

K12ELA7: Unit 4
***The Story of My Life* by Helen Keller**
Chapters 21 - 23 Reading Questions

Directions: After reading each chapter, answer the chapter questions using complete sentences. Use details from the text to support your answers.

Chapter 21

1. Why are books so important to Helen?
2. What book provides Helen's most cherished memory of reading? Why?
3. What is it about books, like *Little Women*, that Helen enjoys?
4. Why does Helen dislike La Fontaine's "Fables"? Why does she prefer *The Jungle Book*?
5. Why did she love Greek mythology?
6. Interpret the quote: "How easy it is to fly on paper wings."
7. In regards to the Bible, Helen states, "things seen are temporal, and things unseen are eternal." What does this mean?
8. Why does Helen find Shakespeare's *King Lear* so disturbing?
9. Why is she so fond of history?
10. Helen states, "Literature is my utopia." What does she mean by this?

Chapter 22

1. What outdoor activities does Helen enjoy? Why?
2. Helen encounters a storm while sailing. How is her response to the storm different from her earlier incident when she was stuck in a tree?
3. Why is Wrentham, Massachusetts, "associated with all of my joys and sorrows"?
4. Describe Helen's "tree friends."
5. How does Helen feel about cities? How do cities contrast with the country?
6. What does Helen like about her tandem bicycle? Her "dog friends"? Children? Museums? Her Homer medallion? The theatre?
7. Despite her disabilities, why is Helen satisfied with her life?

Chapter 23

1. What kind of people does Helen dislike and why?
2. What can Helen tell by peoples' hands?
3. What is the "universal religion"?
4. What does Helen learn from Bishop Brooks?
5. What authors is Helen friends with? What effect does she have on them?
6. Name two other people who influence Helen's life. What is their impact?
7. How is Mark Twain described?
8. Why are friends so important to Helen's success?