

Name: _____ Date: _____

Close-Reading Questions

"Mountain of Fire"

1. Identify details in the opening section of “Mountain of Fire” that help you understand what the eruption was like for the Smiths. (supporting details)
2. Reread the second paragraph in the section “Dangerous Weather Changes.” What does it mean to “keep a low profile”? How does author Lauren Tarshis personify the volcano in this paragraph? (figurative language)
3. In “The Power of Natural Disaster Stories,” what two main reasons does Kristin Lewis give for why people are drawn to natural disaster stories? (key ideas)

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Critical-Thinking Questions

"Mountain of Fire"

1. Do you think it was reasonable for Eric’s dad to believe that his family would be safe when they went hiking on May 18, 1980? Explain.
2. The subtitle of the editorial is “How to triumph over tragedy.” In what ways can people triumph over tragedy after a natural disaster? Draw on both texts in your answer.
3. Would you be comfortable hiking near Mount St. Helens today? Explain.