Honors LA 10, 2/26/14 **QAR guide for *TSoW* – Chapter 1 examples**

1. **Right There** *(this is a basic comprehension question that addresses an important development of plot or character in the chapter)* :

Q: Who does Shinji encounter for the first time in this chapter?

A: Shinji sees a young woman for the very first time, who is dressed like the other girls but seems to be an outsider of some kind.

1. **Think and Search** *(this is a question that causes the reader to have to “connect the dots” in the text to understand and put together a more complex picture)*:

Q: Why does Shinji bring fish to the lighthouse keeper and his wife?

A: Shinji brings fish to the lighthouse keeper as a way of respectfully thanking them for a favor: Shinji wasn’t a very good student and was going to flunk out of school, but the lighthouse keeper spoke to the principal and convinced him to let Shinji graduate.

1. **Author and You** *(this question is inspired by the text, but the answer isn’t there – it’s something that you have to come up with on your own. There isn’t necessarily a “right” or “wrong” answer for this question)*:

Q: Is Shinji “dumb” because he almost flunked out of school?

A: While he obviously didn’t do very well in school, I think he has a different kind of intelligence; the author says on page six that he has a special “clarity” in his eyes, and when he’s climbing the twisting mountain path he doesn’t stumble once. I think he has a kind of natural, physical intelligence.

1. **On My Own** *(this question doesn’t connect to the text literally, but it should be inspired by it somehow – it’s likely a connection to your own life)*:

Q: What would it be like growing up in an extremely isolated place?

A: I grew up in a very small town, and sometimes it was claustrophobic (everyone knew everyone else’s business) and sometimes it was wonderful (people tend to be friendly and supportive). It’s really special to live in a place where there is less between you and nature; fewer buildings, less traffic. I think there is much more calmness in small towns.

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