

The Giver Study Guide Questions

Chapter I

1. How does the author get the reader into the book?
2. From whose point of view is the story told?
3. What have you learned about the society?
4. How is Jonas' family *similar* to your family **and** *different* from your family? (Use a double T-Chart)
5. What do you know about "release" in the book's society? What are your feelings about release?
6. How is the care of children different in Jonas' world from your world?

Chapter II

7. What is the private conversation his parents have in Chapter 2 with Jonas?
8. Identify and explain all of the following items from the book:
 - a. Ceremony of One
 - b. Naming
 - c. Bicycles
 - d. Ceremony of Nine
 - e. Comfort Object
9. What rules does Jonas' father disobey?
10. How do the people receive their Assignment?
11. Why do you think the author is building up Jonas' Ceremony of Twelve? What do you think will Jonas' Assignment be?

Chapter III

12. What about the society is revealed by the reaction to eye color?
13. What is a Birthmother?
14. Why is Mother so appalled when Lilly suggests she'd like to be a Birthmother?
15. How was Jonas disciplined for taking an apple home?
16. Why had the apple intrigued Jonas?

17. What does the nondescript shade of the tunics and the apple tell you about the people and society in the book?
18. Start an attribute web to describe Jonas. (Place Jonas' name in the center and characteristics that he has around him in a web form. You may wish to show the way that he acts, feels, looks, his family structure, etc.)
19. Compare Jonas in his world to typical eleven-year olds that you may know. (You may use a T-Chart or other graphic organizer to show your information).
20. What seems **odd** about the community in the book? What seems **desirable** about the way things are done?
21. Begin to fill in a story map. (A story map consists of a graphic organizer with terms such as setting, problem, goal, point of view, resolution, etc)
22. Sort out the plusses and minuses for the facets below of the book community:
 - Raising children together in age groups
 - Birthmothers
 - Loudspeaker
 - Evening telling of feelings
 - Ceremonies
 - Ceremony of Twelve

Chapter IV

23. What seems to be the purpose of the volunteer hours?
24. Why doesn't Jonas seem to have a niche?
25. What is the nakedness rule?
26. What are the Releasing Room and the releasing ceremony?

Chapter V

27. What is the morning ritual?
28. Why must Jonas start taking a pill every day?
29. How are you feeling about the society in the book?
30. What have you found so far that the book's society represses?

Chapter VI

31. What values does the book's society embrace and encourage?
32. What is interdependence? Give an example of interdependence from your own experiences.
33. What is the difference in the book between loss and release? Why do you think that the author points out the distinction? On what page is the distinction made?
34. How does the author build the interest in Jonas' Ceremony of Twelve?
35. Who makes the important decisions in the book's society?

Chapter VII

36. How does the Ceremony of Twelve start?
37. What do the numbers mean for each person?
38. Why is number Nineteen skipped in the Assignments?
39. What do you think Jonas' Assignment will be?

Chapter VIII

40. Why do Jonas and the audience feel ill at ease at the start of Chapter 8?
41. What is announced as Jonas' Assignment? What is the job?
42. What qualities does the Chief Elder explain Jonas will need?
43. How will Jonas' life change as he trains to be Receiver of Memory? Make some predictions.

Chapter IX

44. What is it like to feel different? Why is it a new sensation for Jonas at the start of Chapter Nine? How do others now treat Jonas?
45. What happened to the Receiver selected that failed?
46. What are Jonas' instructions for his Receiver training? Why are the rules particularly puzzling?
47. What is the puzzle about lying which Jonas ponders at the end of Chapter 9?
48. What puzzles do you expect in the rest of the book?

Chapter X

49. What does Jonas notice about the Receiver of Memory's dwelling?
50. What will Jonas' position as a receiver of Memory involve?
51. Why is it important to save the memories?

- 52. Why does the Receiver have books but no one else has more than three?
- 53. How will the old receiver transmit the memory of snow to Jonas?

Chapter XI

- 54. Once Jonas receives the snow and sledding, how does he feel?
- 55. Just how does the Receiver of Memories' training proceed?
- 56. How are The Giver's burdens lessened in working with Jonas?
- 57. What other memories are transmitted on this first day of training?
- 58. Why did the book's community eliminate sunshine and a hill?

Chapter XII

- 59. What is Jonas' first lie?
- 60. Why doesn't Jonas tell his friends about his training?
- 61. What is Jonas seeing in Fiona's hair and the apple and the sled?
- 62. Why don't the people in the book perceive colors?
- 63. What is Jonas' opinion of giving up colors? How do you feel about the matter?

Chapter XIII

- 64. What new meaning do the following words --ordinary, color, and choice-- have for Jonas?
- 65. How would the elders react to the same three words?
- 66. What does The Giver share of his personal family life?
- 67. How does the book's society deal with adults with grown children? What does such an arrangement lose?

Chapter XIII

- 68. How does Jonas react when The Giver gives him the memory of breaking a leg in sledding? How does Jonas' understanding and growing wisdom increase after he experiences that pain?
- 69. What wisdom does hunger provide?
- 70. What is the mood at the end of the talk between Jonas and The Giver? Why?
- 71. How does Jonas calm Gabriel?
- 72. Why does Jonas decide not to confess giving a memory away?
- 73. Why does Mother shake her head about the release of the twin and Father's responsibility for it?

Chapter XV

74. Why do you think that this chapter is so short?

75. Why does The Giver say, "Forgive me"?

Chapter XVI

76. How does Jonas learn of love?

77. Why are grandparents a new idea for Jonas?

78. What does the society lose without grandparents? What do they gain?

79. What provokes Jonas' first lie to his parents?

Chapter XVII

80. How is the day in Chapter 17 a study in contrasts?

81. Why does Jonas stop taking his daily pills?

82. How is Gabe proceeding?

Chapter XVIII

83. What was the story of Rosemary?

84. What happened to the memories transferred to Rosemary? How were the training rules changed as a result?

85. Why does the Giver advise Jonas to stay away from the river?

Chapter XIX

86. What does Jonas learn about rule 3 from his training rules in this chapter?

87. How does The Giver feel about Rosemary's release?

88. How does Lois Lowry describe Jonas' feeling at the end of Chapter 19? How did you feel reading this chapter? Why?

Chapter XX

89. Why does Jonas refuse to go home?

90. How does The Giver comfort Jonas?

91. What is the plan Jonas and the Giver hatch?

92. How did The Giver first experience his sensing beyond?

93. What are the specifics of the escape plan? Will Jonas succeed in the escape?

94. What is the surprising revelation at the end of Chapter 20?

Chapter XXI

95. What makes Jonas' escape plan fall apart?

96. How does the first part of the escape proceed?

97. How has the mood changed by the end of Chapter 21?

98. Is Jonas justified in his escape?

Chapter XXII

99. What new dangers does Jonas encounter in Chapter 22?

100. In what different ways does Jonas think about starvation?

101. Only one chapter of the book remains? How do you think it will end?

Chapter XXIII

102. What weather conditions impede Jonas' progress toward Elsewhere?

103. How do Jonas and Gabe finally get to safety?

104. What is the sensory image at the end of the book?