

For Teachers:

### Literature response questions for Hannah's Journal

"What does Hannah expect America to be like when she arrives?"

"If you didn't have television, how would you imagine a far-away country, such as China?"

"What did Hannah leave behind that mattered most to her?"

"If you had to leave your country and go to a new one, what would you miss the most?"

"What would you want to be different?"

"What was the hardest part of the trip for Hannah?"

"What would be hardest for you if you made the same kind of journey?"

"How did the people at Ellis Island decide who could come into America and who wouldn't be allowed in?"

"Do you think the decisions to let some people in and not others were fair?"

"How would you decide which immigrants should be allowed to enter a country?"

"Where did your family come from? Talk to an older relative and learn the stories of how your family came to this country, why they came, and what their experience was like once they came."

### Literature response questions for Rachel's Journal

"What kind of supplies did pioneers need for the journey?"

"Why did Rachel's family leave their home and travel West? Do you think they had good reasons?"

"What was the hardest part of the journey for Rachel? What was the best part? What would they be for you if you were taking the Oregon Trail in 1850?"

"Rachel leaves the United States, but she ends up back in the United States. How did that happen?"

"What personality traits do you think would be useful to be a pioneer? Do you think you could be a pioneer or would you stay home?"

"Make a list of what you would take on a journey like Rachel's."

Think of everything you would need and why you would need it.”

#### Literature response questions for Emma’s Journal

“How does Emma like Boston? What does she think of her new home?”

“Does Emma consider herself British or American? What did it mean to be an American in 1776?”

“Does Emma change her mind about the British? Why or why not?”

“What does fighting the British mean to Emma? Whom does she feel loyalty to?”

“Do you think the British soldiers were guilty in the Boston Massacre or were they provoked by the colonists?”

“Did the people of Boston deserve to be blockaded by the British?”

“How do you know when fighting is right or wrong? Were the Americans right or wrong to struggle against the British? Why or why not?”

“Can you invent your own code for passing secret messages?”

#### Literature response questions for Rose’s Journal

“What is Rose’s relationship like with her brother? Does she like his comic strips?”

“How does Rose feel about the land she lives on, about farming?”

“If you looked out your window and the sky was dark with dust, how would you protect yourself? What would you do?”

“How does Rose’s family try to save their farm? What would you do if the farm was yours?”

“Do you think the Last Man’s Club is a good idea or a bad one? Is it better to leave when things are hard or try to stick it out? How do you know when there’s no point in staying?”