Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Questions to model:

1. (RL 4.5) Which statement best describes how the focus of the story shifts beginning with the highlighted sentence?
2. It explains the request Levi is making to Austin.
3. It shows that Levi is tired.
4. It tells how tortured Levi is with dancing lessons.
5. It shows that Levi is having a flashback to the night before.
6. (RL4.4) As it is used in the passage, what does the underlined word, fair, most likely mean?
7. A festival with food, rides, animals, and entertainment
8. Not cheating
9. Average; in the middle; not good but not bad
10. Having equal opportunity
11. (RL 4.2) Place the following three events from the club member’s plan in order. Put #’s 1-3 in the blanks below to show the correct order of events.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Find out about the mysterious light at Preacher Tully’s place.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Find a remedy for hiccups.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Hunt down the thieves that got away from Miller’s store.

1. (RL4.3) Why does Levi want Austin to help him with a cure for his hiccups?
2. He doesn’t want people to make fun of him.
3. He doesn’t want new members to think he can’t handle danger.
4. He wants to be able to sell his remedy for money.
5. He wants to impress Miss Amelia.

1. (RL 4.1) How does the narrator feel about dancing lessons? Use one detail from the passage to explain why the narrator feels that way. (2 points possible)

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June 16, 1853.

Dear Austin,

I am still being tortured with dancing lessons, but I’ve been bearing up as best I can. The only good part is when I get Tessa Buckman as my partner. Yesterday I had no flies on my head and only stepped on her feet twice, so I think I made a fair impression.

This is a short letter, as I have been helping Possum and his pa bring in their hay, and I am mighty tuckered out at the end of the day. We’re not big enough yet for pitching, so Possum and I have been raking. Today Possum’s pa showed us how to use the big bullrakes .It was tricky at first, but we finally got the hang of it and raked right alongside Nat, the hired man. Nat’s all right, ‘cepting he ate some beans that were talking behind his back and we had to keep our distance!

We’ve been holding our club meetings up in Possum’s barn. Since we’ve decided to make you an honorary member, Austin, I guess it’s all right for me to tell you what we’re planning. First off, we’re going to hunt down the thieves that got away from Miller’s store. Next we’re going to find out about the mysterious light at Preacher Tully’s place. And last we’re going to find a remedy to stop hiccups. Possum and Jupiter don’t mind my affliction so much, but if we decide to take in new members, well, I just figure it would look more dignified if our president could face danger without hiccupping.

So, I’m needing your help, Austin, not with tracking down the thieves or uncovering the mystery of the light. Those will be easy tasks. But curing my hiccups-now, that’s another matter altogether. It’s akin to trying to put socks on a rooster. I just don’t know if it can be done. Miss Amelia says that I’ll outgrow the habit, but I was hoping you’d have some suggestions until I do.

Last night I had a bad nightmare. I dreamed that I found the thieves. But I was hiccupping so much that they just laughed and picked me up and carried me to Widow’s Rock and threw me off. Do you ever have nightmares, Austin? Do you think I can outgrow them, too?

Your brother,

Levi

Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Score: \_\_\_\_\_/5 on my own

Questions on my own

1. (RL 4.4) It is most likely that the highlighted text means…?
2. She is wearing a price tag on her head like a headband.
3. There is a reward offered for her capture or death.
4. Someone has written an amount on the top of her head.
5. There is money that has been lost.
6. (RL 4.5) What is the main purpose of the underlined sentence?
7. To hurt Darcy’s feelings.
8. To make Darcy angry.
9. To keep Darcy from seeing the gift Jupiter is making for her.
10. To keep Darcy from wanting to join their club.
11. (RL 4.2) Place the following three events from Levi’s conversation with Miss Amelia about the Underground Railroad in order. Put #’s 1-3 in the blanks below to show the correct order of topics in the conversation.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Sometimes you must follow your heart, even if it goes against the law of the

land.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ There was a brave female “conductor” named Harriet Tubman.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Miss Amelia is surprised that Levi has heard of the Underground Railroad.

1. (RL 4.3) Which of the following **best** describes Miss Amelia’s reaction to what Old Man Potts had said?
2. She was angry.
3. She was sad.
4. She was happy.
5. She was irritated.
6. (RL 4.1) Why did Miss Amelia make Levi go and empty the ash bucket? Use details from the text to support your answer. (2 points possible)

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Section from page 49-51 for On My Own Questions #1-#5

July 23, 1853

Dear Austin,

I have some news about the Underground Railroad. I found out at dinner that it is not underground at all! And not even a railroad! When I asked Miss Amelia about it, she seemed real surprised. I told her what I had heard at Miller’s store and she said that there were no tracks underground and no train! She said that there were just people helping people to freedom. The Underground Railroad is a secret network of folks who use their houses to hide slaves who are running north out of slavery.

When I told her what Old Man Potts had said about the law being on the side of the slave catchers, Miss Amelia frowned. “Sometimes,” she said, “a body has to follow the laws of their heart. If in your heart you know a law to be bad and to cause suffering, then you must follow the course of good, even if it goes against the law of the land. That is what the men and women who are working to free the slaves are doing.”

“Women?” I asked, for I was surprised that there would be any women working on this railroad.

Miss Amelia went on to tell me about a brave “conductor,” a slave named Harriet Tubman. She said this woman was so brave that people call her Moses, like from the Bible. She has a price on her head for taking slaves out of slavery down south and bringing them up north on the Underground Railroad.

When I asked Miss Amelia how it was she knew so much about this Underground Railroad, she said we had talked enough and the ash bucket needed emptying. That’s what she always says when she wants to change the subject. I can’t tell you how many times I’ve had to empty that ash bucket when it weren’t nearly full!

Later that evening, Possum, Jupiter, and I were sitting up in the hayloft working on our whittling. Darcy Nightingale started to climb the ladder to fetch Jupiter to walk her home. It was a close call, for she almost caught sight of the stick Jupiter is making for her. If it weren’t for Possum throwing a horse blanket over Jupiter’s lap, Darcy would have seen it for sure.

“Ain’t no girls allowed up here,” I told her. She huffed and puffed and said she wouldn’t bother us. And afore I knew it, she had set herself down in the straw beside the loft window and was humming a tune as she swung her legs over the window ledge.