

TOLIVER'S SECRET

READING RESPONSE

Answer the following in complete sentences. This will be turned in the first day of school 2010. All work should be completed in a green spiral notebook. This notebook will be used for reading class during the school year.

Chapters 1 & 2 pages 3-31

1. How did the author establish Ellen's character?
2. What are the characteristics of historical fiction?

Chapters 3 & 4 pages 32-54

1. How does Grandfather feel about Ellen's decision to help? How does Ellen feel? How does Mother feel? How do you know (justify)?
2. How would you feel if you were in Ellen's situation?

Chapters 5 & 6 pages 55-79

1. What are some of the difficulties Ellen encounters as she sets out on her journey to deliver Grandfather's secret message?
2. How does Ellen react to these difficulties?
3. How does the author reveal that Ellen is changing? Give examples from the text.

Chapters 7 & 8 pages 80-106

1. What is the British soldier Higgins like? What is Dow like? Are Higgins and Dow more alike or different?
2. Does Ellen despise all British soldiers? Justify your answer with examples from the text.
3. Read the description of the old man Ellen meets in Amboy who tells her how to get to Elizabeth-town. Does the illustration on pg. 100 reflect the author's description of this man? What word choices does the author use to help you paint a picture in your mind of this character?

Chapters 9 & 10 pages 107-143

1. Read the description of the woods through which Ellen must pass (paragraph 3 pg. 110-pg. 112). What is the forest like? How does Ellen's perception of the forest change as she travels through it? How does Ellen change?

Chapters 11,12, & 13 pages 135-166

1. What key idea (theme) is the author trying to express in *Toliver's Secret*? What evidence do you have to support this?
2. What did Ellen learn about herself? How did she change during her adventure? How will she be able to use this self-knowledge in the future?
3. Has this author helped you experience the past? Explain.

