Who does Stanley say “owns the shade” at Camp Green Lake?
The Warden owns the shade (p. 3)

How long had it been since there was an actual lake in the location of Camp Green Lake?
Over 100 years (pg. 3)

What are the only things that have grown in the dried out Green Lake and what are they used for?
The only trees are two old oaks...A hammock is stretched between the two trees. (p.3)(p.11)

How many trees can be found at Camp Green Lake?
The only trees are two old oaks on the eastern edge of the “lake” (pg.3)

What happens when a yellow spotted lizard bites you?
You die a slow and painful death (p. 4)

In the book 'Holes' the narrator gives us a good rule to remember about rattlesnakes and scorpions. What is it?
If you don't bother them, they won't bother you. (p.4)

Why would a camper at Camp Green Lake try to be bitten by a scorpion, or a small rattlesnake?
Then he will get to spend a day or two recovering in his tent, instead of having to dig a hole out on the lake. (pg. 4)

What is Camp Green Lake a camp for?
Bad boys (pg. 5)

What were the contents of Stanley’s backpack when he arrived at Camp Green Lake?
A toothbrush, toothpaste, and a box of stationery (pg. 6)

How often did Stanley promise to write home to his mother?
At least once a week (pg. 6)

Who does Stanley’s family blame whenever something goes wrong?
They blame Stanley’s no-good-dirty-rotten-pig-stealing-great-great-grandfather (p. 7)

When Stanley was younger he used to pretend his stuffed animals were at camp.
What was the name of this pretend camp? Camp Fun and Games (pg. 7)

What did Stanley’s teacher, Mrs. Bell do to embarrass Stanley about his size?
Mrs.Bell is a math teacher and to give an example of ratio she picked out the largest kid and smallest kid and weighed them. Stanley weighed 3 times as much as the other boy and Mrs. Bell wrote the ratio on the board, 3:1. (p.7)

What reason did Stanley give for not having any friends before coming to Camp Green Lake?
He was overweight and the kids at his middle school often teased him about his size. (pg. 7)

Who was blamed whenever anything went wrong in Stanley’s family?
Stanley’s no-good-dirty-rotten-pig-stealing-great-great-grandfather (pg. 7)

Stanley Yelnats’ family always blamed their bad luck on his 'no-good-dirty-rotten-pig-stealing-great-great-grandfather'. Why?
Because a one-legged Gypsy put a curse on him and his descendants. (p.8)(more details of the story behind the curse are given on p.30)

Why were all of the sons in Stanley’s family named Stanley?
His family had always liked the fact that “Stanley Yelnats” was spelled the same frontward and backward. (pg. 9)
What famous outlaw robbed Stanley’s great-grandfather?
Kissin’ Kate Barlow robbed Stanley’s great-grandfather (p. 9)

Why did Stanley’s family live in a tiny apartment that smelled of burning rubber and foot odor instead of a mansion on a beach in California?
The first Stanley Yelnats lost his entire fortune when his stagecoach was robbed by the outlaw Kissin’ Kate Barlow moving from New York to California (pg. 9)

What invention was Stanley’s father working on that eventually lead to Stanley’s arrest?
Stanley’s father was trying to invent a way to recycle old sneakers. (pg. 9-10)

There are 5 things that cannot be brought onto the premises of Camp Green Lake otherwise it would be a violation of the Texas Penal Code. Name 3 of them.
i) guns ii) explosives iii) weapons iv) drugs v) alcohol   (p. 12)

When Stanley arrived at Camp Green Lake he was given a number of items. Can you name (4 or 5 or all of) them?
2 sets of clothes – long sleeved orange jumpsuit, an orange T-shirt, yellow socks.
A towel, white sneakers, an orange cap, a canteen made of heavy plastic. (p.13)
The boys at Camp Green Lake are actually digging holes. What size are the holes required to measure?
5 feet deep and 5 feet across in every direction. The shovel acts as a measuring stick. (p.13)

How many holes was Stanley required to dig in a week?
Seven, one hole each day including Saturday and Sunday (pg. 13)

How large of a hole was Stanley required to dig each day and how was it measured?
Each hole must be five feet deep, and five feet across in every direction. His shovel was his measuring stick. (pg. 13)

Why were there no fences surrounding Camp Green Lake Correctional Facility?
Because the camp was the only place to get water for hundreds of miles, any camper who wanted to run away would be buzzard food in three days (pg. 15)

How long was Stanley sentenced to stay at Camp Green Lake?
18 months (pg. 15)

What three words could be used to remember the name of Stanley’s camp counselor?
Three easy words: pen, dance, key (pg. 16)

What did Mr. Pendanski tell Stanley was really the only rule at Camp Green Lake?
Don’t upset the Warden (pg. 16)

What are the (six) nicknames of the other campers in Group D when Stanley first arrives at Camp Green Lake?
Squid, X-Ray, Magnet, Armpit, Zigzag, Zero (p. 17-18)

When Stanley first arrives at the camp, he is assigned a cot that formerly belonged to ________.
It formerly belonged to Barf Bag. (Lewis is also acceptable) (p. 18)

What is the last name of the camp counselor the kids call ‘Mom’?
The counselor’s last name is Pendanski (p. 19)

Who is Sweet Feet, and what is his real name?
He is a famous baseball player, and his name is Clyde Livingston (p. 22)
Why was Stanley sent to Camp Green Lake?
He was accused of stealing Sweet Feet’s shoes (p.24-25)

What did Stanley tell the judge in regards to how he got Clyde “Sweet Feet” Livingston’s sneakers?
He said that he was walking home and the sneaks fell from the sky and hit him on the head. (pg. 23)

Why were Clyde Livingstone’s sneakers on display at a homeless shelter?
Clyde Livingstone had lived in the homeless shelter when he was younger and he had donated his sneakers to raise money for the homeless. They were expected to auction for $5,000. (p.24-25)

What reason did Mr. Pendanski give Stanley for why the boys had to dig holes each day?
They were “digging to build character” (pg. 27)

What was the name of Stanley’s great-great-grandfather from Latvia?
His name was Elya Yelnats (p. 28)

Why did Elya Yelnats first go to see Madame Zeroni?
He was desperate to marry Myra Menke but he didn’t have anything to offer her father for her hand in marriage (pg. 29)

What did Madame Zeroni instruct Elya to do with the piglet she gave him?
She instructed Elya to carry the piglet everyday to the top of the mountain and let it drink from the stream while he sang to it (p. 30)

What did Elya Yelnats forget to do for Madame Zeroni before sailing to America?
Elya forgot to carry Madame Zeroni up the mountain and sing to her while she drank from the stream (p. 31 & 37)  
**Similar:**
What promise did Elya Yelnats break when he left Latvia?
He broke the promise to Madame Zeroni to carry her up the mountain and sing while she drank from the stream (p. 31 & 37)

What was Elya Yelnats supposed to do on the day of Myra Menke’s fifteenth birthday, what did he choose to do instead and how did this affect him?
Elya was supposed to carry the pig up the mountain on last time but he didn’t want to present himself to Myra smelling like a pig so instead he took a bath. Elya should have carried the pig up the mountain one last time because his pig weighed exactly the same as Igor’s pig (pg.33)

What did Elya Yelnats end up doing after he left Myra’s house on the day of her 15th birthday?
He wandered aimlessly through town, until he found himself down by the wharf where he boarded a ship with free passage to America (pg. 36)

Why did Madame Zeroni curse the Yelnats family?
Elya Yelnats forgot to fulfill his promise to carry Madame Zeroni up the mountain to drink from the stream before she died (pg. 37)

On Stanley’s first day at Camp Green Lake, who is the first boy in Group D to finish digging his hole?
Zero (pg. 37)

What do the boys from Group D do each time they finish digging a hole?
They look down, spit in the hole, turn and head back to the camp compound (pg. 37)
What four things does the book describe Elya Yelnats doing once he arrives in America?
He learns to speak English, falls in love with Sarah Miller, looks for Madam Zeroni’s son, and has a son with Sarah. (pg. 38-39)

A yellow spotted lizard has exactly how many spots?
It has exactly 11 spots (p. 41)

What color are the eyes of a yellow-spotted lizard?
Although people mistake them for having red eyes their eyes are actually yellow (pg 41)

How much time is each boy given to take a shower each day?
four minutes (pg. 43)

What was ironic about the sign over the rec room door?
The sign read Wreck Room and nearly everything in the room was broken (pg. 43)

Why does Stanley decide to lie about his experience at Camp Green Lake in the letters that he writes to him mom?
He doesn’t want her to worry about him (pg. 46)

What is the nickname that Stanley’s tent-mates give him?
They give him the nickname of Caveman (p. 47)

What did Stanley find when he dug his second hole?
He found a fossil of a fish (p. 49)

What evidence did Stanley find that Camp Green Lake was actually a lake full of water?
a wide flat rock with a fish fossilized in it (pg. 49)

What did X-Ray tell Stanley after he tried to turn the fossil into the Warden?
If Stanley found something else while digging, he should give it to X-Ray instead of turning it into the Warden himself (pg. 52)

What reason did X-Ray give for wanting Stanley to turn over any item that he found while digging to him instead of the Warden?
It was only fair that X-Ray should get the day off because he had been at camp the longest when Stanley had only been at camp a couple of days. (pg. 53)

What is X-Ray’s real name, and where did the nickname X-Ray come from?
His real name is Rex, and X-Ray is pig-latin for Rex (p. 52-53; see also p. 17)

Why was Stanley glad that the boys in his group decided to call him Caveman?
because he believed that it meant the boys excepted him as a member of the group (pg. 54)

When Mr. Pendanski was talking to the boys in Group B about their future goals outside of Camp Green Lake, what was Zero’s answer when Mr. Pendanski asked him what he liked to do?
He told Mr. Pendanski that he liked to dig holes (pg. 58)

What initials were on the bottom of the gold tube Stanley found?
The initials K.B. (p. 61)

How did X-Ray show thanks to Stanley for giving him the gold tube Stanley found?
X-Ray told Stanley to move up one place in the water line, in front of Zero. (p.61-63)

When Stanley first saw the warden he was surprised she was a woman. Can you describe two things about how
A tall woman with red hair, wearing a black cowboy hat and black cowboy boots studded with turquoise stones. Her arms and face were covered with freckles and her fingernails were painted dark red. (p.66-67)

Stanley was surprised that the warden knew all the boys' names. Zigzag thought he knew how she did that. What was his idea? The warden had tiny hidden cameras and microphones everywhere – in the tents, wreck room and shower. (p.71)

Why did X-Ray pretend to not know what Stanley was talking about at breakfast when Stanley asked him about the gold tube? X-Ray believed the Warden was listening in on their conversations and didn’t want her to know about the gold tube before he turned it in. (pg. 71)

What were the names of the famous authors that Stanley could remember when thinking about the gold tube, none of whom had the initials KB? Charles Dickens, Mark Twain and William Shakespeare. (p.73)

How did Stanley’s head, between his neck and his ear, get injured? Zigzag hit him in the head with his shovel while they were digging a whole together. (pg. 78)

What does Zero admit to Stanley when he sees Stanley writing a letter? He admits he cannot read (p.81)

Which camper asked Stanley to teach him how to read? Zero (Hector) asks him (p.82)

What was the real reason that Stanley didn’t want to teach Zero to read besides not knowing how to teach? After digging all day Stanley didn’t have the strength to try to teach Zero to read and write and he needed to save his energy for people who counted. (pg. 82)

What deal did Stanley and Zero come to in regards to Stanley teaching Zero to read? Zero would help Stanley dig out his hole each day so Stanley had enough energy at the end of the day to help Zero learn to read and write. (pg. 97-99)

Who stole the sunflower seeds from the truck? Who took the blame for it? Magnet stole the seeds, Stanley took the blame (p. 84 & 86)

Who stole Mr. Sir’s sunflower seeds? Why would a thief have that name? Magnet. “My fingers are like little magnets.” Objects are drawn to him. (p.85)

What is the special ingredient in the nailpolish the warden makes? Rattlesnake venom (p. 90)

What did the Warden do to Mr. Sir when he brought Stanley to her for stealing Mr. Sir’s sack of sunflower seeds? She struck him across the face, scratching him with her toxic rattlesnake venom polish finger nails (pg. 91)

What reason did Zero give Stanley for digging out Stanley’s hole while he was talking to the Warden for stealing Mr. Sir’s sunflower seeds? Because Stanley didn’t steal the seeds and Zero knew that Stanley didn’t steal the Livingston’s sneakers either. (pg. 96)

Which camper at Camp Green Lake is a whiz with numbers? Zero (Hector) (p. 98)

What would Zero do for Stanley in exchange for being taught to read?
He would dig part of Stanley’s hole (p. 98)

What was the gold tube that Stanley found?
Half of a lipstick container (p. 99)

How did Stanley’s great-grandfather survive being abandoned in the desert, how long was he there, and how was he rescued?
He was in the desert for 17 days and said he “found refuge on God’s thumb”. He was rescued by rattlesnake hunters.

When Green Lake was the largest lake in Texas what trees lined the shore?
Peach trees. (p.101)

At the Green Lake 4th July picnic prizes were awarded for the best foods. Can you name 3 of them?
Peach Pie, Peach Jam, Spiced Peaches. (p.101)

What item did Katherine Barlow receive a special prize for each year at the Green Lake Fourth of July town picnic?
Her spiced peaches (pg. 101)

Can you name 2 of the spices used in Kate Barlow’s famous Spiced Peaches?
Cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves. (p.101)

Who was Kissin’ Kate Barlow before she became a famous outlaw?
She was Kathrine Barlow, school teacher for Green Lake (pg 102)

What did Trout Walker have in common with Clyde Livingston?
They both had incurable foot fungus / foot odor (p. 102)

Who was Mary Lou? According to Sam, how did she live so long?
Mary Lou was Sam’s donkey, and she lived long by eating raw onions (p. 107-108)

What was the main ingredient in all of Sam’s remedies?
Onions (p. 108)
What health treatments could Sam’s onions be used for? Name 4 of them.
Onions are good for digestion, the liver, the stomach, the lungs, the heart and the brain. Asthma, warts and pimples, arthritis, baldness. (p.108)

Kate Barlow was the schoolteacher at Green Lake in the past and she would ask Sam to fix things. In the book we learn about 5 things Kate Barlow asked Sam to fix. What were they?
The leaking roof, the stuck windows, the wobbly desk, the crooked door, her broken heart. (p109-111)

According to what Sam told Miss Katherine, what two things make his secret onion field unusual?
1. The onions grow all year, 2. The water runs uphill (p.110)

What law did the sheriff say Sam had broken with Kate Barlow?
“It’s against the law for a Negro to kiss a white woman.” (p.113)

What did the townspeople of Green Lake do to the newly fixed-up schoolhouse?
They set it on fire (p. 114)

What did Kate Barlow do to the sheriff after she shot him?
She kissed him (p. 115)
What is Zero’s real name? Give both first and last names.
Hector Zeroni (p. 119)

Two people attack Kate Barlow when she returns to Green Lake after 20 years being an outlaw. Who are they?
Trout Walker and Linda Miller (or Linda Walker). (p.121)

How did Kate Barlow die?
She was bitten by a yellow-spotted lizard (p. 123)

What does Zero do before he walks off into the desert to escape Camp Green Lake?
He hits Mr. Pendanski with his shovel and knocks him unconscious. (p.139)

After Zero leaves Camp Green Lake a new boy arrives. What is his nickname? and why?
Twitch. Because he is always fidgety. He steals cars and every time he walks past one he gets twitchy to get into it. (p.145)

What did Stanley do with the water truck? Where did the truck end up?
He stole it; it ended up in a hole (p. 147-148)

How much water did Stanley have with him after he fled from the water truck?
He had no water at all (p. 148)

What natural landmark did Stanley walk toward when he ran away from the camp?
He walked toward the Big Thumb (a rock formation) (p. 149)

Where did Stanley find Zero after he ran away from the camp?
He found Zero in an over-turned boat (P. 154-155)

What name was on the side of the boat Stanley found?
Mary Lou (p. 154)

What was Zero’s word for what was in the jars he found?
He called it Sploosh (p. 156)
In Holes 'sploosh' is the name given to two things. What are they?
“It was a warm, bubbly, mushy nectar, sweet and tangy.” Found in jars under the abandoned boat in the desert - (probably Spiced Peaches). (p.157) It was the name given to the new invention of foot odor eater “It neutralizes odor-causing fungi and bacteria” (p.232)

What did Stanley think Sploosh tasted like?
Like peaches (p. 157)

Why did Barf Bag go to hospital?
He stepped on a rattlesnake. (p.157)

What was the name written on the side of the boat that was upturned in the dried out lake?
Mary Lou. (p.158)

When Stanley jokes that there could be an Italian Restaurant at the top of the mountain, what does Zero say that he would order?
An ice cream sundae with nuts and whipped cream, and bananas, and hot fudge. (p.164)
As Stanley and Zero climbed further up the mountain they encountered more gnats, bugs and thickening weeds. What did that tell them?
That there must be water close by. (p.169)
Why was Stanley excited to see mud at the top of the mountain?
Because you need water to make mud, so there was water nearby (p. 171)

When Stanley dug a hole with his hands in the gloppy mud on the mountain he found more than water. What else did he get?
Onions

How does Stanley Yelnats, at Camp Green Lake, break the curse of Madame Zeroni?
He carries her descendent, Hector Zedoni, up a mountain and lets him drink from the stream and then sings the lullaby that she taught his great-great grandfather. (p.170-176)

Who actually stole Clyde Livingston's shoes from the shelter?
Zero (Hector) stole them (p. 175)

In Holes we hear the stories of different people suffering a similar illness in the present and 100 years in the past. What was the illness and how were they cured?
Food poisoning and eating onions cured them. (p.178-180)

Where did Zero wait a month for his mother to return?
Laney Park (p. 194)

Who, as a child, was forced to dig holes – even on Christmas?
The Warden (p. 206)

Because Stanley thinks he is going to die he conjures up a beautiful memory so that his last image is not that of the Warden and Mr. Sir. What is it?
His Mother’s face. He remembers a time when they slipped on ice and rolled down a hill in the snow, laughing. (p.209)

Whose name was on the suitcase Stanley and Zero found?
Stanley’s name was on it: Stanley Yelnats (p. 216)

In Holes, some of the present day characters are descendents of characters depicted in the past. Which 2 characters from 100 years ago is the Warden related to?
Trout Walker and Linda Miller (Walker).

“You, and your children, and their children, can dig for the next 100 years and you'll never find it.” (p.122)

Why didn’t the yellow-spotted lizards bite Stanley or Zero?
‘lizards don’t like onion blood’ and the boys had been eating a lot of onions (p. 224 & 186)

The only food Stanley and Zero eat on the mountain is onions. How many do they eat?
280 (p.186)

What was the name of the foot odor elimination product Stanley’s father invented?
Sploosh (p. 232)

Phrases from the book
“I can fix that.” – Sam (p. 109)
“You’re not in the Girl Scouts anymore.”/”This isn’t a Girl Scout Camp.” – Mr. Sir (p. 13, 14)
“Excuse me.” – The Warden (p. 66)
“Zero’s too stupid to learn to read.” – Mr. Pedanski (p. 138)