing that this story actually took place how would you describe the author's tone about the incident?
8. What was the setting for this story?
9. Do you think the author's lack of dialogue was necessary for the story to 'work'? Explain.

C - Instructions: *Irony*: On your own paper, respond to the following writing prompt. Ironically, the elephant has turned peaceful when Orwell is forced to destroy it. What other examples of irony do you find in the essay?