

## What Goes Around, Comes Around:

### Comprehension Questions for Chapters 1-4

1. Describe the setting of chapter 1.

Chapter 1 takes place in Palm Springs, California inside the Feldman household. Mr. Feldman has just received a devastating phone call. Mrs. Feldman's sister (Finny's Aunt Friday) has passed away unexpectedly.

2. In chapter 1, what does the grandfather clock represent?

In literature, clocks often represent death. The grandfather clock represents the death of Aunt Friday.

3. What was the cause of Aunt Friday's death?

Aunt Friday suffered an aneurysm.

4. In chapter 1, how does Mrs. Feldman react to the news of her sister's passing?

Although Mrs. Feldman is upset over the loss of her sister, she tries to remain strong for her husband and 11-year-old son, who appear to be affected on a deeper level.

5. In chapter 1, why is Finny staring at the clock as opposed to facing his parents after they receive the phone call?

Finny is deeply affected by the loss of his aunt and fears that expressing sadness will make him appear weak. Thus, he hides his face so no one will see his true emotions.

6. In chapter 2, what other engagements (or hobbies) might Mrs. Species have besides grading student work after school?

Franny imagines her teacher attending loud, rock and roll concerts when she is not grading student work.

7. In chapter 3, what is the unfortunate news that Mrs. Species shares with her Earth science class?

Mrs. Species shares the news of Aunt Fraidy's passing with her class.

8. In chapter 4, what does Mrs. Species offer as one possible solution to a problem?

One possible solution to a problem is accepting the things you cannot change and changing the things you can.

9. In chapter 4, what does Mrs. Species say is the most important thing to show Finny and his family?

Mrs. Species says the most important thing to show Finny and his family is unconditional love.