

### “Treasure of Lemon Brown” - Split-page Notes

Questions	Notes
1. Lemon Brown reveals to Greg the treasure that was hidden under his rags. What was Lemon Brown’s treasure? Why is it significant to him?	Lemon Brown’s treasure is an old, plastic harmonica, and several newspaper clippings that were yellowed and over 50 years old. The newspaper clippings are headlines and stories about Sweet Lemon Brown, and the blues performances that he was in decades ago. The treasure is significant to Lemon because they show who he was and also connect him to his son. Lemon tells Greg that he sent the clippings to his son when he went away to war. After his son was killed in the war, the army sent his remaining belongings to Lemon, and he received the clippings back. This showed Lemon that his son valued the stories of his father. It shows Lemon that his son cared about him and who he was, which is the real treasure.
2. Lemon Brown tells Greg, “If you know your pappy did something, you know you can do something too.” What does Lemon Brown mean by this? Why is this significant to Greg?	Lemon Brown means that he shared the clippings with his son as a way to encourage his son to believe he could accomplish things. Lemon felt that if his son could see that he had been a successful musician, he would build the confidence and belief that he could achieve something great himself. This is significant to Greg because his father constantly tells him about how hard he studied to pass the test to become a postal worker. His father is sharing one of his accomplishments that he takes pride in to show Greg what is possible, just as Lemon shared his newspaper clippings with his son.
3. At the end of the text, Greg asks Lemon Brown if he thought his treasure was worth fighting for “against a pipe.” How did Lemon Brown respond to this question? What does he mean through this explanation?	Lemon answers Greg’s question with a question of his own. He says, ““What else a man got ‘cepting what he can pass on to his son, or his daughter, if she be his oldest?”” Through this response, Lemon shows that he believes the most important or valuable thing in life is the relationships that we form with our loved ones. In particular, he believes that the connection we form with our family - and parents with their children - is more important than any sort of physical or material treasure that one can have.