

After the Reunion

A Story of Acceptance

COMPLETE TEACHER ANSWER GUIDE

This guide contains the Teacher Answer Sheets for all 12 chapters in *After the Reunion: A Story of Acceptance*.

Each answer sheet corresponds with the matching Student Lesson and is provided for educators to review student work, guide discussion, and support instruction.

FOR EDUCATOR USE

Students can access the individual Student Lessons from the learning page. This complete answer guide is provided separately for educators.

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Inspirations by Grace LaJoy, LLC

Book 3

After the Reunion

Answer Keys Chapters 1-12

Lesson One - Answers

This lesson coincides with Chapter One of the book, “After the Reunion: A Story of Acceptance”. The purpose of this lesson is to analyze and evaluate the author’s emotions post reuniting with her mother.

Chapter One – “Returning Home After the Reunion”

Main Idea and Supporting Details

Place an “X” on the line beside the “main idea” of the story.

 X Grace felt disturbed and unhappy about finding her mother in deprived conditions.

_____ Grace was expecting to find her mother in a safe environment.

_____ Grace’s mother, Geneva was living in a building with beggars and peddlers.

The four statements below “support” the main idea. Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

(Page 111)

- (a) Grace took a few days off work after the reunion because she was not feeling well.
- (b) Grace was struggling with the way her mother was living.
- (c) She felt so downhearted that she needed someone trustworthy to talk to.
- (d) Grace was in shock because she had found her mother living in poverty.

Sequencing

The following sentences tell what happens in the story. Read them and number them in the correct order.

- (a) Grace emailed Elsie about her reunion with her mother. (Page 113) (9)
- (b) Grace felt her mother should not be living a deprived life. (Page 112) (6)
- (c) The woman on the counseling hotline consoled Grace. (Page 112) (5)
- (d) Grace appreciated the woman’s interest in her story. (Page 113) (8)
- (e) Grace contacted Elsie for information about her sibling’s adoption. (Page 111) (1)
- (f) Grace felt downhearted and needed someone to talk to. (Page 111) (3)
- (g) Grace did not feel well because of her mother’s poor living condition. (Page 111) (2)
- (h) Grace found a number for a counseling hotline. (Page 111) (4)
- (i) Grace told the woman she had often thought of starting a homeless shelter. (Page 112) (7)
- (j) Grace felt hopeful as she waited for a response from Elsie. (Page 113) (10)

Plot Analysis

Now That you have put the sentences above in the correct order, write which is the beginning, the climax and the end.

The Beginning:	Grace contacted Elsie for information about her sibling's adoption. Grace did not feel well because of her mother's poor living condition. Grace felt downhearted and needed someone to talk to.
The Climax:	Grace found a number for a counseling hotline. The woman on the counseling hotline consoled Grace. Grace felt her mother should not be living a deprived life. Grace told the woman she had often thought of starting a homeless shelter. Grace appreciated the woman's interest in her story.
The End:	Grace emailed Elsie about her reunion with her mother. Grace felt hopeful as she waited for a response from Elsie.

Point of View

Point of view is the voice or persona that the author creates in order to tell the story.

Which point of view does the author use in this story?

(a) first person (b) third-person limited (c) omniscient (d) objective

Check the line beside the word that describe what type of selection this is:

_____ Fiction

_____ **X** _____ Non-fiction

Identifying Cause and Effect

"With that burden lifted, I felt happy for the rest of the day and was able to return to work the next day feeling refreshed."

What is the Cause? With that burden lifted.

What is the Effect? I felt happy for the rest of the day and was able to return to work the next day feeling refreshed.

Comparing and Contrasting

Compare Grace's feelings before and after having the counseling session.

Her feelings before the session	Her feelings after the session
Grace was sad.	She became happy.
She was hopeless.	She became hopeful.
She was stressed.	She became relaxed as her burden lifted.

Character Analysis

Analyze the main character and describe her with a trait. Support your choice with relevant evidences and examples.

Character Name: Grace / the protagonist / the main character / the author

The character is:	Because
Example: helpful	She wanted to start a homeless shelter.
Sensitive	She could not believe that her mother was living a deprived life.
Caring	She was in search of her siblings.
She was sad.	She needed someone to empathize with her and console her.

Contextual Meaning

Read the following excerpt from the story with the highlighted word. Circle True or False below.

"After a **meticulous** online search, I found the number of a counseling hotline where I could speak with someone freely without revealing my true identity."

The word "meticulous" means careful. (Page 111)

True / False

Character Trait Discussion

The Character Trait for Lesson One is “benevolent”.

Benevolent means well-meaning and kindly.

Read the statement below. Then choose one of the questions below and answer it. Write your answer in the space provided then discuss it with your group.

Grace is benevolent towards her mother and wants to make her life more comfortable. She feels bad about her mother’s deprived living conditions and wants to find her a better place to stay.

1. Are you a benevolent person? What are some acts of kindness that you have done?
2. Mention someone you know that is benevolent. State your reasons.
3. Would you do caring things for a loved one, even if they cannot do things for you?
Why or why not?

Answers will vary from learner to learner

[illegible]

Lesson Two - Answers

This lesson coincides with Chapter Two of the book, “After the Reunion: A Story of Acceptance”. The purpose of this lesson is to understand the setting and the level of care that the author has for her mother.

Chapter Two – “My Search for a Place for Mother”

Main Idea and Supporting Details

Place an “X” on the line beside the “main idea” of the story.

_____ Grace was ready to remove her mother from the boarding home.

 X **Grace had always dreamed of finding her mother and taking care of her.**

_____ Grace did not expect to find her mother living in such poor conditions.

The four statements below “support” the main idea. Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

(Page 115)

(a) Grace began to think about moving her mother from where she was to Kansas City.

(b) April warned Grace and her siblings that they were not going to be happy when they see her living conditions.

(c) Grace assumed that her mother would be more than ready to let them care for her.

(d) Grace began discussing with the boarding home office manager about the type of facility that she should be looking for in Kansas City.

Sequencing

Number the following lines from Chapter 2 to put them in the correct order. (Pages 115-117)

 2 Grace had been warned that she wouldn’t be happy seeing her mother’s living condition.

 6 She asked for the packet of information to share with her brothers and mother.

 1 Ever since she was a little girl, Grace had dreamed of finding her mother.

 5 Grace chose the second assisted living center.

 3 Grace discussed with April about the required facility for her mother in Kansas City.

 4 April provided all the required information to search for an assisted living center for her mother.

Point of View

What is the point of view in Chapter 2? Circle the letter for the correct answer.

- (a) first-person (b) second-person (c) third-person

Explain your reason here:

Answer: *The narrator is using the pronouns “I” and “me” when narrating the story. This shows that she is telling the story from her point of view. Therefore, it is the first-person point of view.*

Genre

Check the line beside the term that best describes this chapter.

- ☒ Personal Narrative
☐ Science Fiction

Author’s Purpose

What do you think the author’s purpose for this chapter is?

Circle the letter for the correct answer.

- (a) To entertain with a story about a woman’s search for a place for her mother.
(b) To persuade the reader about looking for safe places for old people.
(c) To inform about an assisted living facility.

Identifying Cause and Effect

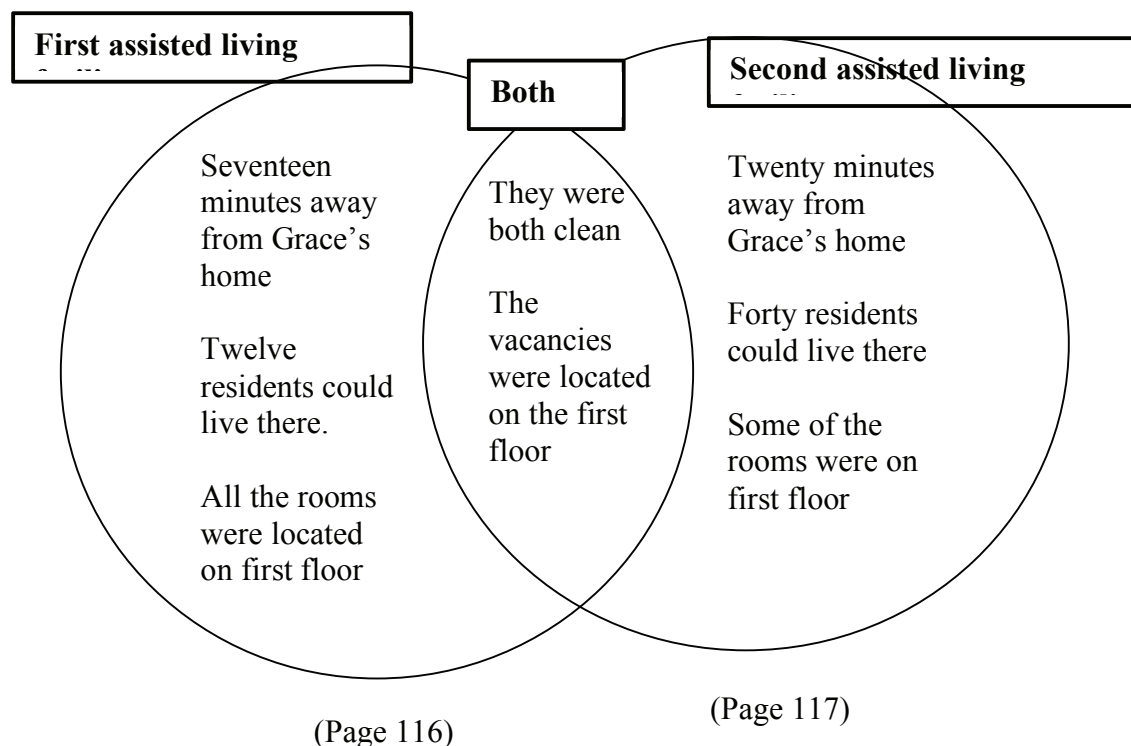
“In my search for an assisted living facility for her, a nurse told me that since she has a serious mental illness, she would also be eligible to live in a nursing home.”

What is the Cause? since she has a serious mental illness

What is the Effect? she would also be eligible to live in a nursing home

Comparing and Contrasting

Compare and contrast the first and second assisted living facility and fill the graphic organizer.



Interpreting and Evaluating Information

After visiting both places, what made Grace like the second one the best?

Sample answer: Grace found the second assisted living center full of amenities and a better place for her mother as it also had a full-service nursing home. If her mother ever became unable to care for herself, she could move directly to the attached nursing home instead of a new place.

Character Trait Evidence

List five character traits of Geneva, Grace's mother. (Page 116)

- (a) elderly
- (b) independent
- (c) mentally ill
- (d) scared
- (e) deprived

Contextual Meaning

Read the following line from Chapter 2 with the highlighted word and circle the best meaning for it.

“After the reunion, I continued reviewing the benefits and **amenities** of numerous facilities.”
What does the word “amenities” mean?”

- (a) features (b) convenience **(c) both a & b**

Character Trait Discussion

The Character Trait for Lesson Two is “thoughtful”.

Thoughtful means showing consideration for the needs of other people.

Read the statement below. Then choose one of the questions below and answer it. Write your answer in the space provided then discuss it with your group.

Grace is very thoughtful in finding a comfortable place for her mother to stay. This shows that she is a very caring person.

1. What would you do if you found a long lost relative living in poor conditions?
2. Do you think it is important to look after elderly people? Why or why not?
3. Think about a person you know who is thoughtful? What types of thoughtful things have they done?

_____ **Answers will vary from learner to learner.** _____

[illegible]

Lesson Three - Answers

This lesson coincides with Chapter Three of the book, “After the Reunion: A Story of Acceptance”. The purpose of this lesson is to understand the kind of relationship the author has with her mother post reunion through their conversations.

Chapter Three – “A Typical Phone Call With Mother”

Main Idea and Supporting Details

Place an “X” on the line beside the “main idea” of the story.

- _____ Geneva made up excuses whenever she wanted to get off the phone.
- _____ Grace learned some fun things about her mother when they talked.
- X Grace’s phone calls with her mother became more frequent as time passed.

The four statements below “support” the main idea. Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

(Page 119)

- (a) Grace and her mother would initially only talk once a month.
- (b) After a short while, they would be on the phone every other week.
- (c) In a later phone conversation, Geneva reminded Grace of her birthday and Christmas.
- (d) Grace felt happy that her mother was able to communicate exactly what was important to her.

Sequencing

Read the following extract from Chapter 3 and answer the questions that follow.

“It seemed she was asking me those questions for a few reasons. The first, she may have appreciated me calling her and she enjoyed talking to me. The second, she could have wanted me to feel like she really wanted to talk to me, especially since a lot of the time she would prefer to be in her bed resting her hip. A third, she might have been aiming towards being kind to her daughter whom she knew loved her.”

Which words from this extract show sequence?

Answer: first, second, third

Author's Purpose

Which question could best help someone figure out that the author's purpose in this chapter is to entertain?

- a) Did the author give me new information?
- b) Did the author teach me how to make something?
- c) Did the author ask me to do anything?
- d) **Did the author tell me a story about her relationship with her mother? (Page 119)**

Identifying Cause and Effect

"Then after a few more words back and forth, she said, "Well, I want to go lay in my bed and rest a little."

What is the Cause? after a few more words back and forth,

What is the Effect? she said, "Well, I want to go lay in my bed and rest a little."

Interpreting and Evaluating Information

Evaluate the mother-daughter relationship in this chapter by analyzing communication.

Sample answer: Initially, Grace would phone her mother once a month to talk. After a while, they would call every week. Grace learned many fun things about her mother and her childhood. She even made sure to send her things on special days since it was important to her mother. Geneva would ask Grace about her day and if she did anything fun. Grace knew what to expect in their conversation, but felt happy that her mother wanted to talk. However, on some days her mother would make up excuses to get off the phone, which made Grace evaluate her mother's feelings about her.

Contextual Meaning

Read the following line from Chapter 2 with the highlighted word and choose the best meaning for it.

"A huge smile would break up on my face before regaining my **composure** enough to say, "Hello, Mother, how are you doing?" (Page 120)

- (a) instability (b) excitement **(c) self-control**

Character Analysis

Cross out the adjective(s), which are not suitable to describe Grace.

Sensitive	Kind-hearted	excited
Concerned	carefree	dutiful
Emotional	Caring	forgetful

Character Trait Discussion

The Character Trait for Lesson Three is “altruistic”.

Altruistic means showing a disinterested and selfless concern for the well-being of others.

Read the statement below. Then choose one of the questions below and answer it. Write your answer in the space provided then discuss it with your group.

Grace is altruistic about her mother’s needs and phoning to check on her as often as possible.

1. Describe how you communicate with your parent(s). What are some things you do for your parent(s) without being?
2. Do you think it is important to check on family members who are far away? Why or why not?
3. What are some benefits of showing concern for others?

_____ **Answers will vary from learner to learner.** _____

[illegible]

Lesson Four - Answers

This lesson coincides with Chapter Four of the book, “After the Reunion: A Story of Acceptance”. The purpose of this lesson is to understand the importance of the author’s journey for the second time and to analyze the bond she has with her own daughter.

Chapter Four – “My Second Trip to Visit Mother”

Main Idea and Supporting Details

Place an “X” on the line beside the “main idea” of the story.

- _____ Grace decided to take her daughter, Arica with her on the trip.
- X **Grace decided to visit her mother a second time to find out why she left.**
- _____ Jerome was concerned about Grace and Arica driving to Geneva’s state.

The four statements below “support” the main idea. Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

- (a) Leading up the second trip, Geneva acting very excited about Grace coming to visit.
(Page 125)
- (b) Grace could not wait for her mother to meet Arica. (Page 125)
- (c) Grace felt extremely hopeful even through Geneva would probably not agree to move.
(Page 126)
- (d) Grace and her daughter pulled out many photos that she thought Geneva would appreciate.
(Page 127)

Sequencing

Read the following lines from Chapter 4 and put them in the correct order.

- (a) They both laughed listened to music. (Page 128) (9)
- (b) Grace was planning to share some information with her mother about assisted living facilities. (Page 125) (4)
- (c) Geneva was very excited about their visit and asked repeatedly about the date of their arrival. (Page 125) (2)
- (d) Grace planned a trip to visit her mother along with her daughter, Arica. (Page 125) (1)
- (e) Grace and her daughter decided to drive a rental car. (Page 126) (6)
- (f) While preparing for the trip, Grace packed some albums. (Page 126) (7)

- (g) Grace was excited and happy at the same time for her mother to meet Arica. (Page 125) (3)
- (h) Grace was honored and joyful to receive her daughter's avocado bread. That had always been one of her favorite finger foods. (Page 128) (10)
- (i) Terrance pitched in some cash to help them pay for the trip. (Page 126) (5)
- (j) They left the evening before June 8 (Page 127) (8)

Author's Purpose

*An author writes for one of three reasons:
to entertain, to inform (teach) or to persuade (convince)*

Circle the author's purpose in this chapter?

(a) to entertain

(b) to inform

(c) to persuade

Explain the reason for your answer:

Answer: The chapters follow all of the story elements and keeps the reader wanting to know more.

Identifying Cause and Effect

"During our reunion visit, I noted that the more she looked at the pictures, the more it began to "click" for her that we were her children. The more she realized we were her children, the more she opened up, and eventually accepted us."

What is the Cause? the more she looked at pictures;

What is the Effect? the more it began to "click" for her that we were her children;

Interpreting and Evaluating Information

What was the purpose of Grace's second visit to her mother?

Sample answer: At the beginning of the chapter, Grace states that the need for answers to her burning questions was a key motivator in wanting to visit her mother for the second time.

Grace also considered this trip to be a mission to get her mother to move back to Kansas City with her, so that they could take care of her.

Comparing and Contrasting

Compare Grace with her daughter Arica and state the similarities between them.

Grace	Similarities	Arica
Grace is Geneva's daughter. Grace drove to visit Geneva.	They are both loving and caring daughters to their mothers.	Arica is Geneva's granddaughter Arica made snacks during the trip.

Language: Idioms

An idiom is a common expression understood figuratively, as the literal meaning makes no sense. Many idioms have been used in this chapter. Write three idioms from Chapter 4.

(a) I felt my breath catch in my throat (Page 125)

(b) pitched in some cash (Page 126)

(c) jog her memory (Page 127)

Inference

Read the short extract from Chapter 4, and place an "X" on the statements that are valid inferences for this extract.

"As I was biting into the delicious snack that my daughter had so carefully prepared, I thought about how grateful I felt that finding my mother had resulted in my sharing this special moment together with my daughter."

 X While traveling to visit her mother, Grace and her daughter were having special moments together.

 X Traveling to visit her mother ultimately resulted in Grace and her daughter getting time to bond.

 Grace was excited for her daughter to meet her grandmother.

 Grace and her daughter did not sleep in a motel like Jerome suggested.

Character Analysis

Circle all of the traits that suitable for Grace's brothers: Jerome and Terrence.

Devastated Helping Concerned Supportive Guilt Insecure Excited Caring

Character Trait Discussion

The Character Trait for Lesson Four is "loving".

Loving means feeling and showing love or great care.

Read the statement below. Then choose one of the questions below and answer it. Write your answer in the space provided then discuss it with your group.

Grace is loving in the sense that she wants to do everything she can for her mother's well-being and even bring her back home. We can see the same trait in her daughter Arica as well.

1. Describe your relationship with your mother and all things you do together.
2. Why do you think it is important to spend time with your family?
3. If you were in Grace's position, would you drive all the way to visit your mother? Why or why not?

_____ **Answers will vary from learner to learner.** _____

[illegible]

Lesson Five - Answers

This lesson coincides with Chapter Five of the book, “After the Reunion: A Story of Acceptance”. The purpose of this lesson is to analyze the author’s feelings during the second visit to her mother.

Chapter Five – “Arriving on Thursday Evening”

Main Idea and Supporting Details

Place an “X” on the line beside the “main idea” of the story.

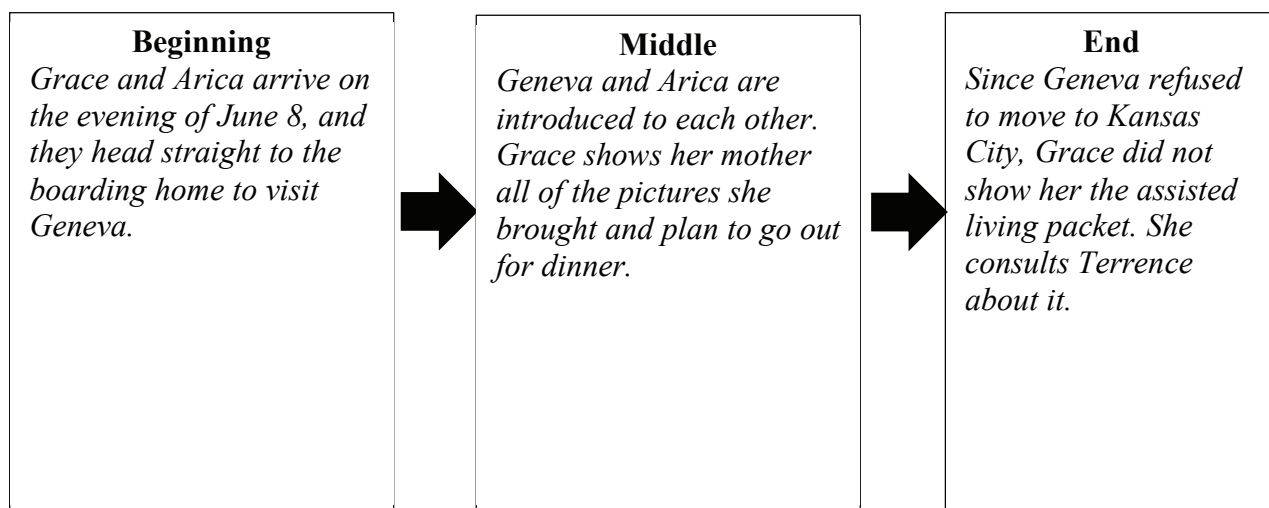
- ☒ **X** Grace was excited about seeing her mother right away when they arrived.
- ☐ Grace was happy and proud to finally introduce Arica to her mother.
- ☐ The photos that Grace brought on the trip captured her mother’s attention.

The four statements below “support” the main idea. Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

- (a) The anticipation of driving to the boarding home where she lived was intense.
- (b) Grace was concerned about returning to that rundown and unkempt neighborhood.
- (c) Grace felt that her mother was worth any inconvenience that she would experience to see her.
- (d) Geneva did not know the exact time that Grace and Arica were coming.

Sequencing

Write briefly in each box what happens in Chapter 5.



Point of View

The passage below is in first person point of view. Rewrite it in the third person point of view.

“It was around five o’clock in the evening of June 7th when we left Kansas City; and it was around five o’clock in the evening of June 8th when we arrived at our out-of-town hotel. Arica and I were both tired and felt like resting, but I was too excited and wanted to go see my mother right away.”

Answer: It was around five o’clock in the evening of June 7th when **they** left Kansas City; and it was around five o’clock in the evening of June 8th when **they** arrived at **their** out-of-town hotel. Arica and **Grace** were both tired and felt like resting, but **Grace** was too excited and wanted to go see **her** mother right away.

Author’s Purpose

The author’s purpose of this selection is to entertain because the author holds readers’ attention with enjoyment.

(a) True

(b) False

Identifying Cause and Effect

“She said they had done many nice things to the house, like fixing major holes in the walls and painting. She explained that she was used to being there. Furthermore, she expressed that she did not want to leave at this time. Although I was saddened, I understood how she felt, and most of all, I truly appreciated her honesty.”

What is the Cause? they had done many nice things to the house, like fixing major holes in the walls and painting

What is the Effect? she expressed that she did not want to leave at this time

Literary Techniques: Descriptive Language

Write the author's descriptions for the boarding home in the boxes below.

Scenery and View an old non-functional fireplace a large television mounted on the wall two long couches, and some chairs. the living room was organized the walls were free of flaws the floor was clean.	Scents and Smells an unbearable odor
Sounds and Noises Loud and noisy	Sensation and Surface The living room featured brown hardwood floors.

Character Analysis

Grace was having a mixture of feelings at different parts of the story.

Analyze Grace's emotions before and after meeting her mother again.

Before	After
Grace was very excited to meet her mother for the second time. She did not even want to rest after arriving in her mother's state. She did not like traveling on those hectic roads to reach the boarding home, but her mother was worth any inconvenience for her.	Although the meeting with her mother went well, she felt disappointed that her mother refused to leave the boarding home at the time. She also felt a sense of abandonment when her mother took some time to return with the photo of Danisha.

Character Trait Discussion

The Character Trait for Lesson Five is "accommodating".

Accommodating means willing to fit someone's wishes or needs.

Read the statement below. Then choose one of the questions below and answer it. Write your answer in the space provided then discuss it with your group.

Grace is very accommodating towards her mother. She does not pressure her into moving to Kansas City even though she would like her to. Yet, she continues to care for her mother.

1. What would you do to convince your mother to move closer to you?

- Answers will vary from learner to learner.

Lesson Six

This lesson coincides with Chapter Six of the book, “After the Reunion: A Story of Acceptance”. The purpose of this lesson is to analyze the author’s mother and her connection with the people around her.

Chapter Six – “Day Two of Our Visit - Friday”

Main Idea and Supporting Details

Place an “X” on the line beside the “main idea” of the story.

- _____ Donna was shocked to know that Grace and Arica were Geneva’s family.
- ___X___ **Grace thought about the fun they would have participating in activities with Geneva.**
- _____ All the workers thought that Geneva was nice, quiet and didn’t bother anyone.

The four statements below “support” the main idea. Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

- (a) Geneva told Grace and Arica to come to the center around noon. (Page 139)
- (b) When they arrived at the address, they met the center manager, Donna. (Page 139)
- (c) Donna gave Grace her cellular phone number and welcomed her to call anytime.
(Page 140)
- (d) Grace felt embarrassed for expecting to participate in activities with Geneva at the center.
(Page 141)

Character Analysis: Geneva

Analyze Geneva’s character by giving her two traits based on this chapter. Support your choice by citing relevant examples from the text.

Traits	Example from the Text
Scared / Fearful	Donna said she had to remind my mother that if she did not take her medication that she could end up locked up in a mental hospital again. Having a fear of going back there, she started taking it regularly.
Moody / Unpredictable	Not realizing we had already told Donna who we were, my mother told her that it was none of her business.

Identifying Cause and Effect

“She mentioned they recently had some difficulty getting her to take it consistently. She told me a story of how the workers noticed she had been acting angry and cussing at people more than usual. The staff came up with a bright idea to check under the mattress on her bed. There they found the pills she was supposed to be taking daily, but she had been hiding them instead. Donna said she had to remind my mother that if she did not take her medication that she could end up locked up in a mental hospital again. Having a fear of going back there, she started taking it regularly.”

What is the Cause? Having a fear of going back to the hospital

What is the Effect? she started taking it her pills regularly

-or-

What is the Cause? she had been hiding her medication instead of taking them

What is the Effect? she was acting angry and cussing at people more than usual

Interpreting and Evaluating Information

What are the things that Donna liked about Geneva?

Sample answer: Just like everyone else, Donna too thought that Geneva was nice, quiet and did not bother anyone. She says that Geneva was all those things as long as she took her medication properly. She also states that the things that impressed her the most about Geneva was the fact that she does not touch drugs even though she is around them.

Contextual Meaning

Read the following line from Chapter 6 with the highlighted word and choose the best meaning for it.

“I woke up the next morning, **envisioning** the fun we would have sitting in the center, participating in activities with my mother.”

(a) disregarding

(b) neglecting

(c) visualizing

Character Trait Discussion

The Character Trait for Lesson Six is “acquiescent”.

Acquiescent means ready to accept something without protest, or to do what someone else wants.

Read the statement below. Then choose one of the questions below and answer it. Write your answer in the space provided then discuss it with your group.

Grace is acquiescent in regard to her mother's needs. She arrives at the center hoping to participate in activities with her mother.

1. Would you be willing to participate in activities with an elderly person?

Explain why or why not.

2. Have you ever been acquiescent just to please someone? Describe the situation.

3. Do you think it good to be acquiescent all the time? Discuss your answer.

Answers will vary from learner to learner.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

[illegible]

Lesson Seven - Answers

This lesson coincides with Chapter Seven of the book, “After the Reunion: A Story of Acceptance”. The purpose of this lesson is to analyze the author’s mother and her connection with the people around her.

Chapter Seven – “Day Two of Our Visit – Talking with Mother”

Main Idea and Supporting Details

Place an “X” on the line beside the “main idea” of the story.

- X Geneva talks about her husband and the birth order of all her children.
- Geneva is concerned about Carla missing.
- Grace was surprised to hear that her father had been traveling even before Geneva left.

The four statements below “support” the main idea. Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

- (a) Geneva and Grace’s father moved to another state and lived there for eight years.
(Page 144)
- (b) Geneva told Arica that her husband was nice and helpful to her. (Page 145)
- (c) Geneva remembered buying a toy oven for Carla. (Page 147)
- (d) Geneva did not remember buying Grace chocolate covered malt balls. (Page 147)

Literary Devices: Flashback

Flashbacks are interruptions that writers do to insert past events, in order to provide background or context to the current events of a narrative.

Cite two examples of flashbacks from this chapter.

Example 1:

Then she continued her story, “So after I got my job, I worked there for two years. Then that’s when I met my husband. There was a girl who worked at the same place where I worked. So, she asked me ‘You want to come over my sister’s house with me?’ I said, ‘Yeah, I’ll go.’ So, at her sister’s house, that is where I met my husband.”

Example 2:

She remembered buying a toy oven for Carla. “It had a little stove and a little sink and you put the water in the back in a container. Then you’d turn on the faucet and the water really came out of the faucet. Carla loved that! She would say, ‘Mommy, help me bake a cake.’ So, it baked little cakes and cookies and they loved that.”

Literary Elements: Tone

The tone is the feeling or the atmosphere set by the author. What is author's tone in this chapter? Circle the letter for the correct answer.

(a) gloomy

(b) ironic

(c) nostalgic

Identifying Cause and Effect

"Right. It's a nice place to live for now. You never know what's going to happen when you look ahead, you know. Right now, you know, I'd rather stay here, you know."

What is the Cause? You never know what's going to happen when you look ahead,

What is the Effect? Right now, you know, I'd rather stay here,

Interpreting and Evaluating Information

Write two reasons why Grace's father left her and his siblings alone at home. (Pages 145-146)

Reason 1: **In order to support his big family, Grace's father would constantly travel for work.**

Reason 2: **He needed to work in order to provide for his family and keep them together.**

Contextual Meaning

Read the following line from Chapter 7 with the highlighted word and circle the best meaning for it.

"I found that **intriguing**. I asked her if she remembered walking me to a convenience store in Kansas City."

(a) fascinating

(b) uninteresting

(c) boring

Inference

What can you infer from the following lines?

"Right. It's a nice place to live for now. You never know what's going to happen when you look ahead, you know. Right now, you know, I'd rather stay here, you know." (Page 148)

Sample answer: We understand that Geneva is content where she is because she has been living at the boarding house for fifteen years, contributing to its upkeep. It is apparently a place close to her heart. However, she does not completely refuse Grace's offer to move to Kansas City.

Character Trait Discussion

The Character Trait for Lesson Seven is “affable”.

Affable means friendly, good-natured and easy to talk to.

Read the statement below. Then choose one of the questions below and answer it.

Write your answer in the space provided then discuss it with your group.

Geneva was affable with Grace and Arica during their time together. She did not make them feel unwelcome or uncomfortable during their conversation.

1. Are you an affable person? Explain why or why not.
2. Mention someone you can talk about anything with. State at least one reason.
3. What are two benefits of being an affable person?

Answers will vary from learner to learner.

[illegible]

[illegible]

Lesson Eight - Answers

This lesson coincides with Chapter Eight of the book, “After the Reunion: A Story of Acceptance”. The purpose of this lesson is to study some background information in order to understand the author’s mother better.

Chapter Eight – “Day Two of Our Visit – Talking About Moving”

Main Idea and Supporting Details

Place an “X” on the line beside the “main idea” of the story.

- _____ Geneva told Grace and Arica some stories of her childhood.
- X **Grace showed Geneva the information on the facility she had picked for her.**
- _____ Grace was not ready to take long-distance responsibility for her mother.

The four statements below “support” the main idea. Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

- (a) Terrence had insisted that Grace show Geneva the information about the facility.
(Page 149)
- (b) Grace pulled out a folder which contained all the information. (Page 149)
- (c) Grace told Geneva that she can leave her belongings in her own room at the facility because they would be safe. (Page 149)
- (d) Geneva stated that the facility looked like luxury and that she was not ready for anything like that. (Page 151)

Character Analysis

What can you tell about the Geneva’s character based on the childhood stories she told Arica?

Geneva’s Childhood	
Who were her family?	Mother and father (Page 155)
What were some activities she indulged in?	Bike riding on the street, skating (Page 156 & 157)
Was she an obedient or mischievous child? Explain why.	She was mischievous because she rode the bike and hurt her knee when her mother told her not to. She even brought home someone else’s skates that were on the street. (Page 157)

Identifying Cause and Effect

"I felt surprised, yet grateful when Arica asked the question about how Mother felt when she met us."

What is the Cause? when Arica asked the question about how Mother felt when she met us.

What is the Effect? I felt surprised, yet grateful

Interpreting and Evaluating Information

Mention three ways in which Grace tried to convince her mother to move to Kansas City.

Grace tells Geneva that the facility would be exactly like the one she is living in, except she would have her own room.

She would not have to carry her belongings around in a backpack for fear of them being stolen.

All utilities were included except phones, and she could even take part in many activities. There was even a hairdresser at the facility.

Comparing and Contrasting

Compare Geneva's condition with and without her medication.

With Medication	Without Medication
Geneva is nice and does not bother anybody when she takes her medication.	Her behavior becomes uncontrollable when she does not take her medication.

Character Trait Discussion

The Character Trait for Lesson Eight is “enthusiastic”.

Enthusiastic means showing intense interest and excitement.

Read the statement below. Then choose one of the questions below and answer it. Write your answer in the space provided then discuss it with your group.

At the beginning of the chapter, Grace is enthusiastic about sharing the information about the facility she picked for her mother. She hopes that her mother would be convinced to move.

1. Name one thing that you have been enthusiastic about sharing with your family?
2. Name 3 things you are enthusiastic about?
3. Do you think it is important to be enthusiastic? Why or why not?

Answers will vary from learner to learner.

[illegible]

Lesson Nine - Answers

This lesson coincides with Chapter Nine of the book, “After the Reunion: A Story of Acceptance”. The purpose of this lesson is to observe some similarities the author has with her mother.

Chapter Nine – “Day Three of Our Visit - Saturday”

Main Idea and Supporting Details

Place an “X” on the line beside the “main idea” of the story.

- _____ Geneva bought some soda pop for Grace and Arica.
- _____ Grace had forgotten to make the video call with Terrence and Grayson.
- X **Grace was able to observe her mother and understand where she got certain traits and features from.**

The four statements below “support” the main idea. Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

- (a) Grace noticed her mother walking on her tiptoes. (Page 161)
- (b) Grace also noticed that her sense of humor was similar to her mother’s. (Page 162)
- (c) Grace and her mother laughed at each other’s witticisms. (Page 162)
- (d) Realizing where she got some of her features and characteristics from made Grace appreciate herself more. (Page 162)

Summarizing

Summarize the following paragraph in two sentences.

“After a while, Mother finally entered the living room with a big smile on her face. Her backpack was in one hand, and two bottles of soda pop was in the other. She held the necks of the bottles in between her fingers. The proud look on her face indicated that she was confident we would be happy about getting the drinks; and that we would feel it was worth the wait to quench our thirst at last.”

Sample answer: Geneva bought two bottles of soda pop for Grace and Arica. She felt proud and confident that they would enjoy the drinks and feel it was worth the wait to quench their thirst.

Identifying Cause and Effect

“After that, I made a regular voice call to Terrance and found out he had already left Grayson’s house. They had waited for my call for an hour, then gave up. I told him how sorry I was and that if he went back around to Grayson’s house, I would call again. He assured me it was okay and said he did not have time to go back over.”

What is the Cause? They had waited for my call for an hour, then gave up.

What is the Effect? I told him how sorry I was and that if he went back around to Grayson’s house, I would call again.

Comparing and Contrasting

Compare Geneva and Grace by stating the similarities between them.

Geneva	Similarities	Grace
	• <i>They both did not pick up their feet when they walked.</i> • <i>They both walked on their tiptoes.</i> • <i>They had a similar sense of humor.</i>	

Interpreting and Evaluating Information

Explain what Geneva meant when she said that she would feel embarrassed about “hopping” into the restaurant.

Sample answer: Geneva had been suffering with a hip problem which caused her to limp when she walked. Therefore, when Grace reminded her that they would be taking her out to dinner, Geneva expressed that she would feel embarrassed to “hop” into the restaurant. She meant that she was not able to walk properly and felt uncomfortable about it.

Character Trait Analysis: Geneva

In this chapter, we learn more about Geneva's character and personality. Describe Geneva's character by stating some traits for her and supporting them with evidences.

Traits	Examples
hospitable	"She told me she had given a young man some money and sent him to the store to buy Arica and me some bottles of soda pop."
puzzled	"When she finally saw us, she looked a little puzzled to realize we had been sitting there without her being aware we were there."
shy / hesitant	"She mentioned that she would be embarrassed about "hopping" into the restaurant due to her hip pain."

Character Trait Discussion

The Character Trait for Lesson Nine is "appreciation".

Appreciation means recognition and enjoyment of the good qualities of someone or something.

Read the statement below. Then choose one of the questions below and answer it. Write your answer in the space provided then discuss it with your group.

Grace appreciated herself more after noticing some similarities between herself and her mother.

1. Describe three things that you appreciate about yourself and explain why.
2. Who do you appreciate the most in your life and why?
3. Do you feel it is better to appreciate the things we have and not complain? Why or why not?

_____ **Answers will vary from learner to learner.** _____

[illegible]

Lesson Ten - Answers

This lesson coincides with Chapter Ten of the book, “After the Reunion: A Story of Acceptance”. The purpose of this lesson is to observe the author’s feelings and reaction to an unexpected turn or events.

Ten – “Day Four of Our Visit - Sunday”

Main Idea and Supporting Details

Place an “X” on the line beside the “main idea” of the story.

- _____ Grace bought Geneva some new and comfortable sandals.
___X___ **Grace felt disappointed that Geneva refused to go out to dinner.**
_____ Everyone at the boarding home acted like they didn’t know Geneva had children.

The four statements below “support” the main idea. Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

- (a) Grace woke up feeling very excited on Sunday morning. (Page 163)
(b) She was planning to strike up the conversation at dinner about why Geneva left forty-nine years ago. (Page 163)
(c) For months, since their reunion Grace had been looking forward to talking to Geneva about it. (Page 163)
(d) Grace excitement evaporated when Geneva said that she wasn’t going to dinner with them. (Page 164)

Story Elements: Dialogue

Read the following dialogues from Chapter 10 and write who said it.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| “You all are early.” | <u>Geneva</u> (Page 164) |
| “Do you want to sit where we were sitting yesterday?” | <u>Geneva</u> (Page 166) |
| “Geneva, I didn’t know you had children!” | <u>woman</u> (Page 165) |
| “How do those feel?” | <u>Grace</u> (Page 167) |
| “I am <i>her</i> daughter!” | <u>Grace</u> (Page 165) |
| “Did you hear from Terrance?” | <u>Geneva</u> (Page 167) |
| “I’m not going!” | <u>Geneva</u> (Page 164) |

Identifying Cause and Effect

“I went to the car and came back to the front of the house with the shopping bag in my hand. I took out the items and showed them to her. She tried on the shoes and said they were very comfortable. She really liked them a lot.”

What is the Cause? I took out the items and showed them to her.

What is the Effect? She tried on the shoes and said they were very comfortable. She really liked them a lot.

Reading for Information

Scan the text to find the answer for the question below.

What did Grace buy for Geneva while shopping in the city?

Answer: She bought some sandals and socks for her. (Page 164)

Contextual Meaning

Read the following line from Chapter 10 with the highlighted word and choose the best meaning for it.

“I couldn’t help but marvel at the way she was **cognizant** about the time of day.”

(a) unaware

(b) conscious

(c) ignorant

Character Trait Discussion

The Character Trait for Lesson Ten is “understanding”.

Understanding means having sympathetic awareness or tolerance.

Read the statement below. Then choose one of the questions below and answer it. Write your answer in the space provided then discuss it with your group.

Although disappointed, Grace was understanding when her mother refused to go to dinner because of her hip problem.

1. How would you react if you made plans with someone and they backed out at the last minute?
2. Would you consider yourself an understanding person? Explain why or why not.

Answers will vary from learner to learner.

[illegible]

Lesson Eleven - Answers

This lesson coincides with Chapter Eleven of the book, "After the Reunion: A Story of Acceptance". The purpose of this lesson is to analyze past events in order to understand the current situation in the story.

Chapter Eleven – "Day Four of Our Visit – Why Mother Left"

Main Idea and Supporting Details

Place an "X" on the line beside the "main idea" of the story.

- _____ Grace felt nervous about asking her mother to talk about why she left.
- _____ Grace's father never visited Geneva when she was put in a mental hospital.
- X **Grace was relieved that Arica's questions made Geneva talk about why she left.**

The four statements below "support" the main idea. Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

- (a) Geneva said that she was a private person when Grace asked her about why she left.
(Page 169)
- (b) Geneva totally disregarded Grace's request to go outside and talk. (Page 170)
- (c) Arica's plea had genuinely touched Geneva's emotions. (Page 171)
- (d) Geneva understood how important it was for her to open up and share her story. (Page 171)

Sequencing

Put the following dialogues from this chapter in the correct order. (Page 169-173)

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| _____ 1 _____ | "I'm a private person." |
| _____ 10 _____ | "I would come home on furlough." |
| _____ 2 _____ | "I feel like I know. I just want to hear you say the actual words." |
| _____ 6 _____ | "Yes, that's the same one," |
| _____ 9 _____ | "He was nice to me. He just wanted me to feel better." |
| _____ 7 _____ | "Right. Well uh," |
| _____ 3 _____ | "Can she hear us?" |
| _____ 4 _____ | "When we be on the phone, she eavesdrops and then she will gossip.
So, I don't want to come right out with anything. You know?" |
| _____ 8 _____ | "He and grandmother told me you left and you did not want me.
But, even if that was the case, I forgive you." |
| _____ 5 _____ | "Now or never." |

Character Analysis

Describe Grace's psychological state when she tries to ask her mother to share her story about why she left forty-nine years ago.

Sample answer: Grace feels disappointed, disheartened and frustrated when her mother does not answer her questions about why she left many years ago. Grace had traveled all the way from Kansas City to meet her mother and get this information from her first-hand. However, when her mother does not readily share her story, Grace can't help but feel saddened by this.

Literary Elements: Theme

The Theme is the message that author wants to convey.

What is the theme of this selection?

(a) reunion

(b) denial

(c) rejection

Identifying Cause and Effect

"It all began before you were born. I would often feel tired from taking care of the five kids your father and I had together. He would go out of town for work, leaving me alone with them for one or two weeks at a time. I told him I needed a break from the kids..."

What is the Cause? He would go out of town for work, leaving me alone with them for one or two weeks at a time.

What is the Effect? I would often feel tired from taking care of the five kids your father and I had together.

Interpreting and Evaluating Information

What kind of relationship did Geneva have with her husband?

Sample answer: Geneva seemed to have had a very painful and unhealthy relationship with her husband. He did not talk to her much, but would abuse and hit her whenever she did something wrong. However, Geneva loved him and taught her children to love their father.

Character Trait Discussion

The Character Trait for Lesson Eleven is "inquisitive".

Inquisitive means having or showing an interest in learning things.

Read the statement below. Then choose one of the questions below and answer it. Write your answer in the space provided then discuss it with your group.

1. What are some things you are inquisitive about right now? Explain why.
2. What would you do if someone was inquisitive about a secret you have kept for a long time?
3. Should one be inquisitive rather than mind their own business? Discuss.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Lesson Twelve - Answers

This lesson coincides with Chapter Twelve of the book, "After the Reunion: A Story of Acceptance". The purpose of this lesson is to analyze the author's feelings after visiting her mother.

Chapter Twelve – "Day Four of Our Visit – Returning Home"

Main Idea and Supporting Details

Place an "X" on the line beside the "main idea" of the story.

- _____ Grace wishes that Geneva would agree to move to Kansas City.
- ___ **X** ___ **The trip had served its purpose for Grace as Geneva answered some questions.**
- _____ Geneva was perfectly happy with where she was staying.

The four statements below "support" the main idea. Fill in the blanks with the correct word. (Page 181)

- (a) Grace did a lot of thinking about how she felt the visit had gone.
- (b) She appreciated her mother for doing the best she could to talk about why she left.
- (c) Geneva was in denial about a lot of the ways she was feeling back then.
- (d) Grace valued the things that Geneva felt comfortable sharing, but doubtful that she had truly given her all the facts.

Sequencing

Put the following dialogues in order from Chapter 12. (Page 179-180)

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| _____ 8 _____ | "Wow, I am much prettier than I thought I was!" |
| _____ 1 _____ | "Yes, I'm okay." |
| _____ 7 _____ | "That sounds good!" |
| _____ 4 _____ | "You only shared what you were comfortable with right?" |
| _____ 6 _____ | "They don't read it!" |
| _____ 2 _____ | "Miss. Geneva, this is heavy! How do you do it?" |
| _____ 5 _____ | "Did you play the piano?" |
| _____ 3 _____ | "I'm a strong woman, you just don't know!" |

Literary Elements: Theme

What is the dominating theme in this chapter?

(a) rejection

(b) denial

(c) reunion

Figurative Language: Symbolism

Symbolism is anything that stands for something other than its literal meaning.

In the chapter, Geneva's "backpack" has been mentioned various times. Arica even says that it is very heavy. What do you think it symbolized?

Sample answer: The backpack could have been a symbol for all of the painful memories and emotions of not having a family that Geneva had been keeping with her for years. As she had kept all those things to herself, her burden became heavier as years passed. Therefore, the backpack is compared to her memories and emotions of her painful past. Geneva responds to Arica by saying she is a very strong woman. Perhaps she meant that she was strong enough to carry all of those emotions, rather than being physically strong.

Inference

What do you infer from the following line in Chapter 12?

"My heart wept for her at that moment."

Sample answer: It means that Grace felt sorry for Geneva that she was not able to keep any of her children. When Geneva found the house where her other four children was living boarded up, she was devastated. She knew what had happened to them. Grace could relate as she too had been taken away when her father had left her and her siblings alone in the house. Therefore, she is empathizing with Geneva here.

Character Analysis

Analyze Geneva's character. She has been given three traits. Define those traits in your own words and quote evidences from the text.

Trait	Definition	Evidences
religious	a person who practices religion	"They even stole my Bible! Can you imagine who would want to steal a Bible? They don't read it!" (Page 179)
strong	able to withstand	"I'm a strong woman, you just don't know!" (Page 179)
pretty	beautiful	"Wow, I am much prettier than I thought I was!" (Page 180)

Comparing and Contrasting

Compare Grace's feelings before and after the second trip.

Before	After
Grace was very excited and hopeful about meeting Geneva. She thought that Geneva was answer all of her queries about why she left so long ago, and also that she would agree to move to Kansas City.	Grace felt satisfied that Geneva that at least answered her queries partially. However, she felt disappointed and disheartened that Geneva did not want to move to Kansas City.

Character Trait Discussion

The Character Trait for Lesson Twelve is “accepting”.

Accepting means taking or receiving something with approval or favor.

Read the statement below. Then choose one of the questions below and answer it.

Write your answer in the space provided then discuss it with your group.

In this chapter, Grace is accepting the fact that her mother is happy staying where she is.

She also accepts that Geneva left on her own accord.

1. Would you be accepting of someone who does something wrong to you?
2. Do you think it is better to be accepting and tolerant rather than impatient with others?

Why or why not?

3. Would you accept a loved one's wishes even if it did not make you happy? Why or why not?

Answers will vary from learner to learner.

[illegible]