

The Hunter with a Heart

10 I'd been hiding in the undergrowth for what seemed like
18 hours before the beast appeared – my stomach growling
30 with hunger so loudly that I was scared it might give my
32 position away.

43 I'd sharpened the tip of my flint spear and made three
54 extra arrows out of twigs and animal bone. I was ready
66 to become the hero of my village; ready to bring back the
78 biggest catch we'd had in months. It was so big it would
83 feed our families for weeks.

87 I approached – tiptoeing silently
93 behind the trees. Just as I
101 was about to fire, I saw it... a
105 baby mammoth, trundling and
109 stumbling behind its mother,
116 weaving in and out of her legs.

124 I knew I couldn't do it. I couldn't
130 kill them... but what would we
133 do for supper?



Quick Questions

1. What does "trundling and stumbling" tell you about the baby mammoth's walk?
2. What do you think the hunter did next? Give a reason for your answer.
3. How has the author made the character seem unsure at the end of the text?
4. Explain how the hunter's feelings change throughout the text.