

Close-Reading Questions

"Thirst"

1. Where in the section “A Luxury” does author Kristin Lewis speak directly to the reader? Why might she have decided to do this? (author’s craft)
2. Lewis compares the weight of the jerry can that Natalia had to carry to that of three backpacks stuffed with books. Why do you think Lewis chose to include this detail? (author’s craft)
3. According to the article, why did Natalia’s village need a well? (problem and solution, reading for information)

4. Study the photograph of the children carrying water on page 7 and read the caption. What key idea of the article do the photo and caption support? (key ideas)
5. Lewis writes, “Every now and then, something will happen in the U.S. that reminds us how essential water is to our way of life.” What does the word *remind* suggest about the availability of water in the U.S.? (word choice, inference)

Name: _____ Date: _____

Critical-Thinking Questions

"Thirst"

1. Do you think we have a responsibility to help solve the problem of water access in other parts of the world? What could you say to someone who doesn't think so?
2. How do you think the way this article affects the reader would be different if it were a summary of the world's water situation in general rather than the story of one girl's experience?
3. On page 9, Lewis writes that people have always told stories about water. Why do you think this is the case?
4. Has reading this article changed the way you think about water and its role in your own life? Explain.