

## Chapters 1 - 5

**Vocabulary:** Draw a line from each word on the left to its definition on the right. Then use the numbered words to fill in the blanks in the sentences below.

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. convicted    | a. separate sections                                    |
| 2. affliction   | b. fits of bad temper                                   |
| 3. tantrums     | c. place for the care of large group of helpless people |
| 4. evasion      | d. found guilty   |
| 5. compartments | e. getting away with something by trickery              |
| 6. obedient     | f. cause of suffering or trouble                        |
| 7. asylum       | g. kind, gentle, and showing mercy                      |
| 8. humane       | h. following orders                                     |

In the past, orphans and the mentally ill were sent to live in a(n)\_\_\_\_\_

My refrigerator has separate\_\_\_\_\_ for fruits, vegetables, eggs, and cheese.

Troubled by the way prisoners were treated, my mother organized a letter-writing campaign to promote more\_\_\_\_\_ treatment of prisoners.

Mental illness is often left untreated as it can be an invisible\_\_\_\_\_

The \_\_\_\_\_ bank robber was on his way to prison.

The dog came running over when its master called.

Little children sometimes have \_\_\_\_\_ when they do not get what they want.

Watching television instead of doing my homework assignments is a clear \_\_\_\_\_ of my responsibilities.

## **Chapters 1 - 5**

### **Questions:**

Why does the Flanagan family come to live on Alcatraz Island?

How does Moose sleep on his first night on Alcatraz? Why does he do this?

Why does Mrs. Flanagan celebrate Natalie's tenth birthday each year?

Why does Piper come unexpectedly to Moose's house on the Flanagans' first day on Alcatraz Island?

Why is Moose angered by Piper at their first meeting?

What evidence shows that Natalie feels that Moose is important in her life?

How does Moose feel after the family leaves Natalie at the school?

### **Questions for Discussion:**

Do you think that Mr. and Mrs. Flanagan are justified in moving to Alcatraz? Is it fair to Moose?

Do you think that Moose should be asked to babysit for his sister Natalie?

In your opinion, which of Moose's parents has a better understanding of him?

Do you think Moose resents his sister? Would he be justified in feeling this way?

Do you think Natalie will have a successful experience at her new school?

### **Literary Element: Setting**

In literature, the setting is the time and place in which the story occurs. Setting is especially important in a historical novel such as this one.

What is the setting of the novel?

What details about the setting make the characters' times and lifestyles seem real?

## Chapters 1 - 5 (cont.)

### Literary Devices:

- I. *Point of View*—Point of view in literature refers to the person telling the story. When one of the characters acts as the narrator, this is called the first-person point of view. When the author as an outside observer tells the story, it is called a third-person point of view.

From whose point of view is this story told?

List three statements the narrator makes about himself that help you to understand his character. What does each statement reveal about him?

- II. *Simile*—A simile is a figure of speech in which two unlike objects are compared using the words "like" or "as." For example:

A haze rises from the bay like a wall of gray closing me off from everything.

What is being compared in this simile?

What is the effect of this comparison?

- III. *Metaphor*—A metaphor is a figure of speech in which a comparison between two unlike object is suggested or implied. For example:

I hate being the brother of a stone.

- What is being compared?

- What does this help reveal Moose's feelings about his sister's condition?

In some metaphors the comparison is extended for a few sentences. What is life being compared to in the following metaphor?

"Nobody knows how things will turn out, that's why they go ahead and play the game, Moose. You give it your all and sometimes amazing things happen, but it's hardly ever what you expect."

Why is this an apt comparison?