

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Critical-Thinking Questions

## "What We Saw" and "Are We Alone?"

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1. How does reading "Are We Alone?" help you understand "What We Saw"?
2. What do you think the characters saw at the end of "What We Saw"? Why might the author have chosen to leave the ending somewhat ambiguous—that is, open to interpretation?
3. Do the ideas on page 22 about what happened on Earth in the years leading up to the Mission connect to events in our world today? Explain.
4. "What We Saw" is set in the future on an imaginary planet. How can readers who live on Earth in 2017 identify with the characters in the story?
5. What do you think drives people like Dr. Penelope Boston and the characters in "What We Saw" to search for extraterrestrial life?