



UNIT 5: SPARK OTHER LIGHTHOUSES

Reading Response · Comprehension, Analysis & Connection · Chapters 17-19

Name: _____

Date: _____

Directions: Read Chapters 17-19 of *The Beacon Keepers: First Light*. Answer in complete sentences, using the story to support your thinking. For the Thinking Deeper questions, point to where you found your evidence.

"So, I figure the debt goes forward, not back." — Ziggy

Prove it from the book - R.A.C.E.: Restate the question → Answer it → Cite the page → Explain your thinking.

PART 1 · UNDERSTANDING THE STORY ○

1. After the competition, new requests come in. What are people asking the Beacon Keepers to do, and why could each request be exciting or hard? (Ch. 18)

Request or opportunity	What do they want?	Why could this be exciting or hard?
Other middle schools		
Two high schools		
Regional education cooperative		
District office		

2. Dr. Martinez gives the team three questions before they say yes. Rewrite each question in your own words. Then explain how it helps the team avoid saying yes to too much. (Ch. 18)

Decision filter question	In my own words, this means...	How it helps the team
Does it serve the mission or purpose?		
Does it make us stronger?		
Can we do it without breaking?		
Final Rule: If the answer is not yes to all three, what should the team do? Why?		

3. Why can't the Beacon Keepers say yes to every opportunity, even if the opportunities sound exciting? Use one story detail from Chapter 18.

PART 2 · THINKING DEEPER

1. Theo says, “That is the first time we decided something by strategy instead of enthusiasm.” Strategy means choosing with a plan, not just excitement. What does each look like, and what could it lead to? (Ch. 18)

When a team decides by enthusiasm...	When a team decides by strategy...
Example: <i>They might say yes because it sounds exciting.</i>	Example: <i>They ask whether the choice fits their purpose.</i>
This could lead to...	This could lead to...

2. Ziggy says, “The debt goes forward, not back.” This means you can honor help by helping the next person. How does this connect to the team’s choices? (Ch. 18)

Who gave help or trust?	What did they give?	How could it be passed forward?
Ziggy		
Dr. Martinez		
Students & School Community		

What is one way you could pass along help you’ve received — to a friend, a classmate, or someone you don’t know well? You may answer about yourself, a character, or what “someone might” do.

3. Amil says, “Interest creates load. Load creates risk.” Think of it like a backpack: every time you add something, it gets heavier — and a backpack that’s too full is more likely to rip or make you drop something. What happened to the Beacon Keepers’ “backpack” after the competition? Use one detail from Chapter 18.

Sentence starter: *More people wanting to help meant _____. That got heavier when _____. If the team keeps adding without taking anything out, _____ could happen. The team needs _____.*



PART 3 · CONNECTION ★

1. Have you ever felt overwhelmed by too many things, even good things? What happened? You may answer about yourself, a character, or what “someone might” experience.

2. If your class started a project that other classes wanted to copy, what would you need to think about before helping them?

✓ **Before I turn this in - check yourself:**

- ☐ I explained what happened in Chapters 17-19.
- ☐ I used at least one story detail.
- ☐ I explained why the team’s decisions mattered.
- ☐ I connected the story to capacity, strategy, or saying no.