LITTLE BY LITTLE by Jean Little

1. In the beginning of the story, how did Little’s classmates respond to her?
2. Discuss some of the reasons Little may be worried about fitting in with her classmates. (at least 4) pg. 18
3. Plot: Narrative Hook: What is a narrative hook?
4. On page 19, describe an example of a narrative hook.
5. How do you think Little feels when Mr. Johnson points out her former home country on the world map?
6. Predict: Think about what has happened in the story so far (pgs. 17-19) what predictions can be made about some challenges?
7. On page 20, what inferences can be drawn about why Little thinks she may have made some enemies of all the children in the class. (support with details from the story.)
8. One way a writer brings out the emotions of experiences is to write vivid descriptions. On page 21 how did the author build the Little’s characterization?
9. Why do you think Little’s classmates behaved cruelly to her (pg. 22) ? Use supportive evidence from the text.

PART II

1. What kind of person do you think Little’s mother is? Explain why. (Give at least 3 examples from the text)
2. Does Mrs. Little give her daughter good advice? Support your view.
3. How does Little’s mother help her? Do you think Mrs. Little expects Mary Weber’s visit?
4. How do you think being seen with Mary Weber may change how the other students treat her?
5. Why do you think Mary takes Little to the library?
6. On page 24, define the word mishap using context clues.
7. Which environment do you think Little belongs--- the classroom or the library? Why?
8. Does this story have a happy ending, even though some of the students continue to bother her? Explain your opinion (support it with details).
9. How did the author’s choice of writing style effect the audience?
10. Thematic Focus: Where I Belong—
    1. Why is fitting in so important to Little?
    2. How would you have responded in her situation?
    3. Compare your responses to Little’s.
    4. Do you think she solved her problem well?

(Support all your responses)

Hint: this would make a great test essay question. Notice it relates to theme of the unit.