Maniac Magee – Chapters 19-21 Study Guide

Answer the following questions in COMPLETE sentences

Chapter 19
1. What idea does Amanda have for making everyone like Maniac? Do you think it was a good idea? Why or why not?

2. What makes Amanda think that Maniac will be able to untie the knot?

3. Irony is a literary device that is used to create a humorous situation by presenting something that is the opposite of what the reader might expect. What is the prize for untangling the knot? Why is it ironic that Maniac wins the prize?

Chapter 20
4. Why did Maniac lie down and take a nap before finishing the knot?

Chapter 21
5. How long was the rope that was used to make Cobble’s Knot?

6. Judge Maniac’s decision to leave Two Mills. What would you have done if you had been in his place?
Looking Back ~ In your group, discuss and answer each of the following questions in COMPLETE SENTENCES. Give examples from the book whenever possible.

1. After learning about the Gordian Knot, in which the one who would be able to untie the knot would be a hero and the next ruler of Asia, why do you think Amanda decided that Maniac should untie Cobble’s Knot? What does she think it will accomplish?

2. Who do you think might have deliberately used Amanda’s encyclopedia to make the home-made confetti? Why do you think that? (Be careful with your answer. Be sure you carefully read this section and then think about why Maniac leaves, even though he has untied the knot.)

3. What is meant by “an ugly, snarling, black-and-white escort for the kid in the middle?”

4. *Symbolism* in literature is an object that represents an idea or an entire set of ideas. What did Hector Street symbolize, particularly as seen when Maniac walked down the street, leaving the town of Two Mills behind? (Think about our theme category.)