

## MAIN THEME PART 1



## READING COMPREHENSION

Trim. #: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

LIST #: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

### I. DIRECTIONS. Write the letter of the best choice in the space provided.

1. Read the quotations below from Lois Lowry's *Number the Stars*. Match each one with the theme or lesson it suggests.

(A)

It can be easier not to know the whole truth.

(B)

Sometimes it is safer not to stand out.

| Quotation                                                                                                                    | Theme |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| "It is important to be one of the crowd, always. Be one of many. Be sure that they never have reason to remember your face." | _____ |
| "Your mama lied to you, and so did I. . . . We did so," he explained, "to help you to be brave, because we love you."        | _____ |

2. Read the quotations below from Frances H. Burnett's *The Secret Garden*. Match each one with the theme or lesson it suggests.

(A)

Other people can help us see our faults.

(B)

A secret can make something feel more valuable.

| Quotation                                                                                                                                               | Theme |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| He did not know in the least what a rude little brute he was . . . He had lived on a sort of desert island all his life and . . . made his own manners. | _____ |
| Colin had become more and more fixed in his feeling that the mystery surrounding the garden was one of its greatest charms. Nothing must spoil that.    | _____ |

3. Read the quotations below from Amy Tan's "Two Kinds." Match each one with the theme or lesson it suggests.

(A)

Being stubborn can prevent us from doing what we are capable of.

(B)

Parents make sacrifices for their children.

| Quotation                                                                                                                     | Theme |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Mr. Chong was a retired piano teacher, and my mother had traded housecleaning services for weekly lessons and a piano for me. | _____ |
| I might have become a good pianist at the young age. But I was so determined not to try, not to be anybody different.         | _____ |

4. Read the quotations below adapted from Jules Verne's *Journey to the Center of the Earth*. Match each one with the theme or lesson it suggests.

(A)

To know something, sometimes you must feel it.

(B)

Knowledge should be shared.

| Quotation                                                                                                                                   | Theme |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| "We think that books instead of being locked up in cupboards, far from the sight of students, should be distributed as widely as possible." | _____ |
| No sooner is the rage of hunger satisfied than it becomes difficult to understand what it means to starve.                                  | _____ |

5. Read the quotations below from Robert C. O'Brien's *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH*. Match each one with the theme or lesson it suggests.

(A)

Offer help to those who need it.

(B)

People in new situations together form friendships quickly.

(C)

Uncertainty can make a bad situation even more terrible.

| Quotation                                                                                                                                                                    | Theme |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| The other children sometimes . . . grew impatient with her because she was forever losing things; but Timothy never did. Instead, he would help her find them.               | _____ |
| "Just the fact that it was a cage made it horrible. . . . But worse was . . . that we were at the mercy of someone we knew not at all, for some purpose we could not guess." | _____ |
| "We were strangers—though as you can imagine, it did not take long for us to develop a feeling of comradeship, for we twenty were alone in a strange world."                 | _____ |