Extract from **Enthralled: A Viking Saga**

by Chris Wright, *Chapter 1.*

*From the point of view of Chester*

As we’d been walking towards the toilets at the back of the History Museum’s huge entrance hall, I had been watching Charlie bend lower and lower, his arms wrapping around his stomach. Not two minutes after the plan had been set, he finally reached his breaking point, and his hand shot up.

“Mr Shukla!” he cried. “Mr Shukla, I’m not very well!”

He started to wretch where he stood, and Shukla sprang forward, steering him quickly into the toilets, all the while shouting, “Hold it in! Hold it in!”

Freya and I looked at each other for a long moment, then burst out laughing.

“Come on!” she said. “Five minutes, starting now!”

She set off at a gallop towards the door out of the hall, and I followed her two steps behind, stuck, like usual these days, between excitement and terror. I couldn’t help but look back towards the group, but none of them had seemed to notice, and the teachers were busy with the others. Five minutes. Five minutes and we’d be back, and no one would know we were gone.

**Questions**

1. What museum are Chester and Freya in?

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2. What word tells you that Charlie is about to be sick?

 Bend Stomach Wretch Breaking

3. What does it mean when it says that Freya ‘set off at a gallop’?

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4. What suggests that Freya is the braver/more adventurous of the two characters?

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5. What two emotions is Chester stuck between?

 Happiness Terror Sadness Excitement

 Confusion Amusement

6. Why does Chester look back to see if the teachers had noticed them leaving?

 He wants them to come with him.

 He’s worried he’ll get in trouble if they see him.

 To make sure he knows the way back.

 To check if Charlie is okay.

7. Do you think the author will have Chester and Freya back in five minutes? Why or why not?

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*From the point of view of Chester*

 “What do we do? What’s our distraction?”

I smirked. “We don’t have to do anything. I saw Charlie going at his lunchbox on the bus ride over. He demolished an entire block of cheese.”

Freya looked at me in disbelief. “What is wrong with that boy?”

“Charlie loves cheese.”

“Charlie is lactose intolerant!”

I shrugged. “He says he loves the cheese more than he hates the vomiting. Anyway, he’s about to give you your window of opportunity.”

As we’d been walking towards the toilets at the back of the History Museum’s huge entrance hall, I had been watching Charlie bend lower and lower, his arms wrapping around his stomach. Not two minutes after the plan had been set, he finally reached his breaking point, and his hand shot up.

“Mr Shukla!” he cried. “Mr Shukla, I’m not very well!”

He started to wretch where he stood, and Shukla sprang forward, steering him quickly into the toilets, all the while shouting, “Hold it in! Hold it in!”

Freya and I looked at each other for a long moment, then burst out laughing.

“Come on!” she said. “Five minutes, starting now!”

She set off at a gallop towards the door out of the hall, and I followed her two steps behind, stuck, like usual these days, between excitement and terror. I couldn’t help but look back towards the group, but none of them had seemed to notice, and the teachers were busy with the others. Five minutes. Five minutes and we’d be back, and no one would know we were gone.

**Questions**

1. What does it mean when it says Charlie ‘demolished’ a block of cheese?

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2. What does lactose intolerance do?

 Make you ill when you eat certain foods.

 Make you intolerant of people.

 Make you vomit at least once a day

 Make you feel nervous

3. What does ‘disbelief’ mean?

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4. What museum are Chester and Freya in?

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5. What does it mean when it says that Freya ‘set off at a gallop’?

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6. Who is the bolder of the two characters? What shows this?

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7. Do you think the author will have Chester and Freya back in five minutes? Why or why not?

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8. Summarise what Freya and Chester are doing in this extract.

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**Answers**

**Lower Question Set**

1. What museum are Chester and Freya in?

*History Museum*

2. What word tells you that Charlie is about to be sick?

*Wretch*

3. What does it mean when it says that Freya ‘set off at a gallop’?

*She ran off quickly/suddenly.*

4. What suggests that Freya is the braver/more adventurous of the two characters?

*She is the one encouraging him and the one who runs off first, not looking back.*

5. What two emotions is Chester stuck between?

*Excitement and Terror.*

6. Why does Chester look back to see if the teachers had noticed them leaving?

*He’s worried he’ll get in trouble if they see him.*

7. Do you think the author will have Chester and Freya back in five minutes? Why or why not?

*No. It wouldn’t make for an interesting story or answers in a similar vein.*

**Answers**

**Higher Question Set**

1. What does it mean when it says Charlie ‘demolished’ a block of cheese?

*He ate it all.*

2. What does lactose intolerance do?

*Make you ill when you eat certain foods.*

3. What does ‘disbelief’ mean?

*Shock. Someone cannot believe what they are witnessing.*

4. What museum are Chester and Freya in?

*History Museum*

5. What does it mean when it says that Freya ‘set off at a gallop’?

*She ran off quickly/suddenly.*

6. Who is the bolder of the two characters? What shows this?

*Freya. She is the one encouraging Chester and the one who runs off first, not looking back.*

7. Do you think the author will have Chester and Freya back in five minutes? Why or why not?

*No. It wouldn’t make for an interesting story or answers in a similar vein.*

8. Summarise what Freya and Chester are doing in this extract.

*They are trying to escape and explore the museum.*