**Discussion Questions – The War that Saved my Life**

**Chapter 1**

What details does the author use to show that Ada hates to be alone?

**Chapter 2**

Why do you think Ada insists on Jamie telling her everything he saw and learned each day?

Describe how Mam is bothphysically and verbally cruel to Ada. What does this tell you about Mam?

**Chapter 3**

Stephen learns something new about Ada. Explain why he was so surprised to make this new discovery.

**Chapter 4**

Reread page 25. How can we tell that Ada has lived a very sheltered life so far?

**Chapter 5**

Describe the realization that Ada has about her appearance.

Compare how the iron-faced woman reacted to the children with the way that that the villagers reacted to them.

**Chapter 6**

So far, what might be some pros and cons of living in Miss Smith’s house?

**Discussion Questions – The War that Saved my Life**

**Chapter 7**

Several times throughout this chapter, Ada mentions that Miss Smith “was not a nice person.” Why do you think she does that?

**Chapter 8**

If you were Miss Smith, what would you infer about Ada’s mother? Explain.

**Chapter 9**

Based on her reaction to Jamie’s behavior in this chapter, how would you describe Miss Smith?

**Chapter 10**

Miss Smith lies to the children twice in this chapter. Why do you think she does that?

**Chapter 11**

Why does Billy White’s mother’s behavior surprise Ada so much?

**Chapter 12**

Based on her behavior with Butter, how would you describe Ada in this chapter?

**Chapter 13**

Describe what Ada learns about strangers in this chapter.

**Chapter 14**

How does Miss Smith’s opinion on Ada’s intelligence differ from that of the teacher?

**Discussion Questions – The War that Saved my Life**

**Chapter 15**

Explain how Maggie and Ada are similar and different.

**Chapter 16**

Do you think Lady Thorton genuinely wanted to meet Ada, or did she visit her because she felt like she had to? Explain.

**Chapter 17**

What do you think is the reason behind Ada’s crankiness? Explain.

**Chapter 18**

Do you feel that it was fair of Miss Smith to lie to Jamie’s teacher? Why or why not?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Chapter 19**

Why did Miss Smith make up fake birthdays for Ada and Jamie?

**Chapter 20**

Ada turned down Stephen’s invitation, but later changed her mind and wanted to go. Why do you think she is being so wishy-washy?

**Discussion Questions – The War that Saved my Life**

**Chapter 21**

Describe the problem that Mr. Grimes helped solve in this chapter.

**Chapter 22**

Do you think it was fair of Ada to be angry with Miss Smith? Why or why not?

**Chapter 23**

How are Susan’s father and Ada’s mother similar?

**Chapter 24**

***Discussion Question***

Lady Thorton thought Susan should join the WVS. Susan did not want to join. Who do you think had the better argument? Explain.

**Chapter 25**

Explain why Ada felt it was necessary to hide under the bed.

**Chapter 26**

On page 183, Ada reflects on the good things about Susan’s house as well as those from her home with Mam. Why do you think she was thinking about them at this point in the story?

**Chapter 27**

Stephen chose to stay with the colonel instead of going back home. What does this say about him?

**Discussion Questions – The War that Saved my Life**

**Chapter 28**

Ada tells Maggie that Susan isn’t “actually real.” What does she mean by this?

**Chapter 29**

Why was Christmas making Ada feel uncomfortable?

**Chapter 30**

Describe Ada’s reaction to the green dress. Why do you think she reacted in that way?

**Chapter 31**

Based on her words and actions in this chapter, how would you describe Susan?

**Chapter 32**

What does Susan say to show that she truly cares about Ada?

How can you tell that Ada is full of conflicting emotions?

**Chapter 33**

Ada learns new information about her foot. Explain how this makes her feel.

**Chapter 34**

Explain why the colonel thinks it’s important to be on the lookout for spies.

**Discussion Questions – The War that Saved my Life**

**Chapter 35**

In what ways were people at home helping out with the war effort?

**Chapter 36**

What do Ada’s actions say about her in this chapter?

**Chapter 37**

Do you agree with Susan’s decision to keep Ada and Jamie, instead of sending them away? Why or why not?

**Chapter 38**

Ada says, “There’s things worse than bombs.” What does she mean by this?

**Chapter 39**

Use details from this chapter to explain how Ada is brave, persistent, and observant.

**Chapter 40**

Reread page 285. How does Ada show that she has matured?

**Chapter 41**

How does Mam show that she hasn’t changed?

**Chapter 42**

Ada reminds Jamie of some of her accomplishments, such as catching a spy and learning to ride Butter. Why do you think she does this?

**Discussion Questions – The War that Saved my Life**

**Chapter 43**

If you had the chance to ask Mam one question, what would it be? Explain.

**Chapter 44**

How does the author create a feeling of panic in this chapter?

**Chapter 45**

What surprise do Ada and Jamie find after leaving the air raid shelter?

**Chapter 46**

Explain why Ada said “So now we’re even” to Susan at the end of the chapter.