

Lesson 19: Chapter 8

1 Class Period

**Reading Skills: Determining Importance
 Summarizing**

Purpose:

Chapter 5 was the last time I asked my students to practice their summarizing skills. This is a very important skill, and my students are far from mastering it. Therefore, I wanted them to practice again. I also wanted to use this chapter to assess their skills.

Materials:

Each student will need a copy of *Four Perfect Pebbles* or a photocopy of Chapter 8 with the sections marked in the text.

Process:

The process is probably a familiar routine by now. Ask students to read the chapter stopping to summarize each section as they go.

I used the next class period to read these summaries while the students worked on Lesson 20.

Sections for Chapter 8:

1. Page 102 “Once more...” to page 102 “...we were stateless.”
2. Page 102 “Marion’s memories...” to page 105 “... unhappy and undeserving.”
3. Page 105 “The stay with...” to page 107 “... school in Amsterdam.”
4. Page 107 “Ruth, meantime...” to page 109 “... function normally.”
5. Page 109 “Ruth finally completed...” to page 110 “... originally intended.”
6. Page 110 “Again it was necessary...” to page 111 “... needed to be added.”
7. Page 111 “What an exciting time...” to page 112 “...suit her perfectly.”
8. Page 112 “On the evening...” to page 113 “... by the Russians.”

Four Perfect Pebbles Ch.8
Summary by Sections

1. The surviving Blumenthals returned to Holland after their liberation in 1945 as “displaced persons”. Ruth was a widow at age 37 with two children to support and no financial resources.
2. The family lived at first in Amsterdam with Walter’s cousins, Gerda and Ernst de Levie. Although there were still shortages of goods, Tante Gerda managed to obtain a new dress for Marion and she tasted chewing gum for the first time.
3. Next the Blumenthals lived in a shelter for displaced persons. Albert made his Bar Mitzvah. To prepare for emigration to Palestine, Albert and Marion were sent about an hour away to a Youth Aliyah to learn Hebrew and the Orthodox religion.
4. Ruth stayed in Amsterdam with Walter’s sister, Rosi, and studied to be a beautician and manicurist. Uncle Ernst arranged for Marion to have surgery to correct her crossed eyes.
5. After Ruth completed her training, she bought a bicycle so that she could travel to the homes of her clients. The Blumenthals could only visit each other about once each week, and Marion missed her mother. As the date for departure for Palestine drew closer, they learned that only the children would be allowed to go and that they would be traveling illegally. Ruth did not want to take the risks involved, so she began to investigate the possibility of going to the US instead.
6. Once again Ruth had to obtain an affidavit and a visa for the US. The Holland-America Line still had record of the Blumenthal’s payment for four passengers in 1938; therefore, most of the cost of their passage for three in 1948 was covered.
7. The Blumenthals sailed for New York in April 1948.
8. They were on deck to see the Statue of Liberty when the ship sailed into New York harbor on April 23, 1948 – exactly three years after their liberation from the death train.

327 words