Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

An excerpt from *Owen and Mzee- The True Story of a Remarkable Friendship*

It was soon clear that a rescue wouldn’t be easy. Though the baby

hippo was only about two feet tall, he weighed a hefty 600 pounds and

was slippery and strong. And the hippo was alarmed by all the human

commotion. Angrily, he broke through their nets and escaped from their

ropes. Hours went by, and the anxious crowd of people who gathered to

watch feared that the hippo could not be saved.

Finally, with a stronger shark net, the rescuers were able to catch

the hippo. A brave visitor named Owen Sobien tackled him, stopping him

long enough to let others secure the net. That is why, when it came time

to choose a name for the hippo, it seemed only right that he should be

called “Owen”.

At last, the rescuers towed the baby hippo toward land. When they

reached the shore, a loud, joyous cheer went up from the thousand men,

women, boys, and girls who now crowded the beach. Their happy cries

could be heard almost a mile away.

Was rescuing Owen a hard thing to do? Why? Use at least 3 details from the text to support your answer.

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