

2018 Summer Reading for Incoming Seventh Graders

DIRECTIONS: Select three quotations from the book--one from the beginning, one from the middle, and one from the end--to illustrate one individual's (character's) growth. For instance, think about how this person reacts to problems or relationships he or she encounters throughout the book and then how this person learns something new about himself or herself. Record each quote of one to three lines within quotation marks, including the page number(s) within parentheses. For each quotation, craft a paragraph response of several sentences, explaining why the quote you chose shows a step in this person's growth. Try your best to avoid using first- or second-person pronouns (*I, my, you, your, etc.*) as you track your dynamic individual's transformation from the beginning to the end of the book; do not forget to assess midway, too.

NOTE: Please write your insightful elaboration in pencil on the attached organizer.

Teacher Model from Lois Lowry's *Number the Stars*

Character's Name: Annemarie Johansen

Quotation: "Sometimes, Annemarie thought, Kirsti was such a pest, always butting in. But the apartment was small. There was no other place for Kirsti to play. And if they [Annemarie and her friend, Ellen Rosen] told her to go away, Mama would scold" (30).

Explanation: At the beginning of the historical fiction novel, *Number the Stars*, Annemarie is a typical ten-year-old, who is more focused on her needs and wants than those of others. Although she would prefer to reenact *Gone with the Wind* with Ellen only, Annemarie allows five-year-old Kirsti to participate. Annemarie doesn't want to get into trouble or be yelled at by her parents. In reality, Annemarie is more like her little sister at the start than she realizes, for she keeps asking Ellen to race her to the corner of Østerbrogade despite her best friend saying she doesn't want to run. No good comes from this peer pressure either, since German soldiers stop and interrogate the racing girls. Neither of the girls decides to tell her mother. Although Ellen does not wish to worry her mother about the Germans, the reader realizes that Annemarie is more concerned with herself and avoiding a punishment for improper behavior, such as her racing Ellen on the street. **In the chapters ahead, Annemarie Johansen will shed her it's-all-about-me mentality for a more mature and sympathetic one, and the Nazi presence in Denmark will prompt this transformation.

