



A GIRLS' GUIDE TO THE ISLANDS

Study Guide

Written by Suzanne Kamata

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Questions for Discussion:

1. Have you ever traveled to another state or another country for an event (like an art exhibit, concert, sports event)? If yes, write about the experience. If not, what kind of event would you be willing to travel to see or experience?
2. Think of a place -- your house, your workplace, your school, etc. Is it accessible to wheelchair users? For example, could a wheelchair user enter the place easily without any help? Would they be able to move around and reach things? If not, how could this place be made more accessible?
3. If you were going to create an event or attraction to bring more visitors to your hometown, what would it be?
4. What kinds of jobs have you seen people with disabilities do in your community? If you have a job, do you work with anyone who is disabled? What kind of job might a person with disabilities do in your workplace?
5. Why do you think the art of Claude Monet is so popular in Japan?
6. What are some of the advantages and disadvantages of living on a small island, such as Naoshima or Shodoshima?
7. Shodoshima is famous for its olives and soy sauce. What food or product is your hometown famous for?
8. If you can, watch the movie "24 Eyes" or read the book. Describe your favorite scene or episode from the book or movie.

Extra Links:

Link to webinar on *A Girls' Guide to the Islands* created for the National Consortium for Teaching About Asia

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4570052306360141313>

Chapters 1-2

Short video about Yayoi Kusama

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rRZR3nsiIeA>

Chapters 3-4

Short video on Living in Japan with a Physical Disability

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KKrLQDNuMpl>

Chapters 5-6

Link to Benesse House website

<https://benesse-artsite.jp/art/benessehouse-museum.html>

Chapters 9-10

Video of Claude Monet painting outdoors

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BJE4QUNgaeg>

Chapters 15-16

Video of Making “Anger at the Bottom”

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=anger+at+the+bottom+youtube&docid=608053526551727891&mid=395FB0F80A5D5E6156F9395FB0F80A5D5E6156F9&view=detail&FORM=VIRE>

Quizzes:

Quiz on Chapters 1-2

1. Where does the author plan to take her daughter?
 - a. a zoo
 - b. school
 - c. a shopping mall
 - d. an art museum

2. Which artist's work are they going to see?
 - a. Marie Laurencin
 - b. Yoko Ono
 - c. Pablo Picasso
 - d. Yayoi Kusama

3. How do the mother and daughter travel from Tokushima to Osaka?
 - a. by ferry
 - b. by bus
 - c. by car
 - d. by train

4. Why doesn't the narrator want to take her daughter to Osaka?
 - a. She isn't interested in art.
 - b. She wants to save her money.
 - c. She thinks she will be tired.
 - d. She is busy.

5. How does the taxi driver behave when he sees the wheelchair?
 - a. He is kind and patient.
 - b. He says that his car is too small.
 - c. He says that he can't speak English.
 - d. He asks them to hurry up.

Quiz on Chapters 3-4

1. According to the chapter, what does the author believe about the art of Yayoi Kusama?
 - a. It's not appropriate for children.
 - b. The colors are dark and gloomy.
 - c. It's too expensive.
 - d. Children can enjoy it.
2. What do the author and her daughter do after looking at the paintings?
 - a. They meet Yayoi Kusama.
 - b. They watch a short documentary.
 - c. They eat cake.
 - d. They go to the gift shop.
3. How does the author feel after the trip to Osaka with her daughter?
 - a. frustrated
 - b. sad
 - c. encouraged
 - d. angry
4. What does the author believe about creating art?
 - a. Making art is a waste of time.
 - b. It can bring joy and satisfaction.
 - c. Everyone should take art lessons.
 - d. Artists can make a lot of money.
5. Where does the author decide to take her daughter next?
 - a. Naoshima
 - b. Kyoto
 - c. Paris
 - d. Tokyo

Quiz on Chapters 5-6

1. How do the author and her daughter get to Naoshima from Takamatsu?
 - a. By ferry
 - b. Over the bridge
 - c. By car
 - d. By hot air balloon

2. Where do the author and her daughter stay on Naoshima?
 - a. a museum hotel
 - b. a yurt
 - c. at a friend's house
 - d. a campground

3. Why doesn't the author take her daughter to the deck of the ferry?
 - a. Because they want to sleep in the car.
 - b. Because they don't want to see the water.
 - c. Because there is no easy way to get her daughter up the stairs.
 - d. Because they are locked in the car and can't get out.

4. Which of the following things do they NOT see when they arrive at Miyanoura Port?
 - a. cats
 - b. a sign for the 007 museum
 - c. a polka-dotted pumpkin
 - d. fishing boats

5. How does Lilia feel about the hotel room?
 - a. She is dissatisfied because there is no Wi-Fi.
 - b. She is disappointed because it's not wheelchair accessible.
 - c. She would rather go home.
 - d. She is completely satisfied.

Quiz on Chapters 7-8

1. What do the author and her daughter do immediately after checking into the hotel?
 - a. They visit the art museum.
 - b. They go to the cafe.
 - c. They go to the gift shop.
 - d. They take a bath.

2. What inspired much of the art in the Benesse House Art Museum?
 - a. boats
 - b. the geography of Naoshima
 - c. Ultraman
 - d. donuts

3. Why doesn't Lilia go into the gallery with a painting that looks like white paper?
 - a. Because it requires an additional fee.
 - b. Because it's inaccessible.
 - c. Because they run out of time.
 - d. Because she wants to text her friends.

4. What happens at 4:30 pm?
 - a. The museum closes.
 - b. They go to the cafe for free drinks.
 - c. They go for a bicycle ride.
 - d. They go to the park.

5. What does the author plan to drink?
 - a. juice
 - b. beer
 - c. sparkling wine
 - d. coffee

Quiz on Chapters 9-10

1. What does the elderly waiter take a picture of every day?
 - a. the sunrise
 - b. the sunset
 - c. foreign guests
 - d. a mimosa

2. What can be said about the guests in the café?
 - a. They are mostly artists.
 - b. They were mostly born on Naoshima.
 - c. They are mostly from Kyoto.
 - d. They are mostly Westerners.

3. At dinner, what does Lilia do when the food arrives?
 - a. She shares it with her mother.
 - b. She refuses to eat it.
 - c. She cuts it up into small pieces.
 - d. She takes a photo of it.

4. What is Lilia worried about?
 - a. finding a job
 - b. finding a boyfriend
 - c. finishing school
 - d. losing weight

5. What do Lilia and her mother do after dinner?
 - a. They watch TV in their hotel room.
 - b. They visit the art museum again.
 - c. They go to the spa.
 - d. They go for a walk on the beach.

Quiz on Chapters 11-12

1. What is the weather like in the morning?
 - a. It's raining.
 - b. It's foggy.
 - c. It's sunny.
 - d. It's snowing.

2. What famous artist's work is on display at the Chichu Museum?
 - a. David Hockney
 - b. Yayoi Kusama
 - c. Claude Monet
 - d. Andy Warhol

3. What does the docent do to the wheelchair?
 - a. She folds it and puts it away.
 - b. She pushes it into the gallery.
 - c. She wipes the tires.
 - d. She covers it with a sheet.

4. What can be said of the museum?
 - a. It has many works of art.
 - b. It is free for everyone.
 - c. It is clean and quiet.
 - d. It is noisy and colorful.

5. What was Claude Monet's disability?
 - a. He couldn't walk.
 - b. He was deaf/hearing impaired.
 - c. His left arm was paralyzed.
 - d. His vision was impaired.

Quiz on Chapters 13-14

1. Why aren't the ferries running from Naoshima?
 - a. Because of a mechanical problem.
 - b. Because a typhoon is coming.
 - c. Because the waves are high.
 - d. Because it's foggy.

2. What do the author and her daughter do while waiting for the ferries to start running again?
 - a. They visit the Victoria and Albert Museum.
 - b. They eat ice cream.
 - c. They take a bath.
 - d. They visit the 007 Museum.

3. What island do they visit after Naoshima?
 - a. Onigashima
 - b. Hilton Head Island
 - c. Megijima
 - d. Shodoshima

4. With what country does Shodo Island have a relationship?
 - a. U.S.A.
 - b. Greece
 - c. France
 - d. Italy

5. What fruit is famously grown on Shodo Island?
 - a. watermelon
 - b. olives
 - c. oranges
 - d. strawberries

Quiz on Chapters 15-16

1. What do they decide to do after lunch?
 - a. See the Greek windmill.
 - b. Watch "Kiki's Delivery Service."
 - c. Go to Greece.
 - d. Go shopping.

2. What does the author think after tasting the olive picked from the tree?
 - a. It's delicious.
 - b. It's oily and salty.
 - c. It's tough and bitter.
 - d. It's sweet.

3. Which of these movies was filmed on Shodoshima?
 - a. Anne of Green Gables
 - b. Pippi Longstocking
 - c. Kiki's Delivery Service
 - d. My Neighbor Totoro

4. How would you best describe "Anger at the Bottom"?
 - a. It's a gold clock.
 - b. It's a statue of Athena.
 - c. It's a young witch.
 - d. It's a monster in a well.

5. What does Lilia do when she sees the monster?
 - a. She escapes from it.
 - b. She takes a photo of it.
 - c. She draws a picture of it.
 - d. She laughs at it.

Chapters 17-19

1. What movie do the author and her daughter watch in their hotel room?
 - a. My Neighbor Totoro
 - b. Spirited Away
 - c. 24 Eyes
 - d. Kiki's Delivery Service

2. How does Lilia communicate with the woman from Osaka?
 - a. By using Japanese.
 - b. By using English.
 - c. By drawing pictures.
 - d. By using Japanese Sign Language.

3. What does the author try to do at the Movie Village?
 - a. Ride a unicycle.
 - b. Jump rope.
 - c. Roll a hoop with a stick.
 - d. Walk on stilts.

4. What is the theme of the restaurant where they eat in the Movie Village?
 - a. Chinese
 - b. Paris cafe
 - c. Robot
 - d. Showa era school lunch

5. What does the author hope for the future?
 - a. Lilia will become more independent.
 - b. Lilia will no longer travel.
 - c. Lilia will go to Southeast Asia.
 - d. Lilia will travel only with her friends.

Extra Activities

- * Draw a manga or comic version of one of the chapters.
- * Create a book trailer.
- * Act out one of the scenes or chapters in the book.
- * Imagine the author and Lilia's next trip. Write a story about it.
- * Create a travel poster or brochure for one of the locations mentioned in the book.
- * Write an essay about a trip that you have taken.
- * Go to an art museum or look at art online. Write an essay in response to the art.