

THE AFTER

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Teacher Resource

5) Charlotte is homeschooled. Make a t-chart. List the advantages and disadvantages of being homeschooled.

6) What is the name of the virus which caused the world to change?

7) Why wouldn't Charlotte's dad, Glen, keep pigs on their farm?

8) What is a barter system? Why does Charlotte's family, and others who live close by, use this system?

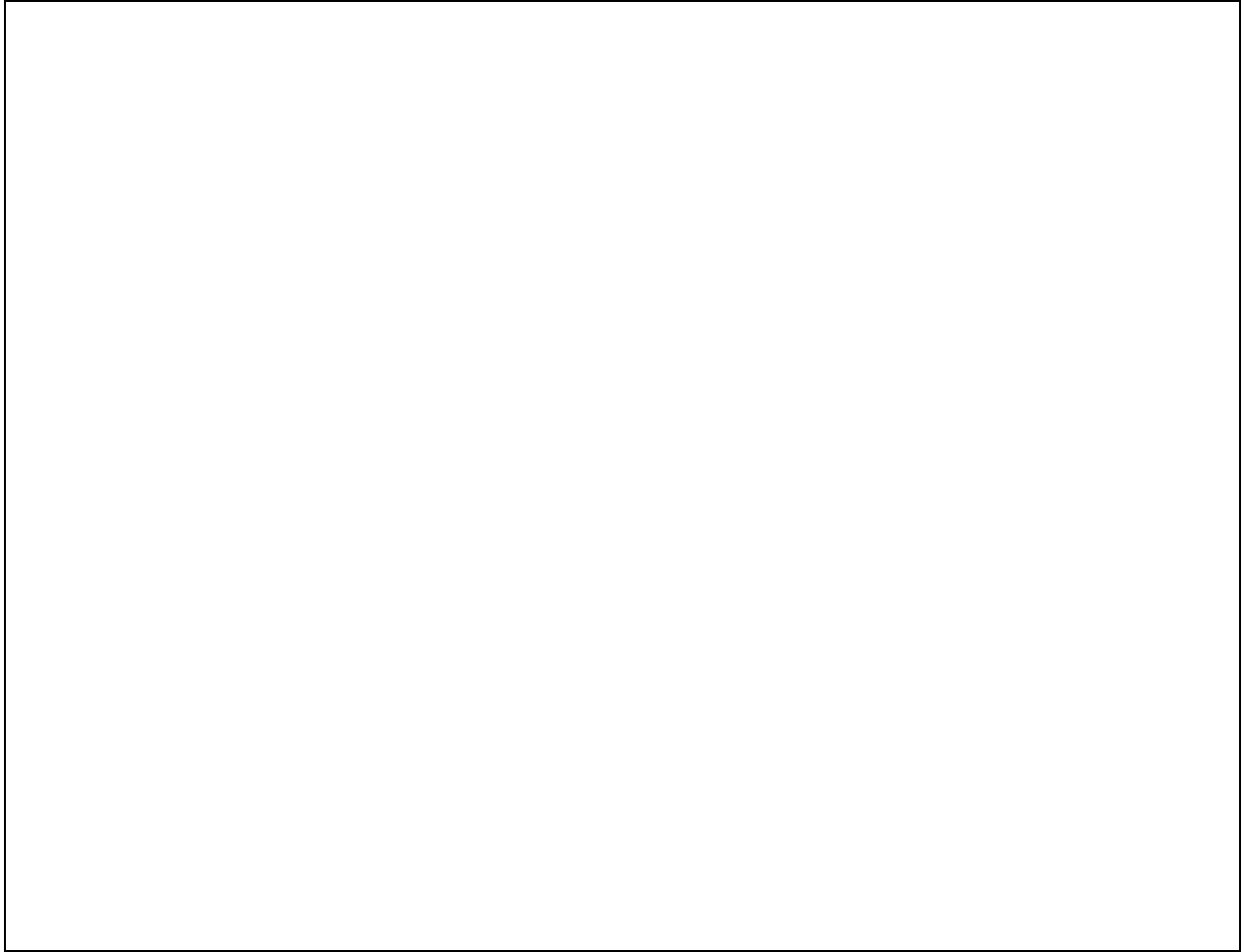
9) Is the barter system essential to Charlotte's family's survival? Explain.

10) Why was Samuel startled when his dad entered the cabin? What sort of risk did Glen take?

11) What precautions do people take when meeting with those outside of their family?

12) At the end of Chapter Two, what new rules did Glen put in place for Samuel and Charlotte. Why did he do this?

- 5) From the information provided in the first three chapters, draw a sketch of Charlotte's property.



4.

- 1) Why did Charlotte have to wear coveralls?

- 2) Why do you think the stranger gave Charlotte a gift?

5.

3) Why do you suppose Charlotte was not afraid of the trespasser?

6.

1) Sketch the tree house floorplan



7) Sketch sea hollies and research three interesting facts about this perennial. Do sea hollies grow where you live?

7.

1) If you were Charlotte, would you have told your family about Anna? Why or Why not?

2) Why are eggs such an important food source for Charlotte's family?

8.

- 1) What items did Charlotte leave for Anna? Was it an appropriate apology? If she is still around, do you think Anna will accept Charlotte's apology?

- 2) Check out my website: www.jtaylorauthor.ca for the hodgepodge recipe.

- 3) What prevented Charlotte from getting back to the tree house for a few days?

- 4) After checking out the tree house, why was Charlotte upset?

9.

- 1) Why were books so important to Anna, and from where did she get her books?

- 2) Research how to make a shelter in the forest without any supplies—just a jackknife and what the forest provides. Write out the steps and draw a picture of your shelter.

6) What amenities do we have today which no longer exist in *The After*?

11.

1) What were Charlotte's responsibilities when her dad and brother were away?

2) Why do medicine and pharmacies no longer exist? What does Gran use to help with her headache?

3) What was Anna and Charlotte's signal to meet?

4) Why did Anna leave Halifax? Do you think she made the right decision? Would you have made a different decision? Explain your reasoning.

- 5) In Chapter Eleven, what important information do we learn about Canada?

- 6) When Anna was desperate for food, what was she willing to eat?

- 7) Was Charlotte angry or relieved when she found out Anna was taking eggs? Why?

- 8) What three important facts run through Charlotte's mind when she finds out her gran is sick?

12.

- 1) Why was Charlotte worried when Anna didn't show up at the tree house?

2) What are Gran's symptoms?

3) At the end of Chapter Twelve, what shocking and worrying information did Anna give Charlotte?

13.

4) Was Charlotte naive in thinking her heart would let her know Gran's wellbeing?

5) Over the last few months, how was Anna gaining access to Charlotte's property?

6) Do you agree with Anna's definition of "hunting"?

7) Find an example of foreshadowing in Chapter Thirteen.

14.

1) Why wasn't Anna afraid of Spencer, and how did she develop a relationship with him?

2) Draw a picture of Anna's camp.

3) How did Anna transport all her belongings? What makes this mode of transportation special?

4) What heartbreak happens at the end of Chapter Fourteen?

15.

1) Upon the shocking discovery, what assistance does Anna provide for Charlotte?

2) Why did Anna come to check on Charlotte?

3) Why does Anna think Charlotte shouldn't be too hard on herself for not being with Gran at the end?

4) Should Charlotte agree to attend to Gran's body?

5) Why would Gran's passing possibly pose a risk to Anna and Charlotte?

16.

1) Do Charlotte and Anna believe Gran died from being exposed to the ENO virus? If not, what do they think happened?

2) What were Gran's symptoms?

17./18.

- 3) List five decisions the girls make regarding Gran's burial.

19.

- 1) By the end of Chapter Nineteen, Samuel and Glen have been gone for fifteen days—much longer than ever before. The girls try to come up with a plan to help them figure out why they have not returned. What do they end up deciding?

20.

- 1) Who showed up at Charlotte's house?

- 2) Charlotte tells her first big lie. Under the circumstances, do you think her lying was acceptable? Explain.

- 3) Why wouldn't Charlotte open the gate to Mr. Steveston?

- 4) When she was young, what promise did Charlotte make to her dad? Why would he ask that of her?

- 5) Define intuition. Is this what Charlotte (and Spencer) had towards Mr. Steveston and why Charlotte wouldn't let him sleep in the barn?

- 6) From the details Samuel and Glen provided Charlotte over the years, what did Charlotte remember about Mr. Steveston?

21.

- 1) Why would Charlotte think of Spencer as a weapon?

- 2) Besides being an adult, what did Mr. Steveston have which made the girls frightened?

- 3) What important information about the virus did Mr. Steveston give the girls?

- 4) What was the reasoning behind Mr. Steveston showing up at Charlotte's farm?

22.

- 1) Did Samuel and Glen make it to Mr. Steveston's farm to trade for honey? What did Charlotte assume when she heard this?

- 2) Besides Spencer, what other weapon do the girls have? In your opinion, which is the superior weapon? Explain.

23.

- 1) What food does Charlotte's family feed Spencer? Where do they get the food?

- 2) Explain how Charlotte's family gets water for washing dishes and cooking.

- 3) What does Mr. Steveston threaten to do to Spencer? Why?

- 4) Why does Charlotte feel sorry for Mr. Steveston?

- 5) Predict Anna's plan.

24.

- 1) Describe the girl's daily routine.
- 2) At the end of Chapter Twenty-four, Mr. Steveston makes a threat. Do you think his threat will alter the girl's plan? Why or Why not?

25.

- 1) Write out the girls' plan—step by step

26.

- 1) How did Anna teach Charlotte to find her way through the forest? What did she have for backup?

- 2) What does: “Keep you friends close but your enemies closer” mean?

- 3) Why do the girls spy on Mr. Steveston?

- 4) Find and explain the simile (*word or phrase that compares something to something else using the words like or as*) at the end of chapter Twenty-six.

27.

- 1) If you celebrate Christmas, what are some of your family's traditions? If you don't celebrate Christmas, discuss traditions your family has formed around a different celebration/holiday.

28.

- 1) What made Christmas special for Charlotte and Anna?
- 2) What risk did Anna take to provide Charlotte with a special Christmas breakfast?
- 3) Do you think she should have taken that risk? What could be the consequences?

29.

- 1) After so many weeks without seeing the girls, predict how Mr. Steveston would have been able to find Charlotte.

- 2) Why did Mr. Steveston hit Charlotte?

- 3) What are the concussion symptoms Charlotte experiences?

- 4) How does Anna help Charlotte escape Mr. Steveston?

30.

- 1) Is Spencer a hero? Explain.

2) How will the loss of Spencer make the girls' lives more difficult?

31.

1) What were Anna's reasons for wanting to leave the area? Do you agree with her? Explain your reasoning.

2) What are some complications the girls might run into if they leave?

3) Why does Charlotte want to stay?

4) What promise do the girls make to each other before they implement their plan?

32.

- 1) Near the end of chapter thirty-two, what does the pink and orange skyline symbolize?
- 2) Throughout the novel, Anna has often admitted to feeling scared, sad, nervous but rarely does she show it. Can you think of a time you felt one of these emotions but those around you might not have known you felt that way?
- 3) Why do you think Charlotte is filled with “hope” when her future is so uncertain?