

Additional Example "So What?" Questions

Questions about the book *Gathering Blue* by Lois Lowry

- Why is Kira saved?
- What is the significance of the "Ruin Song"?
- What aspect of our society is similar to Kira's society?
- How would you react to an institution like the Council of Guardians?

Questions about the story "All Summer in a Day" by Ray Bradbury

- Why are the children mean to Margot?
- How have Margot's past experiences affected her?
- What do you think Ray Bradbury wants readers to take from this story?
- If you were Margot, would you rather see the sun for a few minutes like the other children or avoid it? Explain your answer.

Questions about the poem "From the Start" by W.S. Merwin

Who did I think was listening
when I wrote down the words
in pencil at the beginning
words for singing
to music I did not know
and people I did not know
would read them and stand to sing them
already knowing them
while they sing they have no names

- What is the significance of the lack of punctuation in this poem?
- How do the line breaks in lines 6-9 affect the meaning of the poem?
- How does the repetition of "I did not know" affect your reading of the poem?
- If you were to include punctuation in this poem, where would you place it?

Questions about the essay "Living like Weasels" by Annie Dillard

- How does the weasel affect the tone of this essay? How would the tone be different if Dillard had written about a less wild animal?
- What does Dillard mean when she says, "I missed my chance. I should have gone for the throat."?
- How does Dillard propose that we live?
- Do you agree that "[w]e can live any way we want."? Why or why not?

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