

Name: _____ Date: _____

Preparing to Write: "Aftershocks"

Directions: Answer the questions below to analyze the meaning of the title "Aftershocks." The information will help you respond to the writing prompt on page 25. We filled in some information for you.

The **literal** meaning of a word or phrase is its original, basic meaning.

The **figurative** meaning of a word or phrase is a more imaginative, metaphorical meaning for that word or phrase.

For example:

The literal meaning of "closing the door" is—well, closing the door. Used figuratively, "closing the door" can mean stopping or ending something, as in, "Frank is closing the door on the conversation. He doesn't want to talk anymore."

Literally, aftershocks are small earthquakes that follow a major earthquake in the same area. As time passes, aftershocks become less and less frequent, but they can go on for weeks, months, or even years, depending on the size of the original earthquake.

1. What are the literal aftershocks that Katie experiences in the story?

The literal aftershocks that Katie experiences in the story are the small earthquakes that occur after the large earthquake and tsunami that hit Japan on March 11.

2. Write down at least two quotes from the story that refer to literal aftershocks.

Figuratively, aftershocks are the results or consequences of a traumatic or distressing event.

3. What are the figurative aftershocks that Katie events in the story?

4. Write down at least two quotes from the story that refer to the figurative aftershocks that Katie experiences.