COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

for

THE HUNGER GAMES

by

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Let the Hunger Games begin...

Spring 2012 saw the release of the block-buster movie The Hunger Games, based on Suzanne Collins’s best-selling novel of the same name. Amazingly, as of March 28, 2012 more than 17.2 billion copies of the book were in print worldwide. (Scholastic)

While there are many reasons for the popularity of the book, this much can be said – it’s suspenseful, riveting and instills questions into the minds of those who read it.

Why study The Hunger Games?

The themes presented in The Hunger Games can provide for hours of discussion easily tying in to many social issues present in the world today. However, for students studying English as a second language, this engaging novel is equally as valuable in providing new vocabulary, comprehension practice through captivating, interesting and suspenseful reading.

The following list of questions are designed to help the reader chapter by chapter in targeting some of the facts and, in some cases, themes important for a comprehensive reading of the novel.

How to proceed.

Simply read each chapter for as thorough an understanding as possible (understanding vocabulary, expressions, etc. along the way.) Then once you’ve completed the chapter answer the corresponding questions in the book. Answering the questions should be easy, but if you find questions that are difficult to answer, simply go back to that chapter and reread wherever necessary so that you can easily respond to the question.

You may write your responses in this booklet, or you may want to create your own Hunger Games Reading Journal. There are many blank writing journals available for sale ranging from simple to fancy.

The most important!

The most important thing is to enjoy what you read. The Hunger Games can be quite an enjoyable novel and you’ll find yourself turning page after page to see what happens next. As Stephen King said: “The Hunger Games is a violent, jarring, speed-rap of a novel that generates nearly constant suspense... I couldn’t stop reading."

So immerse yourself in English and the world of The Hunger Games, and may the odds be ever in your favor!

Books in the Trilogy:  The Hunger Games  Catching Fire  Mockingjay

Visit the site at:  http://www.scholastic.com/thehungergames/
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# List of main characters

Katniss Everdeen  
Mrs. Everdeen (Katniss’s Mother)  
Gale Hawthorne  
Primrose Everdeen  
Peeta Mellark  
Effie Trinket  
Haymitch Abernathy  
Cinna  
Rue  
Cato
PART I "THE TRIBUTES"

CHAPTER 1

1. What is Katniss preparing to do?

2. How did Katniss’s father die?

3. Who is Gale? What is his nickname for Katniss and why?

4. What does Gale suggest to Katniss? What is her reaction to his suggestion?

5. Where all do Katniss and Gale go after they are finished hunting to sell and trade?

6. What is the Reaping? What is Tessera?

7. Name the main three people on stage during the reaping and each of their jobs.

8. Whose name is pulled for the girls from District 12?

CHAPTER 2

1. Describe Katniss’s reaction to the name chosen. What does Gale do?

2. Describe the salute the people of District 12 give to Katniss. What does it mean?

3. What embarrassing event takes place between Effie and Haymitch?

4. Describe Katniss’s flashback involving Peeta Mellark.
CHAPTER 3

1. What does Katniss tell her mother and Prim in the waiting room?

2. What does Katniss warn her mother not to do?

3. Who else comes to visit Katniss and what items do they each give her?

4. What promise does Gale give Katniss?

5. District 12 is located where? What is it known for the production of?

6. What is a Mockingjay? How is it a slap in the face to the Capitol?

7. Which tributes from the other Districts stand out to Katniss?

8. What does Haymitch do as he staggers through the door?

CHAPTER 4

1. What reason does Katniss believe Peeta is being nice to Haymitch?

2. What is the importance of the dandelion?

3. How are the woods beyond the fence important to Katniss?

4. Describe the Katniss plant. What does Katniss remember her father saying about it?

5. What advice does Haymitch give when Katniss asks for it?

6. What is the deal Haymitch makes with Katniss and Peeta?

7. What does Haymitch tell Peeta and Katniss regarding the stylists?
CHAPTER 5

1. Describe Octavia, Flavius, and Venia. Who are they and what are they doing to Katniss?

2. What interesting confession does Cinna tell Katniss?

3. Describe Katniss’s costume.

4. What does Cinna tell Katniss and Peeta to do before their chariot pulls out of the Training Center?

5. What does Katniss do to Peeta at the end of the Chapter and why?

CHAPTER 6

1. What is an Avox?

2. How does Peeta save Katniss at this point?

3. What does Haymitch say about Peeta and Katniss holding hands?

4. Who is the Avox girl and why does Katniss recognize her?

5. What does Peeta tell Katniss about her mother and his father?

6. What does Katniss wonder about the Avox girl?
CHAPTER 7

1. What does Haymitch ask Peeta and Katniss about training and why does it matter?

2. Describe the conversation about each other’s strengths and why is this so odd?

3. What does Haymitch tell Peeta and Katniss not to do during training?

4. What does Haymitch say they have to continue to do?

5. Which two stations do Katniss and Peeta visit first in training? Why does Peeta like the second one?

6. What does Peeta say about all the bread at lunch?

7. Who is following Peeta and Katniss?

8. Describe Katniss’s private session with the Gamemakers.

CHAPTER 8

1. What is Katniss worried about?

2. What scores do Rue, Peeta, and Katniss get?

3. How does Katniss first meet Peeta?

4. What has Peeta asked Haymitch to do?
1. Describe Katniss’s training session with Effie.

2. How does Haymitch describe Katniss’s interview skills? Why is this a problem?

3. What happens between Katniss and the Avox girl?

4. Describe Katniss’s interview gown.

5. What does Cinna tell Katniss to try during the interviews?

6. Who is Caesar Flickerman? What does he look like? What type of person is he?

7. Describe Katniss’s interview. How does it go?

8. What confession does Peeta make to Caesar?
Chapter 10

1. What does Katniss do to Peeta once they are alone?

2. What does Effie say that is so awful?

3. What are the two things Haymitch gives as final words of advice?

4. Explain how Peeta feels and Katniss’s reaction during their talk on the roof.

5. Who was Titus and what was strange about him? How did he die?

6. What does the woman do to Katniss? What is the purpose of it?

7. What does Cinna give Katniss to complete her wardrobe?

8. What was taken away from the District 1 Girl Tribute and why?

9. What does Cinna tell Katniss right before her launch?
CHAPTER 11

1. How long do the tributes have to stand on the metal circle?

2. Describe what Katniss sees around her.

3. What causes Katniss to change her mind about the bow and arrows?

4. Who does Katniss struggle with at first and who kills him?

5. How does Katniss get a knife?

6. What are the contents of Katniss’s pack?

7. How many and who were killed during the initial blood bath?

8. What’s happening near Katniss that upsets her and why does it upset her?

9. What shocking news does Katniss become aware of?

CHAPTER 12

1. What does Katniss overhear the Career Tributes say about Peeta?

2. What does Katniss do that makes you know she is playing the game?

3. What does Katniss catch in her snare? How does she cook it?

4. What does Katniss decide is the reason Haymitch won’t send her water?
Chapter 13

1. How are the Gamemakers controlling the game? How does this affect Katniss?

2. What slows Katniss down?

3. What ill memory does Katniss remember from back home?

4. Once at the pond, what does Katniss do that is very risky?

5. Who finds Katniss?

6. How does she get away? Which two tributes come after her?

7. What realization does Katniss make that night?
CHAPTER 14

1. Of what is Katniss made aware in the top of the tree?

2. What are Tracker Jackers? What harm do they inflict?

3. What plan does Katniss devise? When does she decide to do it? Why does she have to stop?

4. What does Haymitch finally send Katniss from a sponsor?

5. How does Rue get such a high score in training?

6. Explain the chaos that goes on at dawn?

7. What valuable item does Katniss now have?

8. What does Peeta do when he sees Katniss?

9. What effect does the Tracker Jacker sting have on Katniss?

CHAPTER 15

1. What does Katniss say about herself now that she has the bow and arrows?

2. Who becomes Katniss’s ally? What do they do for each other to seal the deal?

3. What does Rue tell Katniss about the sunglasses?

4. How long was Katniss knocked out for? Who was killed during that time and how many are left?

5. What important information does Rue give to Katniss about Peeta?

6. What does Katniss tell Rue they need to do at the end of the chapter?
1. What does Katniss say is a disadvantage for the Careers?

2. What do Rue and Katniss have for breakfast that morning?

3. What does Katniss tell Rue they need to do to the Careers?

4. Who is guarding the Career camp?

5. What is Rue’s most favorite thing and why?

6. How does Rue use the MockingJays in her district?

7. After they separate, how is Katniss to know that Rue is okay?

8. What are the three things Katniss finds odd about how the supplies and career camp is set up?

9. While spying on the Careers, what does Katniss learn about Peeta?

10. Explain the plan Katniss and Rue came up with? How has it worked so far?

11. Who comes to the supplies and without knowing it, shows Katniss how it is booby trapped?

12. What is the reason Katniss realizes the boy from District 3 is needed by the Careers?

13. Explain how Katniss finally plans to destroy the supplies?

14. What happens to Katniss at the very end of the chapter and why?
CHAPTER 17

1. What happens to Katniss because of the explosion?

2. How does the boy from District 3 die?

3. Why does Katniss decide to leave the rendezvous point?

4. Where does Katniss decide to go to try to find Rue?

5. What has happened to detain Rue? What happens when Katniss finally sees Rue?

CHAPTER 18

1. What happens to Rue? Who is responsible? How does that person then die?

2. Describe all the things Katniss does for Rue at this time.

3. What is the next gift Katniss gets and who is it from? What is her response?

4. How many tributes are now left?

5. Describe Katniss’s dream that night.

6. Which item from the boy from District 1’s pack sets Katniss off? Why?

7. Explain Katniss’s reaction as she realizes she has made her “first intentional kill.”

8. What is the “feast” Katniss is talking about and what is its purpose?

9. What is the new rule change Claudius Templesmith announces?

10. What is Katniss’s reaction to this change?
PART III “THE VICTOR”

CHAPTER 19

1. What does Katniss finally realize about Peeta?

2. How and where has Peeta survived?

3. Peeta has many different injuries. Explain them and what Katniss is able to do for each of them.

4. Where does Katniss hide herself and Peeta?

5. What is the message Katniss says Haymitch is sending her and what is in the parachute?

CHAPTER 20

1. What new danger is happening to Peeta, and what is the only thing that will help?

2. What story does Katniss tell Peeta? What’s the real story?

3. What is Claudius Templesmith’s announcement?

4. What is the new item Haymitch has sent and how does Katniss use it?
CHAPTER 21

1. Explain Katniss’s preparations before going to “The Feast.”

2. What does Foxface do and why is it so clever?

3. How does Katniss wound Clove?

4. How does Clove wound Katniss?

5. Who kills Clove?

6. Explain the conversation between Thresh and Katniss. What agreement do they come to?

7. What was in the District 12 pack?

CHAPTER 22

1. What does Peeta allude to when he talks to Katniss about the bread?

2. What is on the other side of the Cornucopia where Thresh went?

3. How does Katniss compare Gale and Peeta?

4. What confession does Katniss finally give in to? (She only thinks it; she doesn’t say it out loud.)

5. What does Katniss feel during what she calls their first real kiss?

6. What does Peeta tell Katniss his father said about her mother?

7. Describe how Peeta says he fell in love with Katniss.

8. What does the parachute bring and why is it sent then?
CHAPaER 23

1. What is the Victor’s Village?

2. What conclusion do Katniss and Peeta come to about how Haymitch won his Hunger Games?

3. Whose picture is in the sky that night? What is Katniss’s reaction?

4. What does Katniss think about her future? What does she say she will never do and why?

5. What problem does Katniss have with Peeta while hunting?

6. What happens when Peeta doesn’t return Katniss’s signal?

7. Who was eating Katniss and Peeta’s cheese, how did (s)he die, and who killed him/her?

CHAPaER 24

1. How does Katniss plan to use the Nightlock if she gets the chance?

2. Where are the Gamemakers trying to force the tributes to go?

3. Why does Katniss’s arrow not hurt Cato?

4. What is Cato running from?
**CHAPTER 25**

1. Describe the “Mutts.” What is so creepy about them?

2. How are the final three tributes in a stalemate? What do Peeta and Katniss do to solve it?

3. What happens to Cato?

4. What is Claudius Templesmith’s announcement?

5. Explain the immediate reaction of both Katniss and Peeta to the announcement?

6. What is the reason Katniss says Peeta can’t kill himself?

7. What plan does Katniss come up with and why does she think it will work?

8. What is the result of the plan?

**CHAPTER 26**

1. Explain the next several things that happen to Peeta after the hovercraft picks him up?

2. Explain the next several things that happen to Katniss after she thinks she sees Effie?

3. What is the reason Katniss doesn’t see Peeta with the others?

4. Describe Katniss’s new dress.

5. What does Haymitch tell Katniss before her reunion with Peeta?

6. Why does Katniss say she is now in the most dangerous place in her life?
1. What do Katniss and Peeta have to watch after they are reunited and how long does it last?

2. When does Katniss say she thinks she fell in love with Peeta and why then?

3. What does Katniss find out she didn’t know about Peeta during the final interview?

4. What does Katniss tell Caesar was going through her mind during the moment with the berries?

5. Describe the final conversation between Katniss and Peeta.

The Hunger Games continues in the second book of the trilogy: Catching Fire ...
Personal Notes and Thoughts

Feel free to express your thought and feelings after reading this book.