

## Summer Reading Questions for

### The Giver by Lois Lowry

After reading the book, answer each of the questions below in a paragraph of one page or less, citing specific evidence taken from the book. Please state the page upon which the information being cited is found by using a parenthetical end note. (p.?) Please write out on lined notebook paper with blue or black ink, using your best penmanship.

1. Analyze the advantages and disadvantages of Sameness in Jonas' community.
2. Compare the relationship Jonas has with The Giver to the relationship he has with his mother, father, and sister.
3. Explain why feelings and memories have been eliminated from Jonas' community.
4. Why is Jonas alienated by his friends after being chosen as the next Receiver of Memory?
5. List the ways in which Jonas' community appears to be a utopia and explain why the things on your list contribute to perfection. (A utopia is “any idealized place of perfection” with a perfect society and a perfect government; in a nutshell, it is a “perfect world”.)
6. Discuss whether Jonas' assignment as the next Receiver of Memory is an honor or a punishment.
7. What are some of the euphemisms used in Jonas's society? What are some of the euphemisms used in present-day society? Analyze the advantages and disadvantages of using euphemisms. (Euphemisms are using indirect, less abrupt expressions to replace more “offensive” ones. For example, a garbage collector might be called a “sanitary engineer.” That is a euphemism.)
8. The people in Jonas' community gave up their freedom and individuality to live in a safe environment. Discuss whether or not the community is a safe environment in which to live. How would you define what a safe environment is?
9. What does Jonas take with him on his journey at the end of the book, and why does he take it with him?
10. Later during the 8<sup>th</sup> grade year of ELA 8, we will be examining the Holocaust in Europe. In advance of that, please find out what you can about Nazi Germany. How can Jonas' community be compared to Nazi Germany under Hitler?