

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS for *Dersu Uzala***

1. Who is Dersu Uzala? What are some of the navigational skills he has?
2. Why do the soldiers laugh at his characterizations of the natural elements as men? What accounts for that difference?
3. Why was Li Sung Bin from Tianjin living alone there in the forest for the past 40 years? What makes him decide to finally go home?
4. Why does Dersu not want to travel to Vladivostok with the captain? What is he going to do instead?
5. What has happened to Dersu in the interim between his parting and reunion with the captain?
6. What is Amba? How does Dersu know it's nearby?
7. Who set up all those traps and why? What does Dersu have to say about it?
8. What is Dersu concerned will now happen to him after shooting at the tiger? What happens to his mood?
9. What small incident is the precursor to tragic events?
10. What is the important point that Arsenyev makes about Dersu's fear of the Amba?
11. What are some of Dersu's complaints about living in town?
12. What character traits most esteemed in Russian culture does he exhibit? How might his American counterpart be different?