CHAPTERS 1-3: RECALL A FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL WHEN YOU WERE YOUNGER.

How did you view school: with excitement, dread, or boredom?
How did you react to teachers?
How did you interact with classmates?
What was the hardest thing for you to cope with?
CHAPTERS 1-3: Why do so many people make up, read, or view gruesome and frightening stories?

Give examples of horror stories that have been popular.
Why do so many people like these tales?
Why do they frighten us even though we know they aren’t true?
Why do people make fun of those who are different?

Why is this tendency stronger in children than in adults?

What are ways we can combat these tendencies?
CHPETERS 4-6: RECALL A TIME WHEN YOU WERE DARED TO DO SOMETHING YOU FELT WAS DANGEROUS.

How did you feel about the person who came up with the dare?
Did you carry the dare out? Why or why not?
After it was over, how did you feel about yourself and the person (people) who challenged you?
Chapters 7-9: What type of insult would most provoke you:

- One about your dress or appearance
- One about your character or actions
- One about a friend or family member
- One about a hero or belief

Explain your reasons.
Suggest ways to deal with insults.
CHAPITERS 7-9: GIVE EXAMPLES OF PREJUDICE.

Identify the most common types of prejudice in our community, in the U.S., and in the world.

Explain why these types of prejudice are destructive.
CHAPTERS 10-11: WRITE ABOUT THE MEANING OF COURAGE.

Give examples of courageous behavior.

Which kinds (or examples) of courage seem to be most admirable?
CHAPTERS 10-11: HOW DO YOU ACT, SPEAK, OR DRESS DIFFERENTLY
ACCORDING TO WHICH GROUP YOU ARE WITH?
(For example, you probably don’t talk to your parents, grandparents, boss, or teachers
the same way you talk to your friends.)

Why do you make these adjustments?
Do you think it’s hypocritical or false to make such changes? Why or why not?
Which person is the real you?
Chapters 12-15: How do you cope with a situation where two or more adults give you different rules or expect different things from you?

What feelings do you experience during this kind of situation?

Whom do you listen to and why?
Chapters 12-15: What is your definition of a MOB?

How does mob behavior differ from individual behavior?

How would you handle an angry mob, as opposed to an angry individual?
Chapters 16-18: How do you feel about sheltering children from unpleasant truths (death, disease, crimes such as rape, murder)?

When is it important for children to know such truths?

When is it better to keep them in the dark?

Is it right for an adult to lie to a child to shield him or her?
CHAPTEARS 16-18: HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ACCUSED OF SOMETHING YOU DID NOT DO?
How did it make you feel?
Was the truth ever revealed?
If not, write about what it would be like to be accused of something in which you know you are innocent.
I N A T O T A L L Y U N F A M I L I A R W A Y ?
How did you react to that description?
Did you accept it without question?
Did it change the way you viewed that person?
Did it cause you to reconsider your opinion of other people you know?
**Chapters 19-22: Consider and write why people fail to do the right thing, even though their consciences clearly tell them what to do.**

Which influences would you be likely to personally resist, and which might overrule your conscience?
Chapters 23-26: Imagine what it would be like to be sentenced to die for a crime.

How would a prisoner on death row think and act?

What effects, if any, would a death sentence have on the defendant’s attorney? Jury? Family?
Chapters 23-26: Speculate why many people feel prejudice against whole groups of people.
Is it an expression of unity with one’s own group?
A sign of security? A result of actual bad experiences?
An automatic acceptance of old attitudes?

How do we overcome prejudice?

How likely is it that prejudice will be overcome and that all groups will become one?
Chapters 27-31: List some important realizations that a child must make before becoming an adult.
(Example: Life isn’t fair.)
Which of these facts of life are most difficult to accept?
Which are the most important to accept? Why?
Chapters 27-31: Do you think everyone should be treated the same under the law?
Consider people who are mentally challenged, emotionally disturbed, or severely underprivileged.
Should they always have the same laws? The same penalties?
Give support for your reasons.
Teacher’s Notes:

Chapters 27-31 - “Adult realizations” examples:
These are examples I’ve heard in my classroom over the years. They make wonderful discussion starters.

-Santa, Easter Bunny, and Tooth fairy are not real.
-You can’t sleep in mom & dad’s bed forever (thankfully!)
-You will have to get a job & go to work someday
-Someday you will act like your parents.
-Your own kids will act like you act toward your parents.
-What comes around goes around.
-Working hard pays off.
-We aren’t all treated equally or fairly.
-Sometimes the best man (or woman) doesn’t get the job.
-You won’t always earn gold stars for good work or behavior.
-As much as we say it doesn’t matter, looks DO matter in our society.
-People will always judge you.
-Sometimes people will lie to get you to do things you don’t want to do.
-People can be cruel. But they can also be kind.
-You can’t make someone love you.
-Your true friends will stand by you no matter what.
-Sometimes who you think is your friend really isn’t.
-Not all girls have cooties. (But Burris Ewell does!)
-Invisible spray does not get rid of cooties.
-People die.
-You can't sleep ‘til noon every day unless you work 3rd shift.
-There won’t always be someone there to stick up for you or protect you; you have to protect yourself.
-You have to learn to cook if you want to eat.
-You have to learn to do laundry if you want clean clothes.
-You have to pick up after yourself.
-Life can be lonely.
-Just because the light is green does not mean someone isn’t running their red light.
-Paying for car insurance and repairs suck! (The student’s words.)

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Thank you!