In the beginning of the book, what is the family celebrating? 
Katie’s tenth birthday (p. 1)

How old is Winston’s sister, Katie? 
Ten (p. 1)

How old was Winston? How do we know that? 
He was 12. He wondered if he had taken birthdays so seriously two years ago when he was Katie’s age. (p. 1)

What gift did Winston buy for Katie? Where did Winston buy Katie’s present? 
A small wooden box in which she could keep her girl stuff. 
He bought it at Penrose’s Curio Shop. (p. 2)

What was Winston’s first thought when he saw something different? 
He wondered if there was a puzzle buried in the patterns. (p. 2)

Where did Winston buy the wooden box? 
Penrose’s Curio Shop (p. 2)

What was carved on top of the wooden box that Katie got for her birthday? 
A pattern of diamonds (p. 2)

Why did Katie think that there was more to the present than an empty box? 
So many times he had been up to something – like last year when he hid her present and gave her clue after clue to find it, which took 2 hours. (p. 4)

What did Katie discover about the box moments after receiving it from Winston? 
It had a false bottom/secret compartment (p. 5)

When the family first found the puzzle pieces in the box, what was unusual about the letters written on them? 
Some were written in a different color ink. (p. 6)

How many puzzle pieces were inside the wooden box? 
Four (p. 6)

What did the puzzle pieces in Winston’s wooden box say? 
BALL, LINE, WAY, PLACE (p. 6)

Who was Henry? 
Winston’s 18 year old cousin who was attending college. (p. 8 & 10)

What are the names of Winston’s two best friends? 
Malcolm and Jake (p. 11)

Why did Henry think that Mr. Penrose had put the puzzle in the box?
Mr. Penrose always had a puzzle for Winston whenever he dropped by the shop. (p. 12)

Where did Mrs. Breen work?
She was an office manager at a law firm a few miles away. (p. 16)

Whenever Winston & Katie had an argument what command did their parents use to resolve it?
Share. (p. 17)

Who is Malcolm doing his history report on?
Walter Fredericks (p. 20)

Where is Winston, Jake, and Mal’s “usual hangout?”
Rosetti’s Pizzeria (p. 23)

Where did Mr. Penrose get the wooden box?
From the estate of Livia Little/Fredericks (p. 26)

Who was Violet Lewis?
She was the librarian and another daughter of Walter Fredericks. (p. 27)

Who was Walter Fredericks?
He was one of the richest men in town. He invented things. He supported the town in a number of ways. Mal was going to do his history report on him. (p. 20, 26, 27)

What is the name of Winston, Jake, and Mal’s school?
Walter Frederick’s Junior High

Who is Violet Lewis?
The town librarian (p. 27)

In what town does the story take place?
Glenville (p. 28)

When the boys first went to see Violet Lewis, what made her snap and start shouting and crying?
She saw Winston holding the puzzle pieces (p. 30-31)

Where did David North first encounter the boys?
One of Jake’s baseball games (p. 39)

When David North first met the boys at Jake’s baseball game, what did he reveal about the puzzle pieces?
They lead to treasure (p. 40)

Why was David North so sure that he would become very close friends with Winston and his friends?
They couldn’t find the treasure without his help because he also has four puzzle pieces (p. 42)

Who was the man that showed up at Jake’s baseball game? What did he want from the boys?
His name was David North. He also had four wooden puzzle pieces and wanted to cooperate on finding the treasure. (p. 41,42)

Who was the man that showed up at Rosetti’s after the baseball game? What did he want? His name was Mickey Glowacka. He said he wanted to help them find the treasure. (p. 45)

What does Mickey Glowacka first suggest the treasure is? Money (p. 46)

What did the boys learn from Mickey Glowacka? They learned that the treasure was assumed to be money (as much as a million or two), and that there were four sets of puzzle pieces – Winston’s, David North’s, Mickey’s, and the last one owned by Mrs. Lewis the librarian. (p. 46-48)

How many sets of original puzzle pieces were there? Four (p. 47)

Why did Mrs. Lewis apologize to Winston? She apologized for yelling at him in the library (p. 52)

How did Winston find out the real story of the puzzle pieces? Mrs. Lewis came to his house to apologize for her behavior. (p. 52)

Who were the four Fredericks children? Red, Bruno Livia and Violet. (p. 55)

Where did Mr. Fredericks get the ring? One of the princes of Jordan gave it to him when he found out that the mattress on which he slept and that had helped him with his notoriously bad back was invented by Mr. Fredericks. (p. 57)

What country is the ring from? Jordan (p. 57)

Why did the Jordanian prince give Walter Frederick the ring? Frederick invented a new kind of mattress that fixed the prince’s bad back (p. 57)

How did there come to be four sets of puzzle pieces? The Fredericks children had always argued and fought, to the point that none of them spoke to each other. Mr. Fredericks made four sets of puzzle pieces and gave a set to each of his children in the hopes that they would work together and solve the puzzle, leading them to where he had hidden the ring. (p. 58 & 59)

Why did Walter Fredericks give his children the puzzle? To bring his children together and force them to talk to one another (p. 59)

Who was Ray Marietta? How did he become involved? Ray was Mrs. Lewis’s neighbor and a retired policeman. When Mrs. Lewis’s house was broken into she called Ray who came right over to help her. (p.63)
What does Violet Lewis plan to do with the ring upon finding it?
Sell it back to the daughter of the prince who originally gave it to her father (p. 64)

What is the purpose of having a second police officer during the treasure hunt?
He is going to analyze the fingerprints to find out who broke into Violet’s house (p. 65)

What was Mrs. Lewis’s plan to find the ring?
With Ray’s help to oversee the process, she wanted to get all four parties together to solve the puzzle. Everyone had to agree to share the money after the ring was sold back to the Jordanian princess. (p. 67)

Where was the first treasure hunt meeting held?
At the Glenville library (p. 76)

Where will the ring be kept while they wait for the princess to arrive?
A vault at the police station (p. 79)

Where did Jake and Mal say they would be while Winston and the other treasure hunters were working on the puzzle in the basement of the library?
Upstairs at the library working on their history papers (p. 87)

When the group met at the library, who else came? How did she know they were meeting?
Brenda Bethel, a reporter for the Glenville News. She spoke to Mrs. Lewis about covering the treasure hunt. (p. 94)

Name all the people that went on the treasure hunt from the beginning.
Violet Lewis, Katie Breen, Winston Breen, David North, Mickey Glowacka, Brenda Bethel, Ray Marietta (p. 95)

Why did Brenda Bethel join the treasure hunt?
So she could cover the story for the local newspaper (p. 95)

When Winston went upstairs to check on Jake & Mal, what news information had they found that excited them so much? What did it prove?
They had done a search on treasure hunters and one of the articles from two years ago had a picture of the attendees at the National Treasure Hunters’ Association annual convention. Both David North and Mickey Glowacka were in it, proving that they knew each other and maybe were working together. (p. 100-101)

What did Mal find out about North and Glowacka?
North and Glowacka had been together at a treasure hunters’ convention (p. 101)

How did they finally start arranging the words correctly? Give an example.
They started pairing two words that made sense together.
Meal time / table tennis / ball park / place kick / stand by / line drive / way side / show piece. (p. 104)

What was the key to the arrangement of the pieces? What was the answer? Who was the first person to recognize the pattern?
They had to be in the right order so the extra or different colored letters spelled Salvatore Rosetti. Brenda noticed the name Rosetti in the chain of letters. (p. 105)

What answer did the first set of puzzle pieces reveal?  
Salvatore Rosetti (p. 106)

When everyone went to Rosetti’s house to see if Mr. Fredericks had given him the ring, what did Mr. Rosetti tell them?  
He said that all he ever got from Mr. Fredericks was a bunch of envelopes, but he had no idea where they were anymore. (p. 111-112)

Why did Mr. Rosetti get made and slam the door on them?  
Mickey Glowacka accused him of stealing from Mr. Fredericks. (p. 112)

What did Walter Fredericks give Mr. Rosetti many years ago?  
Four more envelopes of puzzle pieces (p. 117-118)

Who got the envelopes from Mr. Rosetti? How?  
Ray Marietta. He sweet talked him, paid him $100, and told him he’d break Glowacka’s spine. (p. 118)

What was Winston’s theory about solving the set of puzzle clues from the envelopes? What was the answer?  
He thought they might be an anacronym (switch the order of the strips to spell out a name). He also suggested that the stripes on some of the letters might mark the end of words. Go ring the doorbell of Doctor Dilemma. (p. 122)

What answer did the second set of puzzle pieces reveal?  
Go ring the doorbell of Doctor Dilemma (p. 124)

How did Ray Marietta know that neither North or Glowacka had broken into Mrs. Lewis’s house? Who did he suspect?  
He had Officer Stokes take the coffee mugs that they had used and run a fingerprint check. In the process of elimination the only one left was Winston. (p. 125)

At first, who does Marietta think broke into Mrs. Lewis’ house and made threatening phone calls to her? Winston (p. 125)

How did Officer Stokes collect North and Glowacka’s fingerprints?  
He lifted the prints off of their coffee mugs (p. 127)

Which character says: “You’re five hundred pounds of crazy.” and who does he/she say it to?  
Mal says it to Ray Marietta (p. 131)

When Jake & Mal rode up to the park on their bikes, what did they say that caused Marietta to take an interest?  
They shared the fact the North had called Glowacka a thief and that they had been at the same treasure hunters’ convention. (p. 132)
What did Bruno Fredericks tell Glowacka the treasure was?
At least a million dollars (p. 133)

Why did North called Glowacka a thief?
At the treasure hunters’ convention, Glowacka tried stealing North’s puzzle pieces (p. 133)

How did Marietta know that Jake was wrong when he accused North or Glowacka of having a partner do the break-ins?
He had had them followed for the last few days. (p. 134)

Who said the following: “And you two, now that you’ve heard what you need, I don’t want to see you anymore. Get on your bicycles and go. Go now.”
Marietta (p. 134)

Why did Marietta finally agree to allow Jake & Mal to stay?
Jake knew who Dr. Dilemma was because of the report he was doing on Mr. Fredericks and might have other important information also. (p. 134-135)

Who was Dr. Dilemma?
The name was Mr. Fredericks’ nickname for his assistant – Dr. Grady Dilmer. (p.136)

Dr. Grady Dilmer is also known as who?
Doctor Dilemma (p. 136)

When they found Dilmer’s house, who was there? What was significant about what he gave the group?
Dr. Dilmer’s son Zach was living there. His father had died five years before. He knew of the envelopes and when he found them he gave the three of them to Mrs. Lewis. (p. 146, 148)

Who gave the group their third puzzle set?
Zach Dilmer/Grady Dilmer’s son (pg. 146-147)

What was unusual about the envelopes from Dr. Dilmer/Zach Dilmer?
There were only three of them (p. 148) AND The strips contained numbers instead of letters (p. 149)

What was different about the clues at Dilmer’s house?
They were all numbers. (p. 149-150)

Who came up with the right approach to solving these clues? What was the secret?
Katie. The numbers represented letters, and you had to put spaces in the right places. The first two were Westland Street and Cheshire Lane, which intersected. They thought the three numbers separated by dashes were the combination to a locker or safe. (p.155)

Who discovers the trick to solving the strips of numbers?
Katie (p. 155)

Where did the third set of puzzle pieces send the group?
To the intersection of Cheshire and Westland streets (p. 157)
After the group gave up the hunt, who showed up at Winston’s house with a gun?
Dilmer and Brenda (p. 167)

When Zach Dilmer brought the fourth envelope to his house, how did Winston know something was wrong?
Zach Dilmer said that Winston was the best puzzle solver in the group (p. 167)

Who told Zach Dilmer that Winston was the best puzzle solver in the group?
The fake reporter, Brenda (p. 168)

Why had the group been unable to solve the last part of the puzzle to find the hidden treasure?
Because Dilmer didn’t give them the 4th envelope and final puzzle piece (p. 170)

When Winston opened the envelope from Zach Dilmer, what was the clue he realized he had missed that pointed to Dilmer as the person who broke into Mrs. Lewis’s house?
The other envelopes from Mr. Rosetti had been yellow with age. The ones from Dilmer were white – too new. (p. 171)

What did the very last puzzle pieces from Zach Dilmer say?
The secret is in the box (p. 172)

What object helped Winston figure out where the ring was hidden?
A map (p. 174)

In which building was the ring located?
The library (p. 175)

Winston was able to figure out that the ring was at the center of a box drawn on a map. What four locations made up the corners of the drawn box, and what was at the box’s center?
Rossetti’s house, Dilmer’s House, the corner of Westland and Cheshire, and the office of Gary Rogers. The center is the library. (pg. 175-176)

Why had Walter Fredericks hired the wrong kind of lawyer to deal with his will?
His office was in the right place, the fourth corner of the square (p. 176)

Before Winston escaped Zach Dilmer in the basement of the library, what did he grab?
Zach Dilmer’s cell phone (p. 188)

How did Winston get away from Zach Dilmer?
He grabbed his cell phone and ran through the dark. After hiding behind a pallet, he pushed it over on Dilmer. As soon as he got passed Dilmer he dialed 911 and yelled, “The library. Come to the library”. (p. 189-193)

Who showed up at the Library to save Winston?
Ray Marietta (p. 194)

How did Ray Marietta know to come to the Library?
He heard Winston’s 911 call over a police scanner (p. 197)
What couldn’t Winston resist doing when the police led Brenda out of his house? Honking the horn and waving (p. 198)

The day after the puzzle had been solved, what did Officer Stokes give Winston? A puzzle about fingerprints (p. 203)

What was Brenda’s real name? Beverly Munsen (pg. 204)

How much was the ring valued at? $60,000 (p. 205)

Why did Glowacka start laughing after Mrs. Lewis revealed the value of the ring? He had bought his puzzle pieces from Bruno Fredericks for $14,000, so he only made $1,000 (p. 206)

What did North say to Winston as they were saying goodbye? Take care of that head of yours, it’s very valuable (p. 206)

What was found in the safe in the library basement? The ring and a letter from Walter Fredericks (pg. 207)

Besides the ring, what else was in the safe at the Library? A letter from Walter Fredericks (p. 207)

After Winston and Katie read the letter from Walter Fredericks, what advice did Mrs. Lewis give them? Don’t make your own father have to write the same kind of letter (p. 208)

How much money was the ring worth? How much was Winston going to get from Katie? $60,000. Half of her share - $7,500.

When Mickey Glowacka heard the value of the ring, why did he laugh so hard? He realized that he would only end up with $1,000 because he had paid Bruno $14,000 for his puzzle pieces.