Chapter 1

1. Reread the first paragraph. What is the mood that is set immediately?

   Age:
   Personality:
   Important characteristics:


Chapter 2

1. What is your reaction to the law preventing 3rd children?

2. Are there any circumstances where limiting the number of people born might be necessary? Explain.

3. Describe a time when you hid from someone or someone hid from you. What was your objective? How did it feel?

4. What feelings are most apparent in Luke? Do you “empathize” with him? Why or why not?

Chapter 3:


2. What did Luke see when he looked through the vent the second time?

3. Speculate about what kids who are excluded from activities feel. Is there every a good reason to exclude someone? Explain.

Chapter 4:

1. At the end of Chapter 3 Luke’s mother makes the comment, “And things could be worse.” What happens at the beginning of Chapter 4 that causes Luke to know what his mother meant?

2. Why wasn’t Luke’s chair in the kitchen anymore?


Chapter 5:

1. Describe the letter that Luke’s father received. Who was it from? What was his reaction to it when he first saw it? What did the letter say?

Chapter 6:

1. When the tax bill arrived, what was different about from other years?

2. What are Mother’s plans?
Chapter 7:

1. Describe the new homes that Luke saw when he looked through the vent.
2. How does Luke describe the people going in and out of the new houses?
3. What did Luke like best about the end of each day?

Chapter 8:

1. Write a well-developed paragraph (you may use the computer) from the point of view of Luke (You are Luke). Describe the kitchen in great detail as Luke slowly enters it. What does he see, feel, hear, touch and spell? What are his emotions as he experiences being the kitchen for the first time in six months. Make sure to use as many adjectives and descriptive words as possible.
2. In your opinion, was Luke’s dad justified in being so angry with Luke? Explain.
3. Reread the last paragraph of the chapter. What has Luke discovered?

Chapter 9:


Chapter 10:

1. In Chapter 10 Luke’s attitude has changed a bit. Describe the change in him. How does he treat his parents? How does he treat his brothers? What do you think caused this change?

Chapter 11:

1. Describe what Luke saw as he watched the Sports Family’s house. How does this build suspense in the novel?

Chapter 12:

1. What crazy idea grew in Luke’s mind as he was left alone for more hours by his family?
2. What was his plan? (Give a detailed outline)
3. Why did the rain get in the way of his plan?

Chapter 13:

1. Describe in detail Luke’s first time outside in so many months. What does he see, what does he hear, what does he smell, what does he feel inside. Add to the description that the book gives you.

Chapter 14:

1. How was the Sports family’s house different that his own inside?
2. What surprised Luke the most when he first say the other third child?
3. How did the other third child react to seeing Luke?

Chapter 15:

1. In detail describe Jen’s personality. How is she different than Luke? How has her life been different than Luke’s?

Chapter 16:

1. What signal do Jen and Luke finally come with?
3. What facts about the government does Luke learn from talking to Jen?
4. What does Jen do to cover for the drops of blood that she found on the carpet?

Chapter 17:

1. Why wasn’t Jen able to signal Luke?
2. Describe how Jen was able to go shopping with her mother.
3. Discuss how Jen and Luke have very different experiences and knowledge of food. How do their experiences contrast each other?
4. According to Jen, why had the population law been passed?
5. How does Jen explain the rally to Luke?

Chapter 18:

1. How does Luke feel about Jen’s suggestion that he could attend the rally?
2. Describe in detail how Jen communicates with the other third children. How many does she have access to?

Chapter 19:

1. What had Jen said to Luke that motivated him to read the books and articles Jen had given to him?
2. For the first time, Luke made a suggestion to his father that his father thought about. What was that suggestion?
3. Summarize the history that Luke read in the books of why the population law came to be.
4. Why did Luke feel “pangs of guilt” at dinner after reading the books?
5. How did Jen describe the difference in opinions between the books and the articles?
Chapter 20:

1. As Luke visited Jen during the winter months, what was his biggest concern?

2. How did Jen react when Luke told her about his father researching hydroponics? (This will prove to be foreshadowing!)

3. Discuss Jen’s explanation about fake IDs. According to Jen, what happens to most shadow children when they get older? What is your opinion of this?


Chapter 21:

1. What happened in February that came as a disappointment and frustration for Luke’s father?

2. Why do you think that Luke was able to understand the letter from the government? (Hint: Why might Luke’s ability to read government materials now be better?)

3. When Luke visited Jen during the winter, he learned more about Jen’s childhood as a third child. In what ways was Jen’s childhood different than Luke’s?

4. When Jen and Luke talk about their brothers, they both seem sure of one thing. What is it?

Chapter 22:

1. Describe Jen’s specific plans for the rally. How will they travel? Where are they going? What will they do when they get there? How many people are supposedly going?

2. What did Jen do to prevent too many population police from being on duty the day of the rally?

3. Below list the reasons that Jen says she and Luke MUST attend the rally. Then in the second column list the reasons why Luke says he can’t go. Which list seems more important from your point of view? Explain.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jen’s reasons for going to rally</th>
<th>Luke’s reasons for not going to the rally</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chapter 23:


Chapter 24:

1. What stood in the way of Luke going to see Jen and discussing their argument?

2. When Jen snuck into Luke’s house in the middle of the night, what specific reasons did Luke give her for not going to the rally with her?

3. Reread page 118. What does Jen say to Luke? What is she NOT saying to him?

Chapter 25:

1. After everyone left for the day, why did Luke risk turning the radio on?
2. How did Luke feel after a week of hearing nothing?

Chapter 26:

1. A week and half later, Luke went over to Jen’s house. How did he get in? How did he disable the alarm system? Why did he use the computer?

2. What happened at the end of the chapter that must have been terrifying for Luke?

Chapter 27:

1. Who was the man with the gun?

2. What happened to Jen?

3. What details do you learn about the rally from Jen’s father’s description?

4. What questions did Luke try to answer for Jen’s father?

5. Why is Luke in more danger now according to Jen’s father?

6. What does Jen’s father offer to do for Luke?

Chapter 28:

1. What does Luke suddenly do at the beginning of the chapter? In your opinion, why does he do this?

2. How does Jen’s dad explain the books and the articles that Luke had been given to read by Jen?

3. What history did Jen’s dad describe for Luke?

4. Based on what Jen’s father told Luke about the history and the population law, what is your opinion of it now?

Chapter 29:

1. Describe Jen’s father’s reaction to hearing that the population police were at his door.

2. How did Jen’s father try to prevent the population police from searching?

3. Why did Luke decide to accept Jen’s father’s offer of a fake ID?

Chapter 30:

1. Who is Lee Grant now? Who WAS Lee Grant?

2. How did both of Luke’s parents feel about his decision to get a fake ID and leave them?

3. In a well-developed paragraph of at least 7 sentences, tell us what you think of the end of the book. Explain your reaction by giving examples from your reading.