# The Legends of Sleepy Hollow and Rip Van Winkle

# Washington Irving

### A Before Reading

Student's own answer. (Students could use a dictionary—bi-lingual or monolingual—or a thesaurus to help them.) Possible answers: nouns: forest, wood, trees, branches, leaves, ground, earth, soil, twigs, rocks, grass. adjectives: twisted, broken, gnarled, jagged, spiky, bare, bent, fallen, crowded, brown.

2 The Legend of Sleepy Hollow The Ghost of the Soldier Ichabod and Katrina The Legend of Rip Van Winkle The Spirits of the Catskills Down from the Mountain

#### **B** While Reading

- 3 Student's own answer.
- 4 Student's own answer. Student should have worked out that Brom Bones laughed because he knows that he was the Headless Horseman. He set out to frighten the schoolmaster away because Ichabod was being too persistent in his pursuit of Katrina. Did Katrina ask him to frighten Ichabod away because the schoolmaster wouldn't take a hint and realize she wasn't interested in him? Did Brom act alone because he was worried that Katrina's father might think the schoolmaster was a good person to marry and try to force her to do so? The pumpkin was obviously what Brom used as the 'head'.

#### THE LEGEND OF RIP VAN WINKLE

#### 5 Picture One



- (a) From left: Rip Van Winkle (senior), Wolf, Judith, Rip Van Winkle (junior), Rip's wife.
- (b) Student's own answer. Student's dialogue should cover any of the detail in the quarrel between Rip and his wife which starts on page 36 (last paragraph, starting "Our farm is the worst in the country...") and concludes when he leaves at the bottom of page 37 ("I won't be long.").

## Macmillan Readers

The Legends of Sleepy Hollow and Rip Van Winkle 1

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- (a) From left: Rip Van Winkle's son Rip, Judith, the baby Rip (Rip's grandson) and Rip Van Winkle (after 20 years asleep).
- (b) Student's own answer. Student's answer should cover any of the detail of the conversation between Judith and her father which starts on page 56 ("Don't cry, little Rip!" the young woman said...) and concludes on page 58 at the end of Chapter 4. ("Where have you been for twenty years?").
- 6 (a) Rip Van Winkle: a lazy farmer
  - (b) Nicholas Vedder: the owner of the inn in Rip's village
  - (c) Rip Van Winkle: Rip's son
  - (d) Judith Gardenier: Rip's daughter, who married John Gardenier
  - (e) Rip Van Winkle: Rip's grandson
  - (f) Derrick Van Bummel: the schoolmaster in Rip's village
  - (g) Hendrik Hudson: in this story, the man who gave his name to the Hudson River. He died in 1611. The ghost of Hendrik Hudson visits the Catskill Mountains once every twenty years to see his river. He comes with some friends to play a game of nine-pins.

#### **C** After Reading

7 (a) Student's own answer. Students can think about what might happen to buildings, to transport, to roads, to fashion, to technology in the next twenty years to help them to plan what kinds of things they will notice and will want to talk about.

(b) Student's own answer. Students can interview their parents or other adults about the kind of changes which have taken place in the last twenty years to help them to plan what the stranger will notice and want to talk about.

8 Student's own answer. Attitudes that the conversation needs to show: it is clear to the reader that Ichabod is seen as ridiculous by Katrina and the other villagers even though he doesn't realize this himself. They laugh at his clothes, the way he rides, the way he dances, his superstitions about the forest. When they can, they play tricks on him. For example, Brom teaches his dog to howl when Ichabod sings with the schoolchildren. Hans Van Ripper lends him an old and unreliable horse. Ichabod is an 'outsider', different from the rest of the village because he is the schoolmaster and can read and write.

Brom Bones, on the other hand, is young and handsome, brave, a good rider, admired by his friends, a natural leader, someone for a young woman to find very attractive. He is an 'insider', one of the villagers.

## Macmillan Readers

The Legends of Sleepy Hollow and Rip Van Winkle 2

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river

bird

wife

table dog

farm

Key

SLEEPY HOLLOW						
horseman						
bridge						
party						
corn						
soldier						
pumpkin						

BOTH **RIP VAN WINKLE** gun inn beard stories money village

# **Macmillan Readers**

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