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

***The Road* by Cormac McCarthy**

**Pages 131-159**

**Worksheet A**

Please highlight or make note of any interesting or confusing passages you notice in your reading. If there is anything you want to note for discussion, there is space at the bottom. The following questions will be used as a guideline for discussion in our next meeting.

1. On page 134 the man finds a hatch in the ground. The boy is afraid to open it. Why?

The hatch reveals a “richness of a vanished world” (page 139), showing that the boy had nothing to fear. What was something that you were afraid to do but turned out to be beneficial?

2. Page 149: What does the man use to fill the gun? Why do you think he did this?

Can you recall a time you lied to make yourself look more impressive? Did it work? What kind of impact did it have on your relationship with that person, if any?

3. On page 151, the boy says that he wishes they could stay in the bunker forever. Why does the man say they need to leave? Do you think he’s right?

Think about a time you’ve had to leave something good behind. What was the reason? What was the outcome?

4. Page 154: Why does the man describe himself as an alien to the boy? Why does he regret finding the bunker? Do you think this was a good experience for the boy? Why or why not?

In your own life, do you believe in providing comfort for children? Or should they learn about the harsh realities of life early on? What are the benefits and consequences of both approaches?