Chapter 12

**Comprehension Questions**: Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of lined paper. Keep these answers for future reference and to study for quizzes and tests.

What do Chrissie and Rodney say that they saw while they were in Cromer, Norfolk? (p. 139)

What is a “possible”? (p. 139)

What were some of the different attitudes the students had towards finding their possibles? (p. 139-140)

Describe Chrissie. (p. 141)

Describe Rodney. (p. 142)

Why was Kathy sceptical about Chrissie and Rodney’s story about Ruth’s possible? (p. 142)

What was Ruth’s dream future? (p. 143-144)

What does Kathy later realise about Chrissie’s view of those in the group who are from Hailsham? (p. 145)

What do Ruth, Chrissie, Rodney, Tommy and Kathy decide to do at the end of this chapter? (p. 145)

Chapter 13

**Comprehension Questions**: Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of lined paper. Keep these answers for future reference and to study for quizzes and tests.

Why does Ruth get upset at the beginning of the chapter? How does this contrast with how she had been acting up to this point? (p. 146-147)

Why is Kathy upset about the dynamics of the seating during the car ride? (p. 147)

**dynamics**. n. the relationships of power between the people in a group

How does Ruth react when Kathy suggests that they switch seats? Why? (p. 148)

Why did the quintet feel exhilarated upon arriving at the seaside town of Cromer? (p. 148)

Explain the “cosy little moment” that Kathy and Ruth share in the cafe. Why do they laugh when they look at each other? (p. 149)

How does Ruth get involved when Chrissie and Rodney are telling anecdotes about Martin? Why do you think she acts like this? (p. 150)

How does Tommy’s naïveté or innocence almost reveal that Ruth is lying about a former Hailsham student’s job? Why do you think she lies to Chrissie and Rodney? What does this tell us about the rumours about former students getting “regular” jobs? (p. 152)

**naïveté**. n. having or showing an excessively simple and trusting view of the world and human nature, often as a result of youth and inexperience

What incredible rumour do Chrissie and Rodney bring up about Hailsham students? (p. 153)

How do we know that Ruth has lied about this as well? (p. 154)

How does Tommy react when Ruth insults him after he almost reveals her lie? (p. 155)

Chapters 14

**Comprehension Questions**: Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of lined paper. Keep these answers for future reference and to study for quizzes and tests.

Why had the group’s excitement “evaporated”? (Give two reasons.) (p. 156)

What were Ruth and Chrissie having a tête-à-tête about? (p. 157-158)

What do they think when they first see Ruth’s “possible”? (p. 159)

When the group follows Ruth’s possible into “The Portway Studios,” what do they realize? (p. 162)

Why were Chrissie and Rodney “relieved” that Ruth’s possible was not exactly like Ruth? (p. 165)

What does Ruth say in her outburst after they leave the art studio? (p. 166)

Why do you think Kathy decides to not visit Martin with the rest of the group? (p. 167)

What does this tell us about what Kathy was worried about earlier? What does it also tell us about her personality?

Why do you think Tommy decides to stay with Kathy?