

Name: _____

Use with the book:
Number the Stars by Lois Lowry

Number the Stars Vocabulary

Chapters 7–11

1. Based on the following sentence and what you know about the word **gnarled**, which sentence best describes how the tree looked?

"Nearby, a gnarled tree was still speckled with a few apples now long past ripe."



a. The tree's branches were twisted and curved in many directions.

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a. torn or worn out
b. painted with bright colors
c. decorated by sewing a piece of fabric onto another fabric
d. covered in zippers and buttons

3. Which sentence best explains the use of the word **specter** in the quote below?

"...suddenly the specter of guns and grim-faced soldiers seemed nothing more than a ghost story..."

a. It is used to show that ghosts of soldiers appeared in the night.
b. It is used to show a fear of guns and soldiers.
c. It is used to show that the soldiers were pale, like ghosts.
d. It is used to show that Uncle Henrik was telling a ghost story.

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4. What does the word **poised** tell you about how Kirsti's cat, God of Thunder, was sitting?

"The God of Thunder sat alertly poised nearby, watching."

- a. The cat was lying down lazily and almost asleep.
- b. The cat was hiding under the furniture, afraid.
- c. The cat was sitting still but ready to move at any moment.
- d. The cat was running quickly around the room.



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- d. corpse

6. How is a hearse different from a casket?

"Suddenly there was a noise outside... 'It is the hearse,' he said."

- a. A hearse is another word for a tombstone, while a casket is a box that holds a dead body.
- b. A hearse is a procession to celebrate the dead, while a casket is a box that holds a dead body.
- c. A hearse is a box that holds a dead body, while a casket is a vehicle that carries a hearse.
- d. A hearse is a vehicle that carries a casket, while a casket is a box that holds a dead body.

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7. What does the word **staccato** suggest about the sound of the soldiers' boots?

"She heard...the pounding on the door, and then the heavy, frighteningly familiar staccato of boots on the kitchen floor."

- a. The boots made long, smooth, dragging sounds.
- b. The boots made short, sharp sounds.
- c. The boots made a quiet, gentle tapping.
- d. The boots made an uneven, stumbling sound.



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c. It suggests that the soldier may be suspicious of Great-aunt Birte's death.
d. It suggests that the soldier feels bad for the loss of Great-aunt Birte.

9. Read the sentence below. What does the word **psalm** most likely mean?

"He opened it quickly and said, 'I will read a psalm.'"

- a. a religious song or poem
- b. a short fairy tale from a book
- c. a letter to a friend
- d. a made-up prayer

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10. What is the meaning of **protruding**?

"Annemarie could see it protruding from Mr. Rosen's pocket when he returned to the room and sat down again."

- a. hidden or tucked away
- b. torn or damaged
- c. sticking out
- d. shiny and smooth

b. there was noise, movement, or a disturbance.

- c. Everything was perfectly organized.
- d. People were gathering outside.



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2.



3.

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b. A hearse is a procession to celebrate the dead, while a casket is a box that holds a dead body.

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