

Cognitive Verb Questions  
***Standing Ground*** from the Chapter Entitled  
“Clarisa’s Choice”

***KNOWLEDGE LEVEL***

- \*Where does this chapter open?
- \*What does Clarisa say is bothering her?
- \*What does Clarisa choose to do?
- \*Where do Israel and Clarisa go first?
- \*Who is outside the store waiting for Israel?
- \*What does Abel give to Israel?
- \*Where do Clarisa and Israel decide to go after leaving the corner store?
- \*Recount the events on the bus.
- \*Can you remember the conversation between Israel and Clarisa when they first entered the mall?
- \*What music does Clarisa look at in the store in the mall?
- \*Where do they eat?
- \*Can you give an account of the happenings in Jenny’s department store? What happened?
- \*Where does Clarisa take the police officer?
- \*Where do Israel and Clarisa go after running away from the food court?
- \*When they got back to their neighborhood, where did Clarisa and Israel go?
- \*Who shows up at Abel’s house to confront them?
- \*Where did Israel, Clarisa, and Abel run off to?
- \*What happens to Clarisa when they jump the fence?
- \*Where do Israel and Clarisa hide?
- \*Who finds them?
- \*Recount how Clarisa and Israel escaped from the garage.
- \*Who finds them? How?
- \*Can you remember anything about the conversation between Mr. Rodriguez and the gang members?
- \*Where does Mr. Rodriguez decide to take Clarisa?

***COMPREHENSION LEVEL***

- \*Express your feelings about Clarisa’s decision to skip school.
- \*What is your first impression of Abel? Why?
- \*Describe what happens on the bus to the mall.
- \*Can you express your understanding of the conversation between Israel and Clarisa before they enter the mall?
- \*Explain the significance of the words to one of Clarisa’s favorite songs.
- \*Can you describe what happened in Jenny’s department store? How did this surprise you?

- \*In your own words, explain how Clarisa and Israel were able to escape the mall police officer.
- \*Describe the early-summer weather in Houston.
- \*Can you paraphrase what occurred at Abel’s house?
- \*Describe Abel’s house.
- \*Give details regarding Clarisa’s and Israel’s escape.
- \*Describe the garage where Clarisa and Israel hid.
- \*Express your emotions when you realize that Mr. Rodriguez and Maribel came to rescue Clarisa.
- \*Describe the conversation between Mr. Rodriguez and the gang. How was his tone?

### ***APPLICATION LEVEL***

#### **(Quick Write & Pair Share)**

The teacher states, “I am going to give you ten minutes to write ten sentences that correctly organize the plot in this chapter. First, without writing anything, I want you to turn to your partner and discuss the events in the chapter while flipping through the book. I will give you five minutes to do this. Again, you are just talking, not writing.”

Teacher states, “Now, on one page, write ten separate sentences that, together, summarize the occurrences in this chapter. Use between eight and twelve words per sentence, and use correct grammar. Ready, go. You have ten minutes.”

#### **(Pair Share)**

Teacher says, “Now, I want groups to exchange sentences and read each other’s papers for two minutes.”

#### **(Randomness)**

The teacher states, “I am now going to choose three popsicle sticks. When I choose a name, I want you to read the ten sentences from the other group quickly.”

- \*Please summarize the most important happenings of this chapter.
- \*Can you organize this chapter by scene?

### ***ANALYSIS LEVEL***

- \*Can you determine the appropriateness of Clarisa’s decisions in this chapter?
- \*Compare and contrast Mr. Rodriguez and Israel using a Venn Diagram.
- \*Can you determine any character flaws in this chapter? Why do you say it is a flaw?
- \*Can you balance Israel’s decisions in this chapter with the outcomes? How about Clarisa’s decisions and outcomes?

### ***SYNTHESIS LEVEL***

- \*Imagine that you were in Israel’s situation. How would you react to the rival gang?
- \*Can you speculate about Israel’s and Clarisa’s relationship after this chapter? Why?
- \*Pick one situation that Clarisa finds herself in during this chapter. Can you generate a different decision that might have led to a different outcome (could be a better or worse outcome)?

### ***EVALUATION LEVEL***

- \*Can you decide who made the bigger error in this chapter, Israel or Clarisa?
- \*What judgments do you have regarding Abel, Israel, or Clarisa (good or bad)?
- \*How do you interpret the main character’s reactions to the other gang’s violence towards them?
- \*Based on what happened in this chapter, what can you infer about Israel’s and Clarisa’s relationship?
- \*What experiences do you have that are similar to or different from the main characters in this chapter? How do you interpret your views regarding this comparison?
- \*Why do you feel that Israel or Clarisa either made good or bad decisions in this chapter?
- \*Judge the actions of the rival gang.