

STUDENT ACTIVITIES



Ningwakwe Learning Press

Questions and Activities Designed
by Nancy Cooper

Accompanying Teacher's Guide contains the answer key and more group activities.

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Introduction

Welcome to the student workbook for “Journeys of the Spirit III.” These questions will help you understand and remember what you have read in the book.

Good readers think when they read. Life has taught you a wide range of thinking skills. This question booklet will help you use them for reading.

The question booklet is divided into 5 parts. The answers to the questions in each section can be found in the poem or essay indicated at the beginning of each section.

There is a self-assessment rubric that you can fill out. This will help you identify what you need to work on.

When you have finished reading the book and answering these questions, your instructor will have a final assessment. As you read, the questions in the booklet will help you practice thinking skills. These skills will help you become a better reader.

Helpful Tip:

If you can, read all of the poems and stories in “Journeys of the Spirit III.” But the questions in this booklet are about specific poems and essays.
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Use the book as a guide to help you with your answers.
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Ask your instructor for help if you aren't sure of an answer.

Part 1 Journeys of Learning

“School Bus” and “Finding My Way”

A. Comprehension Check

Choose the best answer or use your research and analytical skills to find the best answer to the questions.

1. In “School Bus,” where are the children returning to?
 - a. Toronto
 - b. Home
 - c. School
 - d. Grandma’s house

2. In “School Bus,” what is in the brown paper bag?
 - a. Sandwiches
 - b. T-shirt and a pair of jeans
 - c. Library books
 - d. Slingshots

3. In “Finding My Way,” what does the writer say is a gift from the Creator?
 - a. Breath
 - b. Gratitude
 - c. Loyalty
 - d. Voice

4. What do “School Bus” and “Finding My Way” have in common? They are both about:
 - a. School buses
 - b. Summer
 - c. Toys
 - d. Residential School

B. Revisit the Story

What does the writer of “Finding My Way” say about his birth parents giving up their children to the Catholic Children’s Aid Society (CCAS)? What were two of the things that his parents were struggling with?

C. Self-Reflection

Both of these stories are about memories of residential school. For many Aboriginal people, memories of residential school are sad and still hurt after all these years. Do you have a sad memory that you have been able to heal from? What were the strengths you had to find in yourself to heal from that memory?

**Part 1
How did I do?**

Take some time to reflect on your learning progress. Write the number in the box that best fits the level you are currently working in, with each of the three categories.

Fill this out on your own.

CATEGORY	Current level:	Excellent 4	Good 3	Needs Work 2	Review 1
Sentence Structure / Grammar		Used full sentences and proper grammar in the answers.	Answered in full sentences and used proper grammar in the answers but there may be some mistakes.	There are mistakes and while some can be identified, others cannot.	Not sure what is wrong with sentence structure or grammar.
Identify Details in Story		Recalled all the details for answers - only referring to the book occasionally.	Recalled several details, but needed to refer to the book more often.	Needed to use book to locate all details for answers.	Could not locate details with accuracy.
How am I Doing?		All the instructions are clear and my answers are correct.	Understand everything but sometimes not sure if the answers are correct.	Some things are fine but other things are difficult.	The questions are difficult to understand.

I completed Part 1 on _____ .
(date)

Part 2 Journeys to Healing

“By Me!” and “All Alone”

A. Comprehension Check

Choose the best answer or use your research and analytical skills to find the best answer to the questions.

1. In “By Me!” what does the writer do when she is told to drown?
 - a. Swim
 - b. Dive
 - c. Float
 - d. Boat

2. In “By Me!” the writer says that she grew without:
 - a. Food and clothes
 - b. Water and sun
 - c. Water and fun
 - d. Food and water

3. At the beginning of “All Alone,” what emotions is the writer feeling?
 - a. Lonely, sad, fearful
 - b. Depressed, angry, lonely
 - c. Sad, confused, angry
 - d. Disappointed, lonely, fearful

4. In “All Alone,” why does the writer spend time in the hospital?
 - a. Diabetes
 - b. Broken leg
 - c. Chicken pox
 - d. Tuberculosis

B. Revist the Story

In “By Me!,” the writer talks about the battle that she has won. What battle do you think she is talking about? Why do you think it was so hard for her?

C. Self Reflection

In both of the pieces the authors feel like they have accomplished something great. In “By Me!,” the writer feels like she has won a battle and in “All Alone” the writer feels like she has been able to heal from the abuse and trauma she lived through as a young child. What is your greatest accomplishment? Write a short poem about this accomplishment. In the poem, give the reader one piece of advice about how they can learn from your struggle.

Part 3 Journeys of Love

“Glen Spence: My Life and Times” and “Good Old Days”

A. Comprehension Check

Choose the best answer or use your research and analytical skills to find the best answer to the questions.

1. What does Glen Spence think is the key to living long and being happy?
 - a. Partying
 - b. Eating well
 - c. Maintaining a good outlook on life
 - d. Writing in your journal every day

2. What do sweats do for Glen?
 - a. They are healing
 - b. He has visions in them
 - c. They are a way to forget about his problems
 - d. They help with his problems

3. Where is the child playing in “Good Ole Days”?
 - a. In the water
 - b. On a bed
 - c. In the river
 - d. In the sand

4. What is the writer remembering in “Good Ole Days”?
 - a. An old friend he had forgotten
 - b. Where he used to play
 - c. Who his old friends were
 - d. What toy cars were like back then

B. Revisit the Story

Glen writes that he is not afraid of dying. What does he think will happen when he dies? Why do you think he believes this?

In “Good Ole Days,” the writer is remembering a happy time from his childhood. As an adult what does he want to do?

C. Self-Reflection

If you found out that you only had 14 years left to live, what would be the top 5 things you would want to do before you died?

Part 3

How did I do?

Take some time to reflect on your learning progress. Write the number in the box that best fits the level you are currently working in, with each of the three categories.

Fill this out on your own.

CATEGORY	Current level:	Excellent 4	Good 3	Needs Work 2	Review 1
Sentence Structure / Grammar		Used full sentences and proper grammar in the answers.	Answered in full sentences and used proper grammar in the answers but there may be some mistakes.	There are mistakes and while some can be identified, others cannot.	Not sure what is wrong with sentence structure or grammar.
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How am I Doing?		All the instructions are clear and my answers are correct.	Understand everything but sometimes not sure if the answers are correct.	Some things are fine but other things are difficult.	The questions are difficult to understand.

I completed Part 1 on _____ .
(date)

Part 4 Journey to Identity and Culture

“Powwow Jeans” and “Bringing Time Back and Forth”

A. Comprehension Check

Choose the best answer or use your research and analytical skills to find the best answer to the questions.

1. In “Powwow Jeans,” what does the Elder think youth need?
 - a. Guidance and assistance
 - b. Education and commonsense
 - c. Help and prayers
 - d. Guidance and prayers

2. In “Powwow Jeans,” about how old is the Elder?
 - a. 65
 - b. 89
 - c. 45
 - d. 70

3. In “Bringing Time Back and Forth,” what was once outlawed?
 - a. Potlatches
 - b. Canoes
 - c. Women paddling canoes
 - d. Celebrations

4. For the writer in “Bringing Time Back and Forth,” the experience she went through was:
 - a. Important
 - b. Tiring
 - c. Spiritual
 - d. Calming

5. Describe the belt buckle the Elder has on in “Powwow Jeans.”

6. How many communities were visited in “Bringing Time Back and Forth”?

Part 5 Journeys of Life and Family

“A Life that Goes On” and “Take a Walk with Me”

A. Comprehension Check

Choose the best answer or use your research and analytical skills to find the best answer to the questions.

1. In A “Life That Goes On,” the writer didn’t start walking until she was
 - a. 2 years old
 - b. 10 months old
 - c. 16 months old
 - d. 12 months old

2. FAE stands for
 - a. Fetal Alcohol Effect
 - b. Fetal Alcohol Effort
 - c. Feel Alcohol Effect
 - d. Fetal After Effect

3. In “Take a Walk with Me,” where is the author going?
 - a. On to the bus again
 - b. On to the path again
 - c. On the way up again
 - d. On the way down again

4. Even though he was screaming inside, the author’s voice;
 - a. Fell down to people around
 - b. Fell deaf to people around
 - c. Fell loudly to people around
 - d. Fell softly to people around

5. For the author in “Take a Walk with Me,” he feels that forgiveness is easiest when what happens?

6. In “A Life That Goes On,” what did the author’s children help her to do?

What to Consider when Reading a Poem

