***I Am Malala* Study Questions**

**Directions:** All responses should be answered in complete sentences on a separate sheet of paper with either an elaborate explanation or a quote. This means each answer should have AT MIMINUM 1-2 sentences each but most may be 4-5. Each question is worth 2 points. These study guides will be a combination of classwork, homework, and partner work, but know that all answers need to be in YOUR OWN WORDS. Due dates will be announced in class. Whenever possible (i.e. most of your responses) make direct references to the text and cite page numbers

**Prologue: Prediction**

1. Malala begins her story with this statement: *I come from a country that was created at midnight. When I almost died it was just after midday.* What do you think Malala means by this statement?
2. What evidence is there that where Malala is now and where her story takes place is vastly different. Where is her home now?
3. Malala and her girlfriends attended school in secret. What is the evidence?
4. Behind closed doors, the mood was different. Explain.
5. What evidence shows these girls take their education seriously?
6. How is Malala like any other teenager?
7. How does Malala excel in school?
8. Describe the bus and explain why it is preferred over walking.

**Chapter 1: A Daughter is Born**

1. Culturally speaking, how are the births of girls and boys celebrated?
2. How is Malala’s father different from most Pashtun men?
3. Describe the code of Pashtunwali.
4. Malala is named after Malalai of Maiwand. Give a short summary of Malalai. Why is she compared to Joan of Arc?
5. Summarize the history of Swat by including independence of 1947, Mad Fakir, Mingora, and Buddhism to Islam.
6. How do Malala’s father and mother not share a traditional marriage?
7. Explain why the sixteenth century proved to be devastating to the Yousafzai tribe (Malala’s ancestors) in Pakistan and Afghanistan.
8. Malala’s father said of her daughter, “Malala will be free as a bird.” Why did this mean so much in Pakistan?

**Chapter 2: My father the Falcon**

1. Explain the quote: “[...] my father had trouble with words.”
2. What is the simile that describe grandfather Rohul Amin?
3. How does Lewano Pir, Sain of the Mad, try to cure Malala’s father of his stutter?
4. What evidence shows that boys were valued more than girls in Pashtun families?
5. Explain the metaphor, “war between two elephants” and the simile, “like the grass crushed by the hooves to two fierce beasts”?
6. What evidence supports the fact that rivalry is significant in family dynamics?
7. What are the results of Malala’s father’s first speech as a boy?

**Chapter 3: Growing Up in a School**

1. Why was Malala’s mother unusual in the village as a child?
2. Why is education important to Malala’s father?
3. What obstacles did Ziauddin face trying to realize his dream?
4. Explain Pakistan’s class system.
5. Why are Akbar Khan and Nasir Pacha important to Ziauddin?
6. How did Pakistan change when Benazir Bhutto became prime minister?
7. Why was it important for Malala’s father to start his own school?
8. Explain how running a school is like running any other business.
9. Why is a small boy brought into a marriage ceremony to sit on the laps of the bride and groom?

**Chapter 4: The Village**

1. What is “woma”?
2. Describe the Eid holidays.
3. Contrast city life in Mingora and out in the Shangla valley.
4. Why does Malala question the Pashtun code of conduct?
5. Explain the metaphor: “For me the valley was a sunny place and I couldn’t see the clouds gathering behind the mountains.”

**Chapter 5: Why I don’t Wear Earrings and Pashtuns Don’t Say Thank You**

1. How does Malala react when the new girl, Malka-e-Noor, comes in first in end-of-year exams?
2. Explain how Malala was not a ‘perfect’ child.
3. How does Ziauddin react to Malala’s behavior?
4. Why does Malala have a problem with the Pashtunwali code?
5. Why do Pashtuns not say thank you?
6. Why were the people of Swat subservient to the new regimes?
7. How did Malala try to win back her father’s respect?
8. What are the results of the speech competition?

**Chapter 6: Children of the Rubbish Mountain**

1. What is Malala’s favorite TV show? Why?
2. Why was it controversial to help poor families?
3. Translate and explain the significance of “Kia Hasool e elum in bachun ka haq nahe.”
4. Explain “ghost schools.”
5. How do the citizens of Swat feel about the Taliban?
6. Explain Musharraf’s double-dealing.
7. What measures does Malala take to help the rubbish children?

**Chapter 7: The Mufti Who Tried to Close Our School**

1. Explain the quote: “That maulana has a bad eye on us.”
2. The mufi across the street is a member of Tablighi Jamaat, and Deobandi group. Explain this significance to the story.
3. What are the differences between General Musharrah and General Zia?
4. What is the Arabization of Pakistan?
5. How does MMA affect Swat?
6. What is FAFTA and its significance?
7. What is the result of the army entering tribal areas in March 4004?
8. What happened June 17, 2004? How did people react?

**Chapter 8: The Autumn of the Earthquake**

1. Explain the devastation of the earthquake of October 5, 2007.
2. Where does aid come from?
3. Summarize the actions of the JuD after the earthquake.