Before Reading:

Pre-reading: Look at the cover and the illustrations throughout the book. Make a prediction of what you think this book might be about.

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

Connect: Have you ever read any other books from the A to Z Mysteries series? If so, what do you remember about them?

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________
After Chapter 1:

Point of View: Which point of view is this story written?

a. First person  
b. Third person

Which word(s) helped you to determine the point of view?

_________________________________________________

_________________________________________________

Narrative Elements: Complete the narrative elements.

Characters:  

Setting:
Reread to Clarify: Why are the children in New Orleans?

_________________________________________________
_________________________________________________
_________________________________________________

Figurative Language: Write the type of figurative language used in the following Chapter 1 excerpt.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>hyperbole</th>
<th>simile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>alliteration</td>
<td>onomatopoeia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"His real name was Donald David Duncan..."

Infer: How did the children feel about spending time in New Orleans? Cite evidence to support your answer.

_________________________________________________
_________________________________________________
_________________________________________________
_________________________________________________
_________________________________________________

4
**Vocabulary - Context Clues:** Define the vocab. words using context clues and/or a dictionary.

"'And thanks for hiring Jack to show us the **bayous,**' Josh added."

**bayou** - _________________________________

"'I'd love to paint one of these **charming** old buildings with the balconies and creeping ivy.'"

**charming** - _________________________________

**Synonym of charming:** _________________________________

**Predict:** How do you think the children felt when they saw the **Zombie Zone** sign? Explain your thinking.

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
After Chapter 2:

Infer: "Dink felt the hair on his arms stand up."
Based on the excerpt, how is Dink feeling?
   a) joyful
   b) fearful
   c) bashful

Reread to Clarify: According to Jack, what religion do zombies belong to?
______________________________________________

Reflect: Why were the townspeople in the cemetery? What were they looking at?
_________________________________________________
_________________________________________________
_________________________________________________

Vocabulary: "Inside the cemetery, about thirty people were clustered in a bunch."
What does the word clustered most likely mean?
   a) to cause something to scatter in different directions, or scatter in this way
   b) a small group of people or things that are closely packed together
   c) to disappear suddenly
After Chapter 3:

Reflect: List two things Jack taught the children on their hike.

1) ____________________________________________

______________________________________________

2) ____________________________________________

______________________________________________

Vocabulary: "They saw long-legged blue herons wading in the shallow water."

What does the word *wading* most likely mean?

a) to walk slowly with a purpose
b) to walk against the pressure of water or mud
c) to angrily run away from somebody or something

Vocabulary - Synonym and Antonym: Write a synonym and an antonym of the underlined word.

"'It's so beautiful here,' Ruth Rose said."

Synonym of *beautiful*: ____________________________

Antonym of *beautiful*: ____________________________
Reread to Clarify: According to Ruth Rose's grandmother, what is one reason someone might rob a grave?

1) ____________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________

After Chapter 4:

Setting: What is the new setting introduced in Chapter 4? Use adjectives to be descriptive!

Setting

Vocabulary: “They covered the fire embers with sand, and Jack doused the pit with water from the bay.”

What does the word doused most likely mean?

a) to plunge or submerge somebody or something in water

b) to become more successful, powerful, or popular than something or somebody

c) to supply somebody with a very large or excessive amount of something
Reread to Clarify: "'You usually like to sleep by the door.'" Why did Josh not want to sleep by the tent entrance?

_________________________________________________

_________________________________________________

_________________________________________________

Figurative Language: Write the type of figurative language used in the following Chapter 4 excerpts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>hyperbole</th>
<th>simile</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>personification</td>
<td>onomatopoeia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"The dancing flames made all their faces look ghostly."

_________________________________________________

"Jack opened the coolers and began pulling out tons of food."

_________________________________________________

"The moon played hide-and-seek with the clouds."

_________________________________________________
Vocabulary - Prefix: "Dink put out his hand and silently unzipped the tent flap."

Underline the base word and circle the prefix in:

unzipped

What does the prefix mean? ________________________

In which word does the prefix 'un-' mean the same as it does in 'unzipped':

a) uniform  
b) underwear  
c) unfold

Reflect: "Dink's first thought was that he was seeing fireflies." What was Dink really seeing?  __________________________________________________

Vocabulary - Context Clues: Define the vocab. words using context clues and/or a dictionary.

"'Mother alligators lay their eggs on the ground and cover them with vegetation,' Jack explained."

vegetation - __________________________________________
After Chapter 5:

Summarize: Summarize Chapter 5. Be sure to include the central (main) idea of the chapter.

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
Vocabulary - Prefix: "The kids retraced their steps back to the campsite."

Underline the base word and circle the prefix in:

retraced

What does the prefix mean? ____________________

In which word does the prefix 're-' mean the same as it does in 'retraced'?

a) readily
b) recreate
c) rescue

Reflect: "Dink didn't sleep well that night." Why did Dink have trouble sleeping? Explain.

_________________________________
_________________________________
_________________________________
_________________________________

Predict: Do you think Dink is right to be suspicious of Jack?

a) For sure!
b) No way!
After Chapter 6:

Infer: "Jack chewed his lower lip for a few seconds."
What does the excerpt most likely mean?

a) Jack is hungry.
b) Jack is thinking.
c) Jack is happy.

Cause and Effect: Fill in the cause.

Cause: ____________________________________________
________________________________________
________________________________________

Effect: Jack left the children with Myrna and hurried off.

Vocabulary - Context Clues: Define the vocab. words using context clues and/or a dictionary.

"...reaching into a deep pocket and pulling out a whistle on a lanyard."

lanyard - ____________________________________________
"The kids helped Jack tidy up."

tidy - ____________________________________________

Which is a synonym of tidy?
   a) scruffy
   b) chaotic
   c) neaten

Infer: How did Josh feel about returning to the cemetery? Cite evidence to support your answer.

parts of speech: "It was a perfect morning, and Dink was hungry."

Which part of speech is perfect as used above?
   a) adjective
   b) noun
   c) verb
Connect: The author decided to use chapter numbers instead of chapter titles. Often chapters are given titles to represent an important aspect of the chapter. Try your hand at creating an appropriate title for Chapter 6. Explain your title.

Chapter 6: ____________________________________________
_______________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________

After Chapter 7:

Reread to Clarify: What is true regarding the footprint the children discovered?
   a) The footprint belonged to someone who was not wearing shoes.
   b) The footprint belonged to a man with webbed-feet.
   c) It looked like a child's footprint.

Vocabulary - Context Clues: Define the vocab. words using context clues and/or a dictionary.

"Dink saw an easel set up under a tree."

easel - ___________________________________________
**Figurative Language:** Write the type of figurative language used in the following Chapter 7 excerpts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>hyperbole</th>
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<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>

"He stuck his nose in the air like a wolf."

"A few seconds later, they all heard a thunk. Then there were more thunks."

**Vocabulary - Synonym and Antonym:** Write a synonym and an antonym of the underlined word.

"A gigantic tree shaded the house."

Synonym of gigantic: _____________________________

Antonym of gigantic: _____________________________

**Connect:** If you encountered Byron in the woods, would you talk to him? How would you react?

_________________________________________________

_________________________________________________
After Chapter 8:

Setting: What is the new setting introduced in Chapter 8? Use adjectives to be descriptive!

Reflect: List two reasons Ruth Rose believes Byron may have been the man they saw at the cemetery.

1) ____________________________________________

2) ____________________________________________

Reread to Clarify: Lucy came to pick up the children. Why didn't Jack pick up the children?

_________________________________________________

_________________________________________________
**Figurative Language:** Write the type of figurative language used in the following Chapter 8 excerpt.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
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</table>

"Suddenly they heard a whoosh, and a large owl flew out of the trees."

Vocabulary - Context Clues: Define the vocab. words using context clues and/or a dictionary.

"A shovel and hoe stood leaning against a small tree."

hoe - ____________________________________________

Predict: “Am I on the right trail for the village?’’

Why do you think the man is heading to the village? Explain your prediction.

_________________________________________________
After Chapter 9:

Summarize: Summarize Chapter 9. Be sure to include the central (main) idea of the chapter.
Read for Details: The children have three possible suspects. List the three suspects.

1) ____________________________________________

2) ____________________________________________

3) ____________________________________________

Vocabulary - Context Clues: Define the vocab. words using context clues and/or a dictionary.

"Lucy dropped the kids off, and they traipsed into the hotel."

traipse - ________________________________________

Predict: Who do you believe the grave robber is? Do you think it is one of the three the children believe? Explain your thinking.

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
After Chapter 10:

Infer: "Suddenly Byron's face grew red. He put his brush down." Based on the excerpt, how did Byron feel when Dink asked him about the cemetery?

_________________________________________________

_________________________________________________

Parts of Speech: "...the driver said as she moved smoothly into the late-afternoon traffic."

Which part of speech is smoothly as used above?
   a) adverb
   b) conjunction
   c) verb

Read for Details: What did Byron find in the cemetery?
   a) A man's leather shoe.
   b) A man's leather belt.
   c) A man's leather wallet.

Reflect: Why did Jay Frisk want to scare the villagers?
**Vocabulary:** "Ruth Rose's grandmother looked at the dark and dense forest in front of them."

What does the word dense most likely mean?

a) so thick that it is difficult or impossible to see through
b) considered to lack the ability to learn or understand quickly
c) thin or fine enough in texture to see through

**After Chapter 11:**

**Reread to Clarify:** What did the greedy land developers want to build on the villagers' land?

_________________________________________________

_________________________________________________

**Cause and Effect:** Fill in the cause.

**Cause:** _______________________________________

_________________________________________________

_________________________________________________

_________________________________________________

**Effect** "'...Byron is going to make a ton of money!'"
Figurative Language: Write the type of figurative language used in the following Chapter 11 excerpt.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</table>

"The gator’s scaly hide was blackish green, ridged and bumpy like a truck tire."

"The large mother alligator lay as still as a log."

Reread to Clarify: Why do mother alligators carry their babies in their mouths?

Vocabulary: "A half hour later, they were all hunkered down in some bushes near the water."

What does the word hunkered most likely mean?

a) to squat down close to the ground
b) to be in an upright position, or put something in an upright position
c) to refuse to do or give something
Character Traits: Identify and describe one character trait of Josh.

- Use two pieces of evidence from the text to support your answer.
- (Circle) your character trait and underline your evidence from the story.

_________________________________________________
_________________________________________________
_________________________________________________
_________________________________________________
_________________________________________________
_________________________________________________
_________________________________________________
_________________________________________________
**Sequence of Events:** Put the events in order from first to last using the numbers 1 - 8.

___ The children meet Byron. Byron shows them a painting and introduces the children to Bill.

___ The cops take the developers in for questioning. The children watch alligator eggs hatch.

___ Jack leaves the children with Myrna because his wife is having a baby. The kids return to the cemetery to look for clues.

___ The children are in New Orleans with Ruth Rose’s grandmother. They go hiking with Jack. They see a sign that says *Danger! Zombie Zone.*

___ The kids take Ruth Rose’s grandmother to meet Byron. Byron shows the children a wallet he found. The wallet contains a license which belongs to a land developer.

___ In the hotel room, the children discuss the mystery with Ruth Rose’s grandmother.

___ The kids spend the night camping in the woods with Jack. Dink awakes to a light. The children see a man climbing out of a grave.

___ Jack takes the children to meet the villagers. The villagers are in the cemetery. Graves were robbed.
Author’s Purpose: What was the author’s purpose for writing The Zombie Zone?

a. Persuade
b. Inform
c. Entertain

Rating: How many stars would you rate this book?

- 1 being terrible and 5 being awesome.
- Be sure to color or shade your rating!

Connect: The Zombie Zone is an appropriate title for this story. List two additional titles that would be appropriate for the story. Do your best to use alliteration!

1) _____________________________________________

______________________________________________

2) _____________________________________________

______________________________________________
The Zombie Zone
Word Jumble

MEYRETCE
19 5

VEALIGL
21 10 8

RERBSBO
12 9 23

TUHR SERO
6 13 4

WEN RAOLENS
20 1 18

BIEMOZ
14 16 2

HERTMAODRNG
7 17 22

RBNOY
11 15

RAEGYRVAD
3

HIDDEN MESSAGE:

J
K
!

[Image of a zombie pointing]
The Zombie Zone
Word Search

ALLIGATOR
BAYOU
BYRON
CEMETERY
DEVELOPER
DINK
FRIENDS
GRANDMOTHER
GRAVEYARD
JACK
JOSH
LOUISIANA
NEW ORLEANS
PAINTING
ROBBERS
RUTH ROSE
TOMBSTONE
VILLAGE
VOODOO
ZOMBIE