

Lösungen zu den Grammatikübungen der Kurzgeschichte „The Wild River Adventure“

I. Reading Comprehension Activities

- a. The narrator, his father and the narrator's son Felipe
- b. It is the father of Felipe.
- c. It is written in three different tenses: simple present, simple past and past perfect.
- d. The adventure of Felipe happens in the present and therefore is written in present tense. The previous adventure of Felipe's father took place in the past many years ago and thus simple present and past perfect is used.
- e. Felipe is small and generous. He is convinced, silent and concerned.
(B,U,T,T,E)

III. Grammar activities 1: tenses

Tenses

- i. Back then, nobody crossed the river. SIMPLE PAST
- ii. I had just turned twelve years old. PAST PERFECT
- iii. ... Felipe goes down to the water, touches it, sits down on a tree trunk and ponders. SIMPLE PRESENT
- iv. "The coffee is going to take a little while", says my Dad, and so I put my rod down ... GOING-TO-FUTURE, SIMPLE PRESENT
- v. Just like his grandfather, he speaks humbly of himself, but never forgets the pride he feels for what he can do or what he has been taught how to do. SIMPLE PRESENT, PRESENT PERFECT
- vi. I don't know if I'll like it. SIMPLE PRESENT, WILL-FUTURE

IV. Grammar activities 2: adjectives and adverbs

- a. Adjective or adverb?
 - i. tightly (adverb)
 - ii. deep (adjective)
 - iii. humbly (adverb)
 - iv. calmly (adverb)
 - v. easily (adverb)
 - vi. deeply (adverb)
 - vii. wonderful (adjective)
 - viii. magical (adjective)
 - ix. slowly (adverb)
 - x. loudly (adverb)
 - xi. treacherous (adjective)
 - xii. perilously (adverb)
 - xiii. well (adverb)
 - xiv. good (adjective)
 - xv. calm (adjective)

Adjectives 6 (R)

Adverbs 9 (F)

b. Comparison of adjectives:

Infinitive	Comparative	Superlative
powerful	more powerful	most powerful
small	smaller	smallest
handsome	more handsome	most handsome
exciting	more exciting	most exciting
big	bigger	biggest
good	better	well
spontaneously	more spontaneously	most spontaneously
difficult	more difficult	most difficult
bad	worst	worst
large	larger	largest
old	older	oldest
lucky	luckier	luckiest
incredible	more incredible	most incredible
boring	more boring	most boring
hot	hotter	hottest
early	earlier	earliest
interesting	more interesting	most interesting

Adjectives with more and most: 8 (L)

c. Sentences with comparison forms *as ... as* and *... than*.

- i. At his wild river adventure Felipe is **as old as** his father was.
- ii. When Felipe decides to cross the river he is **as excited as** his father was when he was a child.
- iii. Back then, the river seemed **more dangerous** to Felipe's father **than** today.
- iv. The tree trunks are much **bigger than** Felipe.

V. Grammar activities 3: modal verbs

a. Modal verbs in the story: 6 would 5 can 2 could (I)

b. Conditional perfect:

- ii. *I could have been knocked unconscious.* (E)

VI. Actividades de comprensión 2

- a. It's on page 36 (S)
In the rest of the narration Carlos Rodrigues Gesualdi clearly distinguishes between the present and the past. But in this section the author mixes both tenses in order to point out that both son and father experience the same adventure at that particular moment. Whereas Felipe is really located on the raft, his father only remembers the past events and the problems he had. But for the father the past situation seems so present that he re-experiences it.
- b. Both father and son have changed. The son is proud to have crossed the river successfully which also constitutes a dangerous adventure. He accomplished it all by himself. And the father is proud of his son. He sees him with different eyes, much more mature. The father knows that he can rely on his son. The relationship between them changes to another level, a relation between to adult males.
- c. The wild river is like a trial or possibly some kind of a test of courage. It is also a test about what the son awaits when he reaches adulthood: to execute plans and projects without help of your parents. An ascent of a mountain can be another metaphor for this: the goal is to accomplish something through your own strength.
- d. They are proud because the enterprise was successful and because they managed to cross the Wild River without any problems. They have learned that they can accomplish things by themselves and that they must take risks for that, like the author states in one sentence. They are proud about what they have accomplished, but humble at the same time, knowing that it does not make them superior or more arrogant. They know that they cannot pride themselves on that.

Solution/Lösung: **BUTTERFLIES**