

The Giver - Chapter 1

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The Giver - Chapter 1 (Advanced)

<https://tinyurl.com/giver-ch1-dan>

Part 1: Vocabulary & Context

Match the terms with their subtle meanings in the Community.

1. ****Apprehensive**** (adj.) C. Anxious anticipation of a life-changing event.
2. ****Nurturer**** (n.) D. A specialist responsible for the physical development of infants.
3. ****Adherence**** (n.) A. The strict following of established community rules.
4. ****Aptitude**** (n.) B. A natural capacity or suitability for a specific task.
5. ****Release**** (n.) E. A euphemism for final expulsion or termination.
6. ****Distraught**** (adj.) F. Deeply upset and agitated (often corrected in the book).

Part 2: Detailed Summary Cloze

Complete the analysis of Chapter 1 using 12 key terms from the story.

The novel opens with Jonas feeling (1) _____ about the upcoming (2) _____ of Twelve. He reflects on a past incident where a pilot-in-training made a (3) _____ by flying over the community, which led to his immediate (4) _____. At dinner, Jonas's family participates in the ritual "telling of (5) _____." His father, who works as a (6) _____, expresses concern for a (7) _____ who is not meeting growth milestones. The family discusses the (8) _____ that occur in their society, noting that a third (9) _____ leads to release. Jonas's mother, who works in the Department of (10) _____, describes the shame associated with rule-breakers. Finally, Jonas admits he is nervous about his (11) _____ and the (12) _____ the Elders will make.

Part 3: Comprehension & Analysis

1. Explain why the Community uses "precision of language" and what the correction of the word "distraught" reveals about their control over emotions.
2. What is the role of the "Nurturer," and how does Jonas's father's concern for the newchild Gabriel suggest a conflict between personal care and societal rules?
3. Describe the evening ritual of sharing feelings. Is this ritual intended to foster true emotional connection or to regulate and monitor behavior?
4. Analyze the concept of "Release." How do the citizens perceive it at this stage, and what hints suggest it might be more sinister than a move to "Elsewhere"?

Part 4: Discussion (Critical Thinking)

5. ****The Price of Security:**** The Community has eliminated fear, hunger, and conflict through strict "Sameness." Is a society without suffering worth the loss of individual choice and emotional depth? Justify your opinion.

Detailed Solutions - The Giver - Chapter 1

Solutions - Chapter 1 (Detailed)

Part 1: Vocabulary & Context

1. **Apprehensive** - **C** (Anxious anticipation of a life-changing event. Jonas feels this about the Ceremony of Twelve).
2. **Nurturer** - **D** (A specialist responsible for the physical development of infants. Jonas's father holds this role).
3. **Adherence** - **A** (The strict following of established community rules. Failure to adhere leads to release).
4. **Aptitude** - **B** (A natural capacity or suitability for a specific task. Used by Elders to assign jobs).
5. **Release** - **E** (A euphemism for final expulsion or termination. A severe punishment or for the very old/newchildren).
6. **Distraught** - **F** (Deeply upset and agitated. Asher is corrected for using this word, showing the community's demand for language precision).

Part 2: Detailed Summary Cloze

- (1) **apprehensive**, (2) **Ceremony**, (3) **transgression**, (4) **release**, (5) **feelings**, (6) **Nurturer**, (7) **newchild**, (8) **rules/transgressions**, (9) **transgression/offense**, (10) **Justice**, (11) **Assignment**, (12) **decision**.

Part 3: Comprehension & Analysis

1. **Precision of Language:** The community demands precise language to ensure that emotions are standardized and minimized. By correcting "distraught" to "apprehensive," they strip away the intensity of a feeling. It reveals a society that values control and predictability over genuine human expression.
2. **The Nurturer:** The role involves physical care, but not emotional bonding. However, Jonas's father shows a flicker of conflict by breaking a rule to look up Gabriel's name. This suggests that even in a rigid society, human instinct and individual care can collide with clinical rules.
3. **Sharing Feelings:** This ritual functions as a behavioral monitoring tool. By forcing members to verbalize emotions every evening, the community ensures no one harbors secret discontent or unresolved trauma, effectively "flushing out" individuality to maintain group harmony.
4. **Release:** At this stage, it is presented as a mysterious departure to "Elsewhere." However, the pilot's incident and the fact that a "third transgression" leads to release hint at something permanent and involuntary. The "clean" and "final" nature of it suggests a death penalty disguised as a social exit.

Part 4: Discussion

5. **The Price of Security:** (Student-specific answer). **Sample argument:** While a life without hunger or war is appealing, the loss of "individual choice" means a loss of what makes us human. Without the possibility of pain, the concept of happiness loses its meaning, as there is no contrast. A sterile life is not a lived life.