*The Monsters Are Due on Maple Street* Text-Dependent Questions

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Text-dependent Questions** | **Evidence-based Answers** |
| How does the author establish the that this is a teleplay (how is this different from the writing of another genre like short story, poem, editorial, ect…?) |  |
| What mood does the narrator establish on page 1, and what words and phrases does the narrator use to draw the reader into the text? |  |
| Looking at the opening descriptions of the setting of Maple Street, what does the author want the reader to understand about the situation and the characters? Cite examples to support your answer. |  |
| What does the narrator’s dialogue on page 1 & 2 tell the reader about what will occur later in the plot? |  |
|  |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| What is the effect of the author including the “Voices” dialogue on page 2? |  |
| On page 3, when the author says (through Charlie), “A little power failure and right away we all get flustered and everything,” what does the word flustered mean? How does this tie into the character reactions? |  |
| What do Steve’s words and the stage directions reveal about him or his intentions? (ACT 1) |  |
| What does the word “murmur” mean, and why is it used repetitively in Act I (twice on page 3, once on page 4, three times on page 6 and page 8, and on page 9)? |  |
| When Tommy says, “They sent four people. A mother and a father and two kids who looked just like humans… but they weren’t,” what is the effect on the crowd? |  |
| How do different people view Les Goodman in Act I? What do their actions and statements reveal? |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| How have the characters shifted from a crowd to a mob? What words on pages 8 and 9 reinforce the idea of a mob? How is this mob mentality significant? |  |
| Why do you think that the author chose to use the word metamorphosis instead of change in the sentence, “…they take the first step toward a metamorphosis from a group into a mob.” What does this reveal about human nature? (p. 8) |  |
| On page 9, Les reacts to the crowd. What does he say, and what does this reveal about the theme? |  |
| How does the title relate to Steve’s joke on page 8 that “We’re all on a monster kick, Les.”? |  |
| The dark ages were a period of intellectual darkness and regression. On page 10, why does the author choose to use the phrase “dark ages” instead of dark? How does this tie back to the narrator’s original opening? |  |
| From pages 10-11, what is the sequence of events that describe the mob’s progression? How do the plot and character actions develop a theme of the story? |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| On page 10-11, using Charlie’s reactions and words as evidence, how do you think Charlie feels about shooting Peter Van Horn? |  |
| At the end of the play, what conclusion do the aliens come to about humanity? |  |
| What are the weapons of humanity? How can each destroy? Use specific evidence from the text to support how each of these weapons caused destruction in this story. (page 18) |  |
| Why does the author title the story “The Monsters are Due on Maple Street”?  What is the significance of the word “due”? |  |