Dear Mr. Henshaw

Leigh Botts has been author Boyd Henshaw’s number one fan ever since he was in second grade. Now in sixth grade, Leigh lives with his mother and is the new kid at school. He’s lonely, troubled by the absence of his father, a cross-country trucker, and angry because a mysterious thief steals from his lunchbag. Then Leigh’s teacher assigns a letter-writing project. Naturally Leigh chooses to write to Mr. Henshaw, whose surprising answer changes Leigh’s life.

Section 1:
Read pages 1-19 and answer Comprehension Questions 1-5

Section 2:
Read pages 20-33 and answer Comprehension Questions 6-10

- United States interactive map
  http://go.hrw.com/atlas/norm_htm/usa.htm
- United States Map Quiz
  http://www.lizardpoint.com/fun/geoquiz/usaquiz.html

Section 3:
Read pages 34-53 and answer Comprehension Questions 10-15

- Click the link to find out all about Bears
- Create a report about bears using the link below
  http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/interactives/animal-inquiry

Section 4:
Read pages 55-72 and answer Comprehension Questions 16-20

Name ________________________________
Section 5:
Read pages 73-87 and answer Comprehension Questions 21-25

  - Click below to find out all about Monarch Butterflies
    http://www.monarchbutterflyusa.com/Cycle.htm

Section 6:
Read pages 89-107 and answer Comprehension Questions 26-30

Section 7:
Read pages 108-121 and answer Comprehension Questions 31-35

  - Click here to test your idiom knowledge

Section 8:
Read pages 123-134 and answer Comprehension Questions 36-40
http://www.quia.com/mc/18500.html
Dear Mr. Henshaw

Comprehension Questions

Section 1: pages 1-19

1. What is the name of the main character?

2. What is the title of the book the main character writes about?

3. How many questions does the main character ask the author in his letter?

4. On page 15, Leigh describes himself. "I guess you could call me...."

5. Leigh's dad has a difficult job. What is his occupation?
Dear Mr. Henshaw

Section 2: pages 20-33

6. Where do Leigh and his mother live? What is beside their house?

______________________________________________________________

7. Who is Leigh’s favorite teacher? What is this person’s occupation?

______________________________________________________________

8. What are the three things that bother Leigh?

1) ____________________________________________________________

2) ____________________________________________________________

3) ____________________________________________________________

9. On December 4, Leigh says writing isn’t so bad. Why did he think this?

________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________

10. What does Leigh want the title of his first book to be?

________________________________________________________________
Dear Mr. Henshaw

Section 3: pages 34-53

11. Explain what happened when Leigh wrote, “Something nice happened today.”

__________________________________________________________________________

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__________________________________________________________________________

12. How does Leigh begin every diary entry?

__________________________________________________________________________

13. What did Leigh and his parents make up songs about last Christmas?

__________________________________________________________________________


__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

15. What did Mr. Fridley tell Leigh he needed? Why does he need this?

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________
Dear Mr. Henshaw

Section 4: pages 55-72

16. What does the librarian do for Leigh?

17. Why does Leigh want to write a story for the book of young authors?

18. On page 64, why is Leigh upset?

19. What was the one thing Leigh always asked about when he talked to his dad?

20. When Leigh calls his dad, why does he cry?
21. What did Leigh's mom do that made them both feel better?
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________

22. What advice does Mr. Fridley give Leigh when he asks to be excused from class?
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________

23. What did Leigh look at when he went on a walk?
_________________________________________________________________

24. What did Leigh's dad send to him?
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________

25. Leigh says that when he becomes a "real author" he will need something.
What is it?
_________________________________________________________________
26. Leigh went to the library. What kind of book did he get?

______________________________________________________________

27. The gentleman in the hardware store called Leigh by a name not even his father calls him. What is this name? ________________________________

28. How did Leigh feel after he set off his lunchbox alarm on page 101-102?

______________________________________________________________

29. Did the lunchbox burglar alarm work out how Leigh expected it to? Explain.

______________________________________________________________

30. What salutation does Leigh's dad always use when they hang up the phone?

______________________________________________________________
31. What did Leigh write about for his entry into the Young Writers' Yearbook?

32. What title does Leigh's entry receive? How does he feel about it?

33. Did Leigh get to have lunch with the famous author?

34. Why?

35. Why did Mrs. Badger like Leigh's writing so well?
Dear Mr. Henshaw

Section 8: pages 123-134

36. What did Leigh see in front of his house when he got back from mailing his letter with Barry?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

37. What did Leigh’s dad bring for him?

________________________________________________________________________

38. What did Leigh’s dad say to him that made him feel embarrassed?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

39. How did Leigh’s dad say “goodbye” that was different from their telephone conversations?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

40. The last sentence of the book is “I felt sad and a whole lot better at the same time.” What does this mean?

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________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________