

Questions Chapter One

1. Which words or phrases show that the book is written in a first-person narration?
2. What was Max's nickname in daycare? Why was he called that?
3. What does Max mean by "...the year Gram and Grim took me over..."?
4. How does Max feel about his grandparents? Justify your answer with evidence from the text.
5. Who is Freak?
6. List the nicknames Max mentions in the chapter. Explain what these names tell the reader about what Max's peers think of him.
7. Infer what Grim means when he says that Maxwell is "getting to look a lot like *him*?"
8. When does Freak move into the duplex down the street from Max?
9. Analyze the language Max uses to describe himself. What does this tell us about how Max views himself?

Chapter Two

1. Describe Max's bedroom. How does Max feel about his bedroom? Why?

2. Why do you think Grim and Gram are so afraid of Max doing something bad or dangerous?

3. How does Max describe himself in this chapter?

4. What does Max mean by "...your basic chunk of chain-link heaven"?

5. Who is "the Fair Gwen"? Describe her as Max would.

6. What is Kevin doing as the movers are moving them in to their new home?

Chapter Three

1. Why is Kevin waving his crutch up at the tree and trying to jump up and down?

2. What does Max do to help? What do they end up doing?

3. Compare and contrast how Kevin and Max describe the ornithopter.

4. Why do you think Kevin isn't embarrassed to have Max pulling him in the wagon?

5. Explain why Chapter 3 is entitled "American Flyer."

6. This chapter describes the beginning of the friendship between Kevin and Max, a friendship they both need. Why do you think the characters aren't eager to begin a friendship if they both need a friend?

Chapter Four

1. Why does Kevin refer to his mom as “the Fair Guinevere”?
2. Reread the passage where Kevin tells Max about how Arthur became king. Why do you think Kevin likes this story?
3. Describe the connection Kevin makes between King Arthur’s men and today’s robots.
4. According to Kevin, what is robotics and how is it used?
5. When comparing TV to books, Kevin says, “Books are like truth serum—if you don’t read, you can’t figure out what’s real.” Explain what this means.
6. Explain why Gwen was so worried about Kevin.
7. Create a list of the ways Kevin and Max appear to be opposites.