

Name: _____

Date: _____



Complete the following questions.

1. In Chapter 1, 'The Bear,' what are some of the scarce resources described in Lyddie's home? Are the things you listed scarce in our homes today?
2. Explain how scarcity of resources influenced the decisions made by Lyddie's dad? Lyddie's mom? Lyddie? Charlie?
3. An 'incentive' is a motivation that encourages or discourages an individual to make one choice over another. There are negative incentives; things we want to avoid, and positive incentives; things we want. Identify the following incidents as either negative or positive incentives, and give the choice that was made.

Lyddie's and Charlie's decision not to tell their mother about the calf and to sell it themselves and keep the proceeds.

Lyddie's and Charlie's decision to accept the jobs at the Mill and the Tavern.

Lyddie's decision not to turn Ezekiel Abernathy (Freeman) in as a runaway slave.
4. Why was there very little incentive for Lyddie to stay at Culver's Tavern? What were Charlie's incentives to stay at the Mill?
5. What benefits did Lyddie identify as she made her decision to run away from the Tavern and to take the job in the mills in Lowell?

6. What were the opportunity costs of going to Lowell?

7. As you read about Lyddie and her friends' experiences in the Lowell Mills, what conditions existed there that do not exist in the workplaces of the United States today?

8. What caused these conditions to improve for United States workers?

9. Why did the factory owners keep increasing the speed of the machines and also decreasing the quality of the workers' food?

10. Describe the economic plan that Lyddie had to reunite her family.

11. Name two things that occur in the story that helped Lyddie reach her savings goals.

12. At the end of the story, Lyddie must make another choice. From what two things must she choose? What does she choose? What is her opportunity cost in this decision?