

### The Giver: Chapter 1-2 Questions

1. From whose point of view is the story told?
2. What did the word "frightened" mean, according to Jonas?  
A. According to Jonas, frightened means a "deep sickening feeling of something terrible to happen" (Lowry 1).
3. What were Jonas and the other children taught to be careful about? Jonas and the other children are taught to be careful about the word "released" (3).
4. What do you know about "release" in the book's society? What is your feeling about release?  
A. When a community member is released, the member is exiled. I also think that release means death because the "release of the elderly was a celebration for a life well and fully lived" (7). Release seems like a form of punishment. (Donny says, "I think release is an unnerving feeling" (Collinson).
5. What have you learned about the society?  
A. We learned the society is run like a "communist state" (Tannenbaum). Although it seems like a utopia, the society functions like a dystopia.  
B. I learned the society is controlled and isolated from others and has strict rules about language. The methods of the community have some frightened and others completely oblivious to control (Soble).
6. How is the care of children different in Jonas' world from your world?  
A. In Jonas's world, children are not taken care of by parents; they are taken care of by Nurters. In our world, children are mostly raised by birth parents. Children are placed in a family unit in Jonas's society. In the Community, the children are raised for perfection, and in our society, we raise children to live creatively.  
B. Our world and Jonas's world differ from each other. In our world, taking care of a child requires effort. In his world, raising a child takes a lot less work because there are strict rules about childcare and many Nurters.  
C. In Jonas's world, childcare is used to teach the children to follow all the rules because the Elders want to control the children. In our world, children are raised by birth parents to nurture independence.
7. How did Jonas decide he felt? What was causing this feeling?  
A. The Ceremony of 12 made Jonas feel "apprehensive" because he was feeling eager and nervous about his future "assignment."
8. What evening ritual did the family perform after dinner?  
A. The family always shared their feelings so that the parents could manipulate the child's thoughts (Barletta).
9. What were the two occasions when release was not punishment?  
A. Release is not a punishment when a newborn baby is too unfit to survive and when an elderly person has led a full life.

10. What did Father want to do about the new child, and why?
  - A. Jonas' father wants to bring home baby Gabriel because the night Nurterers are not as well trained.
11. What fascinated Jonas about his father?
  - A. Jonas is fascinated that his father broke a rule, even though the rule is not important.
12. Why is the Ceremony of Twelve so important?
  - A. The Ceremony of 12 is important because all the Elevens are given their assignment to fulfill their life's purpose.
13. What is the private conversation his parents have in Chapter 2 with Jonas?
14. How do the people receive their Assignment?
15. What rules does Jonas' father disobey?
16. Why do you think the author is building up Jonas' Ceremony of Twelve? What will Jonas' Assignment be?