English 11

Novel Study

***Three Day Road***

***By Joseph Boyden***

**Chapter Questions 10-15**

Three Day Road does not have numbered chapters. Instead each chapter has a name but no number. Some chapters feature Niska’s voice in the first person while some feature Xavier’s voice in the first person.

**Some of the main themes and concepts to keep an eye out for include in these early chapters:**

* Friendship
* Identity
* Good v. Evil
* Sacrifice
* Survival
* Modernity v. Tradition

**Kakwapaskinaatowin (‘Competition’)**

1. Do you think Elijah’s killing of the wounded German soldier in No Man’s Land is an act of mercy or bloodlust? Justify your answer.

2. What does Elijah suggest to the officers? Why do you think he does this?

3. Why is it so important to Xavier to win the competition?

4. What is the “three day road”? (98)

**Onahaashiwew (‘Sniper’)**

1. Who is to blame for Sean Patrick’s death?

2. In what way does the hunting of the caribou parallel Xavier and Elijah’s actions in war? Explain the similarities and differences.

**Naatamaasowin (‘Revenge’)**

1. What revelation does Xavier have about Sean Patrick’s killer?

2. Why do you think Xavier cared so much for the horses on the ship?

**Shakocihew (‘Seducing’)**

1. Who do you think is being hunted, Niska or the Frenchman?

2. In Native folklore the lynx is a clever and cunning animal, capable of leading humans astray. Why is this trickster animal an appropriate animal totem for Niska?

Define:

Awawatuk -

Matatosowin –

**Moosasiniwi Paskisikan (‘Rifle)**

1. What does Elijah take from the German sniper who killed Sean Patrick?

2. Why does Elijah ask Grey Eyes for a cup of tea?

3. How is the motif of the number three evident in this chapter?

**Kimociwinikewin (‘Raid’)**

1. Why doesn’t Elijah get sent to Blighty?

3. How do you think Xavier’s time at the residential school affected him?

4. In what ways does Elijah’s last name suit his personality?

Estaminet -