*The Devil’s Arithmetic* Chapter 6

In-depth Analysis: Point of View

**Point of view** is the viewpoint, or perspective, from which a story is told. The point of view influences how a reader understands a story and how he reacts to the characters and their actions.

A novel may be told from the point of view of one of the book’s characters or from the point of view of a narrator who is not part of the novel.

Even though *The Devil’s Arithmetic* is not written in first person with Hannah using the pronoun “I” to refer to herself, the novel is written from Hannah’s point of view and focuses on her thoughts and feelings. This point of view is called *Third Person Limited*.

***Directions:*** *Use your knowledge of the novel to answer the following questions in complete sentences. Include specific details from the text in your answers.*

1. From Hannah’s perspective, she didn’t like the clothes that Gitl picked out. What comments does Hannah make that the reader draws this conclusion?

|  |
| --- |
|  |

1. Read the following passage:

“You see, we have all been waiting to meet you,” the startled-looking girl explained, the breathiness in her voice more pronounced. “Ever since we heard you were coming. Imagine, someone from Lublin living in our shtetl. But Tante Gitl is so fierce. Do you know my father calls her Gitl the Bear?”

Gitl seems to have a reputation in the village. According to Hannah’s point of view, what evidence from the chapter supports this reputation. What evidence is there that disputes this reputation. Please site your evidence.

|  |
| --- |
|  |

1. When Hannah is talking to Rachel she says, “You can be my second-best friend, Rachel. My first-best here.” According to Hannah, why is it important to separate between Rachel and Rosemary?

|  |
| --- |
|  |

1. Hannah is obviously much different than the other girls she meets. Why is Hannah shocked that the girls want to go to school?

|  |
| --- |
|  |