Number the Stars Assignment 1

Workbook Questions

***Learning intention:*** *we are practicing comprehension strategies such as visualising, predicting, connecting, summarising, monitoring, questioning, and inferring. These will help us to interpret and evaluate the ideas in longer texts.*

**Please save a copy of this document on your OneDrive and share it with me. As you read each chapter of the novel, answer the questions directly into the document. Please do NOT print out the document and write the answers on the sheet.**

Background & Context

1. Why did the author Lois Lowry write this book?
2. What is the word people use to refer to the mass killing of Jewish people by the Nazis in World War II?
3. “Those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it”. Why do you think this quote is written on the walls of Auschwitz memorial?
4. List some of the things that the Danish Resistance did to fight against the Nazis.

Chapter 1: Why Are You Running?

1. Write a description of Annemarie (what she looks like and her personality).
2. Why do you think Kirsti isn’t afraid of the soldiers?
3. Answer the following questions about the soldiers:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| What country are they from? |  |
| How long have they been here? |  |
| How do people feel about them? |  |

1. What do you think would have happened if Annemarie or Ellen had spoken to the soldiers the way that Kirsti did?

Chapter 2: Who is the Man who Rides Past?

1. What do you think the quote “All of Denmark is his bodyguard” (p. 14) means?
2. Do you think King Christian did the right thing in surrendering to the Nazis? Why or why not?
3. List the ways that Peter has changed since Lise’s death.

Chapter 3: Where is Mrs. Hirsch?

1. What items are being rationed and why?
2. Brainstorm: what can the people of Denmark do to ‘be a bodyguard’ for the Danish Jews?
3. Annemarie says she was “glad to be an ordinary person who would never be called upon for courage.” Do you think it’s true that ordinary people are never asked to do something courageous? Why or why not?
4. Compare Denmark during WWII to Australia today using the table below. Put at least three things in each section.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Australia today | **Both** | Denmark in WWII |
|  |  |  |

Chapter 4: It Will Be a Long Night

1. How did the Germans find out the names of the Danish Jews?
2. Imagine you had to shelter a friend at your house. Think about the details and fill in the table:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Where would you hide them? |  |
| What would you say to anyone who asked about them? |  |
| How long do you think you could keep them hidden? |  |
| How could you get them out of the country secretly? |  |

1. What really caused the “booms and lights in the sky” on Kirsti’s birthday? Why did the Danes do this?
2. Imagine that you are Ellen and that your parents have had to go away and leave you with another family. How would you feel? Write a diary entry from the point of view of Ellen explaining your thoughts.
3. What is wrong with Kirsti’s new shoes? How is the shoe problem solved?

Chapter 5: Who is the Dark- Haired One?

1. This chapter was full of very important symbols; the photographs, the blue chest and Ellen’s gold necklace. Choose one of the symbols from this chapter, write a

description of it, and explain why it is important to the story.

1. Why do you think Annemarie’s parents haven’t looked at Lise’s things since the accident?

Chapter 6: Is the Weather Good for Fishing?

1. What does the soldier on the train mean by “visiting your brother for the New Year”? What New Year is he talking about?
2. List 3 things you find out about Uncle Henrik in this chapter.
3. The girls and their mother have travelled to Uncle Henrik’s house but are they any safer there than in Copenhagen? Make a prediction and write a paragraph describing what you think that they will find.

Chapter 7: The House by the Sea

1. What are the girls supposed to do if they see anyone?
2. Answer the following questions about Uncle Henrik’s boat:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| What does Uncle Henrik use the boat for? |  |
| What is the boat called? |  |
| Where did the name come from? |  |
| Where does Uncle Henrik keep the boat? |  |

1. At the end of the chapter, Annemarie overhears her mother and uncle’s conversation. She says that it is very different from before. Why is it different? What do you think that they are talking about?

Chapter 8: There Has Been a Death

1. How did Annemarie make fun of the German soldiers?
2. What is Kirsti’s name for the kitten and why is it ironic?
3. Why is it easy for Annemarie to forget about the soldiers and the threat to the Jews when she is at the farmhouse?
4. What two things that Uncle Henrik says sound odd to Annemarie?

a)

b)

1. Annemarie is convinced that Great-aunt Birte must be code for something. What do you think it could be code for? Write down what you think is really going on.

Chapter 9: Why are You Lying?

1. What did Uncle Henrik mean when he said, “it is much easier to be brave if you do not know everything”?
2. Number each action below from 1 to 6. Number one should be the action that you believe takes the most courage. Number six should be the action that takes the least courage.
   1. Speaking up when you overhear someone older than you being mean to another kid at school \_\_\_\_\_\_
   2. Making a speech at an assembly \_\_\_\_\_\_
   3. Rescuing someone from a burning building \_\_\_\_\_\_
   4. Disobeying the law or school rules \_\_\_\_\_\_
   5. Telling your friends that you don’t agree with something they said \_\_\_\_\_\_
   6. Telling your parent/s that you failed a test \_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Do you think that Annemarie did the right thing by continuing the lie about Great-aunt Birte? Is lying ever okay? Explain and justify your answer.
4. Compare and contrast Lise’s funeral with Great-Aunt Birte’s funeral. List at least three things that are different.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Lise’s Funeral | Great-Aunt Birte’s Funeral |
|  |  |

Chapter 10: Let Us Open the Casket

1. When the soldiers pound on the door, Annemarie describe it as a “recurring nightmare.” Why does she call it that?
2. How did Mama stop the soldier from opening the casket?
3. When the soldiers leave, why do the people continue to pretend they are having a funeral?
4. At the end of the chapter, Peter says ‘it’s time to open the casket’. What do you think is going to be inside it?

Chapter 11: Will We See You Again Soon, Peter?

1. Read each statement and write T or F depending on whether it’s true or false.
   1. The casket was filled with folded blanket and old clothing \_\_\_\_
   2. Ellen’s new jacket was beautiful and luxurious \_\_\_\_
   3. Mama gave Kirsti’s warm red sweater to the baby \_\_\_\_
   4. The baby’s mother was happy that Peter gave her the drops \_\_\_\_
   5. The people were able to each bring two suitcases of their possessions \_\_\_\_
   6. Peter gave Mrs. Rosen a package with details of what was inside \_\_\_\_
   7. Inge was told to take the Rosens down to the harbor \_\_\_\_
   8. The boats are taking the Jews across the water to Sweden \_\_\_\_
   9. There were soldiers waiting outside the farmhouse to arrest Peter \_\_\_\_
   10. The Rosens were sobbing dramatically when it was time to go \_\_\_\_
2. What was in the drops that Peter gave the baby? Why do you think he felt it was necessary?
3. Why didn’t Mr Rosen ask what was in the package that Peter gave him to take to Uncle Henrik? What do you think is in it?
4. How did the Nazis take away the Jews’ pride? What pride did they still have left?

Chapter 12: Where was Mama?

1. What promise did Ellen make to Annemarie before she left?
2. Why does Annemarie say it’s harder for the ones who are waiting?
3. This passage uses figurative language: “She fell asleep, and it was a sleep as thin as the night clouds, dotted with dreams that came and went like the stars.” What is figurative language? What effect does it have on the story?
4. Make predictions in the table below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **What has happened to Mama?** | **Will Annemarie and Ellen see each other again?** |
|  |  |

Chapter 13: Run! As Fast as You Can!

1. Put the story events in order (1-7)
   1. Mama hurries back home \_\_\_\_\_
   2. Mama crawls the rest of the way home \_\_\_\_\_
   3. Mama and the Rosens leave the farmhouse and head down the dark path \_\_\_\_\_\_
   4. Mama trips on a tree root and injures her ankle \_\_\_\_\_
   5. Mama delivers the Rosens to Uncle Henrik \_\_\_\_\_
   6. Annemarie finds Mama and helps her the rest of the way to the house \_\_\_\_\_
   7. The Rosens quickly disappear into the cabin of the boat \_\_\_\_\_
2. Why does Mrs Johnasen tell Annemarie to act ‘like a silly, empty-headed little girl’ if she is stopped by soldiers?
3. Why do you think Mrs. Johansen didn’t tell Annemarie what she was really carrying to Uncle Henrik on the boat?
4. What do you think is in the packet? Write an explanation of what you think it is and why.

Chapter 14: On the Dark Path

1. Why do you think Annemarie tells herself a story as she walks through the woods?
2. Find two examples of descriptive language or imagery (sight, smell, feel, taste, sound) in this chapter. Write down the example and give a description of what image it paints in your mind.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Example 1** | **Example 2** |
| Description (can copy paste from book) |  |  |
| What image does it paint in your mind? |  |  |

1. Compare and contrast what Annemarie thinks she will hear as she comes to the end of the path with what she actually hears.

Chapter 15: My Dogs Smell Meat!

1. Why did Annemarie act like her little sister Kirsti when the soldiers stopped her?
2. Was it a good thing that Annemarie did not know what was in the packet? Why?
3. Outward vs Inward: Fill out the chart with things Annemarie does and thinks while speaking to the soldiers.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Outward  (What Annemarie does) | Inward  (What she is thinking) |
|  |  |

1. How does Uncle Henrik’s face look when he sees the basket? What does this tell Annemarie?

Chapter 16: I Will Tell You Just a Little

1. Summarise what Uncle Hendrik told Annemarie in the barn.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| About bravery |  |
| About where the people were hiding |  |
| About the handkerchief |  |
| About where the Rosens are now |  |

1. Make a prediction: What would have happened if Annemarie had not given the handkerchief to Uncle Henrik in time?
2. Write a letter from Ellen in Sweden to Annemarie in Denmark. Remember that the Nazis intercept and read mail, so use coded language to refer to any details.

Chapter 17: All This Long Time

1. Describe what happened in Copenhagen on the day the war ended.
2. Rearrange the plot points below into the correct order.

* Ellen moves in with Annemarie's family and pretends to be Annemarie's sister
* Ellen's family and the others successfully escape to Sweden in Uncle Henrik's boat
* Annemarie carries the dropped package through the woods to the boat, narrowly escaping discovery by the German soldiers
* Peter takes Ellen's family and the other Jews to Uncle Henrik's boat
* Annemarie, Mama, Kirsti and Ellen go to Uncle Henrik's house
* In 1943, Annemarie and her friend Ellen live in Copenhagen, Denmark, with their families
* The war is over, Annemarie has returned home, and she is waiting for her friend Ellen to return
* A "funeral" is held for Aunt Birte
* Nazi soldiers show up at Annemarie's house and question the family about Ellen

1

2

3

4

5

1. Label the plot diagram below in the correct order:
   1. Resolution \_\_\_\_\_
   2. Rising action \_\_\_\_\_
   3. Exposition \_\_\_\_\_
   4. Climax \_\_\_\_\_
   5. Falling action \_\_\_\_

1. For each of the plot points below, decide whether it falls into the category of Resolution, Rising Action, Exposition, Climax, or Falling Action. Put R, RA, E, C or FA after each point based on which category you think it belongs to.

Ellen moves in with Annemarie's family and pretends to be Annemarie's sister \_\_\_\_\_

Ellen's family and the others successfully escape to Sweden in Uncle Henrik's boat \_\_\_\_\_

Annemarie carries the dropped package through the woods to the boat, narrowly escaping discovery by the German soldiers \_\_\_\_\_

Peter takes Ellen's family and the other Jews to Uncle Henrik's boat \_\_\_\_\_

Annemarie, Mama, Kirsti and Ellen go to Uncle Henrik's house \_\_\_\_\_

In 1943, Annemarie and her friend Ellen live in Copenhagen, Denmark, with their families \_\_\_\_\_

The war is over, Annemarie has returned home, and she is waiting for her friend Ellen to return \_\_\_\_\_

A "funeral" is held for Aunt Birte \_\_\_\_\_

Nazi soldiers show up at Annemarie's house and question the family about Ellen \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Afterword

1. What is the name of the real girl that Annemarie Johansen is based on?
2. When did Denmark surrender to Germany?
3. How long did Germany occupy Denmark?
4. True or False: the story about King Christian riding out on his horse alone was made up by the author
5. True or False: the Danes really did sink their own navy in 1943 to prevent the Germans using their ships
6. How did the Danish Government know about the Nazis’ plan to 'relocate' the Danish Jews?
7. About how many Danish Jews were smuggled across the ocean to Sweden?
8. What was in the powder that Swedish scientists created to stop sniffer dogs from discovering the Jews?
9. What is the name of the real Danish resistance fighter who inspired the author to write this book?