

Name: _____ Date: _____

Close-Reading Questions

"The Boy Who Found His Smile"

1. What do you learn about Osawa in the first section of "The Boy Who Found His Smile"?
(summarizing)
2. Reread the fourth and fifth paragraphs. Why might author Lauren Tarshis have posed this question and then answered it? (author's craft)
3. How does the author support the idea that living with an untreated cleft can be devastating? (key ideas)
4. When Osawa first saw his mouth after the operation, he said, "I look like my friends!" Why might this have been important to him? (inference)

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Close-Reading Questions

"Changing Lives, One Surgery at a Time"

1. Reread the subheadline on page 21. What does it tell the reader about Allison Friedman’s attitude toward Smile Train? (tone)
2. Reread Adina Lescher’s answer to the second question, about life for kids with clefts. What does she mean when she says it’s “heartbreaking” that kids live with untreated clefts because their families can’t afford surgery? (interpreting text)
3. Consider Lescher’s answer to the third question, about some of the challenges Smile Train addresses. What sections of “The Boy Who Found His Smile” contain similar information? (text structures)

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Critical-Thinking Questions

“The Boy Who Found His Smile” and “Changing Lives, One Surgery at a Time”

1. What does reading the interview add to your understanding of Osawa’s story?

2. Why is it important to read stories like “The Boy Who Found His Smile”?