

*Summer Reading Package*  
*Cycle 1, Years 1 & 2*  
*2010-2011*

*So B. It*  
*By Sarah Weeks*

Please answer the following questions in **complete sentences**. Each response should be approximately one paragraph long (5-8 sentences).

- 1.) Bernadette patiently takes care of Heidi and her mother, who both need a caretaker/babysitter. Why do you think she is willing to spend her time and money on people she does not know?
- 2.) When Heidi develops the mysterious roll of film and brings the pictures home to look at, Bernie asks her, "What's the worst it could be?" Heidi responds: "Nothing. The worst would be if there was nothing" (50). Why would "nothing" have been the worst thing for Heidi to find?
- 3.) Heidi is afraid that she will end up like her mother, full of missing pieces, if she does not go to Liberty to discover her past (85). Do you think that taking this trip/journey is worth all of the pain that it causes Bernie? Please explain.
- 4.) When Heidi lies to Alice, she realizes her lies are unnecessary but that she doesn't feel bad about lying until she gets caught (117). What do you think that this says about Heidi?
- 5.) Heidi realizes she doesn't miss her father because she has never known him, therefore life without him seems normal. She tells Georgia, "You can't miss what you don't remember having" (126). Do you think that this is true? Why or why not?
- 6.) Ruby tells Heidi that it probably doesn't mean anything that Elliot says "soof" regularly, but Heidi says, "I think everything means something, even when you don't know what it is" (181-182). Based on Heidi's life experiences, do you agree with this statement? Please explain.
- 7.) Roy, Ruby and Heidi cannot understand why Mr. Hill is not telling the truth about Heidi's mother but Heidi knows that "sometimes people lie because the truth is too hard to admit" (201). What truth is Mr. Hill afraid to admit and how does the choices he make affect Heidi's life?
- 8.) One of the lessons Heidi learns is that *life is not fair*. List the people and events in Heidi's life that are unfair. How do these life experiences help Heidi to become a stronger person?

- 9.) After Heidi's journey to Liberty, we learn that her lucky streak seems to disappear. What is the importance of Heidi 'losing her luck?'
- 10.) After reading the novel, it is clear that the title, *So B. It*, could have several meanings. What do you think the title means?
- 11.) Heidi's mother only uses 23 words, but is able to communicate what she needs and how she feels. For instance, when she offers tea to Heidi, she is also offering comfort. Imagine you could only use 23 words. Make a list of the 23 words you would use and explain your choices in one sentence (per word)
- 12.) Heidi keeps a book of lists. She makes a list of what she knows about her mother and one about Georgia from the bus. Choose another major character from the novel (such as Heidi, Bernadette, Zander, Ruby, or Thurman Hill) and make a list of everything you know about him or her.