

5th Grade Summer Reading Assignment

Number the Stars

By Lois Lowry



Dear 5th Grade Student,

Welcome to 5th grade! This summer, you will be assigned a novel to read as well as a short response paper to complete. This will be a graded assignment and is due on the first day of school, _____ . Please use complete sentences, appropriate grammar, and cursive writing. Please return this entire package along with your completed paper.

Enjoy! I will see you on the first day of 5th grade.

Ms. Balog

Checklist:

- Read novel
- Complete comprehension packet. Please use complete sentences.
- Return entire package and completed work on first day of school

Number the Stars

by Lois Lowry
(Dell, 1989)

(Available in Canada from Doubleday Dell Seal, in the UK from Lions,
and in Australia from Transworld Publishers)

Just read
U

Annemarie Johansen and her best friend, Ellen Rosen, are racing home from school when they are stopped by German soldiers on the corner. The girls think this is just another inconvenience that they need to contend with since the occupation of Denmark by the Nazis. However, they do not realize that soldiers on street corners and rationed food are only the beginning of their trials.

Since Annemarie and her family are Protestant they are safe, but Ellen's family is Jewish. When the Rosens get word that they are about to be relocated, they decide to find a way to escape. The Johansens agree to allow Ellen to live with them temporarily, and the girls embark on an adventure designed to save Ellen's life.

Mrs. Johansen's brother, Henrik, owns a fishing boat, which he normally uses to earn his living. During the Nazi occupation, he also uses it to help smuggle Jews out of Denmark into Sweden. However, he finds that his efforts are being thwarted by German soldiers who realize that Jews are escaping, and begin to suspect the local fishermen.

Annemarie discovers that once the Rosens are aboard the fishing boat, her Uncle Henrik is missing a secret packet that he needs in order to make the journey successful. In spite of her fear, Annemarie knows that she must deliver the packet. She is stopped by German soldiers while on her way to the boat and narrowly escapes with the packet hidden in Uncle Henrik's lunch.

The mysterious item hidden in the packet, and the historical relevance of it are not revealed until the very end of the book. Annemarie discovers that she has played a major part in saving Ellen's life, and that bravery is thinking about what needs to be done, not about how frightened she is.



Elements of Fiction

Just read again

Is *Number the Stars* a fiction or nonfiction story? Meet in a small group to decide. Read or tell the familiar story of *Little Red Riding Hood*. As a group, discuss the elements that make this a fictional story. Then discuss these elements of fiction as they apply to *Number the Stars*.

As a group, create a poster or chart for the class showing the elements of fiction found in *Number the Stars*. Use the *Little Red Riding Hood* sample below to guide you with your project. Find creative ways to display your ideas. For instance, you might put each element of fiction on a building block and write the answer in the center of the block. Any item with parts, such as a picket fence or a Christmas tree with ornaments will work.

Elements of Fiction Sample

<i>Element</i>	<i>Definition</i>	<i>Red Riding Hood</i>
Setting	Time Place	Once upon a time In a woods
Theme	Story meaning	Obedience to parents
Protagonist	Main character	Red Riding Hood
Antagonist	Creates conflict for main character	Bad Wolf
Plot	What the story is about	A girl disobeys her mother and takes a shortcut through the woods. She meets a wolf who tricks her by disguising himself as her grandmother. They are saved by a friendly woodsman.
Point of View	Who is telling the story	Third person

OK Note:

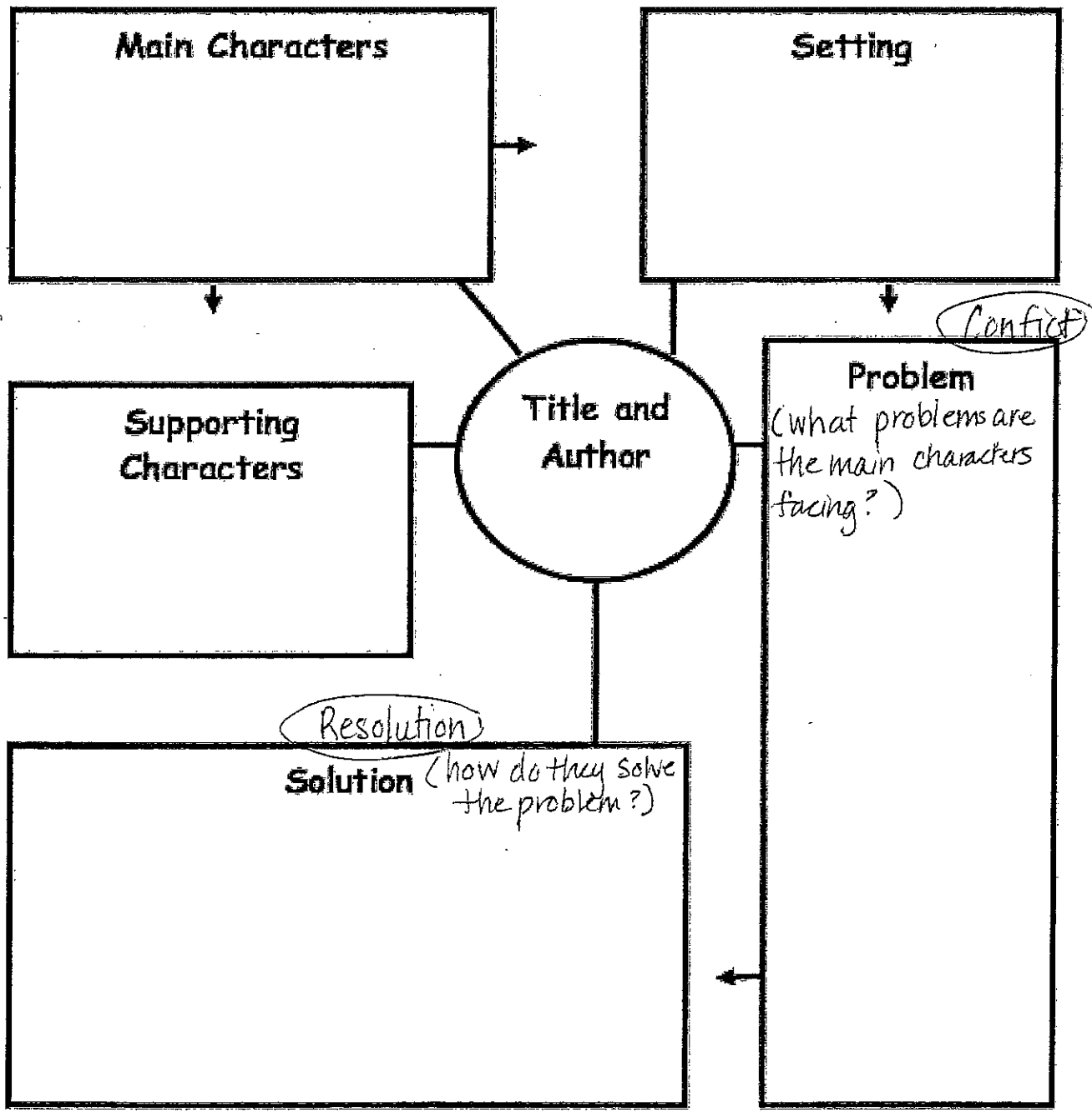
1. A story written in the *first* person is one in which the author uses the words "I" and "me" when telling the story (e.g., I watched the boat sail away.).
2. When the author directs the story to you, he or she is using the *second* person. He may say, "You will see the boat sail away."
3. A story written in the *third* person refers to the author's use of the words "he," "she," or "they" in the story (e.g., She sailed the boat.).

Name _____

Date _____

1)

STORY MAP



2) Point of View? circle one: This story is told _____

First person
(I, me)

Second person
(you)

Third person
(he, she, they)

Where In The World Are We?

(or map online.)

Use an atlas to help you label the following countries and their capitals on the map below. Then use the chart to color them as follows:

Country	Color
Denmark	red
Sweden	yellow
Norway	blue
Finland	green
Poland	purple
Germany	brown

Just locate and color U

Occupied?

~~Now research each country in an encyclopedia to find out whether or not they were occupied by Germany during World War II. Fill in the chart above by writing "Yes" or "No" on the lines.~~



Response

Choose 5!

on next
page →

Explain the meaning of these quotations from *Number the Stars*.

Note to the teacher: Choose an appropriate number of quotes to which your students should respond.

Chapter 1: *"Halt!... Why are you running?"*

Chapter 2: *Each morning, he had come from the palace on his horse, Jubilee, and ridden also through the streets of Copenhagen, greeting his people.*

Chapter 2: *Redheaded Peter, her sister's fiancé, had not married anyone in the years since Lise's death.*

Chapter 3: *There were no pink-frosted cupcakes: there hadn't been for months.*

Chapter 3: *"Well," Annemarie said slowly, "now I think that all of Denmark must be bodyguard for the Jews, as well."*

Chapter 4: *"Girls," she said, "we have a nice surprise. Tonight Ellen will be coming to stay overnight and to be our guest for a few days! It isn't often we have a visitor."*

Chapter 5: *Annemarie knew instantly which photographs he had chosen.*

Chapter 6: *"I'm sending Inge to you today with the children, and she will be bringing you a carton of cigarettes."*

Chapter 8: *"There has been a death, and tonight your Great-aunt Birte will be resting in the living room, in her casket, before she is buried tomorrow."*

Chapter 9: *"...it is much easier to be brave if you do not know everything."*

Chapter 10: *The Lord is rebuilding Jerusalem;
He gathers in the scattered sons of Israel.
It is He who heals the broken in spirit
and binds up their wounds,
He who numbers the stars one by one...*

Chapter 11: *He inserted the dropper of the bottle into the baby's tiny mouth, and squeezed a few drops of liquid onto her tongue.*

Chapter 11: *It was an odd word; pride.*

Chapter 12: *Where was Mama?*

Chapter 13: *"Mr. Rosen tripped on the step, remember? It must have fallen from his pocket."*

Chapter 13: *"If any soldiers see you, if they stop you, you must pretend to be nothing more than a little girl. A silly, empty-headed little girl, taking lunch to a fisherman..."*

Chapter 16: *"Many of the fishermen have built hidden places in their boats. I have, too."*

Chapter 16: *"Now, thanks to Peter, we will each have such a handkerchief, each boat captain."*

Chapter 17: *"It is what friends do," Mama had said.*

Number the Stars Responses:

- Complete Sentences
- Correct Punctuation
- Cursive!

Choose **5** quotes (your favorites), locate the page, and write an explanation of what it means or how it pertains to the story.

_____ (page no.)

_____ (page no.)

_____ (page no.)

_____ (page no.)

_____ (page no.)

* It's all about you!

1. If you were the main character, what would you have done? (opinion)

2. Did you enjoy the story? Yes or No. Why? (opinion) (You can say "no" but you must explain why.)
