

Name: _____

Period: _____

Novel Study: "A Long Walk to Water"

By Linda Sue _____

Background:

- Based on a _____ about a boy named _____ from Sudan
- One of 3,800 Sudanese _____ known as the "Lost _____" sent to the U.S. in the _____.
- Sudan has been fighting in _____ since 19____.
- The conflict involved the Northern _____ and Southern _____ groups.
- The civil wars have severely affect the _____ of Sudan.

In what ways can civilians be affected by Civil War?

Two Story Lines:

- _____ story in _____ Sudan depicts the struggle Sudanese citizens face to get fresh _____.

- _____ story takes place beginning in 1985 when he is forced to _____ his _____.

Vocabulary & Chapter- Copy the sentence where this word is used in the chapter and write a definition:

- Rebels (1)-
- Independence (1)-
- Tribe (3)-
- Dinka (3)-
- Arid (9)-
- Parched (9)-
- Refugee (10)-
- Emaciated (11)-
- Despair (12)-
- Ration (14)-
- Contaminated (17)-

Chapter 1:

1. Describe Salva's family and home life? Is it anything like your own? Why?
2. What are the issues for which the rebels are fighting the government? What does it mean for Sudan to become Muslim?

Chapter 2:

1. How does Nya spend her time?
2. What is happening around Salva as he runs away from the school?
3. As Salva leaves his school & village what is he worried about?
4. Describe the rebels. How do their appearance and actions affect the people?
5. Why does the group leave the rebels? Why do they leave Salva in the barn the next morning?

Chapter 3:

1. How does the woman from the Jur-chol tribe help him? What is the history between the Nuers and the Dinka tribe?
2. How do tribes tell themselves apart from one another?

Chapter 4:

1. What additional information did you learn about Nya in this chapter?

2. Why doesn't the group want Salva along? Why is he ultimately taken along by the man and woman?

Chapter 5:

1. Explain how water dictates Nya's life everyday.
2. What do Salva and Marial have in common? What does it mean that Salva "heard that sigh all the way to his heart?"
3. Why is Salva dismayed that they are walking to Ethiopia, east?
4. Salva is amazed at the end of this chapter. Predict the cause of his speechlessness.

Chapter 6:

1. Would Nya and Salva have been friends if they knew each other in the same time? Explain.
2. Finally, something good happens for Salva. Explain. How does this make a difference for the group?
3. What does it mean: "A cold fist seemed to grip Salva's heart."? What has happened?

Chapter 7:

1. What is wrong with Akeer? What are her symptoms? What is the choice facing the family?
2. What happened to Marial? How does the loss of his friend affect Salva? How does uncle soothe him?

Chapter 8:

1. What caused Akeer's illness? What can help her prevent it? Why is this difficult to do?
2. The abundance of food on the island brings back good memories for Salva. What does he remember?
3. What do the fishermen know about the night that the travelers do not? How are they affected?

Chapter 9:

1. Predict why strangers have come to Nya's village.
2. How is the Akobo the worst element yet for the villagers to survive?
3. How does uncle encourage Salva to keep walking? What might have happened to Salva without his uncle?
4. What does Salva's group find while walking in the desert? Would you give water to the men? What is the right thing to do?

Chapter 10:

1. What do the two strangers want from Nya's chief? If they find water, how will it change lives?
2. Why does Salva's uncle discourage him from giving some of his water to the men?

3. What does Salva's uncle tell him about his village Lou Ariik?
4. Who are the men Salva's group comes upon? How does Salva know this?
5. Why do you think they single out Uncle?

Chapter 11:

1. How does uncle's death affect Salva?
2. How does the group's attitude toward Salva change?
3. The group finally reaches the refugee camp at Itang. What are the positive and negative aspects of the refugee camp?
4. How would you like this chapter to end for Salva?

Chapter 12:

1. What is the red, iron giraffe in Nya's village for?
2. What does Salva realize after discovering the woman with the orange scarf is not his mother?
3. How long is Salva in the Itang camp? Why are they forced to leave in 1991?

Chapter 13:

1. What makes the drilling difficult in Nya's village?

2. Why did the soldiers force people to the river? What obstacles do the people face?
3. Why was Salva one of the lucky ones?
4. Why do you think Salva becomes a leader? What plan does his group make?

Chapter 14:

1. Why is there cause for celebration in Nya's village?
2. What problems did Salva have at the Kakuma camp in Kenya? Was it any different at the camp at Ifo?
3. What are the restrictions for a boy getting chosen to go to America?

Chapter 15:

1. Why can't Nya's village drink the water yet?
2. Why were the boys chosen to go to America called "The Lost Boys"?
3. Explain the new things Salva experiences on his way to America.
4. What are Salva's fears about his new "family" in America?

Chapter 16:

1. What do you think the men are building in Nya's village?

2. What is Salva doing after being in Rochester, NY for 6 years? What does he hope to do one day?
3. What does Salva learn through an email?
4. What are the many risks Salva is taking in order to find his father?

Chapter 17:

1. What are they building in Nya's village? How will this change life for Nya and the whole village?
2. Who from Salva's family has survived? Who did they lose to the war?
3. Why can't he return to his village?
4. Salva begins working on an idea to help his people in Southern Sudan? Predict what it is.

Chapter 18:

1. What good things is the well bringing to Nya's village?
2. Why didn't Nya know that the leader of the crew was Dinka?
3. Why does Nya wonder why a Dinka has brought them water?
4. Could this act of kindness change relations among Dinka and Nuer?
5. Who is the Dinka man who has brought Nya water?

Critical Thinking Activities:

In Sudan rebels have been at war “fighting against the government”. In a democratic society, there are many ways to show disagreement with the government. Brainstorm ways citizens can disagree with their government and elected officials in a democracy.

It is estimated that there are 35 million people living as refugees in the world today. What role should the United States play in the refugee problems around the world? Should refugees from other countries be our concern?

If you had to choose to be Nya or Salva, explain whose shoes you would rather walk in. Use evidence from the text in your answer.

“A Long Walk to Water” is based on a true story. Do you think that the author accurately described the affects the civil wars in Sudan and other parts of Africa have on the civilians? (Be sure to use clear evidence from the novel and our discussion of current issues in Africa.)