



Reading Comprehension

Grades 7-9

Literary Nonfiction

Homeless

By Anna Quindlen



Hands-on Activity & Inspirational Bookmarks

"We know that a peaceful world cannot exist, one third rich and two-thirds hungry." President Jimmy Carter

"We must all work together to end homelessness in America." Jewel

"My home is a place of warmth and love. No one should be denied a home." Gail Porter

"Seven out of 10 Americans are one paycheck from being homeless." Ellen Mickus

"It is in the shelter of each other that people live."

"They are safe, but they are not in the city. They are city-less. I think it's just a day everyone."

"If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one."

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." Mother Teresa

"Our lives begin the day we become about things that matter." Nolan Kiefer

"For it is in giving that we receive." Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

"Our task must be to free ourselves from this prison by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature in its beauty." Francis of Assisi

"There is enough in this planet for everyone's needs but not for everyone's greed." Albert Einstein

Mahatma Gandhi

Column A	Column B
The lines used by the author to explain how Americans view a home today as compared to the recent past.	Paragraph 2
The sentence where the author describes the places Ann calls her "home" through photographs.	I'm talking about a home, about precisely those kinds of feelings that have wound up in the cross-stitch and French knots on smolders over the years.
What the reader can infer about Ann after she shows her pictures to the author?	We turn an adjective into a noun: the poor, not poor people; the homeless, not Ann or the man who lives in the box or the woman who sleeps on the subway gate.
The figurative language used at the end of paragraph 3 suggests the meaning of a real home is lost in the stylish and decorative features of a house.	Indicate her personal feelings toward her own home
Why is "real estate" an appropriate name for how the author views homes today?	Then suddenly, where you lived was where you lived for three years, until you could move on to something else and something else again.
The author includes this sentence mostly to show how our involvement in people's pain is lessened by turning it into an issue, not a group of actual human beings.	Ann believes she is not homeless and is a person of value because she uses to own a house.
The author introduced a solution to the problem of homelessness through the use of figurative language?	Spending time with people helps a person understand complex problems by seeing the harsh reality of the situation through their eyes.
The author includes a question at the end of paragraph most likely to --	It is just property or buildings to be sold for profit and personal gain rather than a real investment in what should matter in life most.
What lesson does the author learn after spending time with Ann in the Fort Authority Bus Terminal?	Sometimes I think we would be better off if we forgot about the broad strokes and concentrated on the details.



Article not included but may be found on the Internet. Article is reprinted from *The New York Times*.

When used for teaching reading comprehension, be sure to print and include text features to provide students with the necessary pre-reading clues to show this was a news article from a newspaper.

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"We must all work together to end homelessness in America." Jewel

"My home is a place of warmth and love. No one should be denied a home." Gill Porter

"Seven out of 10 Americans are one paycheck from being homeless." Eben Meizer

"It is in the shelter of each other that people live."

"They are safe, but they are not in the city. They are city-less. I think it's just a different name."

"If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one."

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." Mother Teresa

"Our lives begin the day we become about things that matter." Helen Keller

"For it is in giving that we receive." Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

"Our task must be to free ourselves from this prison by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature in its beauty." Francis of Assisi

"There is enough in this planet for everyone's needs but not for everyone's greed." Mahatma Gandhi

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*“If you can't feed a hundred people,
then feed just one.”*

Mother Teresa

*“Alone we can do so little; together
we can do so much.”*

Helen Keller

*“Our lives begin the day we become
about things that matter.”*

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

“For it is in giving that we receive.”

Francis of Assisi

*“ Our task must be to free ourselves from this prison by widening our
circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of
nature in its beauty.”*

Albert Einstein

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Mohandas Gandhi

“We know that a peaceful world cannot exist, one third rich and two-thirds hungry.”

President Jimmy Carter

“We must all work together to end homelessness in America.”

Jewel

“My home is a place of warmth and love. No one should be denied a home.”

Gail Porter

“Seven out of 10 Americans are one paycheck from being homeless.”

Pras Michel

“It is in the shelter of each other that the people live.”

Irish proverb

“They are safe, but they are not in their homes. They are city-less. I think it’s just a disaster for everyone.”

Teri Hatcher

Directions: Read all statements in both columns. Next, draw a line to match statements in Column A to statements in Column B. Read the bookmarks to learn about the words of others who share the same concern as Anne Quindlen about homelessness. Use the bookmarks to draw a straight edge as you match the columns.

Column A

The lines used by the author to explain how Americans view a home today as compared to the recent past.

The sentences where the author describes the places Ann calls her “home” through photographs.

What the reader can infer about Ann after she shows her pictures to the author?

The figurative language used at the end of paragraph 3 suggests the meaning of a real home is lost in the stylish and decorative features of a house.

Why is “real estate” an appropriate name for how the author views homes today?

The author includes this sentence mostly to show how our involvement in people’s pain is lessened by turning it into an issue, not a group of actual human beings.

The author introduces a solution to the problem of homelessness through the use of figurative language.

The author includes a question at the end of paragraph most likely to --

What lesson does the author learn after spending time with Ann in the Port Authority Bus Terminal?

Column B

- Paragraph 2
- I’m talking about a home, about precisely those kinds of feelings that have wound up in the cross-stitch and French knots on samplers over the years.*
- We turn an adjective into a noun: the poor, not poor people; the homeless, not Ann or the man who lives in the box or the woman who sleeps on the subway gate.*
- Indicate her personal feelings toward her own home
- Then suddenly, where you lived was where you lived for three years, until you could move on to something else and something else again.*
- Ann believes she is not homeless and is a person of value because she use to own a house.
- Spending time with people helps a person understand complex problems by seeing the harsh reality of the situation through their eyes.
- It is just property or buildings to be sold for profit and personal gain rather than a real investment in what should matter in life most.
- Sometimes I think we would be better off if we forgot about the broad strokes and concentrated on the details.*

Teacher Answer Key

Column A

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Column B

Paragraph 2

I’m talking about a home, about precisely those kinds of feelings that have wound up in the cross-stitch and French knots on samplers over the years.

We turn an adjective into a noun: the poor, not poor people; the homeless, not Ann or the man who lives in the box or the woman who sleeps on the subway gate.

Indicate her personal feelings toward her own home

Then suddenly, where you lived was where you lived for three years, until you could move on to something else and something else again.

Ann believes she is not homeless and is a person of value because she use to own a house.

Spending time with people helps a person understand complex problems by seeing the harsh reality of the situation through their eyes.

It is just property or buildings to be sold for profit and personal gain rather than a real investment in what should matter in life most.

Sometimes I think we would be better off if we forgot about the broad strokes and concentrated on the details.