

Ponder's Story

1. Determiner
2. Determiner
3. Adjective
4. Verb
5. Pronoun
6. Verb
7. Modal
8. Preposition Or Subordinating Conjunction
9. Noun
10. Adverb
11. To
12. Verb - Past Participle
13. Adjective
14. Verb
15. Particle
16. Verb - 3Rd Person Singular Present
17. Noun - Plural
18. Verb
19. Preposition Or Subordinating Conjunction
20. Number
21. Pronoun
22. Preposition Or Subordinating Conjunction
23. Verb - Past Tense

24. Proper Noun _____

25. Modal _____

26. Verb - Non 3Rd Person Singular Present _____

27. Preposition Or Subordinating Conjunction _____

28. Noun _____

29. Noun - Plural _____

30. Particle _____

31. To _____

Ponder's Story

Prologue

The _____ Determiner _____ Determiner _____ outside the den like an angry cat. Or maybe that was my trainer I was hearing.

"No, no, no! You got it all wrong." The scruffy _____ Adjective _____ cat shoves his son out of the way to _____ Verb _____. His eyes are blazing, furious, so furious at me. A front paw cuffs the side of my face. "First, distract your opponent like this--" In the following move, he rakes my underbelly with a single claw. "so you can slash at _____ Pronoun _____ like this." His whiskers _____ Verb _____ in frustration. "Curse your size." Night Sky turns back to his kid, who towers above me, four times my size, and repeats the move on him. He yelps. "Think you _____ Modal _____ handle _____ Preposition or subordinating conjunction _____?!" He snaps, and I nod, too scared to say _____ Noun _____. Night backs _____ Adverb _____ into the shadows, while his son turns _____ to _____ me with a deep scowl, sour because he ended up _____ Verb - Past Participle _____ because of my _____ Adjective _____ mistake. As a reply, I smirk up at him and attempt the move, working my hind legs to _____ Verb _____ up to his face and then quickly dropping back onto all fours to slide under him and slice his stomach. My kitten claws barely reach under the skin. My face falls. My opponent whips behind a paw and pushes me _____ Particle _____ in front of him and _____ Verb - 3rd Person Singular Present _____ me down with five razor sharp _____ Noun - Plural _____ with eyes glittering malice with a cruel sneer and he's going to hurt me again he's going to hurt me I know it. Night Sky barks out something ,

and I'm saved.

"Poison, what are you doing?! You know she needs to learn this stuff, and she can't do it if she's shredded to ribbons."

"But father I can't go easy on her! You said it yourself, to fight rough you need rough training!"

"Yes, but this..." Argue, argue, snipe bite yell argue. I roll my eyes and bend down to _____ Verb _____ my slit belly when I hope nobody's watching. It tastes like I'm bleeding metal. _____ Preposition or subordinating conjunction _____

_____ Number _____ assaults later, the attention is focused back on me and now they want me to try the limb weakening hit. I don't reach their standards because my age limits _____ Pronoun _____ and one scowls, the other grins _____ Preposition or subordinating conjunction _____ he's 'so much better than me' and I'm _____ Verb - Past Tense _____ to try again and again before _____ Proper Noun _____ Sky finally snaps.

"This is ridiculous!" He yowls. "No one's ever going to take you seriously in battle! I've tried thousands of times to teach you, but that has proved impossible. You're untrainable and of no use to me. Poison..." Night's eyes are stone-hard. "do what you _____ Modal _____ with her. I just _____ Verb - Non 3rd Person Singular Present _____ you to get her out of my sight."

Poison

River's face lights up in sick enjoyment, and a _____ Preposition or subordinating conjunction _____ later I'm being smashed down _____ Noun _____ hard _____ Noun - Plural _____ with _____ Particle _____ tearing up my skin.

I'm _____ to _____.

And I'm going to pay for it with my life.

doubt.