

## SEVENTH GRADE SUMMER READING QUESTIONS for *TANGERINE*

by EDWARD BLOOR - DUE THE FIRST DAY of SCHOOL, August 30, 2021

**DIRECTIONS:** In complete sentences answer the ten questions from the “Reader Chat” page at the end of the book in addition to the following questions.

### Questions 1 – 10 (in book)

11. Give three examples how fear interferes in Paul’s life and how he confronts the fear. Cite textual evidence (the exact sentence in quotation marks) and the page number.
12. Paul continues to have memory flashbacks. Cite three examples and explain how these flashbacks add to the suspense (rising action) of the novel.
13. On Paul’s first road trip with the Tangerine War Eagles, he observes that soccer “...wasn’t really a game. It was a war.” What is the “war” (symbolism) that these players are fighting?
14. Explain which death (Mike Costello or Luis Cruz) affected Paul the most. Cite textual evidence to support your answer.
15. The development of Tino and Paul’s friendship was hard and took some time. Explain why it was difficult and what the turning point was. Cite textual evidence (don’t forget the page number) to support your answer.
16. Motifs in literature are symbolic recurrences throughout the piece (it shows up more than one time). The weather in *Tangerine* is a motif. Explain its symbolism.
17. The importance of setting is often overlooked. Describe the open field next to Paul’s house. How does it contribute to the overall mood of the story?
18. How did Wayne explain the muck fire to Paul and his mother (Page 16)? How does that explanation describe/explain Paul’s character?
19. Novels, unlike short stories, have more than one climax (high point/turning point of the story). What is the climax of Part I, and how does it propel the plot (events) of the novel?
20. Explain what you think the author’s purpose was to include the thefts from the “tent” houses in the novel.

**Writing Reflection:** In at least ½ page, explain what lesson(s) you took away from this novel.

The following questions will be due the FIRST DAY of SCHOOL.

***Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* SUMMER READING QUESTIONS**  
**THESE QUESTIONS MUST BE ANSWERED. IT'S BEST TO DO THEM AS YOU READ. THEY ARE DUE THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.**

I also included the timeline for some historical content in addition to some famous people from Mississippi!

Timeline:

Civil War: the war fought between the northern (Union) and southern (Confederate) states. Lasted from 1861-1865. The south wanted to be independent from the north. While the Civil War was not fought totally on the issue of slavery, the states were divided on that issue. The South was forced to surrender to the North after hundreds of brutal battles that nearly leveled the south.

Emancipation Proclamation: Announcement made by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863 that all slaves in the Confederacy were free.

13th Amendment Abolishes Slavery: 1865 "Section 1. Abolition of slavery. Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States or any place subject to their jurisdiction."

15th Amendment Allows Blacks to Vote: 1870 "Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude."

Plessy vs. Ferguson Decision creates Separate but Equal: 1896 The Supreme Court ruled that if railroad cars blacks were forced to use were equal to those exclusively for whites, then blacks were not being discriminated against. People used this ruling by the Supreme Court to say that any institution could be separated based on race, such as schools and other public facilities.

NAACP founded: The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was founded in 1910. The Association fights for equal rights, like integrated schooling.

19th Amendment Gives Women the Right to Vote: 1920 "Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex."

Stock Market Crashes: 1929 On October 24, a panic broke out where people rapidly sold off their stocks at the New York Stock Exchange. The panic came about because stock prices were higher than the value of the goods they represented. The millions of dollars lost in the stock market led to the Great Depression where Americans as a whole were poorer than they have ever been since.

Supreme Court Rules School Segregation Illegal: 1954 - School segregation illegal "To separate [black children] from others of similar age and qualifications solely because of their race generates a feeling of inferiority as

to their status in the community that may affect their hearts and minds in a way unlikely ever to be undone.... In the field of public education the doctrine of "separate but equal" has no place. Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal."(From the Supreme Court decision, Brown v. Topeka Board of Education written by Chief Justice Earl Warren).

Martin Luther King, Jr. Assassinated: 1968 - Martin Luther King, Jr., the world's most famous Civil Rights Activist, assassinated "I say to you today, my friends, so even though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American Dream. I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal...'" (From Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech, delivered August 28, 1963 during the civil rights march on Washington, D.C.).

Famous Mississippians: Dana Andrews, Jimmy Buffett, Hodding Carter III, Bo Diddley, William Faulkner, Shelby Foote, Morgan Freeman, John Grisham, Fannie Lou Hamer, Jim Henson, Robert Johnson, James Earl Jones, B. B. King, L. Q. C. Lamar, Gerald McRaney, Willie Morris, Walter Payton, Elvis Presley, Leontyne Price, Charlie Pride, Margaret Walker, Eudora Welty, Tennessee Williams, Oprah Winfrey, Johnny Winter, Richard Wright, Tammy Wynette.

Assignments:

## **Chapter 1**

1. Who inspired Mildred Taylor to write this book? What does she say about that person?
2. Name the Logan Children from oldest to youngest.
3. Describe Little Man.
4. Tell what you know about the "burnings."
5. Why do the Logan children have to run from the bus?
6. Why do other kids tease Jeremy?
7. Do the Logan kids and Jeremy's family go to different schools? Why?
8. Describe the books the Logan children are issued.
9. What is Miss Crocker's response to Little Man's refusal of the "new" book.

10. What did Mama Logan do about the books and Little Man and Cassie's behavior? Do you think her actions will have consequences?

11. Describe Cassie's attitude about school. Is it similar to or different from your own attitude about school?

### **Chapters 2 & 3**

1. Compare Mama and Big Ma's physical characteristics.

2. Describe Mr. L.T. Morrison.

3. Why does Mama ask Papa, "You got my letter?" and say ". . . [W]e're glad to have you here (Mr. Morrison) . . . especially now."

4. What events supposedly happened which led to the burning of the Berrys?

5. Why do you think Papa tells his children to stay away from the Wallaces' store?

6. What do the Logan children use for rain coats? Why don't they use store bought rain coats?

7. Why does the Jefferson Davis schoolbus driver like to run the Logan children off the road?

8. After the major bus incident, why don't the Logan and Avery children speak to Jeremy? Are their actions right?

9. Describe how the Logan children get revenge on the bus, its passengers, and its driver.

10. What kind of a mother is Mama?

11. Why do you think Mr. Avery comes to the Logan house in the evening? What does he mean by saying "they's ridin' t'night"? 12. Why do the Logan children think the night men are coming after them?

13. What is Mr. Morrison's real job at the Logan place?

14. Describe how Cassie feels when she gets caught outside in the night.

15. What does Big Ma retrieve from under the bed where she and Cassie sleep?

## **Chapter 4**

1. At the beginning of chapter 4, what is wrong with Cassie?
2. Why doesn't Cassie tell Mama or Big Ma about the bus incident or the night men?
3. How does T.J. say he gets out of doing work. Have you ever used his method?
4. What does T.J. say have been the latest actions of the night men?
5. What provoked the night men this time?
6. Why does T.J. "go back to get his cap" when the other children leave?
7. What do the Logan children think of Mr. Morrison? Does Stacey feel the same as his brothers and sister? Why?
8. Explain how the Logan children ended up at the Wallace store.
9. Why won't Mr. Morrison tell Mama about the children being at the Wallace store?
10. Describe how the Logan's got their land and the problems they have faced in keeping it.
11. Who were Mitchell and Kevin? What happened to them?
12. Why does Mama take her children to Smellings Creek to see Mr. Berry?
13. How do the children feel about seeing Mr. Berry? Have you ever seen anyone who made you feel uncomfortable?
14. What happened to Mr. Berry and his nephews?
15. What consequences might come from Mama trying to convince her neighbors not to shop at the Wallace store?

## **Chapter 5**

1. Why does Big Ma allow Cassie to go to Strawberry?
2. Describe Cassie's first impression of Strawberry.
3. Why doesn't Big Ma move her wagon to the front so that more people can see what she has?

4. Why do you think Big Ma is so nervous in Strawberry?
5. Who is Mr. Jamison?
6. Describe the conflict that occurs in Barnett's General Store.
7. What does Mr. Barnett mean when he says, ". . . [M]ake sure she don't come back till yo' mammy teach her what she is."
8. Describe what happens between Lillian Jean Simms and Cassie.
9. Why does Big Ma make Cassie apologize to "Miz Lillian Jean"?
10. What might have happened if Big Ma had not made Cassie apologize?
11. What does Stacey mean when he says, "Don't worry 'bout T.J. He knows exactly how to act"?

## **Chapter 6**

1. In chapter 6, Stacey tells Cassie that Big Ma had to make Cassie apologize. Stacey tells her that ". . . maybe she had to do it." What does Stacey understand that Cassie does not?
2. Describe Uncle Hammer both in looks and personality.
3. Why is it so significant that Uncle Hammer has a care just like Mr. Granger's?
4. Big Ma does not want Cassie to tell what happened with the Simmses in Strawberry. Why not?
5. What injury did Uncle Hammer suffer in the "German War"? What is the "German War"?
6. According to Mama, why is "white" something?
7. Originally, why did preachers preach that "black people weren't really people. . . ."?
8. Describe Mama's shoes. What do they tell about the Logan's situation?
9. Why is the coat Uncle Hammer gives Stacey such a good present?
10. What is T.J.'s reaction to Stacey's new coat?
11. After the white people in the truck back off of Soldier's Bridge when the

Logan's come along, what does Mama mean when she says ". . . one day we'll have to pay for it."

## **Chapter 7**

1. What happens to Stacey's coat?
2. What is Hammer's reaction to the coat incident?
3. How does T.J. react to Stacey and Uncle Hammer giving him the coat?
4. Tell about when Uncle Hammer and Papa stole watermelons.
5. What is Mr. Morrison's life story?
6. What do the Logan children get for Christmas?
7. Why does Jeremy come to the Logan house on Christmas day?
8. Why does Papa say that Jeremy and Stacey can't be friends?
9. Describe Mr. Jamison in detail.
10. Tell about what is happening with the Wallace store and the issue of credit.
11. Describe why Mr. Jamison says Harlan Granger has become the man he is. What is his story?

## **Review Questions Chapters 1 through 7**

1. Tell all you know so far about the Night Men, their actions, and their motivations.
2. Describe the bus incident including the events leading up to it.
3. What kind of a person is T.J.? Use events from the story to prove your answer.
4. Mama says being white is "something." What does she mean by that?
5. In what ways is Mama right and wrong when she says that white is "something."
6. Discuss two times when Cassie does not understand why she is treated unfairly by people outside her family.

## **Chapter 8**

1. Why was Miz Lillian Jean not going to tell anyone about what happened between herself and Cassie?
2. Did T.J. pass the exams? How is this significant?
3. Why does Mama start history as the first hour of school? What is the topic?
4. Who visited Mama during her history class? Why did they visit?
5. Who told on Mama for what she did to the school books? Why?
6. What did Papa have to say about forgiving things? Does he agree with the Bible? Explain.
7. What exactly does Cassie do to Lillian Jean? How did it all start?
8. Name two things Lillian Jean was forced to apologize for.
9. Why was Cassie banished to the last row in front of the window? How did this turn out to be important?
10. Describe similarities you see between Cassie and her family members.

## **Chapter 9**

1. What risks were people taking by shopping in Vicksburg? Why were they taking these risks?
2. What happened on the trip to Vicksburg with Papa, Mr. Morrison, and Stacey?
3. How and where was Papa hurt?
4. What season was it in Chapter 9? List two things going on in nature and why they are important.
5. Who is T.J. hanging around with? Why?
6. What would the money Papa made on the railroad have paid for?
7. How many families will shop at Vicksburg instead of at the Wallace store?
8. List three reasons why T.J. is out of control.



## **Chapter 10**

1. Why don't Mama and Papa notify Hammer of their financial situation?
2. List three things the Logan family will do to try to get by until the cotton can be ginned.
3. Describe the scene that occurs involving Kaleb Wallace and Mr. Morrison.
4. Explain why Mama wants Mr. Morrison to go away.
5. Where does Jeremy say he'll live when he grows up? Why?
6. What does Papa mean when he says the "note's been called" on the Logan land?
7. Describe the revival.
8. Why does Papa insist that Mr. Morrison go with Hammer to Vicksburg and to the train?
9. How has T.J. changed?
10. What does T.J. mean when he says "It--it didn't even make no difference"?
11. Why does Cassie finally feel sorry for T.J.?

## **Chapter 11**

1. Explain the meaning of the following poem which begins Chapter 11:

Roll of thunder  
hear my cry  
Over the water  
bye and bye  
Ole man comin'  
down the line  
Whip in hand to  
beat me down  
But I ain't  
gonna let him  
Turn me 'round.

2. Why does Mr. Morrison "watch and wait" on the Logan porch each night since Papa was injured?

3. What do you think Cassie means when she says Mr. Morrison "walks on cat feet"?
4. Why aren't Stacey and Cassie sympathetic to T.J.'s situation at first?
5. Recount the story T.J. tells about what happened with Melvin and R.W. in Strawberry.
6. Why does Cassie think T.J. is faking even after he tells his story?
7. What do the men do as soon as they arrive at the Avery home?
8. What does Mr. Jamison mean when he says, "Ya'll decide to hold court out here tonight?"
9. Why do the men call Papa a "boy"?
10. Why does Cassie hesitate to leave Stacey in the woods alone?
11. How does the weather in chapter 11 imitate the events of the story?

## **Chapter 12**

1. Why are the lights on in the Logan house when Cassie, Little Man, and Christopher John arrive?
2. Initially, how does Papa plan to stop "them" from hurting or killing the Averys?
3. What is Mama's suggestion regarding stopping the events at the Averys?
4. How does the fire change the atmosphere of the evening?
5. Why does Jeremy, on leaving the house, "[spin] around wildly as if he were mad"?
6. Why is it interesting that when the fire is out, it is hard even to tell who is who?
7. Recount what happened after Cassie went to get Papa.
8. What happened to Mr. and Mrs. Barnett?
9. What does Mr. Jamison mean when he says ". . . Or somebody might just get to wondering about that fire . . . ."
10. Answer Stacey's question . . . "Papa . . . what's gonna happen to T.J. now?"

11. Why does Cassie say that even she cares what happens to T.J.?