

Name: _____

Date: _____

SUMMER READING: DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

DUMPLIN'

Part A. First, read the five questions below pertaining to your summer reading text. Then, on a separate sheet of paper, you will respond to the questions using your book and notes. For **THREE** of the questions you may “brainstorm” your response (use bullet points, write down evidence, jot down ideas). For **TWO** of the questions, you must write a complete response (complete sentences).

1. As Willowdean’s relationship with Bo progresses, she begins to view herself differently. Explain the difference between how Willowdean viewed herself before and after becoming close with Bo. Overall, do you think the relationship with Bo had a positive or negative influence on Willowdean? Support your answers with evidence from the text.
2. Willowdean’s mother struggles with her own vanity throughout the novel. How does Willowdean’s mother project her own insecurities about herself on Willowdean? How does this affect Willowdean’s and her mother’s inability to connect with each other? Support your claims with evidence from the text.
3. El’s and Willowdean’s friendship shifts throughout the novel. First, explain their friendship at the beginning of the novel. Then, identify at least three moments where Willowdean feels El and she are drifting apart from each other. Why does she feel this way in each situation? Do you think she should feel this way? Finally, explain why and how El and Willowdean mend their friendship at the end of the novel. Support your answers with evidence from the text.
4. Willowdean struggles with the loss of her Aunt Lucy throughout the novel. Moreover, Willowdean’s current actions are influenced by her memories of her Aunt Lucy. First, explain the relationship Willowdean had with her Aunt Lucy. Then, identify at least three moments in the novel where Willowdean acts, speaks, or feels a certain way because of her Aunt Lucy’s influence. For each moment, do you think Aunt Lucy’s influence is positive or negative? Support your answers with evidence from the text.
5. When Willowdean decides to join the pageant, three other girls join alongside her: Millie, Amanda, and Hannah. Why does each of these three girls decide to join the pageant? What does each of these three girls gain from joining the pageant? Consider how each girl changes from the time she joins to the time the pageant concludes. Support your answers with evidence from the text.

PART B. Using the questions above as guidelines, create two of your own book discussion questions. These questions should be specific to your novel, and the answers should require the usage of evidence/examples (as the questions above do). You are **NOT** answering these questions.

1. _____

2. _____
