

Questions to help you understand *The Hate U Give*

Chapter 1

1. How is Starr different from the other people at the party/
2. Why does Kenya say that Starr thinks she's "too good for a Garden party?" (page 11)
3. What is a "Garden" party?
4. How does Starr know Kahlil?
5. What happens at the party to make everyone leave suddenly?
6. Why is Kahlil in need of money? Why can't his grandma provide for him?

Chapter 2

1. Did your parents have the "what to do if a cop stops you" talk with you when you were young, like Starr's parents did?
2. What is the first "rule" Kahlil breaks with the police officer? (page 21)
3. What "rule" does Starr follow with regards to the police officer? (page 22)
4. What is Kahlil doing when the police officer shoots him?

Chapter 3

1. What is Starr's reaction to Kahlil's shooting? What are some of the things she does?
2. How do others treat Starr now?
3. Is this the first person Starr has seen killed? What other murder has she witnessed?
4. What is Starr's nickname and why? (page 29)
5. What religion are Starr and her family?
6. Why do Starr and her parents decide not to tell Sekani (or anyone else) that Starr witnessed the shooting?
7. What happened when Starr tried to have a sleepover at her house with her school friends?
8. What is Mr. Lewis' opinion of Starr's dad and his grocery store? Of the shooting? Why does his opinion differ from Starr's and most of the other people in Garden Heights?
9. Why doesn't Starr tell her dad about her boyfriend, Chris?
10. What kind of media coverage does Kahlil's murder get (pages 46-47)
11. How does Mr. Reuben help the Garden Heights community?
12. Why doesn't Starr want to take King's money? What do you learn about King and Starr's dad (Maverick)?

Chapter 4

1. What does Starr's dad mean when he says, "if this was out in Riverton Hills and his name was Richie [a white name], we wouldn't be having this conversation"? Do you agree?
2. Where is Uncle Carlos coming from on this issue? What is his viewpoint? How might it differ from Starr's or her parents'?

3. Why does Starr think her dad and Carlos don't get along? (page 58)
4. How has Ms. Rosalie endeared herself to Starr's parents? (page 60)
5. What is the worry about Kahlil's mom, Iesha? (page 62)
6. What two things does Starr learn about Kahlil from Rosalie? (page 64)
7. How do Starr's parents help Rosalie?

Chapter 5, pages 67-92

7. What does it tell you that Uncle Carlos lives in a gated community and Williamson High School is also gated? Why isn't Garden Heights gated? (just your opinion, this is not in the book)
8. How is Williamson Starr different from regular Starr when she's at home? Why does she change at Williamson?
9. What is your take on Pop Tarts? Toasted or cold? ("your take" means "your opinion")
10. Why is the girls' talk about Spring Break uncomfortable for Starr?
11. Why did Hailey unfollow Starr on Tumblr?
12. Why is Starr angry at Chris?
13. Why isn't Starr sympathetic to Kahlil's mom's grief?

Chapter 6, pages 93-103

5. What things could the police officers have done differently to make Starr more at ease when she was at the police station being interviewed?
6. Why do you think the police interviewed Starr?
7. Do you think Starr presented the events accurately?

Chapter 7, pages 104-121

13. Think about Starr's struggle with having a white boyfriend and two close white girlfriends.
14. Why do you think Hailey is the leader and Maya and Starr follow her?
15. Hailey yells a fried chicken comment to Starr in order to get her to play harder (page 111). Why is Starr offended by this comment? Can you relate better to Starr's feelings or to Hailey's explanation?
16. Why doesn't Starr admit to Hailey and Maya that the Kahlil who was shot is the same Kahlil who used to come to her birthday parties? (page 115)
17. Why is Uncle Carlos extra special to Starr?
18. Do you think Uncle Carlos' attitude about the shooting changes after his and Starr's conversation at the frozen yogurt place? Why?

Chapter 8, pages 122-135

14. Why does Starr think it's not right for people to be dancing the "Holy Ghost Two Step" at Kahlil's funeral? (page 127)
15. What shocking thing does Ms. Ofrah tell the congregation? (page 128)
16. Why does Ms. Rosalie grab the King Lord bandana off Kahlil's chest at his funeral?

17. What is the significance of putting the bandana in Kahlil's coffin?

Chapter 9, pages 136-163

1. Why are the people of Garden Heights rioting? What are they most mad about (page 138)
2. Why do you think the news reports mentioned the possibility that Kahlil was a gang member and/or a drug dealer?
3. Why does Seven want Starr to play basketball with him on Saturday morning (the morning after the riots)?
4. Who shows up at the basketball court?
5. Why is Starr and Seven's dad so angry with them for playing basketball?
6. Do you agree with Starr's mom's theory that even when you do everything right, things can still go wrong? (pages 153-154)
7. Why doesn't Starr tell Chris the real reason she's upset?

Chapter 10, pages 164-181

1. Why does Starr want her mom to drive around the police roadblock?
2. Why is she thinking *Keep your hands visible*, etc. (page 165)
3. Do you agree with rapper Tupac that The Hate U Give Little Infants F---s Everybody?
4. What does Starr conclude after her talk with her dad in the car (page 171)?
5. Why does DeVante come to Starr's dad's store?
6. What does he really want from Starr's dad?
7. Why isn't Starr nice to DeVante?
8. Lisa and Maverick (Starr's mom and dad) disagree about moving their family. Why?

Chapter 11, pages 182-200

1. How does Starr's view of Williamson's protest differ from Hailey and Maya's (and most of the rest of the students)?
2. Why doesn't Chris join the rest of the students in the walk-out (protest)?
3. How does Sekani's attitude toward the protest (and the shooting) differ from Starr's? Why is his view different (besides that he's a different person)?
4. Do you agree or disagree with Mr. Lewis' decision to be interviewed on the news? Do you agree with what he said? Do you admire him or do you think he is a fool?
5. How do the police get involved with Starr's dad and Mr. Lewis? Do you think the police acted appropriately? Would they have done the same things to Starr's dad if they hadn't seen his name (and connected him with Kahlil's witness)?
6. Have Starr and her parents been successful in keeping it a secret that she is the witness to Kahlil's killing?
7. Do you agree with Kenya (speak out) or Starr (keep quiet)?

Chapter 12, pages 201-219

1. Is it a good idea for Starr to start a Tumblr blog about Kahlil?

2. What's the new development in Seven's life? (page 208)
3. How is "love you" and "I love you" made more or less casual in your language? (page 213-214)?
4. Do you trust Ms. Ofrah?

Chapter 13, pages 220-239

1. What has happened to Mr. Lewis?
2. Why did the King Lords beat him up?
3. Why is Starr's dad angry at DeVante?
4. Why doesn't Starr's dad ever go out to Uncle Carlos' house?
5. Why is Maverick taking DeVante there (to Uncle Carlos')?
6. Why is Uncle Carlos home during the day? What does Starr conclude from this?
7. What happens when Chris meets Starr's dad?
8. What are Starr's parents fighting about?
9. Was Kahlil a member of the King Lords gang?
10. Why did Kahlil sell drugs?
11. What is the advantage of belonging to a gang? Does DeVante think it's worth it?

Chapter 14, pages 240-257

1. Why is Starr at Maya's house?
2. What is Hailey's response to Starr's reasons for being mad? What is Maya's?
3. Does Hailey apologize? Does Maya?
4. What do the three of them watch on TV?
5. How do Starr's version of the shooting of Kahlil and Officer 115's dad's version differ?
6. What does Starr learn, through the interview, about her Uncle Carlos?
7. Is Starr calling Hailey a racist because she unfollowed her on Tumblr?
8. Who tells Starr the truth about Tumblr?
9. What does Maya share about her relationship with Hailey? (page 251)
10. Why did Uncle Carlos punch Officer 115?

Chapter 15, pages 258-278

1. What do you think of Starr's conversation with her mom? What kind of mom is Lisa? What kind of relationship do Starr and her mom have? Think of a few words you would use to describe it.
2. What does Starr's mom point out to Starr about Starr's relationship with Hailey?
3. What do you think Starr will decide about Hailey? Does the good in their relationship outweigh the bad?
4. Starr has a conversation with her dad at their store. Similar to question #1 above, what kind of relationship do they have? Is Maverick a good dad? What words would you use to describe this conversation and/or their relationship?
5. What does King accuse DeVante of?

6. King threatens Starr indirectly. What is his threat? What is he telling her to do or not to do? (page 273-74)
7. At dinner, Lisa has a surprise for Maverick (page 275) and Maverick has a surprise for Lisa (page 276). What do they tell each other (and the kids)?

Chapter 16, pages 281-290

1. How does Starr's interview with Mrs. Carey (pages 286-290) differ from her interview with the police (pages 95-104)? Which interviewer got to the truth?

Chapter 17, pages 291-305

1. Do you agree with Starr's critics that she showed "disregard for cops [police]" in her interview? (page 292)
2. At the prom, what evidence is there that Starr, Hailey, and Maya's friendship has changed?
3. Why is Chris mad at Starr?
4. What does he do to win Starr back and make her smile?
5. Is Starr glad she went to the prom after all? (last sentence ;)

Chapter 18, pages 306-323

1. Why does Sekani ask Maverick if he's doesn't mind "living out here with all the fake people?" (page 308)
2. Why doesn't Seven want to go away to college?
3. Why do Maverick and Lisa disagree with each other at the end of Maverick's prayer?
4. Are you surprised at what happens during the basketball game?
5. Why doesn't Starr's dad want to call the police?
6. Were you familiar with Malcolm X and his teachings before reading this book?
7. Who does Maverick get to guard their house and accompany Starr to the courthouse?
8. Why does Carlos get mad?

Chapter 19, pages 324-334

1. Who are the people in Starr's kitchen when she wakes up the next morning?
2. Why do you think Carlos and Maverick are friendly now?
3. Were you surprised (as I was) that Starr had to speak before the grand jury all by herself (no parents, no lawyer with her)?

Chapter 20, pages 337-349

1. Why does Hailey call Starr a liar?
2. Should Maya still be upset about Hailey's Thanksgiving dinner comment? Is Hailey not a racist since her comment was just a joke? Who should apologize to whom? Should anyone apologize?
3. What is it that makes Starr angry enough to punch Hailey?
4. How does Seven get involved in the fight?

5. Why does Starr cry – sob - in her mom’s car on the way home after her fight?
6. What astonishing thing is happening when Starr arrives at home? Why did her dad organize this meeting?
7. How do Starr’s mom and dad’s reaction to her fight with Hailey differ? Which one do you agree with? Where do they end up at the end of the chapter?

Chapter 21, pages 353-370

1. What decision is DeVante agonizing over (trying to make)?
2. What happens when Starr’s Williamson friends and her Garden Heights friends meet?
3. What do you think about Iesha showing up at the party at Carlos’ house? Does she have a right to be there? Should Seven have invited her?
4. What does Iesha say that makes Starr nervous?
5. Is Starr’s empathy for Iesha warranted? (Should Starr have any understanding for Iesha?)
6. Why did Maverick give Seven his name?

Chapter 22, pages 373-387

1. Do you, or anyone you know, live in as much luxury as Chris?
2. Why does Starr think she and Chris shouldn’t be together?
3. Why is Chris in Starr’s old neighborhood (Garden Heights)?
4. Are you surprised at the description of Iesha and King’s house?
5. Why is DeVante lying on the floor (page 381)?
6. When DeVante says “I walked into King’s fist” (page 382) what does he really mean?
7. Why does Iesha tell the four of them (Starr, Chris, Seven, and DeVante) to leave her house?
8. Do you agree with DeVante when he says “We lucky Iesha helped us, man” (page 385)? Did Iesha help them? How?
9. Is Starr right when she stops Seven from going back to King and Iesha’s house to protect Iesha?
10. Does the jury’s decision surprise you (when they decide not to charge Officer Brian Cruise, Jr. in the death of Kahlil)?

Chapter 23, pages 388-402

1. On page 389, who is right? Starr, who wants to riot to express her anger over the verdict or Chris, who tells her that rioting won’t solve anything?
2. What happens when Starr sees the rioting going on around her (page 395)?
3. Why do they go to Maverick’s store?
4. Did you pass the “black” test? (Pages 398-99)

Chapter 24, pages 403-419

1. How would you describe Chris’ experience on this evening with Starr, Seven, and DeVante?

2. Why does Ms. Ofrah ask Starr to fire her as Starr's attorney?
3. What does Starr mean when she says "I'm sick of this. Just like y'all think all of us are bad because of some people, we think the same about y'all." (page 412) Who is she talking about?
4. How do they (Starr, Seven, Chris, and DeVante) get away from the police tear gas?

Chapter 25, pages 420-430

1. What unusual thing happens on pages 424-425 when the police arrive at the fire?
2. Who else decides to become a "snitch?" (last page) What is a "snitch?"

Chapter 26, pages 431-end

1. What is "activism?" (page 432, when discussing Starr's future)
2. Do you agree with Starr's decision to end her friendship with Hailey? What would you have done?
3. How has Maverick's attitude about Garden Heights changed (page 436)
4. What is Mr. Lewis' gift to Maverick?
5. What's the truth that Kenya forces Starr to face? (page 444)