

# **THE GIVER**

## **CHAPTER QUESTIONS**

# CHAPTERS 1-2

- What did the word “frightened” mean to Jonas?

# ANSWERS

It was a "deep, sickening feeling of something terrible about to happen."

# CHAPTERS 1-2 Questions

What were Jonas and the other children taught to be careful about?

# ANSWERS

They were taught to be careful about language.

# CHAPTERS 1-2 Questions

How did Jonas decide he felt? What was causing this feeling?

# ANSWERS

**He felt apprehensive. His special Ceremony of Twelve would be coming in December.**

# CHAPTERS 1-2 Questions

What evening ritual did the family perform after dinner?

How would you feel if you were required to participate in this ritual?

# ANSWERS

They shared their feelings.

**Share your personal thoughts . . .**

# CHAPTERS 1-2 Questions

What were the two occasions when release was not punishment?

Do you agree with these exceptions? Why? Why not?

# ANSWERS

Release of the elderly and release of a new child were not punishment.

*Share your personal thoughts . . .*

# CHAPTERS 1-2 Questions

What did Father want to do about the new child, and why?

# ANSWERS

He wanted to bring the newchild home with him for extra nurturing. The child was not progressing and would be released if he did not improve. Father thought the extra attention would be helpful.

# CHAPTERS 1-2 Questions

What fascinated Jonas about his father?

Have you ever been fascinated by someone?

Why or why not?

# ANSWERS

His father had broken the rule about looking at the year's Naming list.

**Share your personal thoughts . . .**

# CHAPTERS 1-2 Questions

Why was the Ceremony of Twelve so important?

What has been the most important ceremony in your life so far?

# ANSWERS

- The Twelves would get their adult job Assignments. It marked the end of their childhood and preparation for adult life.

**Share your personal thoughts . . .**

# CHAPTERS 3-5

What was unusual about Jonas and the new child?

# ANSWERS

**They both had pale eyes. Most of the Community members had dark eyes.**

# CHAPTERS 3-5

Describe the Assignment of Birthmother. What did Lily's parents say about the Assignment?

# ANSWERS

- **The Assignment did not have much honor. The Birthmothers had three children.**
- **They were not allowed to see the children. After the third child, the Birthmothers**
- **were given jobs as Laborers for the rest of their lives.**

# CHAPTERS 3-5

Describe the celebration of release for Roberto.

# ANSWERS

He told about his life. The attendants toasted, cheered, and chanted the anthem. T Roberto made a good-bye speech, bowed, and walked through a special door in the Releasing Room.

# CHAPTERS 3-5

How did Jonas' mother and father react to his dream? What was their response?

# ANSWERS

- He had a dream that he wanted Fiona to take off her clothes and get in a bathtub.
- His parents said it was the Stirrings. His mother gave him a pill that would stop
- them. She told him he would have to take one every day until he entered the
- House of the Old.

# CHAPTERS 6-7

Describe the jacket that the Fours, Fives, and Sixes wore and the reason it was designed the way it was. Also describe the jacket the Sevens wore and what it symbolized.

# ANSWERS

The jacket the Fours, Fives, and Sixes wore buttoned down the back so the children would have to help each other dress and learn interdependence. The jacket the Sevens wore had buttons in the front, which symbolized independence and growing up.

# CHAPTERS 6-7

Describe the Ceremony. Tell what happened at the Naming and the other age levels.

# ANSWERS

- During the Naming, the Nurturers brought the new children to the stage. They received their names and parents. The Eights received new jackets with smaller buttons and pockets. The pockets symbolized maturity and the ability of the wearer to keep track of small possessions. The Nines got their bicycles. The Tens had their long hair cut off. The female Elevens got new undergarments. The male Elevens got longer trousers with a special pocket for their school calculator.

# CHAPTERS 6-7

What happened when Jonas's number should have been called? What did Jonas think?

# ANSWERS

- **The Chief Elder skipped Jonas's number. Jonas thought Jonas had done something wrong.**

# CHAPTERS 8-10

What was Jonas's Assignment? Why was it important and unusual?

# ANSWERS

- Jonas was selected to become the new Receiver of Memory for the Community.
- It was unusual because the Community only had one Receiver, and he chose his successor. Receiver was the most important job in the Community.

# CHAPTERS 8-10

What were the four qualities the Chief Elder said the Receiver of Memory must have?

# ANSWERS

**The qualities were intelligence, integrity, courage, and wisdom.**

# CHAPTERS 8-10

Explain the connection between what Jonas saw with the apple and with the audience at the Ceremony of 12.

# ANSWERS

**Both the apple and the audience changed in appearance, but Jonas did not understand how.**

# CHAPTERS 8-10

Discuss the rules that Jonas was given.

Which rule bothered Jonas and why.

Have you ever lied? When (if ever) is it okay to lie?

# ANSWERS

- He was exempted from rules governing rudeness. He could ask anyone any question and he would receive an answer.
- He was not allowed to tell his dreams.
- He was allowed to lie.
- Personal response . . .

# CHAPTERS 11-13

Describe Jonas's consciousness as he received the memory.

# ANSWERS

- One part of his consciousness knew he was lying on the bed in the Annex room, but another part could experience the sensation of snow and the sled. He could see, even though his eyes were closed.

# CHAPTERS 11-13

What was “seeing beyond”?

Why was this important?

# ANSWERS

It was a short, indescribable change. First it happened with the apple. Next, it happened with the audience at the Auditorium. Then it happened with Fiona. Her hair changed in a way he could not describe.

He was seeing the color red. It was the beginning of his ability to see colors.

# CHAPTERS 13-15

- The Giver explained why the people needed a Receiver of Memory. What were the reasons?

# ANSWERS

- **They sometimes needed the Receiver to use his memories to help them make decisions. Most of the time, they needed the Receiver to keep all of the old memories so they would not have to have them.**

# CHAPTERS 13-15

What did Jonas realize about his family after his session with The Giver?

# ANSWERS

**He realized his family members had never known pain.**

# CHAPTERS 13-15

Why do you think Chapter 15 is so short?

# ANSWERS

**The memory of war was the worst memory so far.**