

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.



- 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.



- 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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- 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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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,

staccato sound of the soldiers' boots as they walked down the hall."

8.

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