**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Personal Response**

**Big Brother Little Sister**

**Themes / Ideas from the text that / messages**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Message / Theme / Idea** | **What it means** | **Quote from text** |
| **1** | **children need love and care from someone** | **Hema and Janey wanted their mother to love them** |  |
| **2** | **the negative effects of child abuse/neglect in families**  **the influence child abuse has on children** | **Hema and Janey got beaten by mom and uncle Pera, felt feeling of neglect, wanted to run away** |  |
| **3** | **Strong bonds between siblings** | **Hema looks after and takes care of Janey** |  |
| **4** | **Children needs people they can look up to** | **Their role models let them down** |  |
| **5** | **Threats to small children** | **Crossing busy streets**  **Drunk people** |  |
| **6** | **If you cannot take care of your children you should not have them** |  |  |
| **7** | **Influences of domestic violence** |  |  |
| **8** | **Older siblings can take on the responsibility of parents** |  |  |
| **9** | **Importance of functional families** |  |  |
| **10** | **Feelings of rejection can cause children to do irrational things** |  |  |

**Some good notes for your assignment**

* ***Parental Responsibility***  
  Wiki does not fulfil her role as being a Mother. She denies her responsibility of her children the more involved she becomes with Pera. Her irresponsibility means that Hema has to step up and become the ‘adult’ in the situation.
* ***Role Modelling***  
  Hema is the positive role model for Janey the danger is the fact that he has no role models himself. All male elders in Hema’s life are violent. It is no surprise that Hema himself has violent thoughts too.
* ***Domestic violence***  
  Domestic Violence is seen a number of times in Hema’s home. Both Wiki and Hema are beaten in the text. The final beating of Hema is cruel and unrelenting. The males in the house abuse their power and use violence to get what they want. We assume the beating/ cycle of abuse will continue when Hema decides to return home at the end of the story.
* ***The importance of belonging to a family/group***   
  Hema simply just wants to belong in the story. He longingly looks at lighted windows wishing he could have a family.
* ***Bad parenting and the effects it has on the children.***
* ***Making important decisions***
* ***The pursuit of happiness***
* ***The value of sibling friendships in difficult times/Relying on siblings for support***
* ***Feeling of Rejection***