

“Thank You Ma'am” Comprehension Questions

Answer the following questions. If a question is identified as *right there*, you will find the answer in the text and is probably a very short answer. If the question is identified as *think and search*, the answer is in the text, but you must think about what the events mean. These questions need an answer that is two to three sentences long. *Author and Me* questions can be answered by thinking about what you know about life as well as what is in the text. Your answer should be two or more sentences.. On my own questions are answered by using your own thoughts and knowledge and your answer should be two or more sentences.

1. What is the setting of this story (place and time)? *right there*
2. What happens when the boy tries to steal the woman's purse? *right there*
3. Do you think the boy's apology is sincere? Why or why not? *think and search*
4. Describe Roger's appearance. Draw an illustration to help you visualize the boy. *right there*
5. What is the woman's full name? *right there*
6. Why does the boy go with Mrs. Jones to her apartment? *think and search*
7. How much money do you think Mrs. Jones has? Think about the location and type of apartment she has. *think and search*
8. What does Roger do when Mrs. Jones finally lets go of him? *right there*
9. Why do you think the author italicizes the words “*and went to the sink*” (32). *author and me*

10. What is Roger worried about? *right there*

11. What do the following words reveal about Mrs. Jones's personality? "Not with that face, I would not take you anywhere. . .Here I am trying to get home to cook me a bite to eat and you snatch my pocketbook! Maybe you ain't been to your supper either, late as it be. Have you?" (32). *think and search*

12. Why does Roger try to steal Mrs. Jones's purse? *right there*

13. After Roger washes his face, he has the opportunity to run away. Why do you think he doesn't run out the door? *think and search*

14. Why does Roger sit so that Mrs. Jones can see him? *right there*

15. What do Roger and Mrs. Jones eat for supper? *right there*

16. What do we learn about Mrs. Jones's life? *right there* Why doesn't she ask him about his own life? *think and search*

17. What does Mrs. Jones give Roger? *right there*

18. What warning does Mrs. Jones give to Roger? Copy the exact lines from the book. *right there*
What do you think her warning means? *think and search*

19. What was your reaction to the last sentence in the story: "And he never saw her again" (33). How did that sentence make you feel? *author and me*

20. Read the poem below, "I, too, Sing America " and answer the question that follows.

I, too, Sing America

I am the darker brother.
They send me to eat in the kitchen
When company comes,
But I laugh,
And eat well,
And grow strong.

Tomorrow,
I'll be at the table
When company comes.
Nobody'll dare
Say to me,
"Eat in the kitchen,"
Then.

Besides,
They'll see how beautiful I am
And be ashamed--

I, too, am America.

-Langston Hughes

What do think that this poem is about? What is the theme? Use details from the poem to support your answer:
