Mrs. Frisby and The Rats Of Nimh
The Sickness of Timothy Frisby”

1. Mrs. Frisby’s children are still dependent on her. How does that fact establish this as a fictional story?

   “Mr. Ages”

1. Why do you think the author chose the name “Mr. Ages” for the wise old mouse?

   “The Crow and the Cat”

1. Do you think that Mrs. Frisby thinks she will ever be in need of the help from such a foolish crow again? Do you think she might want to fly again?

   “Five Days”

1. What do you think the rats will do with the wire?

   “A Favor From Jeremy”

1. Do you think it’s wise for a mouse to visit an owl?

2. Would you take the risk of visiting the owl? Why? Why not?

   “The Owl”

1. There were obvious advantages to being a bird. Can you think of any advantages to being a mouse?

2. Think of a time when you were frightened by something you felt you had to do and you went ahead and did it in spite of your fear. What advice can you give to Mrs. Frisby to build up her nerve and confidence for the trip on Jeremy’s back to see the owl?

   “Go To The Rats”

1. Where would the lee of the stone be?

   “In The Rosebush”

1. Teresa tried to figure the mileage of mother’s round trip to the owl. Do you agree with her calculations? Diagram the flights to and from the owl too illustrate your reasoning.

2. Timothy seems to be trying to comfort his mother. What do you think Timothy thinks is happening to him?

   “Brutus”

1. What do you think Mr. Jonathan Frisby did to Dragon?
“In The Library”

“Isabella”
1. What feelings might Mrs. Frisby be experiencing when she was first left alone in the library? Compare this with a similar situation in your life.
2. What did you think “the plan” was when you first read the chalkboard chart?
3. What do you think “Nimh” is?
4. What do you think the author meant when he said Mrs. Frisby could see beyond her nose?

“A Powder For Dragon”

“The Marketplace”

“In The Cage”
1. The “flashes of pain” were probably electric shocks or shots. Is experimenting on animals cruel? Is it necessary?

“The Maze”
1. What do steroids do?

“A Lesson In Reading”
1. Think about the time when you first realized that you could read all by yourself. Explain the feelings that Jenner and Hicodemus had as they realized what reading was all about.
2. What do you think are the realistic possibilities of artificially increasing the intelligence of animals?
3. Would you want to be part of an experiment on humans to try to raise your intelligence level? Explain.

“The Air Ducks”
1. Who would you have picked for leader, Justin or Nicodemus, and why? How would a different choice have affected the story?
2. What do you think happened to the other six mice?

“The Boniface Estate”

1. What made the library such a treasure to the rats?

“The Main Hall”

1. What do you think of the regimentation of the rats? Compare their rules and discipline with our school rules or the laws we live by.

2. Why are they establishing a two-year supply of food for 108 rats?

3. What do you think the chances are for this plan to work for the rats?

“The Toy Tinker”

1. How are “slum rats” compared to people born in the worst city slums? Do you think that comparison is true? Explain.

2. Compare the reading and discussing which the rats were doing at the estate to the discussion group which you are in now.

3. Is there a real place called “Thorn Mountains National Forest” and where is it?

4. Was it right for the rates to take the contents of the Toy Tinker’s truck?

“The Thorn Valley”

1. What are the pros and cons of Nicodemus’ and Jenner’s arguments?

“Captured”

1. What feelings did you have when you read the title to this chapter?

2. If you were helping Mrs. Frisby solve her moving problem, what other alternatives can you think of?

“Seven Dead Rats”

1. How do you think Mrs. Frisby can escape?

2. Is it totally disastrous that Billy caught Mrs. Frisby?

“Escape”

1. Compare Justin, as Mrs. Frisby described him, to someone you know and would have confidence in.
2. What does Justin mean when he says the shrew is “acting shrewish”?

“At The Meeting”

1. Why are the rats so concerned about making their home look like an ordinary rat hole?

“The Doctor”

1. Who do you think was the brave rat that saved Brutus but then died trying to help the last rat? Was it worth his effort?

“Epilogue”

1. Why wouldn’t the rats want visitors?

2. Do you think it was wise to tell the children?

3. Do you think the next generation of rats will inherit the high intelligence from the rats of Nimh