

6th grade Summer Reading Assignment: Gathering Blue by Lois Lowry

Directions:

Your answers need to be completed on loose leaf lined paper. Answer each question using “Question in Answer” style. This means you must answer the question using the question as part of your answer. For example, Question 1 can begin by stating, “In Gathering Blue, the syllables of a person’s name indicate....” Each answer should be at least two or three sentences long. Some questions have multiple components. Be sure to answer all components for each question, and be sure to use proper capitalization and punctuation for each answer.

Every time you read at home, you should have this by your side and be working on it. These questions follow the order of the novel. Before the first test, you will use this as a study guide. You will **turn this in on the day of the test.**

Reading Comprehension Questions:

1. How are the syllables of a person’s name used?
2. How did Kira’s mother die? How did her father die?
3. Why does Vandara want Kira’s plot of land? What is she willing to do to get it?
4. Identify 3 character traits to describe Vandara. Provide evidence from the text to support these character traits.
5. Describe the trial for Kira’s life. How does Kira stay calm? How does Jamison defend Kira? What is the result of the trial?
6. What job is Kira tasked with and why is it important?
7. Why is the scrap of cloth that Kira made so important to her? What does it symbolize?
8. Why do you think Kira lied to Jamison about how much she knows regarding dying thread? Explain your answer thoroughly.
9. Who is Annabella and why is she important?
10. Describe the way the men act when preparing for a hunt and why Kira did not want Matt to go.
11. Why might the Guardians lie about the presence of Beasts in the woods? What evidence can you find from the text that shows there are none?
12. Could Jamison have had a hand in Annabella’s death? Cite evidence from the text that supports this theory.
13. What does Kira learn about “the crying child below”? Why is she afraid to ask Jamison about her?
14. What do Kira, Thomas and Jo have in common?
15. How are Kira and Thomas able to go and see Jo?
16. Why has Jo been crying?
17. In Chapter 16, Kira realizes that she is not really free. Why isn’t she free and what does she wish for instead of the life she has been given?
18. Describe the Fen and the way the people there live and behave.
19. Describe the day of the Gathering. What names were Kira, Thomas and Jo given? How did the people of the village behave?

20. Why are the Staff and the Singer's Robe so important to the Guardians?
21. Why does Kira want to please Jamison?
22. What is the little present that Matt brings Kira? Why is it so special?
23. Where has Matt been while he was gone?
24. What is the larger present that Matt brings Kira?
25. What truly happened to Christopher, Kira's father?
26. What kind of place had Christopher traveled from? How is it different from the village? Cite the text.
27. What do we learn about Jamison?
28. Why do you think the Singer is wearing chains? What might that mean for Kira's future?
29. Why does Kira decide to stay in the village? What does she hope to accomplish by staying?
30. What does the blue thread symbolize? "The blue was gathered in her hand, and she could feel it quiver, as if it had been given breath and was beginning to live." What does this mean?
31. What makes the village of the healing so much "quieter and peaceful" than Kira's village?