



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

## Think About It!

**Close-Reading Questions:** Read "Our Beautiful Town Is Gone." Then go back and reread sections of the article to answer the questions below. We've started the first two answers for you.

1. Reread the first section. Why did Eleanor Weddig pinch herself on the morning of November 8, 2018?

*Eleanor Weddig pinched herself because*

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2. When people in Paradise first saw smoke, why weren't they worried?

*They weren't worried because*

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## Think About It! p. 2

3. Reread the section "Bigger and Deadlier." Why have wildfires in California gotten bigger and harder to fight, according to scientists?

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4. What are "flaming birds"? How did they make the fire in Paradise worse?

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## Think About It! p. 3

5. Based on "Beloved Things," what kept people from quickly driving out of the town of Paradise?

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6. Look at the section header "Grueling Fight." What was the fight, and where did it happen?

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## Think About It! p. 4

7. The tone, or feeling, of the final section is hopeful. What details from this section help create a hopeful tone?

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**Critical-Thinking Question (big question about the whole story):**

8. Think about Lucas and Eleanor, the two kids featured in this story. How did the fire change their lives? What stayed the same? Use evidence from the article to support your answers. *(Continue on the back if you need more space.)*

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