Close-Reading Questions
“The Rise of Fandoms”

1. How does author Kristin Lewis draw you into her article? (author’s craft)

2. In the section “Fans Unite,” the author includes a list of fandoms that exist today. Why might the author have included this list? (author’s craft, text structure)

3. Why does the author include the section “Old Tactics” in the article? What purpose does that section serve? (text structure)

4. Lewis writes that superfans will defend the thing they love “with the ferocity of a mama bear protecting her cubs” (18). What does this comparison help you understand about superfans? (author’s craft)

5. The author includes details about Charles Dickens’s fans in her article as well as details about fandoms throughout time in a sidebar. How do these details contribute to the article? (central ideas and details)
Close-Reading Question

“Is Fandom Good For You?”

1. On page 19, Lewis writes, “fandoms can be a bright spot in a world that can sometimes seem divisive.” What does she mean? (interpreting text)
Critical-Thinking Questions
“The Rise of Fandoms” and “Is Fandom Good For You?”

1. On page 18, Lewis writes, “Thanks to the internet and social media, [finding other superfans] is no longer a problem.” What are some other ways social media has changed fandom?

2. Lewis writes that “fandom gives you a sense of community.” Do you agree? Have you had an experience where being a fan made you feel accepted? Explain.

3. Lewis explains that Star Wars fans signed a petition to remove *Star Wars: The Last Jedi* from the Star Wars canon. Do you think this is acceptable fan behavior?

4. Consider the anecdote about Sonic the Hedgehog on page 18. How much should movie studios and artists take their fans’ opinions into consideration when making work?

5. Do you think fandoms contribute to society in a positive way?