Where Have You Gone, Charming Billy?

Preparing to Read
Connect to Your Life

• Some people seem to have nerves of steel.
  – They always appear calm, no matter what they are feeling inside.
  – Most people, however, show their feelings when they are very afraid or extremely anxious.

Preparing to Read
Connect to Your Life

What are some ways of showing fear or anxiety that you have observed in yourself or other people?
  – Which of them seem “normal”?
  – Which are surprising?
Preparing to Read
Build Background

- This selection takes place in the Southeast Asian country of Vietnam during a war in which nearly 58,000 Americans died.
- The Vietnam War grew out of a conflict over Communism.

Preparing to Read
Build Background

- South Vietnamese rebels, with the aid of Communist-ruled North Vietnam, began trying to take over South Vietnam in 1957.
- To help prevent the spread of communism, the U.S. entered the war as an ally of the South Vietnamese government in 1964.
- Between 1965 and 1973, over 2 million Americans were sent to Vietnam.

Preparing to Read
Build Background

Although the soldiers were given special training, few were prepared for the kind of fear and anxiety they would face in the jungles of that unfamiliar land.
Preparing to Read

Words to Know

• casually
• conical
• consolation
• diffuse
• elegantly
• execute
• inertia
• primitive
• silhouetted
• transparent

Preparing to Read

Focus Your Reading

• Most stories center on the experiences and actions of one or more main characters.
• Other characters, who interact with the main characters and help move the story along, are called minor characters.

Preparing to Read

Focus Your Reading

• As you read, identify the main character.
• Identify the details that indicate that he is the focus of the story.
• Notice who the minor characters are and what they contribute to the story.
Preparing to Read

Focus Your Reading

When you make a logical guess about something in a story based on information in the story and your own common sense, you are making an inference.

Preparing to Read

Focus Your Reading

• As you read this story, record clues that help you understand who Paul Berlin is and what he is going through.
• Pay special attention to:
  – what he does with his body.
  – what he notices in his surroundings.
  – what he thinks about.

Preparing to Read

Focus Your Reading

Reader’s Notebook

– Use a chart like this to record your ideas.
**Active Reading**

**Making Inferences**
- Read the passage in which Paul daydreams about a campfire chat with his father.
- Infer what kind of relationship Paul and his father have.

**Reading and Analyzing**

**Literary Analysis**

**Character**
- Read the marked dialogue.
- Dialogue is one method of characterization.
- Analyze the passage to understand which characters are speaking and their relationship to each other.

**Active Reading**

**Making Inferences**
- Based on the text, make inferences about Paul's character.
- Choose adjectives to describe Paul, using textural evidence to support your choices.
Reading and Analyzing

Literary Analysis

Figurative Language

– Carefully examine the passage in which O’Brien compares the soldiers to beads on a chain.
– What is the significance of this simile?

Reading and Analyzing

Active Reading

Making Inferences

– What can you infer as to why the soldiers were waiting for cloud cover?