

Hatchet

Chapters 6 & 7

Flashbacks

A flashback is a literary device in which an earlier episode, conversation, or event is inserted into the chronological sequence of a narrative. It is a technique that bridges time, place, and action to reveal information about the character. Flashbacks are also used to fill in information about the background of a conflict or to advance the story.

Purposes of flashbacks	Some cues that begin a flashback for a character	Some words that signal a flashback
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To fill in information about the background of a conflict To fill in information about the background of a character 	Sound Odor Taste Related setting Daydreams, thinking, dreams	Once Long ago Yesterday A while back

Reread the following passage from page 56.

Two years before he and Terry had been fooling around down near the park, where the city seemed to end for a time and the trees grew thick and came down to the small river that went through the park. It was thick there and seemed kind of wild, and they had been joking and making things up and they pretended that they were lost in the woods and talked in the afternoon about what they would do. Of course they figured they'd have all sorts of goodies like a gun and a knife and fishing gear and matches so they could hunt and fish and have a fire. ...I wish you were here, Terry, he thought. With a gun and a knife and some matches...

Using the chart above for help, which cues began this flashback for Brian?

- a sound
- an odor
- a related setting
- a taste

What is the purpose of this flashback?

- to give us more information about a conflict
- to give us more information about a character

What are the words that Gary Paulsen uses to signal this flashback? _____

Find the following flashbacks in chapters six and seven, and complete the chart.

Flashback	Cues that began the flashback	Purpose of the flashback	Words that the author used to begin the flashback
pages 59-60			
page 68			