



Before Reading



1. Who is your hero and why?

2. What would you do and how would you feel if your hero moved into your neighborhood?

Vocabulary Word: Passion— strong feeling of love for something or something that you really enjoy doing

3. What is your passion?



Prologue



1. What is the setting in the Prologue?

2. Who is the main character? List 3 pieces of information you have learned about the main character so far.

3. What event affects the main character in the prologue?



Chapter 1: Comprehension



1. How is the setting in chapter 1 different from the setting in the prologue?

2. Why did the Dodgers go to the Dominican Republic for spring training?

3. Baseball spring training has begun. What is Steve hoping he will be able to do?

4. Based on Steve's actions in this chapter, what two words would you use to describe him? Give examples of why these words describe Steve.



Chapter 2: Comprehension



1. Steve has several discussions with his father. What are three lessons that Steve discusses with his father?

2. Why do Steve's parents refuse to sign the petition?

3. How was the discrimination of Jews in Russia similar to the discrimination of black people in the United States?

4. How are the petition and Jackie Robinson linked in Steve's mind?



Chapter 3: Comprehension



1. Steve does a lot of waiting throughout the chapter.
Name some information or events for which he is waiting.

2. Why do Steve's parents keep reminding him not to be a pest when visiting the Palins and Robinsons?

Use details from chapter 3 that show Steve is excited about a Dodgers' player moving in down the street.

Steve is excited about living two doors away from a member of the Dodgers' baseball team.



Chapter 4: Comprehension



1. At the beginning of the chapter, Steve thinks back on a memorable moment. Why is this memory important to him?

2. What new memorable moment happens for Steve in this chapter?

3. Steve rehearses everything he wants to say when he meets Jackie Robinson. Why isn't Steve able to speak when he finally meet him?

4. How did the Dodgers make history again in the 1948 season?



Chapter 5: Comprehension



1. Write a summary of events from pages 81—86.

2. What does Steve learn about self-control from the Robinsons?

3. The Robinsons discuss the possibility of the military becoming desegregated. Based on your reading, what would they expect to happen if the president desegregated the military?

4. What interesting information did you learn about Jackie Robinson in this chapter?



Chapter 6: Comprehension



Choose five important events from this chapter. Write the events in order on the flow chart. Then to the right of each event, explain why that event was important in the chapter.





Chapter 7: Comprehension



1. For Steve's birthday his dad gets him a new project they can share together. What is the project and why is it special to them?

2. Summarize the events that take place on pages 137—142.

3. Complete the cause and effect relationships.

Cause

Effect



Steve is a hero at school.

Steve finds out that Jackie is looking to buy a house away from Tilden Avenue.





Chapter 8: Comprehension



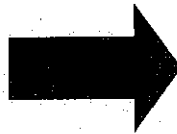
1. What did you learn in chapter 8 about what else was going on in the world during the 1940s.

2. Steve's family is Jewish and they celebrate Hanukkah. What do you know about Hanukkah? What information do you learn from reading?

3. Complete the cause and effect relationships.

Cause

Effect



Steve's mother asks him to give up one of his Hanukkah presents.



Steve crosses the Diesel Road Roller off of his Hanukkah list.

Steve's parents want to help the Jewish and Arab children in Israel.





Chapter 9: Comprehension



1. What are the Robinsons preparing for in chapter 9? How do you know?

2. Why do you think Steve has never seen a tree inside a house before?

3. What are pages 155—158 mostly about?

4. How are the Robinsons' holiday preparations different from Steve's family's holiday preparations?



Chapter 10: Comprehension



Fill in the story elements chart to help explain the misunderstanding that took place on pages 167—178.

Characters	Setting
Problem	
Important Events	
Solution	

Why does Steve's father decide their family may keep the tree? _____



Epilogue & Afterward:

Comprehension

1. What is the setting in the epilogue?

2. What important events take place in the epilogue?

3. What information do you learn in the afterward?

4. Based on information in the afterward, why did Sharon Robinson write this story?
