

DIALOGUE CIRCLE & GROUP JOURNAL Vocabulary and Characters

Chapter 1 (p. 3-77)

Chapters	1. Students should write down words they do not know and look them up. 2. Research word, people, and event:	Characters
<p>One (p. 3-77)</p>	<p>Refugee</p> <p>Sanctuary</p> <p>El Salvador</p> <p>Political asylum</p> <p>Solidarity movement</p> <p>Liberation theology</p> <p>Death squad</p> <p>Pablo Neruda</p> <p>Roque Dalton</p> <p>Claribel Alegria</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mary: Describe Mary? Write down details you find about the character. • Soledad: Mary's godmother • Describe Soledad? Write down details you find about the character. • Jose Luis Salvadore: refugee arrival • Describe him? Write down details you find about the character.

GROUP DIALOGUE CIRCLE & JOURNAL Questions

CHAPTER 1 p. 3-77

<p>Chapters</p>	<p>Critical Questions for Dialogue Circle and Dialogue Journal</p> <p>In your group decide which question you will answer. Each group member will need to answer different questions so decide who will answer what questions- When answering the question you can draw/ cite quotes from text and write why that quote stood out to you/ write your thoughts and feelings etc. Once you finish answering a question you will share it in your group in order to have a dialogue with your classmates about the book.</p>
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One
(p. 3-77)

1. Who is narrating the story? And how do you know? Are there different people narrating at different parts of the story? Show evidence when responding to the question. Setting: Where does this story take place? And what years? When does this story take place?
2. Why does Mary say "No, he had no warrior's face. Because the war was still inside him"p. 4. What does it mean that the war was still inside someone? Explain.
3. Why does he have to change his name? Would you change your name if you were in a similar circumstance as Jose Luis ? Why or why not?
4. Why does Soledad say that not many people are granted asylum? Do you think this is true ? Why or why not?
5. What advice does Soledad give Mary throughout chapter 1 - Mary and Soledad are writing to each other? Do you agree with the advice? Has anything that Soledad says impacted you? Why or why not ?
6. What does Mary tell Soledad about what is happening in New Mexico with Jose Luis and the solidarity movement ?
7. Today do we think the phones are tapped? Do we care ? Why or why not? Should we care? Why or why not ?
8. Why does Soledad tell her not to fall in love? What does she know as an older woman that Mary does not know?
9. Do you think most people seeking asylum are granted asylum? Why or why not ? - Opinion-
10. Whose shoes was Jose Luis wearing? Would you wear someone else's shoes why or why not ?
11. Why does he have to learn the US national anthem? Is it different today in terms of what people need to know when they come to the US ? Why or why not ?
12. What is happening in El Salvador? Explain
13. Did you know that New Mexico had a solidarity movement? Why or why not ?
14. What do you think of Mary hosting Jose Luis ? Why is she seeking love from Jose Luis? What things did she keep of the people who died? Why do you think she kept this?
15. What geographical parts of New Mexico does Mary mention- why are they important to the story?
16. On page 20 she writes "let me be the bridge to your troubled waters" can we ever be the bridge to people's pain? Why or why not ? If so, how can we be that bridge for others?
17. On page 29 Jose Luis Romero tells his story- how would you feel if you had to tell your story of pain over and over again? How do you think he felt? Why do you think he was compelled to tell his story? How do you feel hearing his story? Why? Do you tune out when you hear things that are painful like Mary does? Why or why not?
18. What did the Albuquerque Herald report on Jose Luis ? What did Jose Luis think of the article?
19. Think about the following quote ...
...I understood, love could not be divorced from history, that his war had to become my war p. 44 - What did Maria mean by this ? Do you agree? Disagree? Why?
20. Page 44 What do you think of Roque Dalton's poem? Explain
Reflect, on the following quote by Roque Dalton" **The poet takes the poetry of his or her**

generation and gives it over to history" He asks us to "**honor the revolutionary poets**" Who are the revolutionary poets? Are you a revolutionary poet? Why or why not? What does poetry mean to you? Why? What does poetry mean for Jose Luis and for Maria ?

21. On page 45 What is your reflection / thoughts about Claribel Alegria's poem?- Mortally wounded? Who are the mortally wounded? What did you learn from Claribel's poem?
22. Page 47 Reflect on Mary/ Maria's poem- What did you learn from her poem?
23. Page 48 Reflect on the zen tale - What did you learn from this tale?
24. Page 69-70 Reflect on Jose Luis Romero's poem-What did you learn from Jose Luis's poem?
25. Page 73 - What did Mary/Maria dream about? What do you think her dream symbolized?
26. Compare and contrast all poems you have read in this chapter - make connections- how are the poems connected to each other - how are they distinct? What have you learned from each of the poems you have read?
27. What are the passages that Mary/ Maria believed contained human wisdom ? Do you think that there are passages that contain human wisdom? What is human wisdom? What are passages you believe contain human wisdom? Why?
28. How do you think Jose Luis died?
29. How do you think Soledad died ?
30. Why would people who came back from El Salvador have a memory of evil? Why did Mary say "she felt lucky and thought her losses were natural" - "or so I thought then p. 72" How did her thinking shift Explain.
31. Mary tells Jose -" no human being on earth is illegal p. 77" Do you agree with Mary? Why or why not?
32. What does Mary hate about love? - do you agree or disagree with this? How would you describe the love between Jose Luis and Mary? Are Mary and Jose Luis on the page about their love? Why or why not ?Why do you think Jose Luis did not stay with Mary?
33. Overall thoughts/ reflections about chapter 1 - Characters - Jose Luis, Mary and Soledad

