

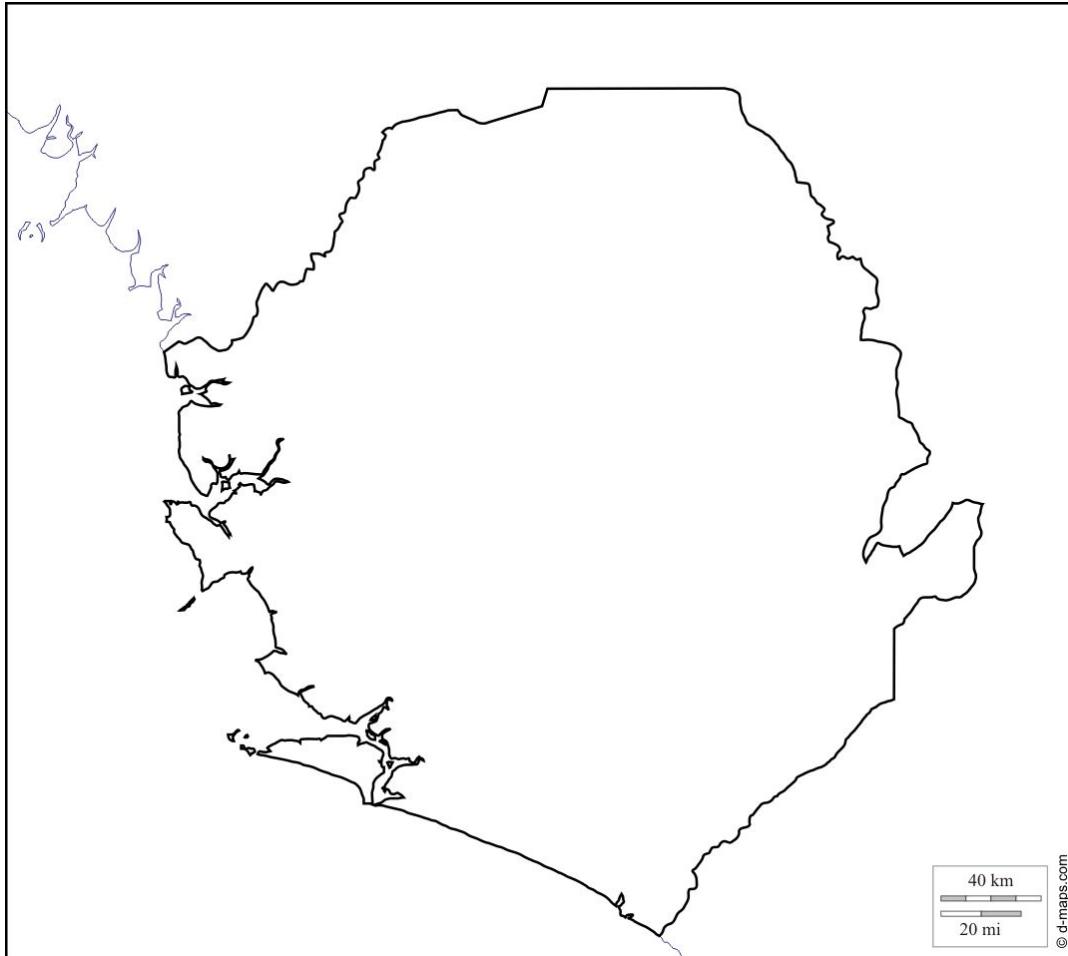
English II  
Summer Review Questions  
*A Long Way Gone*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Have these questions answered and ready to submit on the first day of class. Your answers should be written and in complete sentences.

Before you read:

1. Label the following map based on the map at the beginning of the book.



2. Summarize the events from the following dates (use the chronology that starts on p. 219).
  - a. 1462
  - b. 1960
  - c. April 27, 1961
  - d. 1964
  - e. May 1967
  - f. 1971
  - g. 1978
  - h. 1985
  - i. March 1991
  - j. April 1992
  - k. 1995
  - l. 1996

- m. May 1997
- n. March 1998
- o. January 1999
- p. July 1999
- q. 2000
- r. 2001
- s. 2002 (January-November)
- t. March 25, 2006

- 3. How do you view war from your perspective as an American citizen?
- 4. What were you doing when you were 10 years old?

### Chapter 1

- 5. What did Ishmael think about the war stories he heard? What were his experiences with war up until he was 10 years old? (pp.5-6)
- 6. Where was Ishmael going in January of 1993 when he was first affected by the war? Who was he with? Why were they going? How did they get there? (6)
- 7. What are “crapes”? (7)
- 8. Who is Mamie Kpana? Where did she live? (8)
- 9. What friends did they meet in Mattru Jong? Why did they come home early from school? (9)
- 10. What is Ishmael’s family situation? (10-11)
  - a. On p. 10, they use a flashback to express Ishmael’s feeling toward his family. Why does he do this?
- 11. Explain the tragedy on pp. 12-14. Why was this so pivotal to Ishmael at this time?
- 12. What did Ishmael and his friends believe about the war? (15)
- 13. What does the old man mean by the statement, “We must try to be like the moon”?

### Chapter 2

- 14. Explain what Ishmael means when he says, “These days I live in three worlds...” What does that have to do with the flashbacks he describes in the chapter?

### Chapter 3

- 15. What did the survivors’ letters from Sunbuya inform the citizens in Mattru Jong? What were some other “messages” did the rebels send? (21-22)
- 16. What does “palampo” mean? (23)
- 17. Why did the rebels keep civilians in the towns they would invade? (24)

### Chapter 4

- 18. How many boys are in Ishmael’s group now? (26)

19. What are “sleepers”? (27)

20. Why did they go back to Khalilou’s house in Matru Jong? (27)

21. What happened when they arrived to the village? (29)

#### Chapter 5

22. What city did hunger drive them to? What happened on the way? (30-31)

23. Explain what happened to the old man, and why did it happen? (32)

24. Why was Ishmael a little shocked by the rebel’s behavior toward the old man? (33)

25. What saved Ishmael from being killed? Did he escape? (34-35)

#### Chapter 6

26. Why were people terrified of Ishmael and his group? What were peoples’ actions as a result? What happened in the village that they approached? What saved them? (37-39)

27. Why did the boys become watchmen for the village of Kamator? What else did they do there, and how long did they stay? (40-43)

28. What was the “sad thing” about the work they were doing? (43)

#### Chapter 7

29. What is an imam (give the dictionary definition)? What happened to him? (44)

30. Who traveled/escaped with Ishmael? Who was missing? (45)

31. What did Ishmael decide to do? (46)

32. What happened when he tried speak to the group of people? (47)

#### Chapter 8

33. How did Ishmael keep himself from getting lost in the woods? (50)

34. Explain his Grandfather’s medicine. (51)

35. What was the most difficult part of being in the forest? How did he combat this? (52)

36. What chased Ishmael through the forest? (53)

37. What was the story his grandmother told him? (53-54)

38. What words did Ishmael think about during his journey? (54)

39. How long was he in the woods before he saw another human? What happened when he finally met some kids about his age? (54-55)

40. What were the boys' names, what tribes were they with, and where were they going? How was Ishmael able to figure out each person's tribe? (55)
41. Why does the old man not give the seven boys his name? (56)
42. What was the rumor about the seven boys? Why did people not trust them? What happened to the boys as an effect of people's mistrust? (56-57)

### Chapter 9

43. What were the boys so afraid of near the the deserted village? (58-59)
44. What happened when they explored the village? (59-60)
45. Where did they find sanctuary? Who helped them heal their wounds? (61) What tribe was he with? (63)
46. Describe Musa, Kanei, Alhaji, Jumah, Saidu, and Moriba. (62-63)
47. What happened after two weeks of being in the hut? Summarize pp. 64-68 in about five sentences.

### Chapter 10

48. How did Ishmael feel about his journey? (69)
- a. What words/phrases demonstrate the man emotions?
49. What does Saidu's quote on p. 70 mean?
50. What does "carseloi" mean? What did Ishmael's grandmother call him that?
51. What is a name-giving ceremony? Describe Ishmael's name-giving ceremony. To what Western ceremony is this similar?
52. Where were each of the boys (Musa, Alhaji, Kanei, Jumah, Moriba, and Saidu) when attacks on their villages occurred? (78-80)
53. What happened to Saidu? Summarize p. 82-85 in about 5-10 sentences.
54. What did the boys believe about the dogs crying?
55. Describe the funeral traditions described in 85-88.
56. Where were they going when they left the village? Why there?

### Chapter 11

57. What does "Ngor" mean? To what word is it equivalent in our culture? (91)
58. What is "gari"? (91)
59. Why was Ishmael so frustrated? (92-93)

60. Summarize pp. 93-96. How did you feel reading that section?

61. What were the rebels so proud of? (97)

62. Did Ishmael and all of his group escape? What happened? (98)

63. What is a "wahler"? (98)

## Chapter 12

64. To which group did the two rows of armed men belong? (100-101)

65. To what city had they arrived? (101)

66. What was the overall mood in the village? Give some examples of behavior that suggests the mood. (101)

67. What permeated the village? (101)

68. What jobs were given to the boys? Why did Ishmael like to work a lot? (101)

69. How was Ishmael physically struggling? How was he emotionally struggling? (102-103)

70. Describe Lieutenant Jabata. What was he reading? (104)

71. What does the following Julius Caesar quote mean? What does it have to do with what is happening in the book? (104)

"Cowards die many times before their deaths;  
The valiant never taste of death but once.  
Of all the wonders that I yet have heard,  
It seems to me most strange that men should fear,  
Seeing that death, a necessary end,  
Will come when it will come." (II.ii.34-39)

72. Why had the village become so tense? (105)

73. Why does the lieutenant call everyone to the square? What ultimatum did he give them? What do Ishmael and his friends decide to do any why? (106)

74. Why did the lieutenant show everyone the bodies of the man and the child? (107)

75. Who were Sheku and Josiah? What did Ishmael have to do on the first day of training? (109)

76. Why was he so upset when they burned his old pants? (110)

77. What was the only part of training that they mastered? (111)

78. What sentence would Gadafi repeat throughout training? (112)

## Chapter 13

79. Why were the boys off on Sunday morning? (114-116)
80. What were the soldiers given before battle?
81. Describe the different emotions how Ishmael felt throughout Chapter 13?
82. What happened to Josiah? (118-120)
83. Describe what happened to Ishmael after he returned from battle. (120)

#### Chapter 14

84. How was Ishmael begun to change in Chapter 13 and 14?
84. What is “brown brown”? What other drugs is Ishmael exposed to? Why is he taking them? What do you think he is addicted to the white capsules? (121)
85. Did the army only invade rebel camps? Explain. (121-122)
86. What distinguished them from the rebels? (123)
87. How did they practice killing prisoners? (124-125)
88. Describe the competition and the reward. (125)

#### Chapter 15

89. What happened in January of 1996? How old was Ishmael? (126)
90. How is Ishmael different than he was at the beginning of the book?
91. What happened to Ishmael and his friends? (128)
92. How did the boys feel about what was happening? (129-131)
93. How did the soldiers get along with the boys who were at the camp? (133)
94. How did they treat the staff and MPs? (135-137)
95. Where was the new rehabilitation center? What was Ishmael’s head in so much pain? (137)

#### Chapter 16

96. Why were they getting more violent? (139)
97. Who was Poppay? What happened to him? (140)
98. Describe his withdrawal and how the kids dealt with it. (140)
99. In the flashback on pp.142-144, why did he and Alhaji get their nicknames?

100. Why was being at the rehabilitation center not only physically difficult, but also emotionally difficult? (145)
101. Why did Mambu sell the school supplies (146)
102. Where did they go for their “field trip”? (146)
103. Why did they end up deciding to go to school again? (147)
104. Describe school. (148-149)
105. Why couldn't he remember much of his childhood? (149)
106. Summarize the flashback from p.149-151.

### Chapter 17

107. Describe the nurse. What is her name? (152)
108. How did Ishmael feel about being her friend? (153)
109. What present did she give Ishmael? Why did she give him music? (154)
110. Summarize the flashback on p. 155-159 where Ishmael gets shot.
111. Why do you think Ishmael became angry after sharing that story with Esther? (160)
112. Why couldn't Ishmael sleep despite his headaches? (160) In what chapter has this happened before?
113. Where did Ishmael and Alhaji go? (161)
114. Who is Leslie?
115. Describe some of Ishmael's interests (162-163).
116. Summarize/analyze his dream on p. 164-165. To whom did he tell his dream, and why is this experience significant to him? (166)

### Chapter 18

117. Describe the talent show. (168-169)
118. What was Leslie's bad news; what was his good news? (170-173)
119. What was Leslie's bad news; what was his good news? (170-173)
120. What is his uncle's name? Describe his uncle. Do they get along? (170-177)
121. Who know about Ishmael's past life as a soldier and who does not? (176)
122. What were the names of Tommy's children? Where they all his children? (177)

## Chapter 19

123. What is the dictionary definition of “repatriated”?
124. Why was Ishmael worried about living with a family? (179)
125. When was the last time he saw Esther? What did he never get to tell her? (181)
126. Where did Ishmael meet Zainab? Why did they only date for three weeks? (184)
127. Describe the interview that Ishmael attended. For what was he interviewing? Where was the interview? How was Ishmael different than the rest of the boys at the interview? (185-187)
128. Who was the new president of Sierra Leone? (188)
129. How did Ishmael feel about the past? (190)

## Chapter 20

130. What was Ishmael’s preconception about New York City? Where did he get it? (193)
131. Who went with him to NYC?
132. What did he think about the United States after his first couple of days in the U.S.? (196)
133. In his speech, why did Ishmael say he became a soldier? (199)

## Chapter 21

134. What new person lived with Ishmael at his uncle’s home? (201)
135. How did the other students treat them at school? (202)
136. Who was Johnny Paul Karoma? (203)
137. Explain what was happening throughout Sierra Leone? How did Ishmael feel about it? (202-207)
138. What happened to Ishmael’s uncle? (208)
139. After the funeral, where did Ishmael decide to go? Who was going to help him? (209)
140. How did Ishmael get to Kambia? Describe his journey. (209-212)
141. Why was Ishmael going to Conakrey?
142. Describe Pa Sesay’s story/riddle. Why would he shoot the monkey? Why did Ishmael end his memoir with that story? (217)