

# Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets

by J. K. Rowling

## Classroom Favorites

Teacher's Guide by Laurie Rozakis, Ph.D.

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### SYNOPSIS

**One: The Worst Birthday** Since Harry's boarding school, Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, is closed for the summer, the orphan must live with his Aunt Petunia, Uncle Vernon, and cousin Dudley Dursley for several months. The Dursleys fear and despise Harry for his power as a wizard and treat him dreadfully. Today, they ignore his twelfth birthday, except to make him work all day to punish him for teasing Dudley with the threat of witchcraft. The Dudleys are planning an important dinner party for Vernon's boss.

**Two: Dobby's Warning** The Malfoys' house-elf, Dobby, appears in Harry's room to warn him not to return to Hogwarts because he faces great danger. Dobby reveals that he has been holding all of Harry's letters from his friends in hopes that Harry will think his friends have forgotten him and so not return to school. Dobby spills Aunt Petunia's fancy dessert and Harry gets the blame. As punishment, they lock Harry in his room and starve him.

**Three: The Burrow** Harry's closest friend Ron Weasley appears outside his window. With the help of his brothers Fred and Harry, Ron takes Harry to the Weasley home, via flying car. The boys have taken the car without permission and when they arrive home, Mrs. Weasley loudly berates them. Nonetheless, she is very kind to Harry and he delights in the loving family. The boys de-gnome the garden.

**Four: At Flourish and Botts** Ginny Weasley, the youngest child, has a crush on Harry. Harry and the Weasley family travel by magical Floo powder to the magical Diagon Alley to buy their books and other school supplies. Harry's parents have left him a treasure of gold, but the Weasleys have very little money. Harry and the Weasleys clash with arrogant Mr. Malfoy and his arrogant son Draco. Mr. Malfoy secretly passes an enchanted diary to Ginny. Later, Harry and the Weasleys run into Hagrid, the giant friendly gamekeeper at Hogwarts. Handsome Gilderoy Lockhart, soon to be a teacher at Hogwarts, is signing autographs. Mrs. Weasley and the other women think he is very handsome with his flowing robes and radiant smile.

**Five: The Whomping Willow** Harry and Ron are unable to enter the train station to return to Hogwarts, so use the flying car. They crash the car into the whomping willow, which attacks it. Headmaster Dumbledore punishes the boys for taking the car without permission.

**Six: Gilderoy Lockhart** At breakfast, Ron receives a "Howler" from his mother, a screaming message about taking

the car and getting into trouble. Professor Sprout teaches the class about Mandrakes, which have restorative powers. One of the boys, Colin, takes pictures of Harry and Lockhart is jealous that Harry is getting too much attention. Harry and his friends once again clash with Draco Malfoy and his supporters. It appears that Lockhart is terrible at magic, but brilliant at self-motion.

**Seven: Mudbloods and Murmurs** The school teams have Quidditch practice, a fast-moving game played on flying broomsticks. Malfoy insults Hermione, Harry's close friend, because she is only half-witch. He refers to her heritage as "Mudblood," a terrible insult. Harry is hearing strange threats that no one else can hear.

**Eight: The Deathday Party** Harry and his friends forsake the annual Halloween bash to attend Nearly Headless Nick's "deathday" party celebrating the 500th anniversary of his death. Along the way, they visit Myrtle, the morose bathroom spirit. Harry again hears the strange threats. Mrs. Norris, Filch's cat, is petrified by an unknown force.

**Nine: The Writing on the Wall** Hermione discovers that the Chamber of Secrets can only be opened by the true heir of Slytherin. There is a monster that the Heir alone can control. Harry and his friends suspect that Malfoy is the heir.

**Ten: The Rogue Bludger** Harry's arm is broken as he blocks a shot at the Quidditch match while going after a tampered Bludger (the "ball"). Dobby the house-elf tells Harry that he wears a pillowcase as a mark of his enslavement; a house-elf can only be freed if his master presents him with clothes. When Colin is petrified, Dumbledore realizes that the Chamber of Secrets is open.

**Eleven: The Dueling Club** Harry, Ron, and Hermione decide to make Polyjuice Potion to disguise themselves as Draco's friends to prove that Draco is behind the Chamber of Secrets. During a spell duel Harry discovers that he is a Parselmouth, capable of speaking snake language, a rare and magical talent linked to the Slytherins. Everyone now suspects that Harry is the villain. Even Harry wonders, because the Sorting Hat had first offered him membership in Slytherin house. When several more kids are petrified, Harry is taken to Dumbledore's private rooms.

**Twelve: The Polyjuice Potion** Dumbledore has a phoenix, whose tears have healing powers. Harry doesn't tell Dumbledore that he has been hearing dire messages. Harry and Ron drink their potion and turn into Draco's friends Crabbe and Doyle. They learn that Draco is as puzzled as they are by the evil events. Hermione's potion backfires and she is turned into a cat. She goes to the nurse to be turned back into a girl.

**Thirteen: The Very Secret Diary** Harry finds an old magical diary that belonged to a student in the school 50 years ago, Tom Riddle. Harry enters the diary and learns that fifty years ago Hagrid opened the Chamber, the monster emerged and killed one student, but the murder was covered up.

**Fourteen: Cornelius Fudge** The next Quidditch match is called off when Hermione and still more students are petrified. Harry dons his invisibility cloak and eavesdrops on a meeting with Headmaster Dumbledore; Cornelius Fudge, the Minister of Magic; and Lucius Malfoy. Lucius happily announces that Dumbledore has been suspended until further notice and Hagrid is being sent to the dreaded Azkaban prison.

**Fifteen: Aragog** In the woods, Harry and Ron are attacked by giant spiders and taken to the head monster spider, Aragog. Aragog, raised by Hagrid, is not the monster of the Chamber of Secrets—although it knows what is. Just as the spiders get ready to eat the boys, they are swooped to safety in Mr. Weasley's magic flying car.

**Sixteen: The Chamber of Secrets** Basilisk, the King of Serpents, kills anyone who looks into its eyes. Harry realizes that the petrified students had not looked directly into the monster's eyes so they are frozen rather than dead. He finds the portal in Moaning Myrtle's bathroom and enters the Chamber of Secrets. Sent to battle Basilisk, Lockhart runs away because he is a fraud. Ginny Weasley opened the Chamber this time.

**Seventeen: The Heir of Slytherin** Tom Riddle reveals that he is a previous incarnation of Lord Voldemort! Harry fights him off with powerful magic: his mother's love, a sword magically produced from the Sorting Hat, and the phoenix. He drives the sword into the snake's mouth, but the snake attacks with his poisonous fang. The phoenix heals him with its tears. Harry plunges the serpent's fang into the diary, killing Riddle.

**Eighteen: Dobby's Reward** Harry and Ron receive Special Awards for Service to the School and points for their house. Dumbledore reveals that Voldemort transferred some of his powers to Harry the night he gave Harry the scar which is why Harry understood Parseltongue. Harry tricks Lucius Malfoy, who is Dobby's master, into giving the house-elf a piece of clothing. Dobby is now free.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

J. K. Rowling was born in 1966 near Bristol, England, the daughter of middle-class parents, attended Exeter University, and became a teacher. Between 1990 and 1994, she moved to Portugal to teach English, married a journalist, gave birth to their daughter Jessica, divorced her husband, and settled in Edinburgh, Scotland. "Rowling found herself in the classic single-mother trap," explained *Time* magazine. "She could not afford child care, so she could not go to work, and when she tried to put Jessica in state-funded care, she was told she was 'coping too well.' For almost a year, until she found teaching work, Rowling lived off public assistance. Every day, to escape her damp, unheated flat, she'd take the baby to the nearest cafe and write away, nursing a cup of coffee."

Rowling began work on the Harry Potter books in 1990. The idea "just came: bang!" she told a *Publishers Weekly* interviewer. "From the beginning, she conceived of it as a seven-volume series, 'because I decided that it would take seven years, from the ages of 11 to 17, inclusive, to train as a wizard, and each of the books would deal with a year of Harry's life at Hogwarts.'"

Originally, the Harry Potter idea did not seem to have a bright

future. "When J. K. Rowling first met her agent, Christopher Little, over a lunch in London in 1995," explained *Publishers Weekly*, "he felt it only right to sound a cautionary note: 'Now, you do realize, you will never make a fortune out of writing children's books?'" Three years later, Rowling's first book has leapt to the top of the bestseller charts, both here and in the author's native U.K.; racked up major prizes and brought Rowling an avalanche of personal publicity and so much fan mail that she hired a full-time secretary.

#### CRITIC'S CORNER

Critical reception of the "Harry Potter" novels has been almost universally approving. Amanda Craig of *New Statesman* "loved" the books and hailed Rowling's tale as full of "zest and brio." Ruth France of *School Librarian* found Harry a likable protagonist with a sense of humor. Rosemary Stones of *Books for Keeps* called Rowling an "exciting new talent" and commended the development of the themes of bravery and the "need to understand the desperate desires of our hearts" in the book. "Harry Potter takes on the tones of a much-loved fiction genre, the British boys' school reminiscence," stated Cathy Hainer in *USA Today*. "You don't have to be a wizard or a kid," Hainer concludes, "to appreciate the spell cast by Harry Potter." Harry Potter won The British Book Awards Children's Book of the Year, the Smarties Prize, and most major American prizes for children's literature, including the 1999 National Book Award. Book rights have been sold to England, France, Germany, Italy, Holland, Greece, Finland, Denmark, Spain and Sweden.

#### OTHER BOOKS BY J.K. ROWLING

*Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* (2001)  
*Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* (1997)  
*Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* (1999)  
*Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* (2000)  
*Quidditch Through the Ages* (2001)

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY

*Books for Keeps*, September 1997, p. 27.  
*Contemporary Authors Online*. The Gale Group, 2000.  
*Guardian*, Feb. 16, 1999, p. EG4.  
<[www.achuka.co.uk/news.htm](http://www.achuka.co.uk/news.htm)>  
*New Statesman*, Dec. 5, 1997, p. 64.  
*Publishers Weekly*, Dec. 21, 1998, p. 28; Jan. 4, 1999, p. 30;  
Jan. 11, 1999, p. 24; Feb. 15, 1999, p. 33.  
*School Librarian*, August 1997, p. 147.  
*Time*, April 12, 1999, p. 86.  
*USA Today*, October 1998.

#### GENERAL OBJECTIVES

1. To appreciate the author's use of humor
2. To understand the novel's title
3. To recognize the importance of setting
4. To assess each character's personality
5. To recognize the novel's theme
6. To appreciate the difficulties Harry faces as a witch among "Muggles," his non-magical relatives
7. To explore the ways kindness can be shown
8. To find examples of bravery and courage
9. To sympathize with the main character's plight
10. To describe the novel's mood or atmosphere

### SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1. To analyze the importance of magic and friendship in Harry's life
2. To see how Harry's choices determine the kind of person he is
3. To understand Voldemort's evil nature
4. To appreciate the comic relief created by Professor Lockhart
5. To probe the relationship between Harry and the Weasleys
6. To see how being different from others affects Harry
7. To understand the plot structure
8. To grasp the extent of Harry's extraordinary powers
9. To understand why the Dursleys mistreat Harry
10. To visualize the story's action

### LITERARY TERMS AND APPLICATIONS

For a better understanding of J. K. Rowling's style, present the following terms and applications to the novel:

**irony** occurs when something happens that is different from what was expected. In *verbal irony*, there is a contrast between what is stated and what is suggested. In *dramatic irony*, there is a contrast between what a character believes and what the audience knows is true. In *irony of situation*, an event reverses what the readers or characters expected. Rowling uses dramatic irony on page 2, for example, when Harry asks his cousin Dudley for the "magic word." Assuming that Harry means real "magic," his relatives panic. Harry is playing a joke: the "magic" word is "please."

**humor** is the part or parts of a story that are written to amuse. Humor can be created through sarcasm, word play, irony, and exaggeration. Rowling includes a great deal of humor to balance the seriousness of Harry's position as an unloved relative. On page 26, for example, the Weasley boys pick a lock with a hairpin when they could far more easily open the door with just a flick of their wand. On page 38, Mr. Weasley describes "muggle-baiting," when wizards sell non-wizards keys that keep shrinking so they can never find it when they need it. This is funny because people are always losing their keys.

**setting** is the time and place where the events of a literary work take place. The setting may be stated outright, or readers may have to infer it from details in the story. Part of the setting of *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* is directly stated: the Dursley home on Privet Drive and Hogwarts School. The time is never stated, but from details in the text, readers can infer that it is the present. The characters' words and phrases make it plain that the novel is set in England.

### CROSS-CURRICULAR SOURCES

#### Books

Lloyd Alexander, *The Book of Three*  
Avi, *Bright Shadow*  
James Barrie, *Peter Pan*  
L. Frank Baum, *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*  
John Bellairs, *The House With a Clock in Its Walls*  
Roald Dahl, *Matilda*  
Diane Duane, *So You Want to Be a Wizard*  
Madeleine L'Engle, *A Wrinkle in Time*  
Ian Fleming, *Chitty, Chitty, Bang, Bang*  
Robert Heinlein, *Have Spacesuit, Will Travel* and *Space Cadet*  
Brian Jacques, *Lord Brocktree*  
Diana Wynne Jones, *Witch Week*

Norton Juster, *The Phantom Tollbooth*  
Gail Carson Levine, *Ella Enchanted*  
C. S. Lewis, *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*  
Patricia A. McKillip, *The Forgotten Beasts of Eld*  
Garth Nix, *Sabriel*  
Philip Pullman, *The Golden Compass*  
Dian Curtis Regan, *Princess Nevermore*  
Lemony Snicket, *The Bad Beginning*  
J. R. R. Tolkien, *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*  
T. H. White, *The Sword in the Stone*  
Patricia C. Wrede, *Dealing With Dragons*  
Jane Yolen, *Wizard's Hall*

#### Internet

</www.harrypotter.com> (The official Harry Potter site.)  
<www.scholastic.com/harrypotter/author/index.htm> (Rowling tells how she got her start as a writer and shares details of her personal life.)  
</www.kidsreads.com/harrypotter/jkrowling.html> (Rowling answers questions about her life, her books, and writing in general.)  
<www.geocities.com/Area51/Capsule/4230> (Quizzes and information on the Harry Potter books.)  
<www.sffworld.com/authors/r/rowling\_jk> (Harry Potter related news, book reviews, J.K. Rowling biography and bibliography.)  
<www.salon.com/audio/2000/10/05/rowling> (Audio clip of Jim Dale reading an excerpt of *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*.)

#### Videos/DVDs

*The Hobbit*  
*Star Wars*  
*Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*  
*The Wizard of Oz*

### THEMES AND MOTIFS

A study of the central issues and situations in J.K Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* should include these aspects:

#### Themes

- confusion
- death
- magic
- fear
- friendship
- hardship
- hunger
- secrets
- snakes
- transformations

#### Motifs

- adjusting to magical powers
- being brave in terrifying situations
- being special and different from others
- coping with fame
- dealing with events out of human control
- enjoying sports and healthy competition
- experiencing growth and change
- getting an unusual education
- overcoming monsters and evil
- self-awareness and maturity

## MEANING STUDY

Below are words, phrases, sentences, or thought units that have particular meaning in the novel. Explain the meaning of each. Chapter and page numbers indicate the context from which the item is taken.

1. The Dursleys were what wizards called Muggles (not a drop of magical blood in their veins) and as far as they were concerned, having a wizard in the family was a matter of deepest shame. (Chap. 1, p. 3-4)  
*(Because he has been orphaned, Harry is forced to live with his Aunt Petunia, Uncle Vernon, and cousin Dudley. They fear and detest Harry because he is different. They cannot understand or appreciate his extraordinary place in the world of wizardry as a result of his heritage and unique special powers.)*
2. Harry Potter must not go back to Hogwarts. (Chap. 2, p. 16)  
*(Dobby, the Malfoys' house-elf, comes to warn Harry that he will be in mortal danger if he returns to his school, Hogwarts. Because Dobby is an elf, he does not have the freedom to say much more. Harry is baffled and intrigued by Dobby's dire warning. By placing the warning so early in the novel, Rowling effectively builds suspense and tension.)*
3. He [Vernon] himself fitted a cat-flap in the bedroom door, so that small amounts of food could be pushed inside three times a day. They let Harry out to use the bathroom morning and evening. Otherwise, he was locked in his room around the clock. (Chap. 2, p. 22)  
*(When Dobby ruins Aunt Petunia's fancy dessert, Harry gets the blame. As a result, he is treated even more badly than usual. This time, he is both starved and imprisoned. As this scene shows, Harry follows in a long tradition of gifted, misunderstood, and mistreated children.)*
4. "Come...come to me...Let me rip you...Let me tear you...Let me kill you..."(Chap. 7, p. 120)  
*(The warning Dobby gave has come to pass: Harry does appear to be in mortal danger, as these dire messages suggest. Even more intriguing, only Harry can hear the messages. Later, readers learn that they come from Basilisk the snake. Only Harry can hear them because only he speaks and understands Parseltongue, the snake language.)*
5. You could be great, you know, it's all here in your head, and Slytherin would help you on the way to greatness, no doubt about that... (Chap. 9, p. 153)  
*(During the Sorting ceremony, the Sorting Hat had first tried to place Harry in Slytherin House. Terrified at being allied with the house reputed for turning out Dark wizards, Harry had opted instead to become a part of Gryffindor. Now he fears that he is somehow allied with Dark magic, against his will.)*
6. "A Parselmouth!" said Ron. "You can talk to snakes!" (Chap. 11, p. 195)  
*(When a snake appears from Malfoy's wand and heads for one of the students, Harry quickly shouts "Leave him alone!" The snake obeys and slumps to the floor, as docile as a garden hose. Unbeknownst to Harry, he has spoken in the language of snakes. He realizes that the symbol of the Slytherin House is a snake and the Chamber of Secrets is supposedly controlled by someone from the Slytherin House. This action makes Harry the prime suspect for pet-*

*rifying students and trying to kill them all.)*

7. "Ron," he breathed, "This is it. This is the answer. The monster in the Chamber's a basilisk—a giant serpent!" (Chap. 16, 290)  
*(Harry suddenly realizes that the monster, the serpent, has been sending out the death threats. Only Harry can hear them because only Harry can speak Parselmouth. Once he figures this out, all the other pieces fall into place — how the students have become petrified and where the monster is hiding.)*
8. I AM LORD VOLDEMORT (Chap. 17, p. 314)  
*(Tom Riddle's full name, Tom Marvolo Riddle, is transposed into the name of the arch-villain, "He-Who-Must-Not-Be-Named." Harry realizes that he has been battling the wizard who killed his parents, the wizard who left his mark on Harry's forehead, the wizard who means to crush him utterly.)*
9. "Because my mother died to save me. My common Muggle-born mother." (Chap. 17, p. 316)  
*(Harry knows that Voldemort cannot kill him because he is protected by his mother's ultimate act of sacrifice. This love provides a powerful counter-charm to evil.)*
10. "It is our choices, Harry, that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities." (Chap. 18, p. 333)  
*(Dumbledore reassures Harry that we are what we choose to be, not what we feel we are destined to be or what others decide we are. To prove his point, Dumbledore points to the sword that Harry had used against the snake. The sword is engraved "Godric Gryffindor." Only a true Gryffindor can pull that sword out of a hat.)*

## COMPREHENSION STUDY

Answer the following questions in your own words. There is not always a right answer. Your judgment is important and you should be ready to defend your answers by referring to passages in the book.

### Questions 1-5 (Literal Level)

1. How is Harry different from his aunt, uncle, and cousin Dudley?  
*(Unlike his "Muggle" relatives, Harry is a wizard. He has special powers to change reality. Also unlike them, he is gracious, kind, and intelligent.)*
2. What warning does Dobby give Harry?  
*(Dobby warns Harry not to return to school, Hogwarts. Dobby tells Harry that he will be in "mortal danger" if he returns. Dobby's warning is valid.)*
3. Who unlocks the Chamber of Secrets? Why?  
*(Ginny Weasley unlocks the Chamber of Secrets because she is manipulated by Tom Riddle/Lord Voldemort. He preys on her love for Harry to get her to do his bidding.)*
4. Who is Tom Riddle?  
*(Tom is Lord Voldemort as a young man. He was a brilliant student at Hogwarts 50 years ago who has given over to the Dark magic and become an evil wizard. He killed Harry's parents and wants to kill Harry, too.)*
5. How does Harry defeat the monster snake?  
*(Harry stabs the snake with a sword he pulls out of the Sorting Hat. He is only able to pull the sword because he is a true member of Gryffindor House.)*

### Questions 6-8 (Interpretative Level)

6. Why do the Dursleys treat Harry so cruelly?  
*(They fear his magical powers. Since they are intensely conscious of social status, they are ashamed that he is different. Also, they resent having to take care of him and see to his needs, meager though they are. Perhaps on a subconscious level, they realize that Harry is far superior to their own son, Dudley.)*
7. How are Harry and Voldemort alike? How are they different?  
*(They are both strong, intelligent, and powerful magicians. They are both orphans. Harry has some of Voldemort in him as a result of the scar the wizard left when he killed Harry's parents. However, Harry is good and heroic, while Voldemort is evil and corrupt.)*
8. Why does Harry free Dobby in the end of the novel?  
*(Harry wants to reward Dobby for his help. Further, readers can infer that he does not believe that creatures should be enslaved for another's profit. Finally, he wants to punish the Malfoys for planting the diary on innocent Ginny and trafficking in the dark arts.)*

### Questions 9 and 10 (Critical Level)

9. Select any three names and explain how they fit their characters.  
*(For example, Harry is a traditional name for British kings, a nickname for Henry. This fits Harry because he is well-born (from both Muggle and wizard stock), brave, and intelligent. The other children look up to him as a leader. Dudley is an overweight and stupid slob, which the word "dud" suggests. Finally, Malfoy is evil, as shown by the prefix "mal" (bad) in his name.)*
10. What do you think the phoenix symbolizes?  
*(The phoenix is the traditional symbol of rebirth. This is shown when the phoenix's tears heal Harry and bring him back to life.)*

### Questions 11 and 12 (Creative Level)

11. Write a chapter that describes what happens to Harry ten years in the future.
12. Working with a small group of classmates, discuss some ways that you might have coped with Harry's situation at Hogwarts had you been in his place.

## ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

### Art and Music

1. Create a three-dimensional diorama of Hogwarts. Label each part of the display with an appropriate quote from the novel.
2. Select your three favorite scenes and illustrate them.
3. Create a sculpture of one of the monsters described in the novel. Possibilities include the giant snake, Peeves, Nearly Headless Nick, or Moaning Myrtle.
4. Select an especially dramatic scene, such as the battle between good and evil in the Chamber of Secrets. Find background music that captures the scene's dramatic, tense mood. Then read the scene to the class as you play the background music.

### History and Social Studies

1. Compare and contrast the British school system to the American school system. Show how they are the same and

different.

2. Harry was orphaned when his parents were killed by Voldemort. He is then sent to live with his aunt and uncle. Explain how orphans are sheltered in America.
3. Harry attends a private school. How do private schools compare to public schools in America? Interview some private school teachers, access some private school web sites, and read ads for private schools to find out.
4. Is the phoenix bird real or mythological? Prepare a report on this fascinating bird.
5. Hogwarts is located in a castle. Select a castle in England and prepare a chart about its history, construction, and current use. Build a model of the castle, if you wish.

### Language Arts

1. Imagine that you had Harry's magical powers. Describe what you would do with them.
2. Who would you cast to star in a Harry Potter movie? Write a cast list, including at least 10 characters from the book. Next to each name, write a sentence explaining why the actor is ideal for the part.
3. Make a dust jacket for the book. Draw a picture for the cover, add reviews on the back, and write a summary of the author's life on the inside flap.
4. Write a letter to J. K. Rowling in which you explain why you enjoyed reading *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*.
5. Imagine that you are Ginny Weasley. Write a diary entry explaining why you opened the Chamber of Secrets and expressing your sorrow for doing so.
6. Create a glossary of at least ten words that the author created for this novel. Possibilities include *Parselmouth*, *Muggle*, and *Mudblood*, for example.

### Math

1. Harry inherits a fortune in gold. Find out how much an ounce of gold is worth today.
2. Imagine that Harry and his friends were real and that you could visit them. Plan out the cost of the trip, including airfare, lodging, food money, and spending money.

### Physical Education

1. Write the rules for Quidditch.
2. Design some exercises to help Harry and his classmates limber up for a Quidditch match.
3. Harry must defend himself against evil monsters. Write some suggestions for helping students defend themselves against everyday dangers.

### Science

1. Harry and his friends prepare potions for various purposes. Select a common remedy, such as aspirin, and find out its ingredients and how it is prepared.
2. Report on mandrakes. What are they? Are they real? Do they have the powers that Professor Sprout claimed?
3. Prepare a chart comparing and contrasting the weather in your neighborhood to the weather in London, England. Include temperature, average precipitation, and amount of sunshine.
4. Write a science article about any one of the mythical beasts that Hagrid raises, such as the giant spiders.

### STUDENT INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES

1. Create two teams to debate whether or not Harry should be allowed to use witchcraft while he is staying at the Dursleys over the summer.
2. In your own words, state the novel's theme or message.
3. Create a TV panel discussion explaining why *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* has been such a phenomenal success around the world.
4. Explain why Snape does not like Harry.
5. Using scenes from the novel, create a mural that shows its main events.

### ALTERNATE ASSESSMENT

1. List examples of difficulties that Harry faced. Then rank these hardships on a scale from most to least difficult. Be ready to justify your rankings.
2. Compile a list of actions that demonstrate how Gilderoy Lockhart deceives everyone at the school about his talents as a wizard.
3. Compose the scene in which Volemort kills Harry's parents and leaves Harry with the lightning scar on his forehead.
4. Make a character list and describe each character.

### TEACHER'S NOTES

### VOCABULARY TEST

Match each word to its meaning. Write the letter of your choice in the space provided.

- |                     |                        |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| _____ 1. belch      | a. burp                |
| _____ 2. adoration  | b. bitterness          |
| _____ 3. pitiful    | c. brave               |
| _____ 4. rubbish    | d. awkward             |
| _____ 5. valiant    | e. heavy-set           |
| _____ 6. antidotes  | f. violent             |
| _____ 7. screech    | g. twisted and tangled |
| _____ 8. fiasco     | h. able to be heard    |
| _____ 9. fidget     | i. deadly              |
| _____ 10. inept     | j. trash               |
| _____ 11. grudge    | k. remedies            |
| _____ 12. berserk   | l. baffled             |
| _____ 13. vivid     | m. colorful, bright    |
| _____ 14. putrid    | n. poison              |
| _____ 15. portly    | o. complete failure    |
| _____ 16. fatal     | p. pathetic            |
| _____ 17. venom     | q. high-pitched yell   |
| _____ 18. audible   | r. move restlessly     |
| _____ 19. snarled   | s. love                |
| _____ 20. nonplused | t. rotten              |

## COMPREHENSION TEST A

### Part I: Matching (20 points)

Complete each of the following descriptions with a name from the list that follows. Place the letter of your answer in the blank provided at left. You will have names left over.

- |                    |                 |               |                     |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| A. Petunia Dursley | D. Hedwig       | G. Peeves     | J. Professor Sprout | M. Hermione     |
| B. Snape           | E. Draco Malfoy | H. Dobby      | K. Dudley Dursley   | N. Voldemort    |
| C. Hagrid          | F. Lockhart     | I. Dumbledore | L. Ron Weasley      | O. Harry Potter |

- \_\_\_ 1. a gentle giant
- \_\_\_ 2. the Malfoys' house-elf
- \_\_\_ 3. the teacher who grows Mandrakes
- \_\_\_ 4. the person who defeats the basilisk
- \_\_\_ 5. the potions master
- \_\_\_ 6. the cruel boy Harry suspects has opened the Chamber of Secrets
- \_\_\_ 7. the school poltergeist
- \_\_\_ 8. Harry's aunt
- \_\_\_ 9. headmaster of Hogwarts
- \_\_\_ 10. Harry's owl

### Part II: Sentence Completion (20 points)

Supply a term to complete each of the following statements. Place your answers in the blanks provided in the sentences.

- 1. Harry attends the \_\_\_\_\_ School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.
- 2. Ron Weasley and his brothers take Harry to the Weasley home. They get there by traveling in a(n) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3. Harry and the Weasley family travel by magical \_\_\_\_\_ powder to Diagon Alley to buy their books and other school supplies.
- 4. The boys crash their car into the \_\_\_\_\_, which attacks it.
- 5. Malfoy insults Hermione, Harry's close friend, because she is only half-magical. He refers to her heritage as "\_\_\_\_\_" a terrible insult.
- 6. Harry and his friends attend Nearly Headless Nick's "\_\_\_\_\_" party celebrating the 500th anniversary of his death.
- 7. A house-elf can only be freed if his master presents him with \_\_\_\_\_.
- 8. Harry discovers that he is a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ capable of speaking snake language.
- 9. Dumbledore has a rare \_\_\_\_\_, whose tears have healing powers.
- 10. In the Chamber of Secrets, Harry meets \_\_\_\_\_, who reveals that he is Lord Voldemort!



**Part III: True/False (20 points)**

Mark the following statements either **T** for true or **F** if any part is false.

- \_\_\_ 1. Ginny Weasley has a crush on Harry.
- \_\_\_ 2. While the children are buying their books in Diagon Alley, Hagrid secretly passes Draco Malfoy's magical diary to Ginny.
- \_\_\_ 3. Mrs. Weasley and the other women think Gilderoy Lockhart is very handsome with his brilliant smile and flowing robes.
- \_\_\_ 4. Quidditch is a fast-paced game played on flying broomsticks.
- \_\_\_ 5. Mrs. Norris, Filch's mother, is petrified by an unknown force.
- \_\_\_ 6. The Chamber of Secrets can only be opened by the true heir of Slytherin.
- \_\_\_ 7. Harry, Ron, and Hermione decide to make Polyjuice Potion to disguise themselves so they can open the Chamber of Secrets..
- \_\_\_ 8. Aragog opened the Chamber of Secrets fifty years ago, but he was stopped by Hagrid.
- \_\_\_ 9. Harry drives the sword into the snake's mouth, but the snake attacks with his poisonous fang.
- \_\_\_ 10. Voldemort transferred some of his powers to Harry the night he killed Harry's parents and attacked Harry.

**Part IV: Essay (40 points)**

Choose two and answer in complete sentences.

1. Describe how Harry defeats Lord Voldemort and saves the school.
2. Why do so many people like Harry? Describe at least three of his admirable character traits.
3. Describe the hardships Harry faces and how he deals with them.
4. Explain how Harry came to be living with his aunt, uncle, and cousin.

## COMPREHENSION TEST B

### Part I: Multiple Choice (20 points)

Underline a word or phrase from the list below to complete each of the following statements.

1. When the novel opens, it is Harry's (fifteenth, twelfth) birthday.
2. Harry's closest friend (Draco Malfoy, Ron Weasley) takes Harry to his house in a flying car.
3. Harry's parents have left him a (flying carpet, treasure of gold).
4. At breakfast, Ron receives a ("Howler," "Yeller") from his mother, a screaming message about getting into trouble.
5. It appears that Lockhart is terrible at (writing, magic), but brilliant at self-promotion.
6. (Quidditch, Smelting) is a fast-moving game played in the air on broomsticks.
7. Non-witches are called (Mudbloods, Muggles).
8. The symbol of the Slytherins is a (bird, snake).
9. Hermione's potion backfires and she turns into a (phoenix, cat).
10. Harry fights Lord Voldemort off with powerful magic: his mother's love, a (book, sword) magically produced from the Sorting Hat, and the phoenix.

### Part II: Identification (20 points)

Briefly describe each and explain why it is important in the story.

1. the Sorting Hat
2. the phoenix
3. the jeweled sword
4. Tom Riddle's diary
5. Harry's smelly sock

**Part III: Matching (30 points)**

Complete each of the following descriptions with a name from the list that follows. Place the letter of your answer in the blank provided at left. You will have names left over.

- |                    |                      |                   |                   |
|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| A. Petunia Dursley | F. Gilderoy Lockhart | K. Dudley Dursley | P. Ginny          |
| B. Snape           | G. Peeves            | L. Mr. Weasley    | Q. Filch          |
| C. Hagrid          | H. Dobby             | M. Hermione       | R. Colin          |
| D. Hedwig          | I. Dumbledore        | N. Voldemort      | S. Scabber        |
| E. Draco Malfoy    | J. Professor Sprout  | O. Harry Potter   | T. Moaning Myrtle |

- \_\_\_ 1. the house elf who warns Harry Potter about danger
- \_\_\_ 2. He-Who-Must-Not-Be-Named, the great evil force in the novel
- \_\_\_ 3. the child who opens the Chamber of Secrets
- \_\_\_ 4. the school's poltergeist
- \_\_\_ 5. Harry's aunt, terrified of Harry and his magical powers
- \_\_\_ 6. the handsome teacher at Hogwarts who is later revealed as a fraud
- \_\_\_ 7. Ron's father, fascinated by human ways and inventions
- \_\_\_ 8. the sour potions master
- \_\_\_ 9. the ghost of the bathrooms
- \_\_\_ 10. school headmaster, brilliant and wise
- \_\_\_ 11. Harry's cruel and arrogant classmate
- \_\_\_ 12. Harry's fat, lazy, spoiled cousin
- \_\_\_ 13. Harry's brilliant classmate, always studying
- \_\_\_ 14. the novel's hero
- \_\_\_ 15. the gamekeeper

**Part IV: Essay (30 points)**

Choose two and answer in complete sentences.

1. Why does Harry enjoy being at the Weasley home so much?
2. Describe how Harry is heroic.
3. Summarize the novel's plot, including all the main events.
4. Explain what function Gilderoy Lockhart fulfills in the novel.

## ANSWER KEY

### VOCABULARY TEST

- |      |       |       |       |
|------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. a | 6. k  | 11. b | 16. i |
| 2. s | 7. q  | 12. f | 17. n |
| 3. p | 8. o  | 13. m | 18. h |
| 4. j | 9. r  | 14. t | 19. g |
| 5. c | 10. d | 15. e | 20. l |

### COMPREHENSION TEST A

#### Part I: Matching (20 points)

- |      |       |
|------|-------|
| 1. C | 6. E  |
| 2. H | 7. G  |
| 3. J | 8. A  |
| 4. O | 9. I  |
| 5. B | 10. D |

#### Part II: Sentence Completion (20 points)

1. Hogwarts
2. flying car
3. Floo
4. whomping willow
5. Mudblood
6. deathday
7. clothes
8. Parselmouth
9. phoenix
10. Tom Riddle

#### Part III: True/False (20 points)

- |      |       |
|------|-------|
| 1. T | 6. T  |
| 2. F | 7. F  |
| 3. T | 8. F  |
| 4. T | 9. T  |
| 5. F | 10. T |

#### Part IV: Essay (40 points)

Answers will vary.

### COMPREHENSION TEST B

#### Part I: Multiple Choice (20 points)

- |                      |              |
|----------------------|--------------|
| 1. twelfth           | 6. Quidditch |
| 2. Ron Weasley       | 7. Muggles   |
| 3. treasure of gold. | 8. snake     |
| 4. "Howler"          | 9. cat       |
| 5. magic             | 10. sword    |

#### Part II: Identification (20 points)

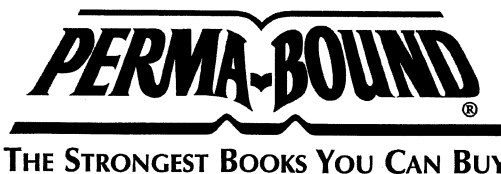
1. The Sorting Hat originally offered Harry membership in the Slytherin house, but he was frightened by their reputation for Dark Magic. Harry now fears that he is the true heir to Slytherin, and so is evil. The Sorting Hat is also important because it produces the sword Harry uses to fight off the snake.
2. The phoenix supplies the tears that heal Harry's snake bite. It also pulls them to safety after the battle.
3. The jeweled sword not only saves Harry's life but also shows that Harry is a true Gryffindor.
4. Tom Riddle's diary is the portal to the Chamber of Secrets.
5. Harry's smelly sock frees Dobby, the Malfoy's house elf.

#### Part III: Matching (30 points)

- |      |       |       |
|------|-------|-------|
| 1. H | 6. F  | 11. E |
| 2. N | 7. L  | 12. K |
| 3. P | 8. B  | 13. M |
| 4. G | 9. T  | 14. O |
| 5. A | 10. I | 15. C |

#### Part IV: Essay (30 points)

Answers will vary.



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