**Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ You may attach extra paper if needed.**

Read “Introducing the Novel” and “Meet Avi” and respond to the following questions.

1. Describe the author using information about his childhood, life before writing, professional awards, and something interesting or unique.
2. After reading the introduction to the novel, make a prediction: What is the central conflict of the novel?

Read chapters 1-8 and respond to the following questions:

1. Why is Charlotte so uneasy about being on the ship? What do her reactions to the ship and its crew reveal about her character?
2. According to Zachariah, why does Charlotte need a knife?
3. What disturbing information does Zachariah give Charlotte about Captain Jaggery and the crew? Does she believe him?
4. What is your opinion of Captain Jaggery so far? Explain.

Read chapters 9-15 and respond to the following questions:

1. How did you react to Charlotte’s behavior in this section? Which of her actions seems particularly wise or foolish to you? Explain.
2. Why does Charlotte tell the captain about the round robin? What does she expect him to do?
3. What does Charlotte do that angers the captain as he oversees the beating of Zachariah? What angers him most about her action? Explain.
4. Explain the crew’s attitude toward Charlotte after Jaggery squashes the mutiny. How does Charlotte feel about her actions?
5. Do you agree with Charlotte’s decision to join the crew? Why or why not?

Read chapters 16-22 and respond to the following questions:

1. What reason does Captain Jaggery give for finding Charlotte guilty of murder?
2. Why is Charlotte surprised to see Zachariah in the brig? How did he end up there? Who brings him food?
3. Explain the family’s reaction to Charlotte when she first gets off the boat. What is Charlotte’s attitude toward them?
4. Reflect on Charlotte’s relationship with Zachariah. Why did the two become close?
5. If you were Charlotte, would you have left home for a life at sea? Why or why not?
6. Look at page 156. At the end of novel, Zachariah tells Charlotte, “A sailor,” he said, “chooses the wind that takes the ship from safe port...but winds have a mind of their own.” What does he mean? How does this quote relate to the end of the story?
7. What is a theme in the novel? Explain the theme and use examples from the text to that illustrate the theme.
8. Were you surprised by the outcome of the novel? Explain.