1) Why is the book titled *Yellow Star*? What does the yellow star symbolize?

2) How does Syvia’s imagination help her through the hard times?

3) What is the meaning of the saying, “Live for today, for tomorrow we may fry in the pan!”? (38)

4) Discuss the use of color throughout the book. Give specific examples.

5) What do these foods mean to Syvia?
   - green beans (34)
   - apple (153)
   - soup (155-7)
   - the “Chef’s” recipes (159-60)
   - pear (168-73)
   - chocolate (216-7)

6) How does Dora change as the book progresses. Why? Is this typical of sibling relationships?

7) Which character is most like you? Why?

8) If you could go back in time and talk to Syvia, what would you say?

9) Discuss the use of rumor in the verse “Women’s Work” and contrast it with the last paragraph of the verse (15)

10) Discuss the use of imagery and metaphor in “love” (49)

11) In “Goodbye, Children!” the Nazis use what is known as “spin” when they make an announcement. How would you – as a parent or child – feel about this announcement?

12) Discuss how the author seems to make time slow down from p. 73-8. How does this section make you feel?

13) What does Dora mean when she says “They think we killed their God”? (90)

14) Is there an answer to “Another Question”? (103-4)

15) Interpret Syvia’s dream. (120-2)

16) In your own life, what warms your heart? (151) “that even soup can’t touch?”

17) Discuss “Nobody Special” (102), where Syvia compares herself to others. Is she accurate? Do you know anyone who might think of him/herself as “invisible”?

18) What does Syvia mean when she thinks “the twelve of us, in a way, were their children too.” (182)
19) Syvia and her family are close to starving and freezing to death, when something happens. How is the timing of the bombing helpful to Syvia both physically and emotionally? (202)

20) What does Papa mean by “the language of our history”? Why is he crying? (209)

21) Discuss the liberation, the Russian soldier, the yellow star, the chocolate. (Even the author was amazed that this was all true!)

22) Did you like or not like this book? Why or why not? Did you learn anything from it?

23) How does reading a book in verse differ from reading regular prose?