***Between Shades of Gray* Reading Comprehension**

**Tips for Answering Short Answer Reading Comprehension Questions**

**Rule #1:** Read the whole question carefully. Make sure you answer the entire question.

**Rule #2:** Look back to the text to find the answer.

**Rule #3:** Write your answer in complete sentences. Start with a capital letter and do NOT start with “because”.

**Rule #4:** Put the question stem in your answer.

**Rule #5:** Always support your answer with evidence from the text (examples or quotes).

**Rule #6:** Do not assume that your teacher knows what you mean. The teacher should not have to make an inference about your answer.

**Answer the following questions in complete sentences on looseleaf, being mindful of the rules discussed above. You will be marked on both your understanding of the questions and on your ability to answer the questions with detailed support and proper attention to conventions (see the rubric below). When you hand in this assignment, staple this page to the top of your answer sheet.**

1. What does Lina mean when she says “We were about to become cigarettes”? (p.5) In what ways has Lina’s prophecy come true?

2. Lina's mother says that she breaks the best crystal and china because she "loved them so much". What does she mean by this? (p. 18)

3. Though readers mostly learn about Kostas, Lina’s father, through her shared memories, a great deal can be understood about his character. In your opinion, what kind of man is he? Use evidence from the text to support.

4. There are only a few soldiers to the hundreds of people in the train cars, but they don't revolt. Why?

5. How does Andrius’s mother sacrifice herself for him? Do you agree with her decision to do this? Why or why not?

6. The author, Ruta Sepetys, states that the meaning behind the title of the book *Between Shades of* Gray, is that “between shades of gray, sometimes there’s a small crack that can let the love shine in”. Choose **either** Kretzsky or the bald man and describe how that character suits the idea of the title.

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|  | **9** | **5** | **2** |
| **Reading Comprehension** | Provides thoughtful and insightful inferences supported by specific and relevant examples from the text. | Demonstrates a solid understanding of the questions with minimal detail to support. | Demonstrates significant difficulty in comprehending the text. |
|  | **6** | **3** | **1** |
| **Follows appropriate guidelines for answering questions (based on the rules discussed in class)** | Follows the rules for answering questions all or almost all of the time. | Sometimes follows the rules for answering questions. | Rarely follows the rules for answering questions. |

**/15**