

# Summer Reading Questions

## *I am Malala* by Malala Yousafzai

### Character Chart:

| Character Name | Traits |
|----------------|--------|
| Malala         |        |
| Safina         |        |
| Moniba         |        |
| Atal           |        |
| Khushal        |        |
| Ziauddin       |        |
| Toor Pekai     |        |
|                |        |
|                |        |
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### Setting:

What details do you notice about **where** the story is taking place?

### Pakistan:

### Mingora in the Swat Valley:

### Afghanistan:

### England:

### United States:

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## Part 1: Before the Taliban Prologue--Chapter 2

**Summary:** What are the main events in the reading? What happened?

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### Comprehension Questions:

1) **Foreshadowing** is a literary device that writers use to give **clues about something that may happen in the future**. Read the last sentence of the *Prologue* and **make a prediction** about what you think the author is foreshadowing.

2) What is a Pashtun?

3) What is a badal? What are Malala's thoughts about badal?

4) Inference means a reader uses clues to determine something that is not directly stated. Infer how Malala felt about the treatment of girls/women in her region based on the laws they must follow and rules they must obey. Support your answer with evidence from the text.

5) Why did Malala think she was lucky?

6) Definition: Look up the word Ramadan. What is it?

7) What group had taken over Afghanistan?

**8. Your Question:** Come up with your own question based on the reading.

**Vocabulary Look Up:**

**Fickle:**

**Bazaar:**

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### **Part 1: Before the Taliban Chapter 3-5**

**Summary:** What are the main events in the reading? What happened?

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#### **Comprehension Questions:**

- 1) What were the children doing at the dump?
- 2) Why did Malala think God (Allah) wanted her to see the children at the dump?
- 3) Why did the TNSM (Tehrik-e-Nifaz-e-Sharia-e-Mohammadi) think the earthquake hit their region?
- 4) What is the Quran?
- 5) What is the madrasa?
- 6) How did Malala feel about her school? Include evidence from the text.

**Your Question:** Come up with your own question based on the reading.

**Vocabulary Look Up:**

**Pious:**

**Blasphemy:**

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**Part 2: A Shadow Over Our Valley Chapter 6-7**

**Summary:** What are the main events in the reading? What happened?

**Comprehension Questions:**

- 1) How did Malala know that Radio Mullah was not telling the truth concerning the earthquake?
- 2) List some of the rules that Radio Mullah wanted the people in Swat Valley to follow:
- 3) Why didn't Malala's father approve of Radio Mullah?
- 4) Who was the voice behind Radio Mullah?
- 5) How did Malala's life change during this time?

**Your Question:** Come up with your own question based on the reading.

**Vocabulary Look Up:**

**Edicts:**

**Studious:**

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## **Part 2: A Shadow Over Our Valley Chapter 8-10 Summary:**

What are the main events in the reading? What happened?

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### **Comprehension Questions:**

1) What was meant by the saying “You have to put the first stone in standing water” at the beginning of Chapter 8?

2) Who was Benazir Bhutto? Why was she important?

3) What was the “candy from the sky?” Who dropped it? Why?

4) Simile compares two things using the words “like” or “as.” Find an example of a simile on page 57.

5) How long did the fighting between the army and the Taliban last? What was the outcome? 6) What is terrorism, according to Malala, on pages 64 and 65?

**Your Question:** Come up with your own question based on the reading.

### **Vocabulary Look Up:**

**Infidels:**

**Exile**

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## **Part 3: Finding My Voice Chapter 11-14**

**Summary:** What are the main events in the reading? What happened?

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### **Comprehension Questions:**

1) Allusion is the term used to describe a historical reference in literature. In this section of reading, we hear the term “Stone Age.” What is the “Stone Age” and how was the current situation in Swat similar, according to Malala?

2) What did Malala do for the BBC (British Broadcasting Channel)? What was the outcome?

3) Why did Malala have a secret identity?

4) Why didn’t the family leave Swat, despite all the violence?

5) What lesson did Malala learn about American women from her “Ugly Betty” DVD?

6) What message did Madam Maryam send out at the end of this section of reading? What character trait(s) does she show us with this decision?

**Your Question:** Come up with your own question based on the reading.

### **Vocabulary Look Up:**

**Democracy:**

**Peculiar:**

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### **Part 3: Finding My Voice Chapter 15-19**

**Summary:** What are the main events in the reading? What happened?

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#### **Comprehension Questions:**

- 1) What was Sharia Law?
- 2) What did Sufi Mohammad say about democracy in his speech?
- 3) A couplet is a poem that is has two lines that rhyme and have the same metre. What is the Pashtun tapa (couplet) that Malala's grandmother taught her?
- 4) Where did Malala hide her books when her family fled?
- 5) Where did Malala and her family go when they fled? Where did her father go?
- 6) Why did the American Ambassador, Richard Holbrooke, laugh when Malala requested his help in allowing girls to be educated?
- 7) Who stayed in the school?
- 8) What happened in May of 2011? Who was killed and why was it important?

9)What “terrible letter” did Malala’s father receive? What do you think will happen?

**Your Question:** Come up with your own question based on the reading.

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#### **Part 4: Targeted Chapter 20-23:**

**Summary:** What are the main events in the reading? What happened?

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#### **Comprehension Questions:**

1) What was the threat that Malala’s father saw on the Internet? Who targeted her?

2) How did Malala want to “fight” the Taliban?

3) What was Malala’s mother learning to do for the first time?

4) What happened after the field trip to the White Palace?

5) Making Predictions- Based on the information from the last paragraph in this section of reading, what do you think happened to Malala?

**Your Question:** Come up with your own question based on the reading.

#### **Vocabulary Look up:**

**Wrath:**



**Stench:**

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**Part 5: A New Life, Far From Home Chapter 24-27 Summary:**

What are the main events in the reading? What happened?

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**Comprehension Questions:**

- 1) What were the first two words that Malala spelled out while in the hospital?
- 2) What happened to Malala? Why was she in the hospital? Be specific.
- 3) What was the “hard lump” by Malala’s tummy?
- 4) How long had Malala been in a coma?
- 5) Who were Malala’s doctors?

**Your Question:** Come up with your own question based on the reading.

**Vocabulary Look up:**

**Excruciating:**

**Specimen:**

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**Part 5: A New Life, Far From Home Chapter 28-31 Summary:**

What are the main events in the reading? What happened?

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### **Comprehension Questions:**

- 1) How was Birmingham, England different from her home in Pakistan?
- 2) Similes compare two things using the words “like” or “as.” On page 152, what does the simile, “light was like a dagger in my eyes” mean?
- 3) Why wasn’t Atal on the bus when Malala was shot?
- 4) Why did the Taliban say they shot Malala?
- 5) Did the Pakistani government find the person that shot Malala?
- 6) What was the moral of the story, “The Wonderful Wizard of Oz,” according to Malala?

**Your Question:** Come up with your own question based on the reading.

### **Vocabulary Look Up:**

**Hostel:**

**Attaché:**

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## **Part 5: A New Life, Far From Home Chapter 32-Epilogue**

**Summary:** What are the main events in the reading? What happened?

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### **Comprehension Questions:**

- 1) Why did Malala and her family stay in Birmingham after the shooting, rather than returning to Pakistan?
- 2) How did Malala communicate with her friends back home?
- 3) What were the “miracles?”
- 4) Who were the children that were “robbed of their childhood,” according to Malala?
- 5) What are Malala’s dreams and wishes?

**Your Question:** Come up with your own question based on the reading.

### **Vocabulary Look Up:**

**Perplexed:**

**Immeasurable:**