

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

# Close-Reading Questions

## "The Shattered Sky"

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1. Why are the details about World War I in the section "Bad News" important to the story?  
(text structure)
2. In the section "Powerful Explosives," how does author Kristin Lewis create suspense? (mood)
3. In the section "Shock Wave," which details help you understand how powerful the explosion was? (supporting details)
4. Reread the description of Halifax in the introduction. Then reread the description of Halifax after the explosion in the section "Shock Wave." What do these two descriptions help you understand? (key ideas and details)

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# Critical-Thinking Questions

## "The Shattered Sky"

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1. Resilience is the ability to bounce back—to recover from misfortune. In "The Shattered Sky," who does Lewis portray as showing resilience? Explain.
2. On page 10, Lewis states that some blamed Mackey and Le Medec for the explosion but that the criminal charges against them "were later dropped." Why might some people have been quick to blame them for the disaster?
3. What can be gained by learning about the 1917 Explosion in Halifax Harbor?