

**THE GIVER**

Lois Lowry

**MATCHING—CHARACTER IDENTIFICATION****Directions:** Choose the correct character for each description.

- |  |              |
|--|--------------|
| ___ 1. learns the difference between “snack” and “smack” the hard way              | a. Fiona     |
| ___ 2. applied for release ten years before  | b. Father    |
| ___ 3. falls into the river and is “replaced” during a special ceremony            | c. Caleb     |
| ___ 4. warns Jonas to stay away from the river                                     | d. Lily      |
| ___ 5. describes Roberto’s release ceremony as “wonderful”                         | e. Asher     |
| ___ 6. sensitive and gentle; is given the Assignment of Caretaker of the Old       | f. Jonas     |
| ___ 7. becomes an Eight  | g. Larissa   |
| ___ 8. submits a plea to the Committee of Elders to place Gabriel in a family unit | h. Gabriel   |
| ___ 9. sleeps fitfully at night  | i. Rosemary  |
| ___ 10. appears to have been skipped in the Assignment Ceremony                    | j. The Giver |

**TRUE-FALSE****Directions:** If the statement is true, mark it *T*; if the statement is false, mark it *F*.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| ___ 11. Both Jonas and Lily use the word “animal,” but neither knows what it means.             | ___ 16. Citizens are rarely concerned about children other than their own.                               |
| ___ 12. Jonas’s eyes are unique because they are brown.   | ___ 17. Teachers are allowed to strike children.   |
| ___ 13. Jonas thinks his sister’s personality would be well-suited in an Assignment as Speaker. | ___ 18. After the Ceremony of Twelve, young people are known as adults.                                  |
| ___ 14. Breaking the bragging and rudeness rules results in severe punishment.                  | ___ 19. When Jonas feels pain while receiving a memory, he is allowed to take relief-of-pain medication. |
| ___ 15. Children’s age groups are indicated by nametags.  | ___ 20. There is a possibility that all adults in the community are given the permission to lie.         |

*continued*

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## TEST KEY

### Matching

1. e
2. i
3. c
4. j
5. g
6. a
7. d
8. b
9. h
10. f

### True-False

11. T
12. F
13. T
14. F
15. F
16. F
17. T
18. F
19. F
20. T
21. T
22. T
23. F
24. T
25. F
26. T
27. T
28. F
29. F
30. F

### Multiple Choice

31. a
32. a
33. a
34. b
35. c
36. c
37. b
38. a
39. b
40. a
41. c
42. c
43. b
44. c
45. a
46. b
47. c
48. b
49. a
50. a

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## Essay/Discussion Questions

### Teacher Edition

#### Directions

1. Select from the two forms the appropriate level of questions for the student. Level 1 contains questions and responses on the literal level of comprehension. Level 2 contains more challenging questions on the interpretive level of comprehension. The levels are identified on the student test as Form 1 (literal level) and Form 2 (interpretive level).

2. The questions may be used for an essay test, group discussion, or extended writing activities after reading the book. The suggested responses in the teacher edition provide models for teaching the students to compose answers for essay and short answer questions.

### Literal Level 1

#### Introduction

Life in a community dedicated to Sameness seems ideal to Jonas, age 12, until he learns that the world Elsewhere is full of color, sound, and feelings. Thanks to *The Giver*, Jonas has the courage to seek a better life for himself and a child he has grown to love.

#### Questions

1. Explain how the family structure is controlled in the community.

**Suggested response:** Everything in the community is carefully controlled, especially the structure of the family. A man and a woman apply for spouses. The Matching of Spouses process, which sometimes takes years to complete, involves such factors as disposition, energy level, intelligence, and interests. If the Match is approved, the new couple then lives together for three years. During that time, their marriage is monitored carefully by the Committee of Elders. At that point, if their marriage is a success, the couple may apply for one of the 50 children born to the community's Birthmothers every calendar year. The couple then receives a child, already named by the Committee of Elders during the Ceremony of Naming in December.

A family is allowed only two children, a boy and a girl, and the Committee decides if and when a second

child will join a family with one child. Once the children assume their Assignments full time, the parents become Childless Adults. They then spend their days before release living with other Childless Adults.

2. Discuss what role courtesy plays in the community.

**Suggested response:** Courtesy plays a major role in the community. In fact, courtesy is so much a part of the citizens' lives that when Jonas becomes Receiver-in-Training, he has a hard time accepting the fact that he may break the rules against rudeness. The citizens apologize to each other when they fail to follow normal community procedures, when they have been rude to another person or group, when they have inconvenienced others, or when they have caused others to feel uncomfortable. Citizens follow exact procedures to excuse themselves for errors they have committed. In fact, courtesy in social situations is so routine that apologizing is also routine. For example, when Asher comes to school late, he must say, "I apologize for inconveniencing my learning community." This public apology is required, as is the standard response that the class repeats in unison: "We accept your apology." The citizens understand the rules; their apologies indicate that in the community, people are required at all times to be aware of how their actions affect those around them.

3. Describe Jonas's experience with an apple before he meets The Giver. How does The Giver explain this to Jonas?

**Suggested response:** Jonas and his friend Asher are tossing an apple to each other during recreation period. As Jonas follows the fruit with his eyes, he notices that it changes. He's not sure just what the change is; he just knows that for a short time the apple is different. He takes the apple home in order to study it carefully to see if it really is different. But at home he discovers that it is an apple just like all the other apples he has seen before.

Jonas lives in a world without color, a world dedicated to "Sameness." Every object is nondescript. But Jonas has begun to see the color red. The Giver tells Jonas that his apple experience is proof that Jonas has the Capacity to See Beyond. Jonas cannot understand what red is until The Giver gives him the memory and

*continued*

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Period \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

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## Essay Questions Form 1

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### Directions

1. Write your answers on another sheet of paper.
2. Write your answers in correct paragraph form. Some answers may require more than one paragraph. Use specific examples and appropriate detail to support your answers.
3. Save time to proofread and edit your answers.

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### Introduction

Life in a community dedicated to Sameness seems ideal to Jonas, age 12, until he learns that the world Elsewhere is full of colors, sounds, and feelings. Thanks to The Giver, Jonas has the courage to seek a better life for himself and a child he has grown to love.

### Questions

1. Explain how the family structure is controlled in the community.
2. Discuss what role courtesy plays in the community.
3. Describe Jonas's experience with an apple before he meets The Giver. How does The Giver explain this to Jonas?
4. Explain the process of passing on memories. How does Jonas use his new skill?

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Period \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

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## Essay Questions Form 2

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### Directions

1. Write your answers on another sheet of paper.
  2. Write your answers in correct paragraph form. Some answers may require more than one paragraph. Use specific examples and appropriate detail to support your answers.
  3. Save time to proofread and edit your answers.
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### Introduction

Life in a community dedicated to Sameness seems ideal to Jonas, age 12, until he learns that the world Elsewhere is full of colors, sounds, and feelings. Thanks to The Giver, Jonas has the courage to seek a better life for himself and a child he has grown to love.

### Questions

1. If ignorance of the past is a benefit to the citizens of the community, why do you think a Receiver of Memory exists?

3. The Chief Elder lists five qualities that a Receiver must have: intelligence, integrity, courage, wisdom, and the Capacity to See Beyond. From what you've read, was Jonas a good choice for the Assignment?

2. Analyze the relationship between Jonas and Gabriel.

4. How does his reaction to what he sees at the bottom of the hill show how much Jonas has changed by the end of the book?