

## SYNOPSIS

On August 6, 1945, at 8:15 A. M., an atomic bomb explodes above the city of Hiroshima, Japan. The survivors of the blast perceive it as a noiseless flash while observers many miles away hear the tremendous explosion that heralds the beginning of the atomic age and the end of Japan's threat to peace in the Pacific. At first none of the surviving citizens of Hiroshima comprehend the totality of the destruction of their city.

3,500 yards from blast center, Reverend Kiyoshi Tanimoto, pastor of the Hiroshima Methodist church, has time to take refuge between two rocks and escapes apparent injury. Like other survivors, he assumes that a bomb has fallen nearby, but, walking toward the center of the city, he begins to realize the terrible extent of the damage.

1,350 yards from the center of the explosion, Mrs. Hatsuyo Nakamura, a tailor's widow with three young children, stands at her kitchen window watching a neighbor tear down his house for a fire lane when "everything flashed whiter than any white she had ever seen." She and her children are partially buried but otherwise unhurt. After digging her children free from the debris, Mrs. Nakamura dresses them in heavy clothing, even though the day is warm. She sets out for Asano Park, which has been designated as an evacuation area for her neighborhood.

Dr. Masakazu Fujii, a prosperous doctor and proprietor of a private hospital on the Kyo River, is relaxing on his porch, 1,550 yards from the center of detonation. The force of the explosion topples Dr. Fujii and his hospital into the river. In spite of a severely injured left shoulder, he extricates himself from the ruined timbers, but is too severely injured to be of much help to others. His plight is typical of Hiroshima's medical personnel. Most of the city's doctors and nurses are dead or too severely injured to help the thousands of people in desperate need of medical attention.

The only uninjured doctor at the Red Cross Hospital, 1,650 yards from blast center, is Dr. Terufumi Sasaki, a young surgeon, who walks down a corridor protected from direct effect of the flash and from flying glass that kills and injures many in the hospital. As thousands of victims converge on the hospital, Dr. Sasaki realizes that Hiroshima has suffered a massive disaster. Sleepless days and nights follow as medical supplies dwindle and vanish. People who might have survived die from inadequate medical attention because few doctors know how to treat radiation poisoning.

Father Wilhelm Kleinsorge, a Jesuit priest, is reading in his room on the top floor of his order's mission house, 1,400 yards from blast center, when the bomb explodes. Stunned by the concussion, Father Kleinsorge remembers little except his aimless wandering about the mission ground. Except for minor cuts, he seems unhurt.

Miss Toshiko Sasaki, an East Asia Tin Works clerk, is buried in the rubble of a fallen bookshelf in the plant office, 1,600 yards

from blast center. Her left leg is twisted and broken. In excruciating pain, she is rescued from the wreckage several hours later, but days pass before she receives medical attention. Her injury leaves her permanently crippled.

Shortly after the explosion, Hiroshima is in flames, and Asano Park becomes crowded with survivors, including Mrs. Nakamura and her children, Father Kleinsorge and his fellow Jesuits, and Mr. Tanimoto, who works heroically to assist the injured. Father Kleinsorge is amazed at the quiet deaths of the victims. Mr. Tanimoto, horrified by the severity of wounds, steadies himself with a reminder to think of the victims as human beings.

On August 15th, nine days after the bomb is dropped, Emperor Hirohito speaks by radio to his subjects for the first time in history. Japan surrenders. Relief and medical teams are sent to Hiroshima, and the monumental task of rebuilding the city begins. Nearly all the survivors suffer in varying degrees from radiation sickness. A year after the atomic bomb is dropped, none have fully recovered either physically, economically, or emotionally from the effects of the bomb.

Survivors of the bomb, like Mrs. Nakamura, suffer years of privation and prejudice from people suspicious of their ailments. She grows increasingly fatalistic about the aftermath. To earn her living, she delivers bread and peddles fish, then collects for a newspaper. In 1951, she moves into housing built by an American Quaker philanthropist and acquires a job wrapping moth balls. In 1957, the government takes action to assist survivors. Mrs. Nakamura retires in 1966. With her children married and prospering, she is able to enjoy dancing with a folk troupe.

After ten years of work, Dr. Sasaki completes his doctorate and devotes much of his practice to the treatment of keloid scars. In 1954, he builds a nineteen-bed clinic in Mukaihara, far from Hiroshima's preoccupation with increasing numbers of leukemia and carcinoma patients. In 1963, he nearly dies from the removal of a diseased lung. Fourteen years later, following his wife's death, he opens a geriatric clinic and bathhouse.

Father Kleinsorge suffers repeated hospitalizations and neglects his health while attending to missionary duties. In 1948, he is sent to the Misasa church, becomes a naturalized citizen, and takes the name Makoto Takakura. Following a year's hospitalization, he retires in 1961. More health problems plague him; in 1976 he suffers broken vertebrae after a fall. Attended by his faithful cook, he clings to life until November 19, 1977.

In 1946, Miss Sasaki, having converted to Catholicism and ended her engagement, places her brother and sister in an orphanage, where she works as an attendant. She obtains a teaching degree and undergoes surgery that relieves some of the stiffness in her leg. While assisting children at the White Chrysanthemum Orphanage, she develops an anti-war philosophy. Following months of care to her badly injured brother, she enters a convent in 1954 and is named Sister Dominique

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Sasaki in 1957. For twenty years, she directs a retirement home. Following her retirement in 1978, she tours Italy and does volunteer work.

In 1948, Dr. Fujii builds a new clinic in Hiroshima and pampers himself with pleasures. In 1956, he accompanies the Hiroshima Maidens to New York. Seven years later, he angers his wife by building an American-style house. On New Year's Eve, 1963, he is nearly asphyxiated by gas. He rallies, then becomes permanently disabled and dies ten years later.

Mr. Tanimoto, still struggling to continue his evangelistic outreach, dedicates himself to peace and visits the United States to solicit funds. In 1949, his memorandum is published in the *Saturday Review*. Despite rejection by President Truman and General MacArthur, he sets up a peace initiative. In 1955, Tanimoto accompanies the Hiroshima Maidens to the United States. Featured on "This Is Your Life," he faces the captain of the *Enola Gay*, the plane that carried the bomb to Hiroshima, and becomes a celebrity, although government officials in America and Japan suspect him of currying publicity. In 1982, he retires.

### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Because of his journalistic background and multi-national point of view, John Richard Hersey was perhaps the best author to describe the bombing of Hiroshima. Born in Tientsin, China, in 1914 to missionary parents, he was educated in China, graduated from Yale University in 1936 and studied at Clare College, Cambridge. After serving as secretary to Sinclair Lewis, Hersey became a war correspondent from 1937-1945 for both *Time* and *Life*.

Hersey's journalistic assignments brought him to the forefront of major events—China and Japan in 1939, the South Pacific in 1942, Sicily the next year, and Moscow from 1944 - 1945. He used his wartime experiences as a basis for two nonfiction works—*Men on Bataan* (1942) and *Into the Valley* (1943). He gained fame after publishing *A Bell for Adano* (1944) a novel about World War II.

Subsequent works—*Hiroshima* (1946); *The Wall* (1950), which deals with anti-Nazi uprisings in the Warsaw ghetto; *The Marmot Drive* (1953); *A Single Pebble* (1956); *The War Lover* (1959); *The Child Buyer* (1960); *White Lotus* (1965); and *The Algiers Motel Incident* (1968)—have not proved as popular as his first novel. His 1975 documentary, *The President*, recounts a week spend with Gerald Ford. He revised the work in 1980 as *Aspects of the Presidency* by appending a profile of Truman.

In addition to writing, John Hersey has devoted much of his life to lecture and support of education. He was a fellow at Berkeley College (1950-1965), professor at Yale (1971-1984), writer in residence at the American Academy in Rome (1970-1971), visiting professor at MIT (1975), and delegate to the White House Conference on Education in 1955. He is the father of five children and currently resides in Key West, Florida. His hobbies include sailing, gardening, and bowling.

### CRITIC'S CORNER

Critical commentary on *Hiroshima* is notably short and repetitive. Critics laud its clear, objective reportage. Perhaps Lewis Gannett of the *New York Herald Tribune Book Review* says it best: "John Hersey is a great reporter. He doesn't generalize and he doesn't write editorials. He knows that when headlines say a hundred thousand people are killed, whether in

battle, by earthquake, flood or atomic bomb, the human mind refuses to react to mathematics. The heart of the story—of any story—is the individual."

Awards and honors are dispersed throughout Hersey's career including numerous honorary degrees, the Sidney Hellman Foundation award (1951) and the Howland Medal (1952). Three of Hersey's books have been adapted for stage presentation—*A Bell for Adano* (1945), *The Wall* (1961), and *The Child Buyer* (1964). Both *A Bell for Adano* and *The War Lover* are available on film.

Known for his documentary technique, Hersey garnered the 1945 Pulitzer Prize for *A Bell for Adano*, which deals with the American occupation of Sicily. Before *Hiroshima* was published in book form, the *New Yorker* devoted an entire issue to it on August 31, 1946. Hersey reprised *Hiroshima* by adding it to a collection, *Here to Stay* (1963).

### GENERAL OBJECTIVES

1. To explain the relationship between setting and events and to set both in an historical perspective
2. To discuss the theme of perseverance under traumatic circumstances
3. To enumerate cultural characteristics of the Japanese
4. To discuss the importance of humility in interpersonal relationships
5. To note the lack of medical knowledge in dealing with the effects of radiation
6. To isolate moments of despair in the narrative and contrast them with periods of triumph
7. To characterize life in Hiroshima before and after the bombing
8. To explain the importance of location at the time of the bombing as it applies to survival rate
9. To narrate examples of giving and self-sacrifice
10. To outline the events that lead to Japan's attack of Pearl Harbor and eventual surrender to American forces

### SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1. To analyze John Hersey's objectivity
2. To consider the significance of religion and philosophy as they apply to the survivors' behavior, particularly Father Kleinsorge
3. To contrast characters in their responses to pain, fear, isolation and deprivation
4. To describe situations in which characters demonstrate self-reliance
5. To account for America's use of atomic weapons in the bombing of Hiroshima
6. To contrast the varying types of courage demonstrated by the characters
7. To explain the tendency toward selfish behavior
8. To contrast the park and the hospital as settings
9. To explain why Mr. Tanimoto must remind himself of the victims' humanity
10. To describe the Japanese attitude toward the dead
11. To describe the three stages of radiation poisoning

### HIROSHIMA HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

These events serve as background to the book:

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|------|--|
| 1911 | British physicist Lord Ernest Rutherford discovers that nuclear reactions release great amounts of energy. |
| 1932 | Sir James Chadwick discovers the neutron.  |



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1933	Enrico Fermi proposes a theory of beta decay.
1936	Niels Bohr proposes a picture of the atomic nucleus and its disintegration.
1939	
August 2	Leo Szilard and Albert Einstein write a letter to Franklin D. Roosevelt urging him to build an atomic bomb.
1940	Plutonium is discovered.
1941	
December 7	Japanese planes bomb U.S. naval installations in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.
December 8	President Roosevelt delivers his "Day of Infamy" speech. The U.S. declares war on Japan.
1942	
September 17	General Leslie Groves takes charge of the Manhattan Project to develop atomic bombs. Fermi directs the construction of a nuclear reactor at the University of Chicago.
December 2	The first self-sustaining chain reaction initiates the Atomic Age.
1943	A plant to provide Uranium 235 is started at Oak Ridge, Tennessee.
March	Robert Oppenheimer directs the laboratory at Los Alamos, New Mexico.
1944	A nuclear production plant is opened at Hanford, Washington.
April	The U.S.S.R. cancels its neutrality pact with Japan.
July	Emperor Hirohito replaces General Tojo's militaristic cabinet.
1945	
April 12	President Franklin D. Roosevelt dies and is succeeded by his vice president, Harry Truman.
July 16	The Trinity test bomb is exploded near Alamogordo, New Mexico, at 5:30 A.M.
August 6	An atomic bomb explodes 2,000 feet over Hiroshima at 8:15 A.M., destroys 4.7 square miles of the city, and kills nearly 100,000 people and injures more than 100,000. Over 67% of the city is destroyed.
August 8	Russia declares war on Japan.
August 9	A second atomic bomb explodes over Nagasaki at 11:02 A.M. killing 39,000 and injuring 25,000 people. Two-fifths of the city is destroyed.
August 14	Japan surrenders. General Douglas MacArthur is made supreme commander of the Allies.
September 2	Japanese officials sign a formal surrender aboard the U.S.S. <i>Missouri</i> in Tokyo Bay.
1946	
July 1	After native populations are removed, Bikini Atoll becomes the site of the first peacetime aerial test bombing.
July 25	A second test is conducted ninety feet below water level in the lagoon of Bikini Atoll.
1947	
January 1	The Atomic Energy Commission is set up as the Manhattan Project comes to an end.

1949	Fermi and I.I. Rabi oppose the construction of the hydrogen bomb.
September 23	The U.S.S.R. sets off its first atomic explosion.
1950	
January 31	The AEC begins work on a thermonuclear device.
1951	
May	The U.S. tests a thermonuclear bomb in the Pacific.
1952	
October 3	England tests its first fission weapon in the Monte Bello Islands off the coast of Australia.
November 1	The U.S. tests its hydrogen bomb at Eniwetok Atoll.
1955	
July	The AEC conducts its 60th nuclear test.
1957	
May 15	England tests its first thermonuclear weapon.
1959	Leo Szilard receives the Atoms for Peace Award.
1963	The U.S. and U.S.S.R. agree to ban above-ground nuclear testing.

### MEANING STUDY

Below are words, phrases, or sentences that have a particular meaning in the story. Explain the meaning each has in this book. Page numbers are provided so that you can re-read the passages from which the item is taken.

1. The Japanese radar operators, detecting only three planes, supposed that they comprised a reconnaissance. (p. 5) *(Both sides recognize the movements of the other. The Japanese, accustomed to weather and survey planes, feel reasonably secure during the morning air raid. Since no one had experienced an atomic bomb blast, no one knows that only a single plane is needed to deliver the payload. In the ensuing hours, the survivors discuss possible explanations of the massive destruction brought by the single blast. It is only after a radio broadcast on August 7 that a clarification of the new weapon is made known to the public. The President of the United States, Harry Truman, explains that the "bomb had more power than twenty thousand tons of TNT. It had more than two thousand times the blast power of the British Grand Slam, which is the largest bomb ever yet used in the history of warfare.")*
2. Seeing fire breaking out in a nearby ruin (except at the very center, where the bomb itself ignited some fires, most of Hiroshima's citywide conflagration was caused by inflammable wreckage falling on cook stoves and live wires), Mrs. Nakamura suggested going over to fight it. (p. 20) *(People who are accustomed to the standard methods of bombing, even the type of incendiary bomb that devastated European cities such as Dresden, are unable to explain why so many victims are burned. There are many fires, such as those caused by stoves and electric wires, but these are not the cause of extreme burns on victims, buildings, and plants.)*
3. Right after the explosion, while Father Wilhelm Kleinsorge, S.J., was wandering around in his underwear in the vegetable garden, Father Superior LaSalle came around the corner of the building in the darkness. (p. 21) *(Father Kleinsorge, Society of Jesus, is a member of the intellectual arm of Catholic brotherhood, which was founded by St. Ignatius Loyola in the sixteenth century. The order*

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devotes itself to scholastic and domestic improvement of the needy. As members of the helping professions, Father Kleinsorge and his fellow priests mobilize resources to aid people in distress.

Father Kleinsorge demonstrates the dual nature of his order with his visit to Miss Sasaki, who suffers depression and morbidity because of her maimed leg and because her fiancé deserts her in her time of need. After she confronts Father Kleinsorge with a blunt question about the nature of a god who could allow such suffering, he soothes her anguish with an appropriate reply: "My child...man is not now in the condition God intended. He has fallen from grace through sin." Because Miss Sasaki begins to improve after her discussion with the priest, Dr. Sasaki congratulates Father Kleinsorge for assisting her convalescence.)

4. Dr. Machii said, "It must have been a Molotoffano hanakago"—a Molotov flower basket, the delicate Japanese name for the "bread basket," or self-scattering cluster of bombs. (p. 23)  
(The daisy or anti-personnel bomb takes its name from Vyacheslav Mikhailovich Molotov, a Russian statesman who helped plan the revolution of 1917. His part in student insurrections led to the name of crude and destructive anti-tank grenades, such as the Molotov cocktail, which are made from gasoline-filled bottles ignited by a rag wick and thrown at advancing tanks.)
5. Someone in the crowd near the Nakamura family shouted, "It's some Grummans coming to strafe us!" (p. 38)  
(The crowd fears the Grumman Hellcat, a plane developed by the United States in mid-1943 to combat the Japanese Zero or Zeke, developed by Mitsubishi. The TBF Grumman Avenger, a plane used for torpedo or bomb attacks, was not so deadly a plane as the Hellcat, which anti-aircraft personnel feared for the dreaded strafing or low-level machine-gunning. [Note: The word strafe derives from the World War I German slogan, "Gott strafe England" or "God punish England."])
6. Early in the evening of the day the bomb exploded, a Japanese naval launch moved slowly up and down the seven rivers of Hiroshima. (p. 42)  
(Hiroshima, founded in 1593 as a fan-shaped settlement around the castle of feudal lord Terumoto Mori, is located in the Ota River delta of Honshu. Bridges lead to the city's six islands as well as the mainland. An integral part of the city is the park dedicated by the Asano family, which predominated from 1603-1867 and established major industrial and trade development.  
Today the city of Hiroshima is dedicated to peace. The twisted ruins of the Institute of Industrial Development remain as a reminder of the disaster. A special hospital treats and studies people who suffer the after-effects of radiation; Peace Park houses a cenotaph, an empty tomb, that memorializes those who perished in the blast.)
7. Soon he found a good-sized pleasure punt drawn up on the bank, but in and around it was an awful tableau—five dead men, nearly naked, badly burned, who must have expired more or less all at once, for they were in attitudes which suggested that they had been working together to push the boat down into the river. (p. 37)

(In his effort to rescue as many survivors as possible and to protect victims from the rising water, Mr. Tanimoto, like other rescuers, employs whatever is available. He uses a small, flat-bottomed skiff to move victims to safety. With no oars, he must propel the punt by a "thick bamboo pole. He worked the boat upstream to the most crowded part of the park and began to ferry the wounded." To compensate for taking it from the owners, who died nearby, Mr. Tanimoto says aloud, "Please forgive me for taking this boat. I must use it for others, who are alive.")

8. The doctor prescribed suralimentation for Father Kleinsorge. (p. 74)  
(Father Kleinsorge's condition worsens. Fighting the effects of radiation sickness, he is sent to the Catholic International Hospital in Tokyo, where, instead of blood transfusions, he is treated by force-feeding. "Every three hours, they forced some eggs or beef juice into him, and they fed him all the sugar he could stand. They gave him vitamins, iron pills and arsenic (in Fowler's solution, [i.e., a 1% solution of potassium arsenate used as a tonic]) for his anemia." Even though the doctor predicts that the priest will die, Father Kleinsorge continues to baffle medical experts by alternately improving and regressing.)
9. One feeling they did seem to share, however, was a curious kind of elated community spirit, something like that of the Londoners after their blitz—a pride in the way they and their fellow-survivors had stood up to dreadful ordeal. (p. 87)  
(The survivors of the atomic blast compare their unity and strength to that demonstrated by Londoners during the Battle of Britain. The term, a short form of blitzkrieg or "lightning war," was first described by Julius Caesar in his Gallic Commentaries. In modern times, it is applied to the German attack on Poland in 1939. The method is characterized by speed, surprise, and superiority of weaponry and usually results from concerted efforts by a well-trained, well-coordinated war effort.)
10. A surprising number of the people of Hiroshima remained more or less indifferent about the ethics of using the bomb. (p. 89)  
(Survivors of the atomic bomb blasts are reluctant to discuss the moral implications of a weapon that is powerful enough to destroy everything in its path and beyond. Yet, others feel a tremendous "hatred for Americans which nothing could possibly erase." Dr. Sasaki proposes that the men who suggested the bombings should be hanged.  
Father Kleinsorge, Father Siemes, and other outsiders debate whether the Japanese, in supporting total war, bring on their own destruction. "In a letter to the Holy See in Rome, Father Siemes states: "The crux of the matter is whether total war in its present form is justifiable, even when it serves a just purpose.")

### 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. Complete the following statements:
  - A. On the morning of \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ A.M., an atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, Japan, killing

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\_\_\_\_\_ people out of a population of \_\_\_\_\_. It was estimated that \_\_\_\_\_% died of direct burns from the bomb; and \_\_\_\_\_% from other injuries and \_\_\_\_\_% from radiation sickness.

- B. On August \_\_\_\_\_, the President of the \_\_\_\_\_ announced that a new type of bomb, carried by a few \_\_\_\_\_, had more power than 20,000 tons of \_\_\_\_\_.
- C. On August \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ A.M. a second atomic bomb was dropped on \_\_\_\_\_.
- D. In \_\_\_\_\_ on the morning of August \_\_\_\_\_, the voice of \_\_\_\_\_, Emperor of Japan, announced his nation's surrender.
- A. August 6, 1945; 8:15; 100,000; 245,000; 25; 50; 25  
B. 7th; United States; B-29's; TNT  
C. 9th; 11:02; Nagasaki  
D. Kabe; 15th; Hirohito

2. On pages 1-2, John Hersey introduces six survivors whose fortunes he traces during the hours, days, weeks, and months following the atomic destruction of Hiroshima. Briefly indicate the six survivors' distance from the center of the explosion and their condition only one year later. (Rev. Kiyoshi Tanimoto, who is 3,500 yards or two miles from blast center, is unhurt because he has time to take refuge between two large rocks. One year later the Hiroshima Methodist Church, of which he is pastor, is still ruined, and he no longer has his exceptional vitality. He envies the Jesuit church because of its wealth.

Mrs. Hatsuyo Nakamura, the tailor's widow, who is 1,350 yards or three-quarters of a mile from blast center, is buried by debris of her house. She and her three children are uninjured, but Mrs. Nakamura loses her hair because of radiation sickness. One year later, she struggles to find housing, utensils, and food. She sells her last kimono to keep herself afloat financially. Father Kleinsorge, aware of her poverty, suggests that she work as a domestic or borrow money from relatives to repair her rusty sewing machine so that she can resume her old job of seamstress.

Dr. Masakazu Fujii, 1,550 yards from blast center, is trapped in the Ota River, squeezed between two timbers. His private hospital is in the river. Fearful that he will drown in the rising tide, Dr. Fujii wriggles free. Ten days later, he hears of a vacant private clinic in Kaitaichi, buys it, and hangs out a sign in English. His practice, aimed at American occupation forces, thrives.

Father Wilhelm Kleinsorge, a German Jesuit priest, 1,400 yards from blast center, is lying on his cot reading and finds himself wandering in the mission vegetable garden and bleeding from small cuts. A major source of support for many survivors, Father Kleinsorge provides immediate comfort and assistance to others. The Society of Jesus is the first institution to rebuild. However, a year later, Father Kleinsorge is again hospitalized from overwork and a failure to recuperate fully from the effects of radiation.

Dr. Terufumi Sasaki, 1,650 yards from blast center, is walking down the corridor of the Red Cross Hospital, Hiroshima's biggest hospital. Except for losing his glasses, he suffers no immediate effects from the explosion. The influx of 10,000 wounded surpasses Dr. Sasaki's worst nightmare. Like a machine, he attempts to stop the bleeding of the worst wounded. Later, he and his colleagues puzzle over the peculiarities of radiation poison-

ing. Within six months, the Red Cross Hospital returns to normal. Dr. Sasaki never regains his energy, but he renews his interest in life, marries, and gains some weight. Miss Toshiko Sasaki, "clerk in the personnel department of the East Asia Tin Works," is 1,600 yards from blast center. When the building collapses, she is buried under bookcases. Her left leg is horribly twisted and broken beneath her. Even though rescuers extricate her from the rubble, it is August 8 before friends find her under a temporary shelter. Some men move her by truck to a relief station in Inokuchi. Army doctors consider amputating her leg. She is evacuated by ship to a makeshift hospital in the Goddess of Mercy Primary School in Hatsuokaichi.

Late in February, 1946, Father Kleinsorge visits Miss Sasaki to lift her sagging spirits. Bitter and angry because her leg is permanently disfigured and because her fiancé abandons her, she confronts the priest. His comforting reply helps her to recover. She prepares to convert to Catholicism.)

3. The survivors of Hiroshima do not know for some time the true nature of the weapon that has been used against them. What are some of the guesses that attempt to explain what destroyed the city?

(In the second chapter of the book, survivors begin to analyze the incredible force that destroyed their city. Surprised at the extensive burns on victims, Dr. Fujii compares notes with Dr. Machii, who describes the bomb as a "Molotov flower basket" or "self-scattering cluster of bombs."

The sound of approaching planes starts the rumor that American planes are coming to strafe the city. Another guess is that "The Americans are dropping gasoline." An alternate possibility is that fine magnesium powder was sprayed over the city by a single plane and ignited when it came in contact with power lines. Dr. Fujii surmises that "it can only be dropped on big cities and only in the daytime, when the tram lines and so forth are in operation."

On August 7, Japanese radio carries a short announcement that Hiroshima has suffered the explosion of a new type of bomb. The President of the United States describes it as an atomic bomb, "more powerful than twenty thousand tons of TNT." A week after the event, a rumor circulates that an "original child bomb" destroyed Hiroshima. On August 12, Domei asserts, "There is nothing to do but admit the tremendous power of this inhuman bomb.")

4. What are the three stages of radiation sickness? What treatments help victims?

(At the Red Cross Hospital, Dr. Sasaki and his colleagues observe the three-stage progression of symptoms in victims of radiation poisoning. First, the release of "neutrons, beta particles, and gamma rays" results in cell deterioration. Those who survive immediately suffer "nausea, headache, diarrhea, malaise, and fever," lasting several days. 95% of those victims in a half mile of the blast do not survive.

The second stage appears within ten to fifteen days. After hair begins falling out, patients suffer diarrhea and fever as high as 106. In two to three weeks, blood disorders cause gums to bleed, white blood cell counts to drop, and purplish spots to appear on the skin and mucous membranes. In the absence of the body's usual defense mechanisms, wounds fail to heal. Many patients develop sore throats and mouths. Anemia sets in as red cell counts drop.

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In the third stage, the body overcompensates by producing higher than normal levels of white cells. Patients tend to die of chest infections. Burns heal, leaving pink, rubbery keloid scars. Some victims, unable to recover from the shock, drag on for months.

To combat the severe depletion of necessary blood particles, doctors treat patients the same way they treat victims of an overdose of x-rays. They administer liver extract, whole blood, and vitamins, particularly B<sub>1</sub>. To circumvent blood disorders, they depend on Allied donations of plasma and penicillin.)

5. Describe symptoms and wounds which Rev. Tanimoto and Father Kleinsorge observe on victims in Asano Park. (In Asano Park, victims take shelter away from buildings that might be open to further bombing. Among the cool foliage of typical Japanese rock gardens, they surround themselves with a secure, normal atmosphere. Symptoms are immediately apparent, particularly extreme thirst, nausea, and vomiting. One victim, Iwasaki, dies with no external wounds or burns to explain her malady.

The crowd is quiet, most lying prostrate and uncomplaining, some still bleeding from unattended cuts. As Mr. Tanimoto ferries victims across the river to save them from spreading fire, he locates five male corpses, naked and badly burned. As crowds herd along the bank to avoid the flames, some are drowned.

Both rescuers locate food to distribute to victims. Those stricken with radiation poisoning continue to retch. As flood waters rise, one victim suffers excruciating pain as raw wounds come in contact with salt water. One of the most moving episodes occurs when Mr. Tanimoto tries to move twenty injured people from a sandpit. Because they are too weak to move, he lifts them toward the boat. Clammy, slippery skin peels off their naked limbs. He recalls that the burns are "yellow at first, then red and swollen with the skin sloughed off, and finally, in the evening, suppurated and smelly.")

### Questions 6-8 Interpretive Level

6. Find and explain examples of irrational behavior following the Hiroshima disaster.

(Many people, traumatized by the explosion and its terrible aftermath, do not behave in sensible fashion. Mrs. Nakamura, after extricating her children from the rubble, worries about cold and dresses "them in pants, blouses, shoes, padded-cotton air-raid helmets...and even, irrationally, overcoats." Then she returns to saner behavior, offering strips of white cloth to her neighbor, Mrs. Nakamoto, to use as bandaging. Another mother, Mrs. Kamai, clings to the decaying corpse of her infant and refuses to let it be cremated until her husband is found.

At the Red Cross Hospital, Dr. Sasaki, who begins treating severe cuts and burns, loses his professional perspective and mechanically goes about the impossible task of treating, housing and feeding the 10,000 patients who pour in. Father Kleinsorge faces a similar irrational situation when Mr. Fukai, secretary of the diocese, asks to be left to die. Like a petulant child, Mr. Fukai beats on the priest's shoulders and repeats, "I won't leave." Father Kleinsorge replies irrelevantly to Father LaSalle, "We have lost all our possessions but not our sense of humor." Later,

Mr. Fukai escapes his rescuers and runs back toward the fire.

As Mr. Tanimoto runs through the city, he passes "dreadfully burned and lacerated people." Feeling guilty for being unhurt, he apologizes to strangers "for having no burden like yours." By chance, he meets his wife and infant. They "part as casually—as bewildered—as they had met." In a similarly inexplicable exchange, a rescuer tries to remove debris from Miss Sasaki. He becomes ill-tempered and blames her for her predicament. He shouts, "You'll have to get out by yourself" and goes away.

Likewise, Father Kleinsorge demonstrates irrationality. He is unable to rest. On August 9, feeling guilty, he leaves his bed and walks into the city. Unable to assuage his mental unrest, he returns to the Novitate, "stupefied and without any new understanding.")

7. How are cultural differences illustrated by the reactions of the Japanese to the terrible disaster that destroys Hiroshima?

(Cultural differences are illustrated by the formal politeness, disposal of the dead, devotion to Emperor Hirohito, and the belief that suicide is honorable. Father Kleinsorge, an Occidental, is impressed by the stoic acceptance of pain and death. From the tangle of houses and fallen telephone poles and wires come cries couched in formal language, "Help, if you please!" In another incident, Mr. Tanimoto apologizes to five corpses for taking their boat. Later he makes amends for treading on someone's hand in the densely packed park.

Other situations illustrate the Japanese desire to avoid embarrassment. Dr. Fujii, for example, remarks to Dr. Machii that he feels "like a beggar, dressed as he was in nothing but torn and bloody underwear." In another instance of exaggerated politeness, an officer apologizes for overreacting at the sound of a foreign language [German].

The role of suicide in the Japanese concept of saving face contrasts with Western behavior. For example, Father Kleinsorge learns that Mr. Fukai, in characteristic Japanese style, wants to die if an air raid occurs in Hiroshima. Because Mr. Fukai disappears, the priest concludes that he ran "back to immolate himself in the flames."

Disposal of the dead also illustrates Japanese mores in that medical personnel consider it more important to cremate and enshrine the dead than to care for the living. When decaying corpses are left unclaimed, workers cremate the remains and place the ashes in envelopes "neatly and respectfully."

One of the most impressive examples of Japanese culture is the extreme patriotism, even the willingness to die for Japan and the Emperor. When Hirohito's voice is heard over the radio, citizens accept his word as the final authority, even the fact that Japan must surrender. With tears in their eyes, they exclaim, "What a wonderful blessing it is that Tenno himself calls on us and we can hear his own voice in person. We are thoroughly satisfied in such a great sacrifice.")

8. Although John Hersey describes the fate of many people, he is chiefly concerned with the fate of six survivors. Why does he choose only six? Why these particular six?

(As a novelist and journalist, Hersey recognizes that to tell the story of Hiroshima merely in terms of awesome statistics will not move readers. People identify with individuals,



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not statistics. Therefore, Hersey limits his perspective so that readers will not be overwhelmed and so that they can identify with the survivors.

He does not randomly select his focus. Probably he chooses one of the few uninjured doctors (Dr. Sasaki) because through his eyes he can show the multitude of maimed victims requiring medical attention and can express the perplexity of medical personnel at the peculiarities of radiation sickness. By selecting another doctor, Dr. Fujii, who is too seriously injured to help others, Hersey suggests that the very people needed to minimize the disaster are victims themselves. A second aspect of Dr. Fujii as a character is his willingness to turn a profit from the enemy, whom Dr. Fujii singles out with his new office sign, written in English.

The choice of two men of God, Mr. Tanimoto and Father Kleinsorge, is effective because they are both keen and compassionate observers. Likewise, both men demonstrate how simple measures prove useful in saving lives, reducing fear and pain, and providing comfort to the dying. Father Kleinsorge, an Occidental, gives readers a Western reaction to characteristic Japanese behavior following the disaster.

The two female victims offer contrasting views of the disaster. Mrs. Nakamura, a widow and mother of three, represents the thousands of mothers and children who survive the event, but suffer the consequences of poverty and deprivation in the ensuing months. Miss Sasaki, an ordinary young woman with ordinary dreams, symbolizes all those survivors whose lives become as twisted as her crippled leg. Her interest in the Catholic faith suggests that human beings often find strength in adversity and turn to God as a means of coping with loss and disillusionment.)

### Questions 9 and 10 Critical Level

9. Discuss John Hersey's method of presenting his story to the world.

*(As a journalist, John Hersey knows the value of fact-gathering techniques, particularly interviewing eyewitnesses and quoting their exact words. As a good reporter, he does not moralize; he simply shows what happened. By leaving the subjective response to the reader, John Hersey causes his audience to ponder human suffering, aspects of heroism, and the outcome of weapons as destructive as the atomic bomb.*

*Whether or not the bomb should have been dropped has been debated since 1945. On the positive side, the bomb shortened the war and saved lives, both American and Japanese. On the negative side, a nuclear weapon is immoral because it kills indiscriminately both combatants as well as the innocent. Furthermore, it not only destroys life and property, but it poisons the earth itself.*

*By representing the evidence in stark, often repulsive detail, Hersey requires the reader to focus on a single event in human history. Even people who were not alive at the time of the bombing must ask themselves whether it is worthwhile to continue the nuclear arms race. Because Hiroshima presents the fearful results of a single atomic explosion, it has been called the "most significant piece of journalism of modern times.")*

10. Discuss the humanistic response to the book.

*(Regardless of the nationality of the reader, any humane person will see Hiroshima as a grim reminder of the destructive power of which science is capable. Since 1945, vast numbers of protestors have united against nuclear weapons, demonstrated outside nuclear power plants, spotlighted slipshod disposal of nuclear waste, and rejected political parties and individuals who support militarism at any cost. Such groups as Greenpeace and Ban-the-Bomb exemplify a general consternation at the huge loss of life in Hiroshima and Nagasaki as well as a violation of nature at Eniwetok and Bikini.*

*Students may find it helpful to discuss humanism and delineate its philosophies. Another useful activity is an examination of nuclear test ban treaties and arms reduction treaties. By using the Hiroshima experience as a springboard, students may wish to project their wishes and concerns for the twenty-first century and the preservation of life on this planet as we know it.)*

### Questions 11 and 12 Creative Level

11. Research the destructive capabilities of an atomic blast and plot them on maps of several key American cities, such as Washington, D.C., New York, Los Angeles, Houston, and Chicago. Describe the major buildings and services that each city would lose. Explain how the devastation would affect the entire United States. Apply this same exercise to major world cities, such as Moscow, Paris, Berlin, London, Tokyo, Jerusalem, and Beirut.
12. Summarize the anti-nuclear feeling of Bertrand Russell, noted English essayist and political spokesman. Contrast his opinions to those of current world leaders. Conclude with a short statement of your own opinion.

### STUDENT INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES

1. Divide the class into small groups to study the events leading to the production of an atomic bomb. Note the native country and the contribution of the following people: Lise Meitner, Otto R. Frisch, Otto Hahn, Fritz Strassmann, Lyman J. Briggs, Vannevar Bush, James B. Conant, Richard Tolman, Klaus Fuchs, Ernest Lawrence, Leo Szilard, Max Born, Robert Oppenheimer, Enrico Fermi, Lord Ernest Rutherford, Niels Bohr, and Albert Einstein. Keep a map detailing the importance of certain areas, such as Oak Ridge, Tennessee; Alamogordo, New Mexico; and the University of Chicago.
2. Prepare a dialogue dramatizing the discussion of Japanese survivors of the bomb. Emphasize character traits, such as hopelessness, courage, fear of death, selfishness, and perseverance.
3. Discuss how the mechanization of the twentieth century led to the use of two atomic bombs to end the war between Japan and the United States. What inventions and discoveries proved most useful?
4. Lead a debate about the worth of nuclear energy for both military and peaceful purposes. Cite examples to support your arguments.
5. Explain the state of leadership in Japan and the United States at the beginning of the war. Show how power shifted by the end of the war. Among the leaders you mention, emphasize the importance of Emperor Hirohito, General Tojo, Winston Churchill, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Harry Truman, and General Douglas MacArthur.
6. Make a bulletin board that identifies the following names

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and terms as they apply to the book: Little Boy, Fat Man, U<sub>235</sub>, Alamagordo, chain reaction, nuclear fission, Paul Tibbits, *Enola Gay*, U.S.S. *Missouri*, Manhattan Project, and  $E=mc^2$ .

7. Write an essay in which you define your attitude toward total war. Refer to pages 89-90 before you formulate your opinion.
8. Explain how an atomic bomb can lead to death from radiation poisoning. Discuss ways that victims can protect themselves from its effects before and after an atomic explosion.
9. Compose a first person account of an atomic bombing. Apply the events to buildings and landmarks in your own area. Describe places where survivors can obtain help. Discuss how the effects of an atomic blast can be lessened by careful preparation, such as Civil Defense evacuation routes, stockpiles of emergency supplies, first aid training, and special radio channels.
10. Draw a diagram of a B-29 and explain why it was the best vehicle for the bomb. Include a description of the crew, their location, and the job each performed to make the bomb run a success.
11. Write a news release for radio transmission explaining the bombings of both Hiroshima and Nagasaki. In the style of John Hersey, include basic facts while keeping your personal feelings to a minimum.

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## HIROSHIMA

### VOCABULARY TEST

Select a word from the list below to complete each of the following quotations.

Banzai  
charnel-house  
crux  
diocese  
electroscopes  
Grumman  
Hataya-san

hemorrhages  
herb moxa  
Holy See  
Jesuit priests  
keloid tumors  
Kimi ga yo  
Kobe

magnesium  
malaise  
moxibustion  
Novitiate  
nuclei  
Red Cross  
shrine

specie  
Tenno  
total war  
triangulating  
typhoon  
ultrashort  
waterspouts

1. Father Kleinsorge and the other German \_\_\_\_\_, who as foreigners, could be expected to take a relatively detached view, often discussed the ethics of using the bomb.
2. One of them, Father Siemes, who was out at Nagatsuka at the time of the attack, wrote in a report to the \_\_\_\_\_ in Rome: "Some of us consider the bomb in the same category as poison gas and were against its use on a civilian population."
3. Others were of the opinion that in \_\_\_\_\_ as carried on in Japan, there was no difference between civilians and soldiers, and that the bomb itself was an effective force tending to end the bloodshed, warning Japan to surrender and thus to avoid total destruction.
4. Someone in the crowd near the Nakamura family shouted, "It's some \_\_\_\_\_ coming to strafe us!"
5. The bomb was not a bomb at all; it was a kind of fine \_\_\_\_\_ powder sprayed over the whole city by a single plane, and it exploded when it came into contact with the live wires of the city power system.
6. ...Mr. Tanimoto fell suddenly ill with a general \_\_\_\_\_, weariness, and feverishness, and he, too, took to his bedroll on the floor of the half-wrecked house of a friend in the suburb of Ushida.
7. She exhibited only one of the queer symptoms so many of his patients were just then beginning to show — the spot \_\_\_\_\_.
8. On September 17th, there came a cloudburst and then a \_\_\_\_\_, and the water crept higher and higher up the bank.
9. ...the highest intensity of radioactivity, near the torii, was 4.2 times the average natural "leak" of \_\_\_\_\_ waves for the earth of that area.
10. By \_\_\_\_\_ these and other such shadows with the objects that formed them, the scientists determined that the exact center was a spot a hundred and fifty yards south of the torii and a few yards southeast of the pile of ruins that had once been the Shima Hospital.
11. The rays simply destroyed body cells—caused their \_\_\_\_\_ to degenerate and broke their walls.
12. Most burns healed with deep layers of pink, rubbery scar tissue, known as \_\_\_\_\_.
13. Let us give \_\_\_\_\_ to our Emperor.
14. One of the girls [began] to sing \_\_\_\_\_, the national anthem, and others followed in chorus and died.
15. Already, Japanese physicists had entered the city with Lauritsen \_\_\_\_\_ and Neher electrometers; they understood the ideal all too well.

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COMPREHENSION TEST A

Part I: Quotation Completion (20 points)

Match parts of each of the following quotations.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. There is nothing to do but admit the
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Such clouds of dust had risen that
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. About a week after the bomb dropped, a vague, incomprehensible rumor reached Hiroshima—that
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. He had to keep consciously repeating to himself,
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. It was difficult for all the children in the park to
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. At two minutes after eleven o'clock on the morning of August 9th,
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. General MacArthur's headquarters systematically censored all
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. [Miss Sasaki] asked bluntly,
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. One feeling they did seem to share, however, was
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. It seems logical that he who supports total war in principle cannot complain of
  - A. "These are human beings."
  - B. the city had been destroyed by the energy release when atoms were somehow split in two.
  - C. tremendous power of this inhuman bomb.
  - D. at the moment when the atomic bomb flashed above Hiroshima...
  - E. soon the tide would be running in through the estuaries and his head would be submerged...
  - F. there was a sort of twilight around.
  - G. "If your God is so good and kind, how can he let people suffer like this?"
  - H. sustain the sense of tragedy.
  - I. a war against civilians.
  - J. they understood the idea all too well.
  - K. the second atomic bomb was dropped on Nagasaki.
  - L. a curious kind of elated community spirit, something like that of the Londoners after their blitz...
  - M. mention of the bomb in Japanese scientific publications.
  - N. "Perhaps because it was a Molotov flower basket," he said.

Part II: 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. Some answers will be used more than once and some not at all.

- |                        |                        |                                  |
|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| A. Miss Toshiko Sasaki | D. Hirohito            | G. Reverend Mr. Kiyoshi Tanimoto |
| B. Father Cieslik      | E. Dr. Terufumi Sasaki | H. Miss Kayoko Nobutoki          |
| C. Father Kleinsorge   | F. Dr. Masakazu Fujii  | I. Dr. Y. Hiraiwa                |
|                        |                        | J. Mrs. Hatsuyo Nakamura         |

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. finds his private hospital in the Kyo River.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. works as a clerk at the East Asia Tin Works.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. stands at her kitchen window watching a neighbor tear down his house when the blast occurs.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. lies on a cot reading a German religious magazine at the time of the bombing.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. carries a blood sample down a hospital corridor at the time of the blast.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. works as the pastor of the Hiroshima Methodist Church.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. becomes seriously anemic and is not expected to live.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. envies the wealth of the Jesuits because his own church is destroyed.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. speaks over the radio for the first time.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. is a widow whose husband died in 1942 at Singapore.



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

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

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Part of the effectiveness of the bomb is the use of magnesium powder, which ignites when it comes in contact with electric power lines.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. The Japanese doctors save face by erecting a yellow brick veneer facade in front of the Red Cross Hospital.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Victims tend to help their own relatives and neighbors because the extent of the damage is beyond their comprehension.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Citizens of Hiroshima are not alarmed by the air-raid siren because it sounds each morning at 10:00 as a practice of its effectiveness.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Victims have an irresistible urge to hide under the leaves of Asano Park.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Small children are taught to fear B-san or Mr. B., who is the embodiment of the evil Americans that threaten to invade Japan.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Dr. Sasaki suffers nightmares in which he is arrested for practicing medicine without license.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Mr. Tanimoto organizes a bucket chain to fight the fires that threaten survivors huddled together in Asano Park.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Because of the tremendous convection set up by the blazing city, a whirlwind rips through the park.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. In the third stage of radiation poisoning, the body begins hemorrhaging through weak scar tissue that refuses to heal.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Through the sheet, Miss Sasaki can see that her leg is healing and that she will soon be well enough to join her fiance when he returns from overseas.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. Hiroshima is a likely target because it is an important Japanese military-command and communications center.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. Estimates rise from 13,983 people killed to over a hundred thousand victims as bodies are uncovered in the wreckage.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. Most of the victims die immediately after the bomb is dropped; a smaller number die from radiation poisoning.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. Americans learn the morning of the bombing that the United States will end the war by using uranium and plutonium bombs.

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

Answer any TWO in complete sentences.

- 1. Describe situations which hamper immediate medical treatment of victims.
- 2. Discuss how the Japanese plan to cope with destruction and loss in Hiroshima.
- 3. Select a character whom you think suffers the most and explain how that person is impaired.

**HIROSHIMA**

**COMPREHENSION TEST B**

**Part I: Identifying Quotations (20 points)**

Name the person who is speaking on line A and the person to whom it is directed on line B.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1A. After pondering deeply the general trends of the world and the actual conditions obtaining in  
\_\_\_\_\_ 1B. Our Empire today, We have decided to effect a settlement of the present situation by resorting to an extraordinary measure...
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2A. If your God is so good and kind, how can he let people suffer like this?  
\_\_\_\_\_ 2B.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3A. I can't do anything.  
\_\_\_\_\_ 3B.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4A. These are human beings.  
\_\_\_\_\_ 4B.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5A. For a thousand years in Thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the  
\_\_\_\_\_ 5B. night.

**Part II: Short Answer (20 points)**

Supply a word or phrase in answer to each of the following questions. Place your response in the blank provided at left.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Before the bombing, what was the population of Hiroshima?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Altogether, how many people die from the effects of the bomb?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Which nation tries to censor all mention of the bomb?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. What kind of bomb struck Nagasaki?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. What kind of job does Father Kleinsorge recommend that Mrs. Nakamura seek with the Allied occupation forces?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Which character fails to heed the warning to take daily naps and eventually goes back to the hospital?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. What do the high school girls sing after the heavy fence falls on them?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Who is tried in Tokyo?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. In what society is Father Kleinsorge a priest?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Which character is suspected of being a spy?

## HIROSHIMA

### Part III: Fill-in (30 points)

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

Allied command  
anti-aircraft  
automaton  
Banzai  
B-29  
Emperor  
Grumman

Holy See  
Jesuit mission house  
malaise  
naval launch  
nurse  
Ota  
potato

prefectural police  
President of the United States  
pumpkin  
punt  
reconnaissance  
Red Cross Hospital

seamstress  
sedative  
tea leaves  
waterspout  
weather  
whirlwind

1. ...Mr. Tanimoto fell suddenly ill with a general \_\_\_\_\_, weariness, and feverishness, and he, too, took to his bedroll on the floor of the half-wrecked house of a friend in the suburb of Ushida.
2. Dr. Sasaki lost all sense of profession and stopped working as a skillful surgeon and a sympathetic man; he became an \_\_\_\_\_, mechanically wiping, daubing, winding, wiping, daubing, winding.
3. Let us give \_\_\_\_\_ to our Emperor.
4. Of all the important cities of Japan, only two, Kyoto and Hiroshima, had not been visited in strength by B-san, or Mr. B., as the Japanese, with a mixture of respect and unhappy familiarity, called the \_\_\_\_\_.
5. A few minutes after they started, the air-raid siren went off — a minute-long blast that warned of approaching planes but indicated to the people of Hiroshima only a slight degree of danger, since it sounded every morning at this time, when an American \_\_\_\_\_ plane came over.
6. Dr. Fujii had occasionally had anxious moments when the \_\_\_\_\_ and its mouth branches rose to flood, but the piling was apparently firm enough and the house had always held.
7. Fortunately, someone had found intact a supply of narucoxon, a Japanese \_\_\_\_\_, and he gave it to many who were in pain.
8. The only building they saw standing on their way to Asano Park was the \_\_\_\_\_ ...
9. ...the wind grew stronger and stronger, and suddenly—probably because of the tremendous convection set up by the blazing city—a \_\_\_\_\_ ripped through the park.
10. In the garden, on the way to the shelter, [Father Kleinsorge] noticed a \_\_\_\_\_ roasted on the vine.
11. Early in the evening of the day the bomb exploded, a Japanese \_\_\_\_\_ moved slowly up and down the seven rivers of Hiroshima.
12. Nor was it probable that any of the survivors happened to be tuned in on a short-wave rebroadcast of an extraordinary announcement by the \_\_\_\_\_, which identified the new bomb as atomic: "That bomb had more power than twenty thousand tons of TNT."
13. When he had penetrated the bushes, he saw there were about twenty men...their faces were wholly burned, their eyesockets were hollow, the fluid from their melted eyes had run down their cheeks...perhaps they were \_\_\_\_\_ personnel.
14. These are \_\_\_\_\_ . Chew them, young man, and you won't feel thirsty.
15. Then one of the Jesuits who had a practical turn of mind remembered that they had been notified some time before that if they suffered property damage at the hands of the enemy, they could enter a claim for compensation with the \_\_\_\_\_.

## **HIROSHIMA**

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

Answer any TWO in complete sentences.

1. Discuss the philosophy of the Army doctor, "The first duty...is to take care of the slightly wounded."
2. Describe how the Japanese continue to demonstrate self-control and good manners in spite of the desperate situation.
3. Discuss makeshift methods of treating and feeding the survivors.



**TEACHER'S NOTES**

**HIROSHIMA**

**ANSWER KEY**

**Vocabulary Test**

- |                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Jesuit      | 9. ultrashort     |
| 2. Holy See    | 10. triangulating |
| 3. total war   | 11. nuclei        |
| 4. Grumman     | 12. keloid tumors |
| 5. magnesium   | 13. Banzai        |
| 6. malaise     | 14. Kimi ga yo    |
| 7. hemorrhages | 15. electroscopes |
| 8. typhoon     |                   |

**Comprehension Test A**

**Part I: Quotation Completion (20 points)**

- |      |       |
|------|-------|
| 1. C | 6. K  |
| 2. F | 7. M  |
| 3. B | 8. G  |
| 4. A | 9. L  |
| 5. H | 10. I |

**Part II: Matching (20 points)**

- |      |       |
|------|-------|
| 1. F | 6. G  |
| 2. A | 7. C  |
| 3. J | 8. G  |
| 4. C | 9. D  |
| 5. E | 10. J |

**Part III: True/False (30 points)**

- |      |       |
|------|-------|
| 1. F | 9. T  |
| 2. T | 10. F |
| 3. T | 11. F |
| 4. F | 12. T |
| 5. T | 13. F |
| 6. F | 14. F |
| 7. T | 15. F |
| 8. T |       |

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

Answers will vary.

**Comprehension Test B**

**Part I: Identifying Quotations (20 points)**

- 1A. Emperor Hirohito  
1B. radio audience

- 2A. Miss Sasaki  
2B. Father Kleinsorge

- 3A. Dr. Kanda  
3B. Father Kleinsorge

- 4A. Mr. Tanimoto  
4B. Mr. Tanimoto

- 5A. Mr. Tanimoto  
5B. Mr. Tanaka

**Part II: Short Answer (20 points)**

- |                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| 1. 245,000       | 6. Father Kleinsorge |
| 2. 100,000       | 7. national anthem   |
| 3. United States | 8. war criminals     |
| 4. plutonium     | 9. Jesuit            |
| 5. domestic      | 10. Mr. Tanimoto     |

**Part III: Fill-in (30 points)**

- |                         |                                    |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. malaise              | 9. whirlwind                       |
| 2. automaton            | 10. pumpkin                        |
| 3. Banzai               | 11. naval launch                   |
| 4. B-29                 | 12. President of the United States |
| 5. weather              | 13. anti-aircraft                  |
| 6. Ota                  | 14. tea leaves                     |
| 7. sedative             | 15. prefectural police             |
| 8. Jesuit mission house |                                    |

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

Answers will vary.



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