



**STUDENT PACKET**

**GRADES 6-8**

# **Z for Zachariah**

Robert C. O'Brien

**READ, WRITE, THINK, DISCUSS AND CONNECT**

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### **NOTE:**

The trade book edition of the novel used to prepare this guide is found in the Novel Units catalog and on the Novel Units website. Using other editions may have varied page references.

Please note: We have assigned Interest Levels based on our knowledge of the themes and ideas of the books included in the Novel Units sets, however, please assess the appropriateness of this novel or trade book for the age level and maturity of your students prior to reading with them. You know your students best!

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### During Reading: How Ann Solves Each Problem

- ☐ hunger
- ☐ thirst
- ☐ cold
- ☐ loneliness
- ☐ boredom
- ☐ no electricity
- ☐ no gasoline
- ☐ no stove
- ☐ no refrigeration
- ☐ few books
- ☐ threat of radiation poisoning
- ☐ need to find out if there are any other survivors
- ☐ desire to keep track of time
- ☐ need for fresh vegetables
- ☐ need to care for cows, chickens
- ☐ need to harvest seeds for the future

**During Reading:**  
**How Ann Solves Each Problem**

WRAP

**Chapters 20-23 , pages 185-225**

1. How does Ann hide her fire?
2. Why does Ann return to the house?
3. Which tasks does Ann say she is willing to take on alone?
4. Why does Loomis take out the tractor?
5. Why does Ann stop writing in her journal for several weeks?
6. How long does Ann continue to get food and water for Loomis?
7. Why does Loomis take the keys to the tractor?
8. Why does Loomis shoot Ann?
9. Where does Ann hide after she is shot?
10. How does Ann plan to kill Faro—and why doesn't she?
- \*11. **Prediction:** How will Ann "kill Faro"—but not with a gun?
- \*12. What would you do if you were Ann—and found the cave trashed?

**Chapters 24-26, pages 226-249**

1. Where does Ann find shelter after leaving the cave?
2. What plan does she make while recovering?
3. What dream does Ann have over and over?
4. What does Ann decide to take on her trip?
5. How has Ann survived since leaving the cave?
6. What memory makes Ann want to hurt Loomis?
7. How did a rabbit save Ann from a trap?
8. How does Faro die?
9. How does Loomis know where to find Ann?
10. Why does Loomis choose not to shoot Ann—and to tell her about the birds?
- \*11. **Prediction:** Do you think it is a good idea for Ann to leave the valley? What will she find?
- \*12. Do you feel sorry for Loomis? Do you care what happens to Ann?

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Writing to Persuade

**Directions:** During her time alone with Loomis, Ann had to make many decisions. In each case, below, list as many “pros” and “cons” as you can for each choice. Then select one decision and write a paragraph in which you explain why you feel that Ann did or did not make the best choice.

YES

NO

Should Ann warn the stranger before he bathes in the stream?

Should Ann try to nurse the sick stranger back to health?

Should Ann ask Loomis why he was so upset with “Edward” in his dream?

Should Ann live in the cave after Loomis grabs her?

Should Ann shoot Faro to keep him from tracking her down for Loomis?

Should Ann take the safesuit and leave the valley?