

Welcome to LiveLesson!

“Now, seeing the newchild and its expression, he was reminded that the light eyes were not only a rarity but gave the one who had them a certain look—what was it? *Depth*, he decided; as if one were looking into the clear water of the river, down to the bottom, where things might lurk which hadn’t been discovered yet.”



The Giver, Chapters 3--11

Let's Take a Poll

- If I could, I would choose to eliminate all pain from human existence.
- A. Yes
- B. No
- Discussion of Poll results.



✧Our High Objectives

You will be able to:

- Define and discuss themes in chapters 3 to 11 (1.Responses to Differences, 2.Coming of Age, 3.Receiving Memories)
- Evaluate and discuss how the author introduces and develops these themes these nine chapters.
- Work in small groups and share your ideas w/others.



Why Discussion Helps You

- Discussing the chapters helps you better understand the meanings of the events in the book.
- Sharing ideas and defending your opinions helps you to formulate higher-level evaluations of the text. You get more out of it, more “eureka” moments.



1. Responses to Differences

“ . . .it was not a rule, but was considered rude to call attention to things that were unsettling or different about individuals.” (Page 20)

“Jonas was impressed by the things Benjamin had achieved . . . but they had never talked about the boy’s accomplishments because such a conversation would have been awkward for Benjamin. There was never any comfortable way to mention or discuss one’s successes without breaking the rule against bragging.” (Page 27)

“Fritz was a very awkward child who had been summoned for chastisement, again and again . . .shoes on the wrong feet, school work misplaced, failure to study adequately for a quiz. But each such error reflected negatively on his parents’ guidance and infringed upon the community’s sense of order and success.” (Page 43)

Differences in the Community

- What are the kinds of differences between people in the community? Do you think being different in any way is valued? If so, when? Why or why not? Examples please.

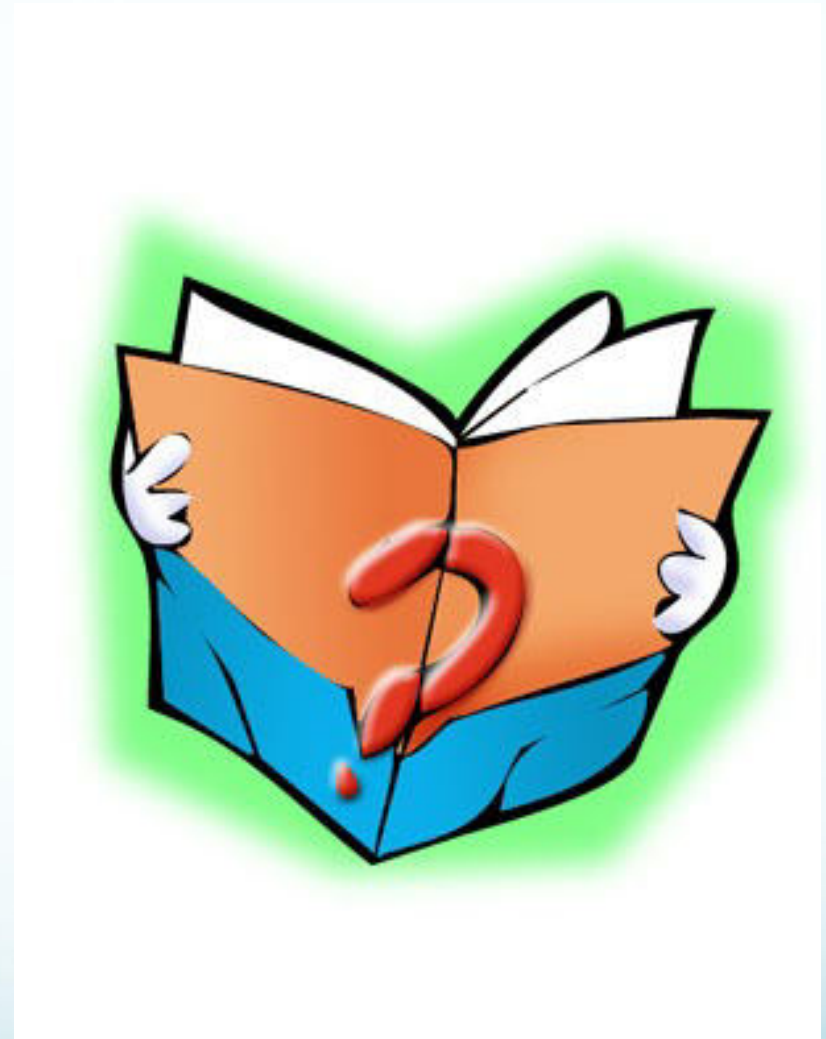


2. Coming of Age in *The Giver*

The initial speech at the Ceremony of Twelve was made by the Chief Elder, the leader of the community . . . The speech was much the same each year: recollection of the time of childhood and the period of preparation, the coming responsibilities of adult life, the profound importance of Assignment, the seriousness of training to come. “This is the time when we acknowledge differences . . . But today we honor your differences. They have determined your futures.” (Page 52)

Coming of Age: Citizens-in-Training

- How do they find out what will be expected of them in their new assignments?
- What do you think about having age twelve as the time when assignments are made? Why is this age often a turning point in many cultures?
- What attracts or disturbs you about the ceremony and its meaning?



More Coming of Age

- What happens to their use of their time after the Ceremony? Discuss what this means for control or loss of control for the individual.
- There are many patterns of behavior children are expected to follow. Why? How does learning these patterns relate to their eventual roles as “Citizens”?



3. Receiving Memories

- The first memory transmitted: snow. Going sledding over snow-covered hills is exciting and sparks questions from Jonas.
- “Why don’t we have snow, and sleds, and hills?” said Jonas. “Climate control. Snow made growing food difficult, limited the agricultural periods. And unpredictable weather made transportation almost impossible at times. It wasn’t a practical thing, so it became obsolete when we went to Sameness.”

Receiving Memories

- What is the first painful memory Jonas receives? How would you describe his understanding of pain?
- Community members do not feel the kinds of pain felt by The Giver and Jonas. What role does pain play in human life? What if we felt no pain—physical or emotional? How would that change our society—for good or for ill?



“Wow! Now that we have discussed chapters 3--11, I am really enjoying reading *The Giver*,” said Joe Studious.



Questions?

