Journal Topics- When the Emperor Was Divine

Mon. 9/17 (12:30 class) and Wed. 9/19 (2:00 class)
Pg 3 What kind of sign does the woman see?  
Where is the sign that the woman read?  
What does she do after she reads the sign?  
In what year is the action of this chapter taking place?  
Pg 6 What do we know about the woman so far? Describe her life and personality.

Fri. 9/21
What does the mother do with the pets?

Fri. 9/28 (12:30 class) and Wed. 9/26 (2:00 class)
Pg 22 Notice that the family members were not given names. Why did the author do this? Do you think that a person’s identity is connected to his or her name?

Mon. 10/1 (12:30 class) and Fri. 9/28 (2:00 class)
Look at the title of the chapter. Why do you think the chapter is named after a train?  
Pg 28 Would you say that the little girl is Americanized? Why or why not?

Mon. 10/8 (12:30 class) and Fri. 10/5 (2:00 class)
Pg 46 What was thrown through the window of the train? Why was the item thrown?

Fri. 10/5 (12:30 class) and Wed. 10/3 (2:00 class)
Look at what you’ve read so far. Make a list with brief descriptions of all the symbols you notice.

Fri. 10/12 (12:30 class) and Wed. 10/10 (2:00 class)
How do the boy and girl feel about their father? How do you know?

Mon. 10/15 (12:30 class) and Fri. 10/12 (2:00 class)
Pg 56 Why did some people in the detention camps choose to work inside the detention camp? Are some people happy to be in the detention camp?

Fri. 10/19 (12:30 class) and Wed. 10/17 (2:00 class)
Does the boy give the tortoise a name? How does he label his tortoise? Do any of their pets have names? Why not?

Mon. 10/22 (12:30 class) and Fri. 10/19 (2:00 class)
Pg 74 Why is the father wearing slippers? Why would different shoes be better? What do slippers imply?

Fri. 10/26 (12:30 class) and Wed. 10/24 (2:00 class)
Pg 75 What does the mother burn? Why does the mother burn these things? Why doesn’t she give or throw them away instead?

M 10/29 (12:30 class) and Fri. 10/26 (2:00 class)
Pg 86 What does the boy mail to Lordsberg? Why did he send the leaf there?

Fri. 11/2
Pg 108 How many years have they been away?  
Pg 110 Why did other people live in their house?  
Pg 114 The children say that the town had stayed the same. Is this true? What has changed? How is the family’s life different from the life they had before they left?

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