Close-Reading Questions

“Aftershocks”

1. What do you think Katie means? (inference, page 21)

2. Why might Katie not feel like going for a run? (character, page 21)

3. Why is Katie’s mom cleaning so much? (inference, page 23)

4. What does this line help you understand? What emotions does it bring up, and why? (imagery, page 23)

5. Explain the symbolism of the earthquake breaking the glass? (symbolism, page 23)
6. Why might Katie bring up continental drift theory at this moment? (inference, page 25)

7. Put this idea in your own words. Then explain how Katie’s thoughts about life’s challenges have changed. (character, page 25)

8. Why is Katie so excited that her mom’s desk is messy? (character, page 25)
Critical-Thinking Questions
“Aftershocks”

1. Why do you think the earthquake had a negative effect on Katie’s parents’ relationship?

2. Do you think Katie and her parents became stronger or grew in some way as a result of the earthquake?