

## The Lightning Thief Questions

### Chapter 1 Questions:

1. What kind of school is Yancy Academy ?
2. What bad experiences has Percy had on past field trips?
3. Why can't Percy get back at Nancy when she starts teasing Grover on the bus?
4. Why doesn't Percy get along with Mrs. Dodds?
5. When do you first suspect that something may be unusual/supernatural about Mrs. Dodds?
6. In the story about the gods and titans, who was Kronos and what happened to him after the gods defeated him?
7. Why does Percy get angry at Mr. Brunner? How would you have felt in his position?
8. What do you learn about Percy's home life as he's watching the taxis on Fifth Avenue?
9. How does Percy get in trouble with Mrs. Dodds? Do you think it's his fault?
10. How have things changed when Percy returns to the front steps of the museum?

### Chapter 2

1. Why does Percy think the whole school is playing a trick on him?
2. Why does Percy decide to study for the Latin exam even though he's given up on his other subjects?
3. What leads Percy to believe that Grover and Mr. Brunner think he's in danger?
4. After the Latin test, what do you think Mr. Brunner was trying to say to Percy? Why does Percy react angrily to Mr. Brunner's words?
5. How does Percy say he's different than the other kids at Yancy Academy?
6. Why does Percy tell Grover he's a really bad liar?
7. What responsibility does Grover claim to have, and why does this strike Percy as strange?
8. How do Percy and Grover end up on the side of the highway?
9. How does Grover react when Percy tells him about the yarn-cutting?
10. What does Percy think the yarn-cutting means? Does Grover seem to agree or not?

### Chapter 3

1. Why does Percy leave Grover at the bus station? What would you have done in his place?
2. Percy says "the best people get the rottenest luck." How does this apply to his mom?
3. Describe Gabe.
4. Why doesn't Percy tell his mom the truth about Mrs. Dodds and the ladies at the fruit stand?
5. How does Percy get even with Gabe as they're loading up the Camaro?
6. Why is Montauk special to Percy's mom?
7. Why does Percy's mom eat blue food, and why does Percy love this about her?
8. What new information does Percy learn about his dad as he and his mother are roasting marshmallows?
9. Describe Percy's dream. What do you think it means?
10. How does the title of the chapter, "Grover Unexpectedly Loses His Pants," come true?

### Chapter 4

1. What does Percy say that insults Grover?
2. According to Grover, who is after Percy?
3. What happens to make the car crash?
4. What does Percy's mom tell him to do when they get out of the car and why does Percy disobey?
5. What does Percy find strange about the bull-man's appearance?
6. What happens to Percy's mother?
7. Why does Grover keep attracting the monster's attention?
8. After the monster disintegrates, what gets Percy moving when all he wants to do is collapse?
9. What's the last thing Percy remembers?
10. Take a guess: Who is the "familiar face" that Percy thinks he sees?

## Chapter 5

1. What does the blond girl ask Percy as she's feeding him pudding?
2. What is strange about the man who is guarding Percy as he sleeps?
3. Why does Grover say he retrieved the Minotaur horn?
4. How does Percy feel after he tries the strange drink?
5. As he's gazing out from the front porch, what surprises Percy about the summer camp?
6. Describe Mr. D. Anticipate: Will he be a hero or a villain? Why?
7. What does Percy find striking about Annabeth's appearance?
8. What clues help Percy guess Mr. D's identity?
9. What evidence does Chiron use to prove that the Greek gods are in America?
10. According to Chiron, what is the big question that everyone wants answered? Take a guess: what's the answer?

## Chapter 6

1. What does Percy notice about the farm house as he walks away from it? What bothers him about the attic?
2. Why does Percy feel guilty about Grover getting in trouble?
3. Why do you think Percy asks Chiron about the Underworld? He says: "*The beginnings of an idea – a tiny, hopeful fire – started forming in my mind.*" What does he mean?
4. Based on the description, what Greek god is Cabin Three dedicated to?
5. Why is Annabeth upset with Percy after they leave Cabin Eleven?
6. How does Annabeth know that Percy is "one of us"?
7. Percy says the big girl from the Ares cabin reminds him of Nancy Bobofit. Is Clarisse like Nancy? Why or why not?
8. Why doesn't Percy want Annabeth's help when he gets into the fight with Clarisse?
9. What happens to Clarisse and her friends in the bathroom?
10. How does this incident change Annabeth's attitude toward Percy?

## Chapter 7

1. Who are Annabeth's parents?
2. What does it mean to be "undetermined"?
4. Why are some kids summer campers and others year-rounders? Which would you rather be?
5. What do the beads mean on Annabeth's necklace?
6. Why is Annabeth frustrated when she and Percy talk about quests?
7. Why does Luke feel bitter?
8. Why does Percy ask for a blue Coke at dinner?
9. What does Percy wish for as he puts his dinner into the fire?
10. In what way does Percy feel different once he gets to the bonfire?

## Chapter 8

1. Why are the counselors having a hard time deciding who Percy's Olympian parent is?
2. How does Percy surprise everyone during his first sword class? How do you think he was able to do this?
3. According to Grover, why did the "Big Three" gods swear never to have any more children?
4. Why does the story about Thalia make Percy feel "hollow and guilty"?
5. In capture-the-flag, why does Percy feel like he's being left out of the action?
6. How does Percy manage to overcome the kids from Ares's cabin?
7. What was Annabeth's plan to win the flag?
8. Why does Annabeth make Percy stand in the water?
9. What does Chiron say about how the hellhound got into camp?
10. When you find out Percy's true identity, are you surprised or did you see it coming? What clues were given earlier in the book?

## Chapter 9

1. Why does Percy feel miserable once he gets his own cabin?
2. Based on the newspaper article Percy finds under his door, what is happening in the real world while Percy is in camp?
3. What is the master bolt?
4. Why does Zeus think Percy stole the bolt?
5. Why can't the gods retrieve the bolt themselves?
6. What bothers Percy about the Oracle's prophecy?
7. According to Chiron, what evidence suggests that Hades stole the lightning bolt?
8. Why does Percy have to travel overland?
9. What will happen on the summer solstice if the lightning bolt is not returned?
10. What is unusual about the storm that moves in over camp?

## Chapter 10

1. Who is Argus and why can he never be surprised?
2. What gift does Luke give to Percy? Why can't Percy use them?
3. What special properties does Riptide have?
4. What is Mist?
5. What are some of the reasons Annabeth gives for why Poseidon and Athena don't get along?
6. According to Grover, why did Percy's mom marry Gabe?
7. Percy says he's not going on the quest to retrieve the lightning bolt. What's his real reason for going?
8. How does Percy sneak to the front of the bus?
9. Why doesn't Percy leave the bus when he has the chance?
10. How do Percy, Grover and Annabeth lose their luggage?

## Chapter 11

1. Why is Annabeth upset with Percy for risking his life on the bus?
2. What does Aunt Em look like when she opens the door?
3. How does Percy explain why he went into the garden gnome emporium? Does this explanation make sense to you?
4. Why does Grover start to get nervous at the emporium? (There are several reasons)
5. How can you tell that Percy isn't thinking straight after he eats his meal?
6. Did you guess Aunt Em's true identity before Percy did? If so, what clues gave her away?
7. Why does Annabeth say they have to kill Medusa? Why can't they just run away?
8. Medusa's head doesn't disintegrate along with the rest of her. Why not?
9. What important information does Percy find in Medusa's office?
10. Why do you think Percy sends Medusa's head to Mount Olympus? Do you think this is a good idea?

## Chapter 12

1. Why does Grover want a searcher's license?
2. Why does Grover's dream sound so hopeless to Percy?
3. What new information do you learn about Grover's past and how it relates to Annabeth?
4. According to Grover, why did Percy mail Medusa's head to Mount Olympus?
5. Describe the place Percy sees in his dream.
6. What terrible realization does Percy make toward the end of the dream? What does the voice want from him?
7. Who do think is talking to Percy in the dream? Who is this voice from the pit?
8. Who is Gladiola?
9. What is Grover's plan to get money for the trip?
10. If you were offered the choice in Percy's dream – to save your own parent's life or complete your quest and prevent a terrible war – what would you choose?