



# The One and Only Ivan

By: Katherine Applegate



1. What does Ivan say about humans, their words and what they say?

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2. What do you think it means when Ivan said he used to be a wild gorilla?

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3. How is the Big Top Mall described?

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4. Who are Ivan's friends?

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5. How does Ivan describe money that the humans use?

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6. Ivan mentions that he has been in his domain for nine thousand eight hundred and fifty-five days. How many years is that? How did you get your answer?

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7. How much food does Ivan need to eat? What do Silverbacks eat?

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8. From what Ivan is doing, who do you think Picasso is?

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9. According to Ivan, what are gorillas and who they normally are?

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10. How does Ruby act, being the new addition to the mall arcade? Do you think it was a valid reaction? Why or why not?

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11. What was the story that Ruby told?

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12. How did gorillas get their names?

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13. What was Ivan's name in the jungle, how did he get it?

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14. According to Ivan, what were Silverback's supposed to be?

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15. Once Ivan was taken out of the jungle, he had a different type of hunger. What was it that he was now hungry for?

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16. Ruby isn't listening to Mack in the ring, why? What does he do to get her attention? How does she react?

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17. What about Julia's gift to Ivan does he like so much?

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18. What is the story that Ivan tells Ruby that he is going to hopefully make come true?

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19. What is it that Ivan now finally remembers?

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20. What do you think Ivan's idea is for Ruby?

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21. What was it that Ivan finally figured out his project for Ruby was missing?

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22. What is it that Ivan does to get George and Julia's attention? What does it lead to?

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23. When Mack finds out what Julia did, how does he react?

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24. Now that Ivan got his idea across, what happened next that Mack wasn't expecting? Something that may ruin him.

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25. Who can you predict the woman in the white coat is? What is she there to do?

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26. What does Ruby say that is unexpected about Ivan, Bob, and Julia?

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27. What ends up happening to George and Julia?

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28. Where did they take Ivan?

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29. How does he react to his new environment? What is he trying to remember?

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30. How does the story end? What ends up happening to Ivan, Ruby, George, Julia, and Bob? How would you summarize this story? (think about: was it a happy ending? about never giving up? About friendship?)

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## Extension Activities

- Show a piece of Picasso's work: discuss it and when it was mentioned in the book
- Do an art project
- Do an animal report: Research an animal from the book- discover its natural habitat, what kind of food do they eat, are they a prey or predator, any interesting facts, are they a mammal, or amphibian... can do a traditional report, or could turn the information into a brochure
- Take a field trip to the zoo: Go on a scavenger hunt at the zoo learning about the different animals mentioned in the book and not- looking at the information board, have specific questions answered, or information found to report back to the group when the field trip is over... can do a share out whole group, or small group discussion