

# Introduction

Eric Wilson novels excite the imagination of young readers in grades 4-6. Appealing to children's inherent keen interest in mystery, Eric Wilson has skilfully woven accurate Canadian geographic and historic information into his writing. He also touches on current Canadian social and political issues in many of his novels. As such, these novels lend themselves to the integrated study of the mystery genre with Canadian geography topics in social studies and investigation units in science.

The Inuk Mountie Adventure provides rich material for the study of setting, characterization and plot development. It can be used independently or as an introduction to the other novels in the series, thereby providing a national setting within which the regional stories come together to make a whole. The varying levels of difficulty in the novels provide opportunity to accommodate individual student ability, experience and interests.

Students can supplement the package with meaningful research which will strengthen the impact of their work. They will take great delight in finding information on the Internet that directly links to the places or events in the novels. Every province, territory, and most cities have up-to-date information available on an Internet website.

Nunavut's rich history could be investigated through the lives of the various explorers, their routes and their discoveries. Other topics of interest to students could be the different foods, tools, clothing and transportation unique to the north. A Health curriculum tie-in could be drug awareness. The depletion of the earth's fresh water is an environmental issue which could also be explored.

Through the internet, students can be introduced to the author, Eric Wilson. His website address is [www.ericwilson.com](http://www.ericwilson.com).

**The Inuk Mountie Adventure**  
Eric Wilson

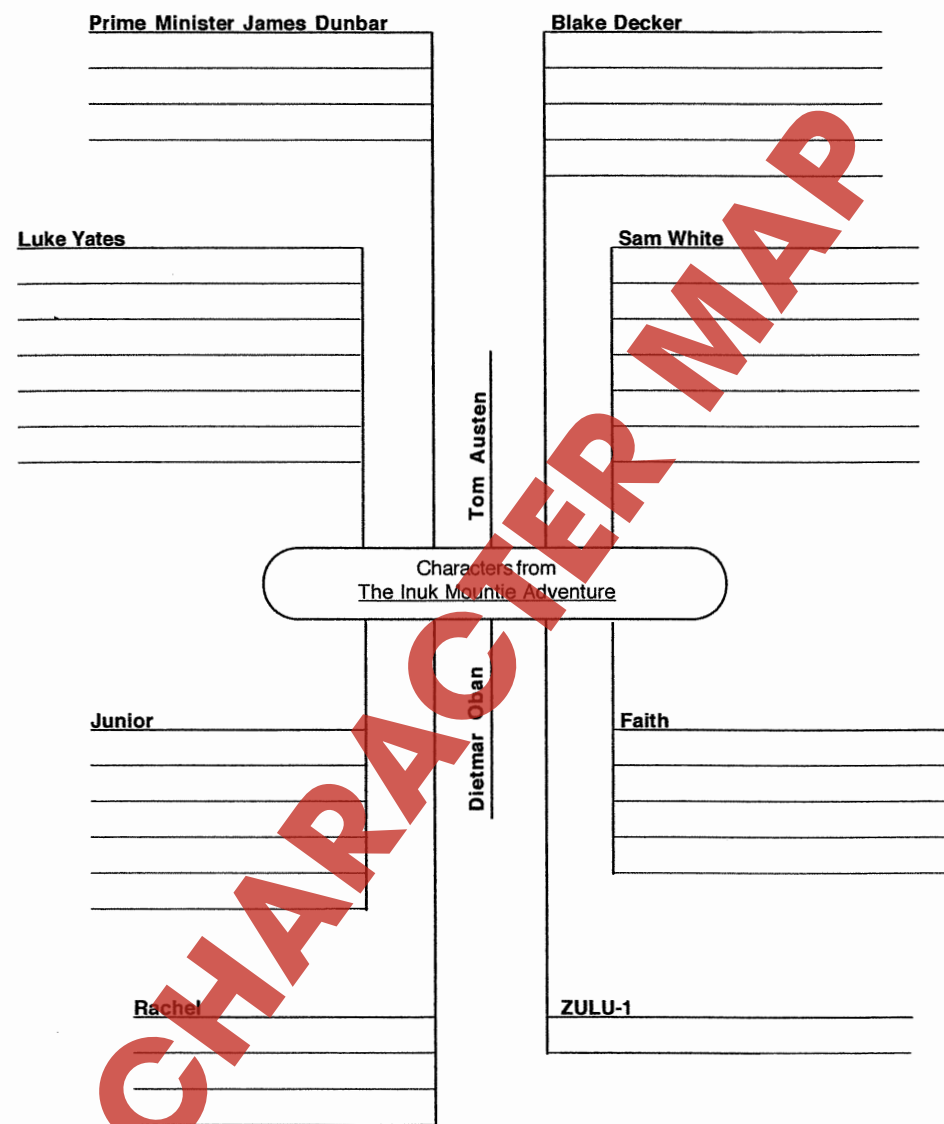
**Setting**



Referring to the above map, fill in the blanks as you read the story.

- James Dunbar's father was a university professor in \_\_\_\_\_.
- Tom's flight to Gjoa Haven made its first stop at \_\_\_\_\_ situated on Great Slave Lake.
- Tom believed the micro-cassette was hidden in a boat at \_\_\_\_\_.
- The U-SAC debate on national television was filmed in \_\_\_\_\_.

As you read the story, add information about the characters identified in the character web.



**Character Summary of Tom Austen**

**APPEARANCE**

**ACTIONS, FEELINGS, THOUGHTS AND WORDS**

**CHARACTER TRAITS**


**Chapter Questions**



**Chapter 1**

- The Canadian Prime Minister, James Dunbar, was campaigning for a federal referendum on U-SAC. What was U-SAC?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Tom was not old enough to vote in the referendum but he had an opinion on the topic. What was Tom's opinion?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Why did the Prime Minister run out of the Winnipeg Convention Centre?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Chapter 4



1. Why did the Franklin expedition end in tragedy and the later Amundsen expedition experience success?

Handwriting lines for question 1.

2. How was the community of Gjoa Haven named?

Handwriting lines for question 2.

3. a) What happened while Tom was in the professor's washroom?

Handwriting lines for question 3.

b) What was the motive?

Handwriting lines for question b).

c) Why was the telephone conversation taped?

Handwriting lines for question c).

Final Projects

1. Characterization

Use the items you have recorded on your character summary to write a one paragraph character sketch of Tom Austen. Your paragraph should include the following:

- a) a brief description of the character's appearance
b) five (5) character traits, supported with information from the story
c) a topic and concluding sentence.

2. Letter

Imagine you are Tom Austen. Write a letter to your sister, Liz, telling her about the leisure pursuits of Inuit youth. You might include the Arctic Games, sports, cultural activities, etc. Use the friendly letter format.

3. Map Activity

On your classroom map of Canada, mark and label the main setting of this novel.

4. Illustration

On the front cover, illustrate your favourite scene from the story.

5. Vocabulary

Complete the following crossword.



ACROSS

- 2. White person (p. 36)
4. "tea granny" in Inuktitut (p. 60)
6. Polar bear (p. 136)
7. Musk-oxen (p. 90)
10. Small crescent shaped knife (p. 59)
11. Wooden sled behind snowmobile or dogs (p. 90)
12. Name of a sealboat, means "seal" (p.79)
16. United States of America plus Canada (p. 3)
18. 19th century British explorer (p. 23)
20. Large snow house (p. 68)
21. Homeland (p. 36)

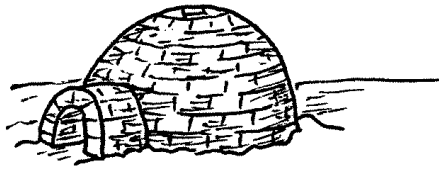
DOWN

- 1. "How are you" in Inuktitut (p. 59)
3. "One person" in Inuktitut (p. 38)
5. Fur fringed boots (p. 62)
8. First European to sail North West Passage (p. 27)
9. Land of the Great Bear (p. 109-110)
13. All the people (p. 38)
14. Spear used for hunting whale or large fish (p. 80)
15. "Good morning" in Inuktitut (p.66)
17. Person who believes that one race is superior to another (p. 62)
19. Long snow knives (p.79)

NOTE: Page numbers are from the 1996 edition of this novel.



**Chapter 13**



1. a) Who was ZULU-1?

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b) What was the motive?

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2. How did Rachel, Dietmar and Moses know where to find Tom?

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b) With whom did Tom share his opinion?

Tom shared his opinion with Faith, Rachel and Sam.

**Chapter 13**

a) Who was ZULU-1?

ZULU-1 was Sam White, the hotel clerk.

b) What was the motive?

Sam was a cocaine addict. He intended to blackmail Prime Minister Dunbar for enough money to provide himself with a continual supply of cocaine.

**How did Rachel, Dietmar and Moses know where to find Tom?**

Tom had left a nonsense message, telling them he was going to the fish igloos.



**While Tom was riding on the komatik he saw two distant shapes in the landscape. What were they?**

The first distant shape was ivory coloured. It was a polar bear (nanook). The second shape in the distance was Sam and his Polaris snowmobile.

**What was the referendum result? Why?**

The referendum was defeated. Prime Minister Dunbar was exposed for his dealing with CanSell and U-SAC. He was also arrested for his part in his father's murder.

**Tom and Liz believed that their mother would make a good Prime Minister. Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer.**

Accept any plausible answers with support.

**ANSWER KEY**