Zebra by Chaim Potok

**Directions: There are 23 questions. Choose 15 to answer! Answers do NOT have to be in complete sentences, but they should COMPLETELY answer the question(s). Write your answers in your notebook on pg. 33.**

1. What problem is Zebra still having as a result of the “shadow”? What do the doctors say about this problem?

2. Look at lines 60-63. What is Zebra’s motivation for standing alone by the fence?

3. How would you describe the change in Zebra’s personality since the accident?

a. Before the accident, Zebra was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

b. Since the accident, Zebra has become \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

4. What are your first impressions of the man Zebra is watching? What inferences can you make about him and his life?

5. Lines 116-117. How does Zebra react to the man? What happens to him physically?

6. Line 149. What do you think motivated Zebra to give John Wilson advice about the school principals?

7. Lines 192-205. What do all of the kids in Mrs. English’s class have in common with Zebra?

8. Lines 206-216. Think about the story Zebra tells and the comments Andrea makes about him. What does this reveal about Zebra’s character?

9. Line 273. Why do you think Mr. Wilson drew the picture of Zebra?

10. Lines 296-297. What is the animal zebra doing in the picture John Wilson drew for the person Zebra? What might this foreshadow?

11. Lines 306-337. What does Zebra’s fever cause him to imagine is happening with the drawing? Why do you think the author included this episode in the story?

12. Line 356. What happened to John Wilson’s arm? Why do you think Zebra is motivated to learn more about John Wilson?

13. Lines 425-426. John Wilson says, “We’re going to make paper into faces and garbage into people.” He means this both literally and figuratively. If he plans to make “garbage into people,” what does this tell you about the effect John Wilson thinks art can have on a person?

14. Line 434. How does Andrea’s drawing affect Zebra? What is he starting to realize about himself?

15. Lines 450-461. John Wilson demonstrates how to turn discarded items (trash) into art, showing that broken things can be given new life. How might Zebra relate to this idea?

16. Lines 484-499. Why does Zebra choose to draw a helicopter as something he “felt deeply” about? How does John Wilson react to Zebra’s drawing?

17. Lines 534-539. What change has Andrea noticed in Zebra? How has her opinion of him changed?

18. Lines 543-547. What does Zebra draw for John Wilson? Why does Zebra thank John Wilson?

19. Lines 543-545. How does Zebra use his injured hand for his art project? How is this different from how he used his hand earlier in the story?

20. Line 568-573. How has Zebra’s physical condition changed since the beginning of the story?

21. Lines 578-611. What did John Wilson do with Zebra’s drawing? Why did he do this?

22. Lines 590-601. How do John Wilson’s visits to the Vietnam Memorial help him heal?

23. How has Zebra changed physically and mentally over the course of this story?