**American Childhood Text Questions Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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| 1. At the beginning of the excerpt from An American Childhood, what important thing do you learn about Annie Dillard when she talks about playing football? |

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| **2.** | Why are the children throwing snowballs at cars? |
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| **3.** | Use context clues in the following passage to write your own definition of “glanced”.*“He chased us silently over picket fences, through thorny hedges, between houses, around garbage cans, and across streets.  Every time I glanced back, choking for breath, I expected he would have quit.”*GLANCED: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
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| **4.** | Use context clues in the following passage to write your own definition of “impelled”.  *“Mikey and I had nowhere to go, in our own neighborhood or out of it, but away from this man who was chasing us.  He impelled us forward.”*IMPELLED: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

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| **5.** | After the man catches Dillard and Mikey, Dillard says: “*He had released our jackets;...he knew we weren't going anywhere.  We all played by the rules.”*What are these “rules” she is talking about? Who is enforcing the rules?   |
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| **6.** | Why do you think the man chases the children? Think beyond the fact that he’s mad about the snowball.  |
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| **7.** | Dillard writes from the first-person point of view. Because of this, what information must be left out of the story?   |
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| **8.** | Pick a word that best describes the young Annie Dillard? Why? |
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| **9.** | Why does Dillard admire the driver of the Buick? |

**10.** What made this experience so extraordinary for Annie Dillard that she chose to include it in her autobiography?